

Havre de Grace

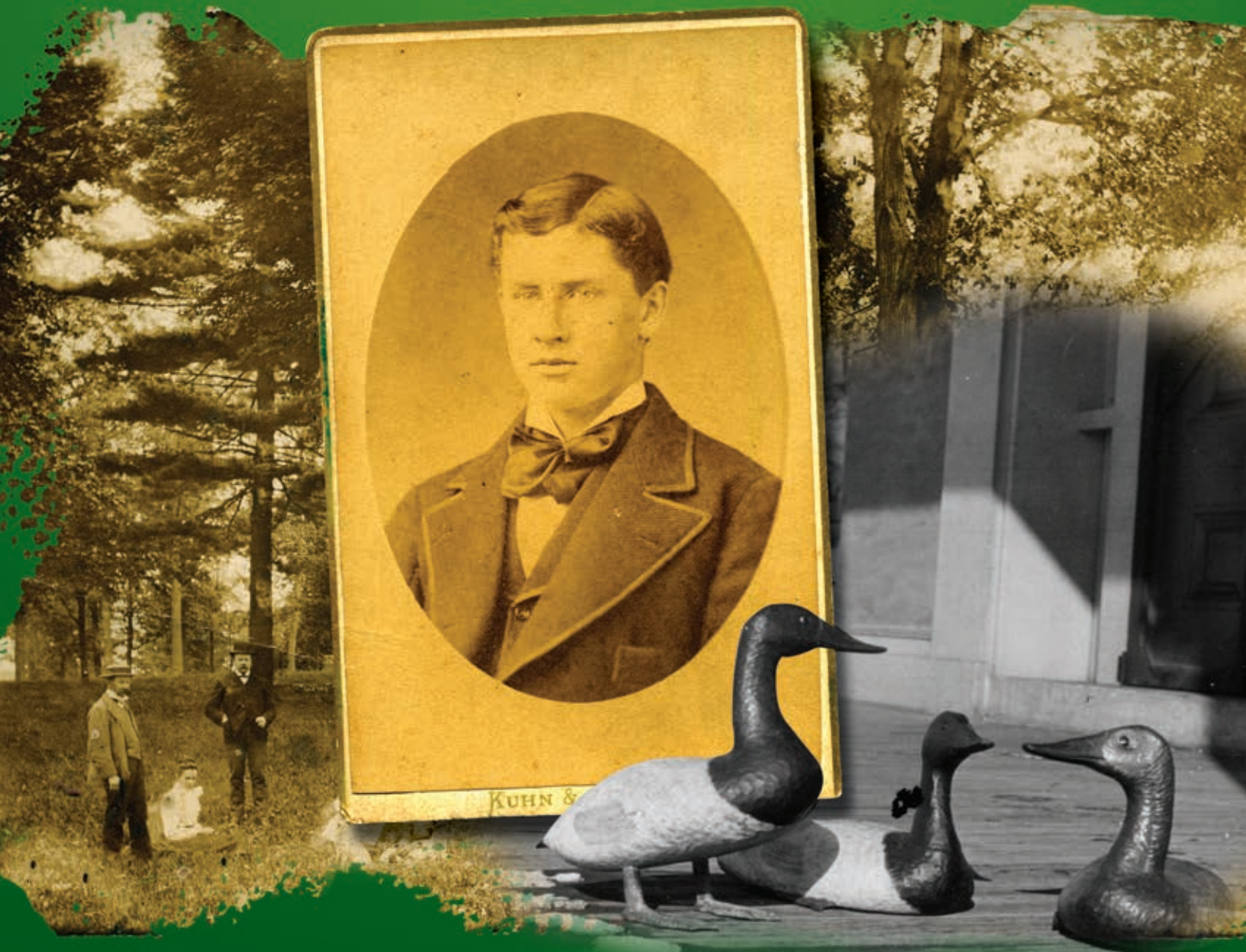
Decoy & Wildlife *Art Festival*

HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM

Spring 2007
Vol. 16 No. 2

The Canvasback

\$4.00



Standard Mail
PAID
Permit No. 73
Havre de Grace, MD
21078



The Wellwood



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www.wellwoodclub.com



can•vas•back (kan'ves bak'), *n., pl. -backs*, (esp. collectively) - **back**. **1.** A north American wild duck, the male of which has a whitish back and a reddish-brown head and neck. **2.** A style of decoy made famous by carvers of the Susquehanna Flats region. **3.** A quarterly publication of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum.

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ON THE COVER



Joseph Coudon
of H,
2007 Honorary
Festival Chairman

Flights to a financially secure future depart every day.

CHECKING AND SAVINGS PLANS

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2007

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Myrtle M. Street
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215 Giles Street
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
(410) 939-3739

www.decoymuseum.com

From the President

Dear Museum Member,

As May approaches the Staff, Volunteers and the Board Members get very busy with the planning for our Decoy and Wildlife Art Festival. Big John Ingoglia, Paul Howshall, Joe Smith, and Ken Stevenson have been re-painting our decoy signs and by the time you get *The Canvasback* they will be put up to advertise our show.



When you come to the Decoy Festival, take the time to visit the Decoy Museum. The first thing you will see is the brand new "What is a Decoy?" exhibit. Next you will see the "Holly Decoys" given to us by the Michaels Family; collectors have stated that these are the finest Holly's in existence.

On the second floor there are two new exhibit cases. As you get off the elevator you will see the Joseph Coudon of H. 2007 Honorary Chairman exhibit. The Coudon family has been very generous loaning us many pieces to show everyone this man's talent as an artist and carver.

The other new exhibit case will house rotating exhibits and an area to exhibit collections of our past Honorary Chairman. We have made seven spaces above the case for stained glass windows. The price is \$750 per window.

Winter is over and the Museum has to start making plans for our spring clean up. In April we will have landscapers in to do a sprucing up around our grounds. Last fall, we had one half of the Museum painted and before it could be completed cold weather set in. The Museum will have the last half done and by Festival time these two projects will be completed.

The funding for "What is a Decoy?" has slowed down, we still need \$70,000 to pay for the exhibit. Please make your tax deductible donations to the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum.

Sincerely,



Ed Watts

Funded in Part By:

Maryland State Arts Council • City of Havre De Grace • Harford County

Tax deductible contributions can be made to the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum. The Museum was incorporated in 1981 as a non-profit organization which exists to document and interpret waterfowl decoys as this art form applies to the social and economic life of the upper Chesapeake Bay region.

FESTIVAL 2007 PROGRAM

May 4-5-6

Locations

Havre de Grace Decoy Museum, Giles Street (DM)

Havre de Grace Middle School, Lewis Lane (MS)

Havre de Grace Activity Center, Lewis Lane (AC)

2007 Honorary Chairman — Joseph Coudon of H

Admission: \$6.00 per day. \$10.00 for weekend pass.

Children under 12 are admitted free with an adult.

Friday, May 4

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Show open

Saturday, May 5

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Show open

10:30 a.m. Atlantic Flyway Classic Carving
Competition Judging

HdG Activity Center

Decorative Life Size Floating Division

Decorative Life Size Non-Floating Division

Decorative Miniature Division

Whitey Frank Decorative Slick Division

Decorative Life Size Fish Division

Youth Gunning Division —

Sponsored by Freedom Electric Co.

Cocktail Division

Shorebird Division

Carving Competitions sponsored by

Mercantile County Bank & Trust

11:00 a.m. Carving Competition Judging

DM Grounds

River Gunning Division

Sponsored by Mercantile County

Bank & Trust

12:00 & 3:00 p.m. Silent Auctions

AC Lobby

12:30 – 2:00 p.m. Past Honorary Chairmen
Autograph Signing Session

MS Cafeteria

1:00 p.m. Old Decoy Contest

MS stage

1:00 p.m. Live Auction Preview

AC Gym

4:00 p.m. Live Auction Bidder Registration
AC Gym

5:30 p.m. Live Decoy Auction
AC Gym

Howie Travers auctioneer

Sunday, May 6

6:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Exhibitor Breakfast
Saint Patrick's Hall
Corner of Strokes and Pennington Ave,
Havre de Grace

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Show open

10:30 a.m. Carving Competition Judging
Activity Center
Gunning Decoy Division

10:30 a.m. Gunning Rig Division
DM Grounds

12:00 p.m. Cocktail Division
Activity Center
Carving Competitions sponsored by
Mercantile County Bank & Trust

12:00 & 2:00 p.m. Children's Duck Calling
Demonstrations
AC Lobby

12:00 & 3:00 p.m. Silent Auctions
AC Lobby

3:30 p.m. Festival Raffle Drawing
MS Lobby

4:00 p.m. Festival Closes



(M) Middle School

Antique, Contemporary Gunning, and Decorative Decoys;
J. Evans McKinney Old Decoy Contest, Retriever Dog
Demonstrations

(A) Activity Center

Decorative Carvers, Carving Competitions, Live Auction
(in Gym on Saturday), Duck Calling for Kids (Sunday)

(D) Decoy Museum

Gunning Rig Competitions, Museum Exhibits.

DIRECTIONS

Exit 89 off of Interstate 95.

Follow 155 East, stay in
left lane.

Turn right at dead end
onto Juniata Street.

At first traffic light, turn
left onto Ostego.

At dead end, turn right
onto Union Avenue.

Go to end of road and
turn left onto Commerce
Street (road will change
name to Market Street).

Follow around bend in
road, Museum will be
on right.

Follow Parking signs to
field behind museum.

**Free shuttle bus to other
Festival locations.**

FESTIVAL 2007 EXHIBITORS LIST

Alphabetical

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MS 155, 156

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Bill & Pauline Cordrey

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MS 017, 018

William Cronin

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MS 189

Rosalyn Leach Daisey

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AC 042

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MS 099,100

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AC 020

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MS 158

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MS 092, 093

Capt. Harry Jobes

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Aberdeen, MD 21001
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MS 095

Charles Jobes

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410-939-3005

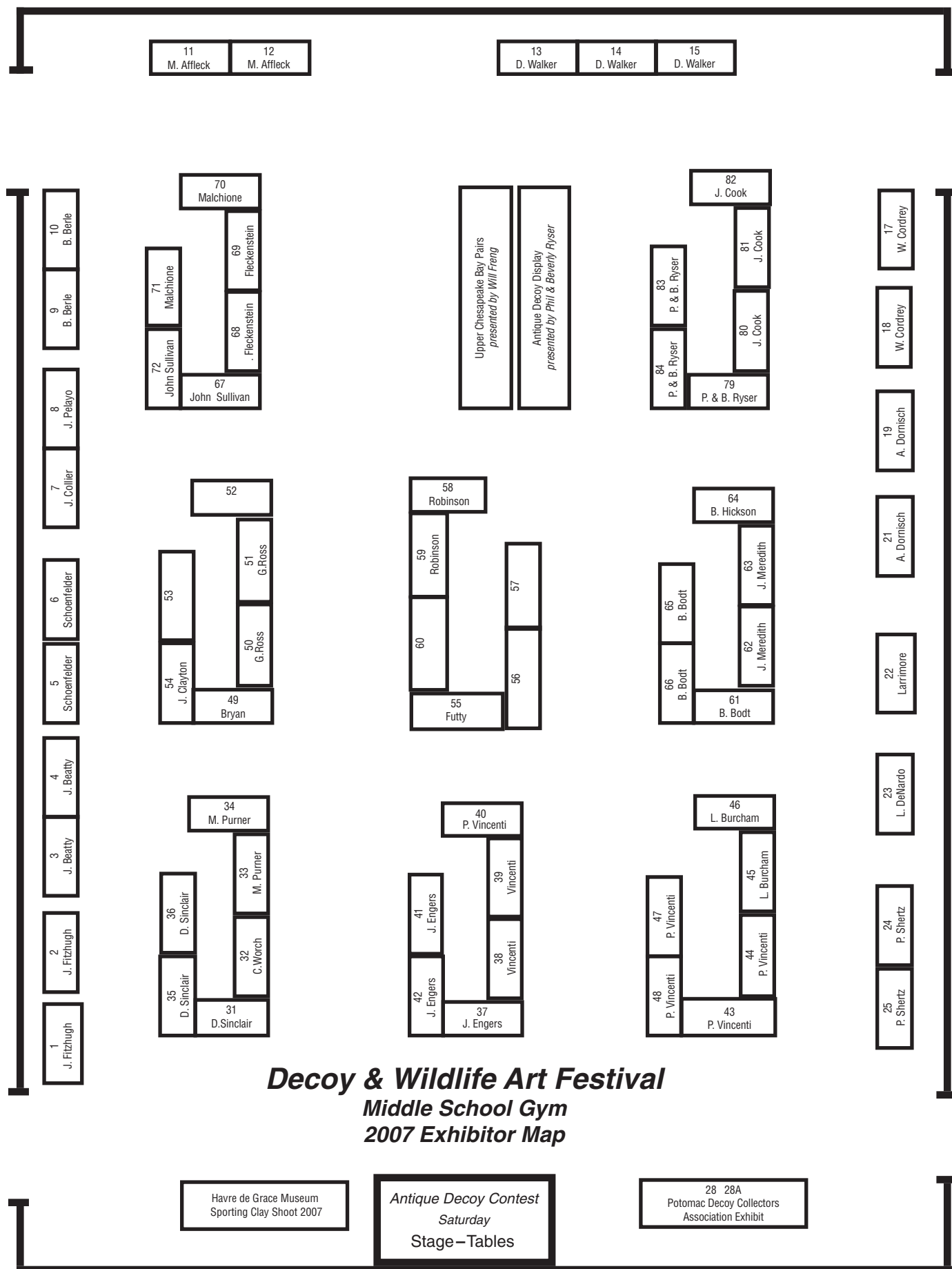
MS 100a, 100b

Joey Jobes

619 Bourbon Street
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
410-939-1807

MS 085, 085a, 86

Exhibitors continued on page 16



Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival
Middle School Gym
2007 Exhibitor Map

***Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival
Havre de Grace Middle School Location
2007 Exhibitor Map***

Public Parkin



ENTRANCE

Shuttle Bus Transpo

Parking

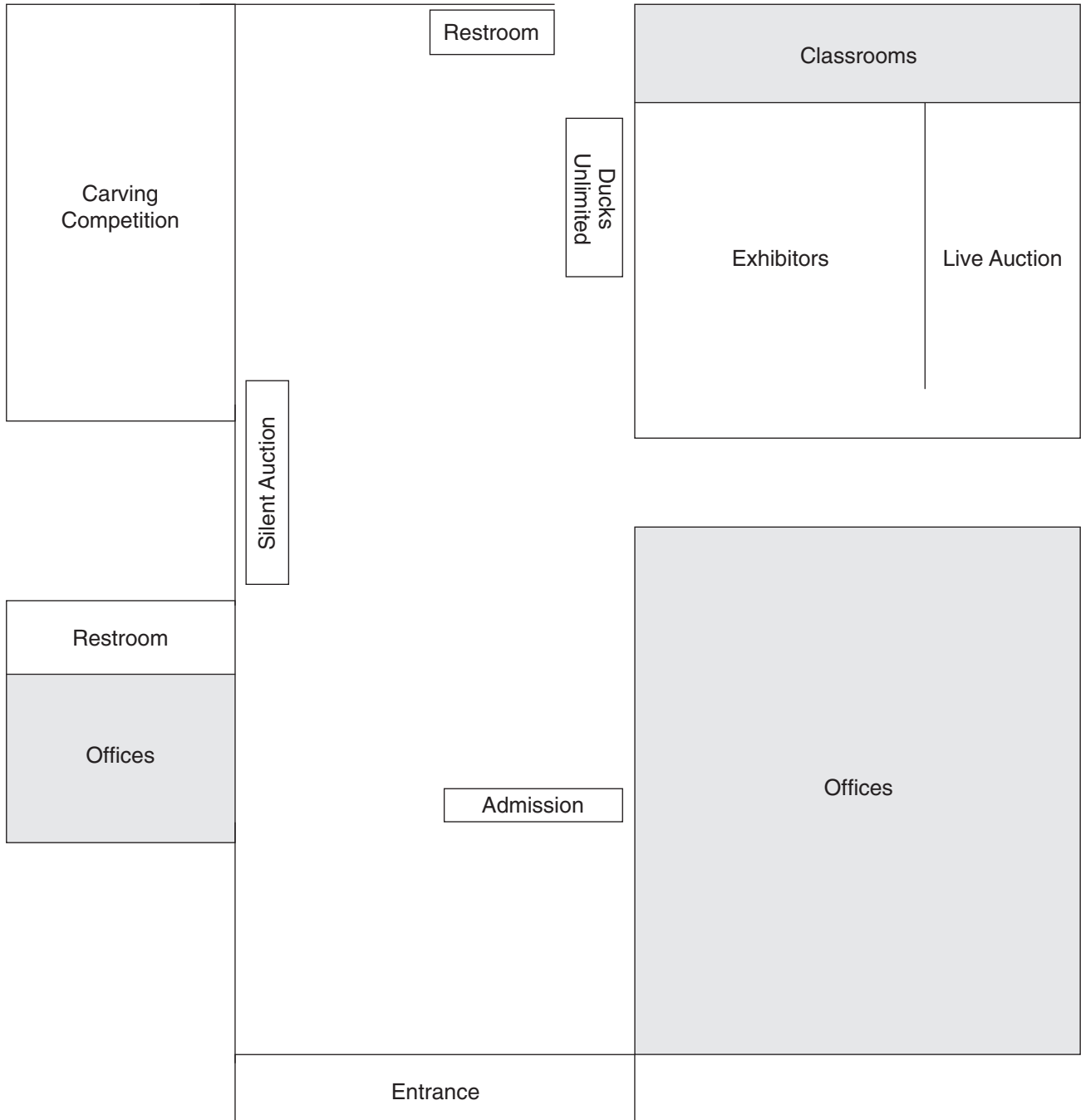


Transportation

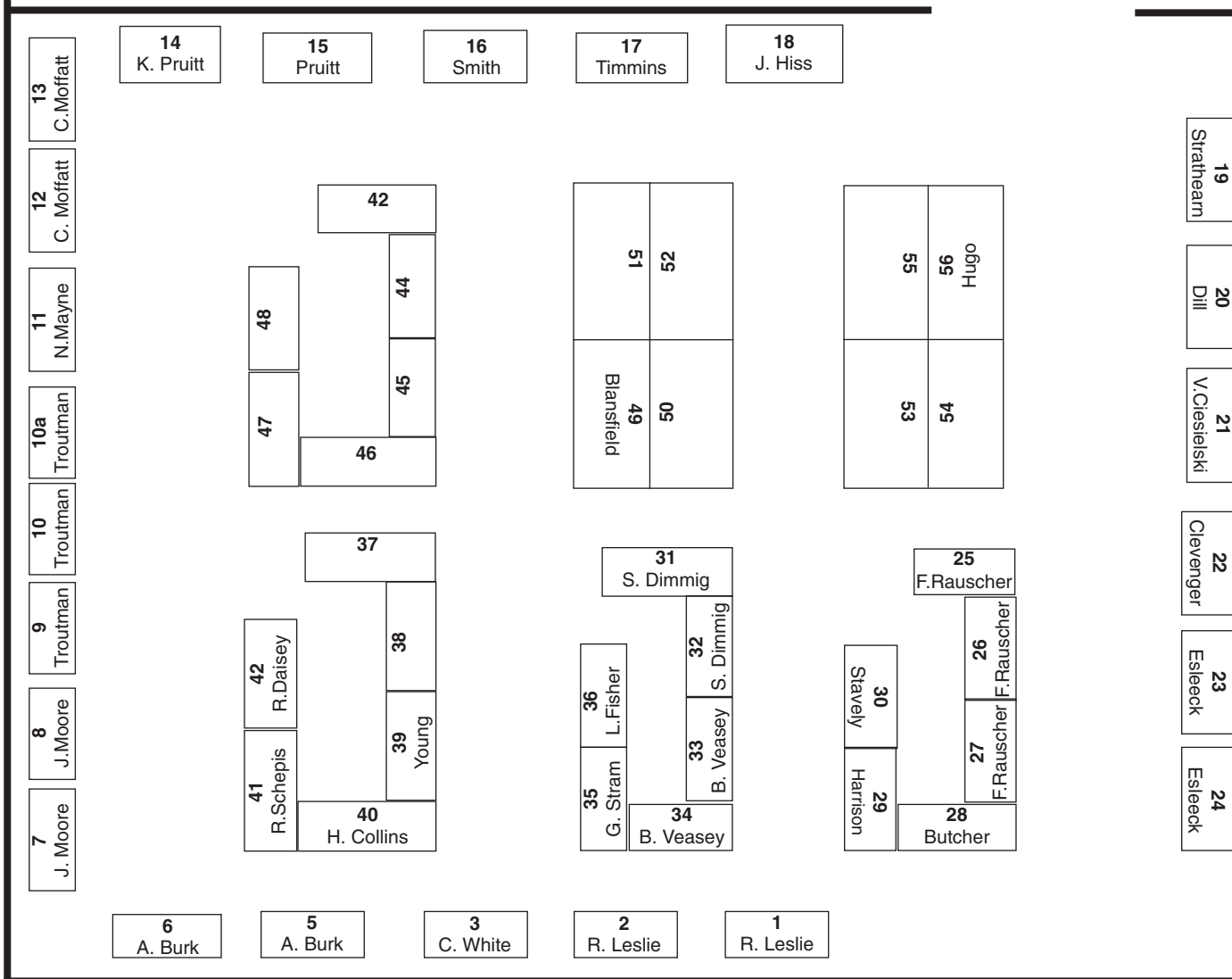
Havre de Grace Activity Center

Lewis Lane

Decoy Painting	Offices	Classrooms
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Live Auction
 Saturday May 5, 2007
 Preview 1:30
 Auction 5:30 pm



Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival

Activity Center Gym 2007 Exhibitor Map

EXHIBITORS LIST

Alphabetical *Continued from 9*

Mort Kramer MD

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MS 022

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AC 001, 002

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AC 011

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MS 062, 063

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AC 012, 013

Jeff Moore

Fowl Play Studios
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AC 007, 008

Jeff Pelayo

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MS 008

Jim Pierce

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MS 166, 167, 168

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MS 033, 034

Frank Rauscher

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Radnor, PA 19087
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AC 027, 026, 025

Dick Robinson

Robinson Decoys
1319 Plymouth Rd
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410-838-7545

MS 058, 059

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MS 150

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AC 041

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AC 030

Al Stickney

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AC 019C

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AC 017

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AC 009, 010, 10a

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MS 094

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AC 033, 034

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MS 043, 044, 047, 048

Dave Walker

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410-939-4310
MS 013, 014, 015

Geoff & Roxana Weir

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MS 097a

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Chris Worch

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AC 039

AUTOGRAPHS

FESTIVAL 2007

1982 R. Madison Mitchell
deceased



1983 Paul Gibson
deceased



1984 Charles Bryan

1985 No Chairman

1986 Robert Litzenberg
deceased



1987 Charles Joiner

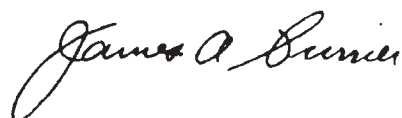
1988 Captain Harry Jobes

1989 Captain Bill Collins

1990 Captain Roger Urie

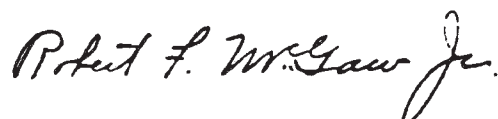
1991 James Pierce

1992 James Currier
deceased



1993 William "Bill" Schauber
and
Allan Schauber

1994 Robert McGaw
deceased



1995 J. Evans McKinney
deceased

1996 Harry V. Shourds II

AUTOGRAPHS

FESTIVAL 2007

1997 Ronald Rue
deceased

1998 Lem and Steve Ward
deceased

1999 Oliver Lawson

2000 John “Daddy” Holly,
James Holly,
William”Bill”,
and
John Holly Jr.
deceased

2001 Charles Nelson Barnard
deceased



2002 Patrick Vincenti

2003 Ned Mayne

2004 Grayson Chesser

2005 Jim Britton

2006 George Williams

2007 Joseph Coudon
deceased





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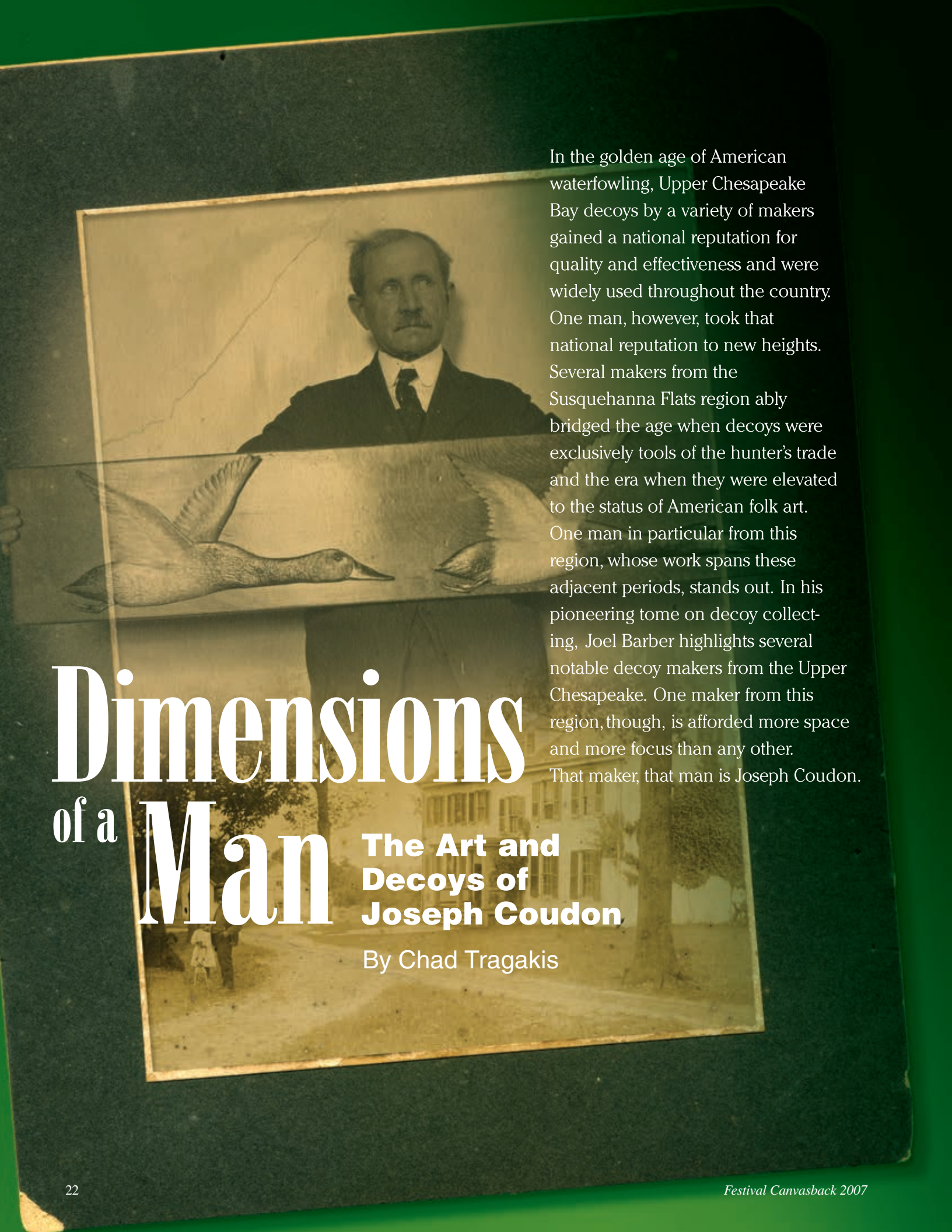
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In the golden age of American waterfowling, Upper Chesapeake Bay decoys by a variety of makers gained a national reputation for quality and effectiveness and were widely used throughout the country. One man, however, took that national reputation to new heights. Several makers from the Susquehanna Flats region ably bridged the age when decoys were exclusively tools of the hunter's trade and the era when they were elevated to the status of American folk art. One man in particular from this region, whose work spans these adjacent periods, stands out. In his pioneering tome on decoy collecting, Joel Barber highlights several notable decoy makers from the Upper Chesapeake. One maker from this region, though, is afforded more space and more focus than any other. That maker, that man is Joseph Coudon.

Dimensions of a Man

**The Art and
Decoys of
Joseph Coudon**

By Chad Tragakis

Joseph Coudon was born in Aiken, Maryland on March 11, 1860 to Henry Stump Coudon and Martha Burroughs Levering. Henry was part of Perryville's Stump clan, one of Cecil County's founding families and namesakes for Stump's Point. Joseph, named for his paternal grandfather, wasn't given a middle name at birth, but for years, he was known to family and others as "Joseph of Henry." Joseph had a cousin of about the same age who shared his name (born to Henry's brother, also named Joseph), who was also named for the same paternal grandfather. To keep the two straight, the larger family and other friends and locals took to calling and referring to the pair as Joseph of Henry (or simply, "Joseph of H") and Joseph of Joseph (or "Woodland Joe"). Both men were the descendents and namesakes of the Reverend Joseph Coudon, of Elkton, Maryland. Reverend Coudon was an influential religious leader in Cecil County of the 1780s and 1790s, serving for many years as the Rector of the North Elk Parish of the Episcopal Church.

Joseph was born in his family's ancestral home, called Ellerslie. Ellerslie had been built in 1853 by Joseph's father, when Aiken was still an independent village in western Cecil County. Today, it is part of Perryville. At one time, Ellerslie encompassed more than 300 acres, much of it farmland. The Coudon family tended a large tract themselves and leased out numerous parcels to farmers in the area who raised grain, wheat and hay.

Born before the Civil War, Joseph was old enough to remember seeing the train carrying President Lincoln's body when it steamed through Maryland in April of 1865. He must have had an idyllic childhood amidst the horses, the boats, the nearby Susquehanna River shore and the hundred other distractions afforded by a privileged upbringing in late nineteenth century Cecil County. These would have captured the imagination of any young boy. When play gave way to schooling, Joseph was fortunate to attend the West Nottingham Academy in nearby Rising Sun and St. Clemens in Howard County, Maryland. In later years, he would attend many reunions at West Nottingham until he was, in fact, the last living member of his graduating class. He continued his education at Johns Hopkins and the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. Family accounts suggest he may also have attended the University of Delaware for a time.

It was at St. Clemens that he met members of the Dalcour family. Through these classmates, he met the woman who would become his wife. According to family legend, when Joseph was in his mid-twenties, he began courting one of the sisters of the Dalcour boys he had met at school. The two fell in love and seemed well on their way down the aisle. One fateful afternoon, however, while calling upon the lady at her home, he happened to meet her much younger sister. He was instantly smitten and, as they say, that was that. The younger sister in question was Clarita Sophia Dalcour, ten years Joseph's junior. The Dalcour family had owned a large sugar plantation in Cuba before moving to Maryland when Clarita was two. Joseph and Clarita married in 1893, when he was 34 and she was 24. They had three children: a daughter, Marie Louise in 1895 and two sons, Augustine Dalcour in 1901 and Henry Forbes in 1903. Marie and Augustine never had children, so

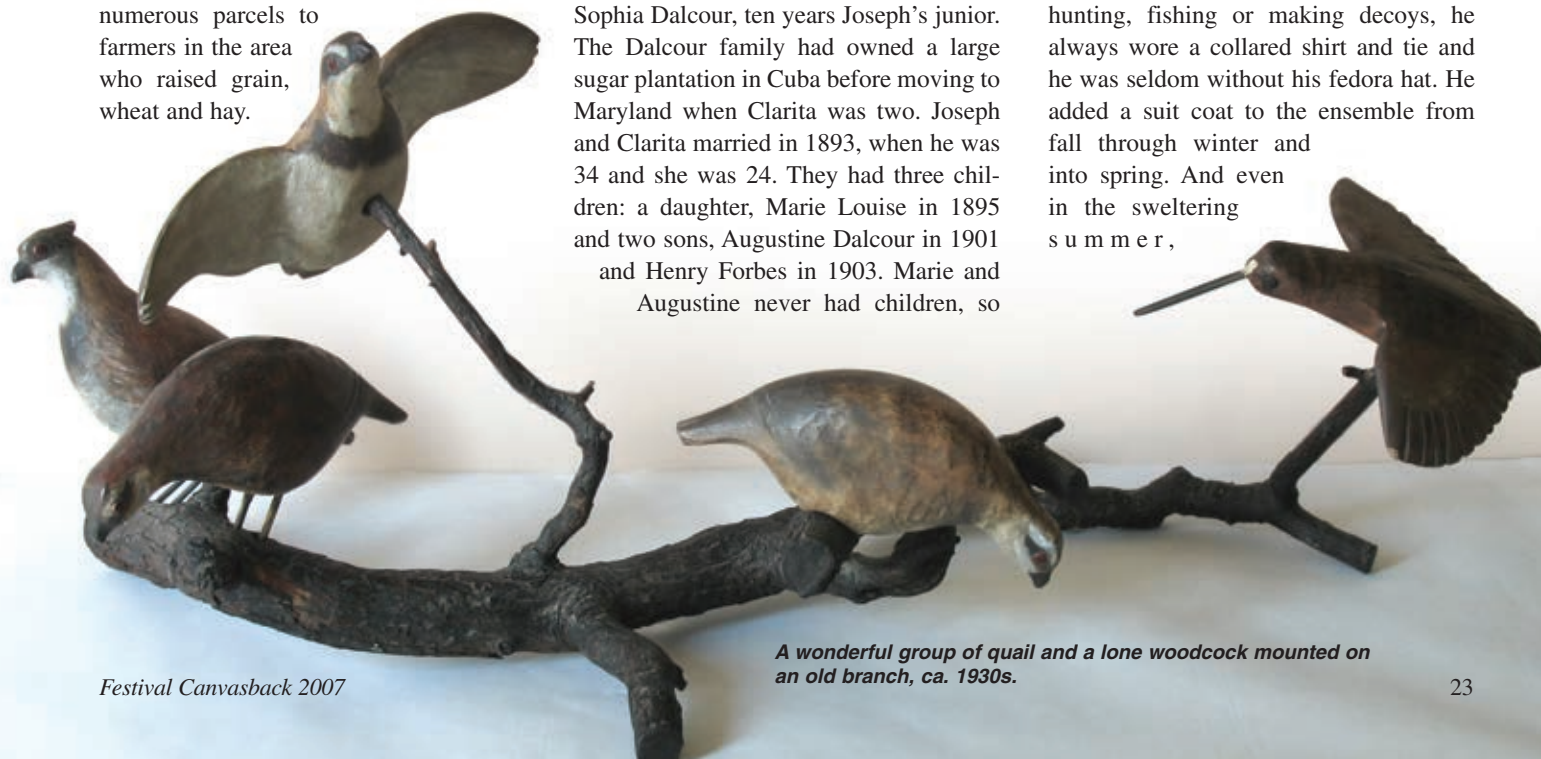
Joseph's line of descent extended only through Henry's family.

Today, two of Joseph's grandchildren, Henry F. Coudon, Jr. (b. 1928) and Ann Coudon Robbins (b. 1929), reflect often on the life of their esteemed grandfather and on the fascinating times in which he lived. Granddaughter Ann recalls that: "He was a very gentle person, very compassionate. I don't ever remember seeing him upset or mad. He was good natured, jovial, but quiet. He was a very quiet man. I remember he had a great laugh, a funny laugh. It was sort of quiet, but the kind of laugh that made you smile. He was well-liked and every place I went with him, people stopped and talked to him." Grandson Henry reflects that: "My grandfather was a decent, honest man. He was also a very modest man. He didn't care if someone was of means or not, he treated everyone with respect."

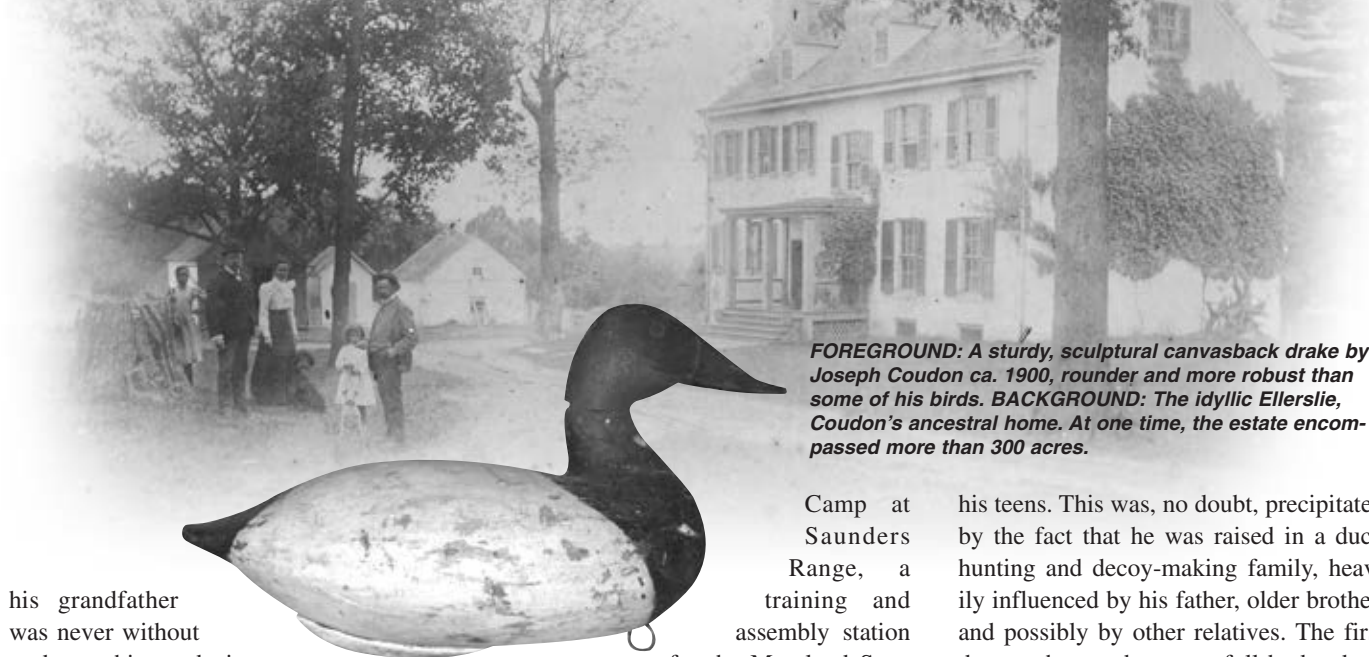
Renaissance Man

Joseph was a husky man, standing about five-feet nine-inches tall. He wasn't fat, but full and robust. He had a kind face, mild blue eyes and a thick, full mustache. True to the formality of his day, Joseph used his full name with both family and friends. His grandchildren remember that people called him Mr. Coudon, Joseph or Joseph of H, but never Joe.

The formality of the day coupled with expectations for gentlemen of his standing was also manifest in the way Joseph dressed. Henry remembers that, whether hunting, fishing or making decoys, he always wore a collared shirt and tie and he was seldom without his fedora hat. He added a suit coat to the ensemble from fall through winter and into spring. And even in the sweltering summer,



A wonderful group of quail and a lone woodcock mounted on an old branch, ca. 1930s.



FOREGROUND: A sturdy, sculptural canvasback drake by Joseph Coudon ca. 1900, rounder and more robust than some of his birds. **BACKGROUND:** The idyllic Ellerslie, Coudon's ancestral home. At one time, the estate encompassed more than 300 acres.

his grandfather was never without a dress shirt and tie.

Joseph smoked cigarettes and enjoyed a drink from time to time in social settings.

Joseph was a gentleman farmer for most of his life, raising mainly chickens and turkeys. The family estate also contained an apple orchard and many acres of cornfields.

Joseph employed several farmhands and occasional seasonal workers. The household also supported one live-in maid filled for many years by Harriet Horner and later, by Mary Pinkney. Joseph was a conservationist before that concept was fashionable and at one point, the Coudon farm was designated as an official game preserve. Game animals were maintained and restocked each year.

Joseph was also a gifted and passionate educator, instilling in others his love for many subjects, but especially his love of art. He taught formally and informally in many different settings and venues. One of his most notable stints was at the McDonogh School outside Baltimore, Maryland. When school was in session, he'd commute back and forth staying on campus for a week at a time. Later, after World War I, when the government expanded Perry Point to house a new Veterans' Bureau rehabilitation facility, Joseph was hired to develop a training curriculum for the manual arts. He helped run the program for more than 10 years.

At one point, Joseph also served as the local postmaster, a position held, interestingly enough, by fellow decoy maker Jim Currier (1886-1971) in nearby Havre de Grace. He was also a member of the Citizens Soldiers' Military Instruction

Camp at Saunders Range, a training and assembly station for the Maryland State Militia in Anne Arundel County.

In addition to farming and teaching, over the years, he held an interest in a number of business ventures co-owned and operated by his brother, Wilson Coudon. These included a local brickworks that produced specially tempered bricks for fireplaces and a small community newspaper. Interestingly, Coudon descendants share that Wilson Coudon was widely known as the "world's strongest man." He won numerous local and regional strength contests, which were a popular fashion of the day. Henry recalls: "My grandfather told me that they used to ship tobacco out of North East, back when the ships could get up there to load them, and they used to ship the tobacco in large wooden barrels called 'hogs heads.' Those hogs heads, when full, each weighed about 600 pounds, and my grandfather said that Wilson could lift one. He didn't lift it too high, but he could get it up off the ground. He won a lot of bets doing that."

Joseph Coudon was truly a renaissance man. He was a husband, a father, a farmer, a teacher, a businessman, a patriot, a hunter, a civil servant, an inventor, and a conservationist. Perhaps more than anything, though, he was an artist. At his core, he had a restless desire to create and to express. For more than 60 years, that passion and energy would manifest itself in some of America's finest waterfowl decoys, folk art carvings and paintings.

Wings from Wood

Joseph started carving birds and making decoys at a relatively young age, in the mid to late-1870s when he was still in

his teens. This was, no doubt, precipitated by the fact that he was raised in a duck hunting and decoy-making family, heavily influenced by his father, older brother, and possibly by other relatives. The first decoys he made were full-body duck decoys to supplement the family gunning rig and a small number of stick-up decoys for game bird hunting. The wild pigeon decoys so famously celebrated by Joel Barber (*see sidebar*) and Adele Earnest date from this period.

Grandson Henry vividly remembers watching his grandfather make decoys: "In the winter, he'd work in his shop in the basement. In the summertime, he worked in an out-building near the barn. For his full-bodied decoys, I remember he'd set them on his bench in a vise and work them with a drawknife and all manner of chisels. And I remember that he'd set his flat panels up on saw horses and sit in front of them as if he were sitting at a desk." Henry recalls that his grandfather used old growth white pine lumber and that the only powered tool he had in his shop was a jigsaw. Family legend has it that Joseph's first tool was a pen-knife he used to whittle birds as a boy. That pen-knife would grow into a collection of more than 90 woodworking tools, many of them fashioned by Joseph himself.

Joseph mixed his own paints and used an extensive palette of oil colors in bringing his creations vividly to life. Henry recalls that: "He did most of his painting in the basement. In the summertime, he liked to paint on the porch in the morning when the light was better. In the winter, he'd put a couple saw horses in front of the window inside the house to get the light that way."

Gunning Decoys

Coudon's three-dimensional floating decoys were sturdy, functional birds that

served their purpose well. He made primarily canvasbacks but a few redheads have also surfaced over the years and his descendents remember that he made a few bluebills, mallard and teal, as well. His output was never great in terms of full-size gunning decoys, and based on family accounts and the relatively few birds that turn up today, it can be estimated that he initially made only a few hundred — enough to support a good size sinkbox rig for his family's use. Grandson Henry recalls that he made a few dozen new decoys each season to replace lost or damaged birds, resulting in a total output of between 300 and 500 solid-body decoys. The fact that other Upper Bay birds, including some made by John Graham, have been found with his "J. COUDON" brand, confirms that the Coudon family gunning rig included decoys by makers other than themselves.

Coudon's gunning decoys have a unique look to them. The bottoms are completely flat, unusual for Upper Bay birds, and they are slightly undersized with squat, compact bodies that run about a foot long. The bodies slope gently downward into a broad tail, typical of Cecil County style decoys. They are found most often with iron ballast weights and tack eyes.

He made a number of wooden canvasback wing duck decoys over the years for his own sinkbox rig, a handful of which are known in collections today. He also had iron versions cast on his patterns. "He had iron wing ducks cast at the Armstrong Foundry in Perryville," Henry remembers. "He didn't have much need for them by the time I was a kid [as sinkbox gunning had been outlawed in 1934], but I remember he had them cast 30 or 40 of them altogether, some of them he had made into boot scrapers. He'd take one of his birds down there and we went back about a week or so later and

picked them up, all cast on his pattern. He'd paint them up and used them as door stops." The possibility that somewhere in Cecil County a Coudon wing duck is still being used to prop open a door is a tantalizing prospect to say the least.

Compared to the masterworks of his Cecil County contemporaries such as Taylor Boyd (1856-1944) and William Heverin (1863-1951), Joseph's gunning decoys seem somewhat lackluster. And, while his solid floating decoys were carefully crafted and dutifully painted, there is nothing extraordinary about them. Joseph's real gift, his true art, and his lasting contributions to waterfowling are found in his other works — the silhouettes that he pioneered and helped to popularize, his famous wood-panel relief carvings, and his beautiful, often whimsical ornamental and decorative pieces.

The Chesapeake Folding Decoy

Joseph Coudon is widely accepted as the originator of the Chesapeake Bay style folding silhouette decoy. If anyone else in the region made or used them before he did, their identity remains a mystery. We don't know what inspired him, but silhou-

ette decoys in the form of "shadow ducks" and "slat geese" had been in use for many decades in New England and other locales when Joseph was a boy. He may have seen and been inspired by these. He experimented with his first "V-board" silhouettes in the mid to late 1890s in an effort to overcome the bulk and weight of traditional decoys. He officially established Coudon & Company in 1901 as a commercial enterprise to sell his creations. Shortly thereafter, on May 24, 1901, he filed an application for the first of five patents he would eventually be awarded, covering the basic design and a number of subsequent improvements and variations.

His first patent was secured on June 25, 1901, followed up by a second nine months later on March 4, 1902. The diagrams accompanying his October 7, 1902 patent show his clever use of a sheet-metal hinge which secures three wooden support arms. The diagrams accompanying his May 24, 1904 patent show a different configuration altogether, using metal wire stringers as connectors. Joseph received input from hunters around the country on this design change, not all of which was positive. This may explain why he continued to produce and sell models in his various styles over the years. Joseph's fifth patent, granted on December 27, 1904, was awarded to him by the Dominion of



LEFT: Early promotional literature announcing Coudon's "Chesapeake Folding Decoy." **BELOW:** Crates of folding decoys await shipment.



Canada and protected his invention north of the border.

His original silhouettes were made of half-inch white pine, some with the edges rounded off and others, less refined, left with sharp edges. Most feature painted eyes but some have been found with inset, quality glass eyes. They are found with and without incised mandible carving. Because they were hand-made over a period of many years, and involving

many hands, examples with combinations of all of these characteristics are not uncommon. The best of his early folding decoys are truly two-dimensional sculpture. Some exhibit a split tail design and some were made with turned heads. Later, in an effort to make them lighter, less expensive and easier to manufacture, he turned to a thinner, quarter-inch thick hardboard material. They were sold in sets of 12—three birds mounted on each of

four folding racks (two drakes and a hen, the hen being typically mounted in the middle). Coudon appears to have used this ratio and placement scheme throughout the span of his entire career. Many, but not all, of his silhouettes were stamped "COUDON AND CO. AIKEN, MD."

Coudon sold his folding decoys directly to hunters and gunning clubs, but also through a national network of sporting goods dealers, including Abercrombie &

A Mind for Marketing

Joseph Coudon branded his innovative silhouettes "Chesapeake Folding Decoys," a name that some hunters still use to refer to similar silhouette racks today. What was perhaps more innovative than the folding decoys themselves was the manner in which Coudon marketed them. For several years in the early 1900s, Coudon placed ads in a number of regional and national sporting publications including

Forest & Stream and *The North-Western Sportsman*. He was seemingly ahead of his time and his gusto, creative slogans, and entrepreneurial spirit would make any modern maven of Madison Avenue proud. Just listen to him as he builds anticipation, touts the merits of his creations and leads consumer demand in the following copy excerpted from some of his early ads and promotional materials:

"Chesapeake Folding Decoys are wooden profiles joined with brass rods in groups of three. In use they spread out and form a triangle. Out of use they fold flat."

"The Chesapeake Folding Decoy is the only Folding Decoy that is made entirely of wood and brass. It combines all the advantages of the solid wooden decoy and the collapsible kind, without being frail."

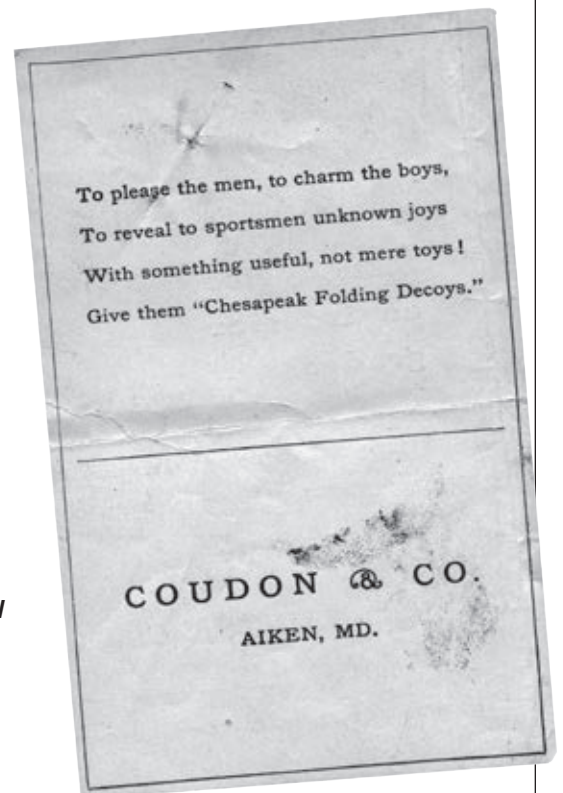
"The weight of the Chesapeake Folding Decoy is only one-tenth that of other wooden decoys, and when folded up occupies even a smaller proportionate space. They are free from puncture and can be used in the roughest waters. Price for one dozen Decoys, boxed with Anchors, complete and ready for shipment, \$7.50. Weight, 12 lbs. Discount to dealers."

"Ask for Chesapeake Folding Decoys Manufactured by Coudon & Company, Aiken, MD., U.S.A. They Are Light And Alright."

"In two weeks our extra light decoys will be ready. Weight, without anchors, 2 lbs. per dozen. Price, \$2.00 per Dozen. As a trial order we will for a limited time after October 10th, upon receipt of \$2.00, deliver to any point east of the Ohio River 1 doz. Of 'Our Extra Light Decoys,' in either Bluebills, Broadbills, Redheads or Blackheads, charges prepaid. COUDON & CO., Patentees and Sole Mfrs. AIKEN, MD."

"Parts are interchangeable and can be ordered by mail for repairs."

"To please the men, to charm the boys, To reveal to sportsmen unknown joys, With something useful, not mere toys! Give them 'Chesapeake Folding Decoys.'"



Fitch of New York and Von Lengerke & Antoine of Chicago. They must have sold briskly, for they were shipped to hunters (and have subsequently been found by collectors) at least as far west as Illinois and Wisconsin, as far north as Massachusetts, and as far south as Louisiana. It's likely that some of his birds also found their way to Canada, as Joseph made a point to secure patent protection for his decoys in that country.

In 1901, his initial retail price for one set of 12 decoys was \$7.50, arguably a good value for such an innovative product, but by no means inexpensive at the time. The price included all weights and rigging as well as a sturdy, well-made dovetail jointed box for shipping and storage. By 1904, however, sets of 12 were priced at just \$6.00 each and by 1905, his standard folding decoys were selling for only \$4.50 per dozen while his "extra light" models (the thinner, hardboard versions) were selling for just \$2.00 per dozen (his discounted price to dealers for the standard decoys was \$2.75). This significant price reduction in only four years suggests one of three things: that he was responding to market conditions (having priced them too high initially), that he was forced to slash prices in response to the fact that many hunters were finding it cheaper to construct their own versions based on his designs, or, that he had developed efficiencies in production or materials costs that allowed him to reduce prices. The actual reason is likely a combination of all of these factors.

Joseph offered "V-board" silhouettes in a number of species including canvasback, bluebill, redhead, mallard, pintail, widgeon, red-breasted merganser and black duck. He also offered Canada geese with pivoting heads that could be folded back for storage and transport. Given their two-dimensional structure, accentuated details and bold styling, Joseph's silhouettes are wonderfully folksy and a joy to behold. The bright colors lend some of the species

he made, such as mallards, widgeon and pintail, an exaggerated almost cartoonish look. They were caricatures to be sure, but they were innovative, serviceable and today remain highly collectible.

According to his marketing materials (*see sidebar*), Joseph also offered full-body duck decoys in wood and iron as well as "Havre de Grace Boats," meaning sneak boats or gunning skiffs. Family records suggest that Joseph employed some help from time to time in conjunction with his decoy business. Given the volume of his production, it makes sense that he would have needed some assistance with the labor intensive tasks of sanding, assembling and packing his wares. Additionally, wife Clarita is known to have helped him, especially with painting. Grandson Henry would help out with small errands around the shop from time to time, but he admits, "that was probably done mostly to keep me out of his way."

Coudon mixed his own paints and applied them expertly but judiciously. His full-body birds bore clean, simple paint patterns, but his silhouettes featured bold, highly stylized details. Because they were all hand-painted over the course of many years, there is some variation in the specific patterns. Many feature pronounced "angel wings," a style of wing painting popular in nearby Charlestown.

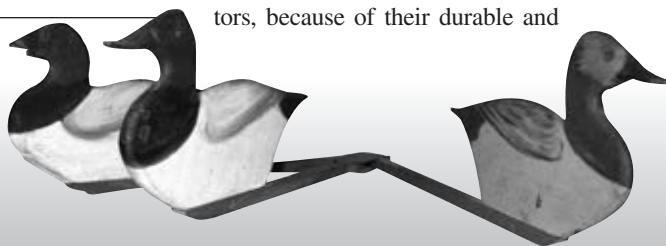
There are no records to indicate the total number of folding silhouettes produced or sold. From the evidence at hand, however, including wholesale order slips, Joseph's vigorous investment in marketing and advertising, establishment of his national distribution network, his efforts at securing patents, and the widespread distribution of his work, it's assumed that he made and sold several hundred sets. While they are by no means common, Joseph's folding decoys are encountered with some regularity today. And, because they found use so widely and so far from the small farm in Aiken, they remain scattered throughout the mid-Atlantic, the mid-west and the northeast. Fortunately for today's collectors, because of their durable and

high-quality painting, because so many were used around the country in fresh and brackish water, because their vertical nature and base-mounted construction meant they came into less contact with the water, and because their folding design afforded them additional protection from marring in handling and storage, many are found today in original, even bright original paint.

In the years and decades following the launch of Joseph's business enterprise, silhouettes, V-boards and all manner of folding decoys held their own as a lightweight, inexpensive alternative for duck hunters, particularly in certain applications. Between 1904 and 1909, the J.W. Reynolds Decoy Factory of Forest Park, Illinois made and sold folding V-board decoys marketed as "Illinois River Wooden Folding Decoy Ducks" that, in many respects, bear a striking resemblance to those of Coudon & Company. Joseph's last patent expired in 1921 and, perhaps not coincidentally, there were a number of firms offering folding decoys in the 1920s. Notably among these was the Rose Folding Decoy Co. of Chicago, Illinois. In the mid to late 1940s, responding to the increased demand for hunting accoutrements created by returning World War II G.I.s, several companies again began heralding the benefits of silhouettes, folding and "profile" decoys. The ads of this period echo the same merits Joseph used to tout them so many years before. Incredibly, some seem to lift the same sentiments—if not the exact language—used some fifty years earlier by Joseph Coudon.

In the Upper Chesapeake Bay region, it was the rise of body booting, beginning in the late 1930s and 1940s, that spurred demand for folding decoy racks, and raised to new heights the esteem in which hunters held these birds. By the 1950s, silhouettes were a common sight on the Susquehanna Flats during gunning season. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s and even into today, they are a central part of this form of duck hunting, one that remains unique to the Chesapeake Bay. It would be nice to think that Joseph Coudon would be proud looking down

A well-used set of folding silhouette canvasbacks, ca. 1905, from the Coudon family gunning rig.



Continues on page 30

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on silhouettes being used so effectively, and knowing that he played a lead role in developing and popularizing them.

Decorative Work

By the 1930s, Joseph turned almost exclusively to decorative carving and oil painting. He crafted primarily waterfowl but he often tried his hand at carving songbirds, shorebirds and other game birds. Among the many dozens of species he made over the years are: blackbirds, bluebirds, bobwhites, doves, hummingbirds, lark, meadowlarks, owls, parrots, partridge, passenger pigeons, quail, red-winged blackbirds, robins, woodcocks, and most local species of waterfowl including ducks, geese and swan. Many of his songbird and game bird carvings were mounted on carefully selected and trimmed tree branches and roots. Among the species and scenes depicted in his

bas-relief carvings and other flat works include flying canvasbacks, a magnificent whistling swan, feeding geese, the view at dawn from a duck blind, a Chesapeake Bay Retriever with a wounded mallard, and a charming wood duck family.

He experimented with some rather exotic animal species and unusual subjects too. He carved a few fish including a stunning leaping bass that his family vividly recalls. He also carved whimsical figures of Uncle Sam. He made turtles, green snakes, grinning apes, and, to the delight of his grandchildren, alligators in a number of different sizes. In fact, a large alligator carving measuring nearly 10 feet long was the biggest piece Joseph ever made. It stood menacingly in front of Ellerslie for many years where it was a favorite plaything for Henry, Ann and other local children. Unfortunately, as a piece of outdoor sculpture, it could not withstand the elements and rotted away some years later, much to the children's disappointment.

Joseph carved some of the earliest known "standing" full body duck decoys in the Upper Bay region, which he mounted on legs of brass or cast iron, some with feet. He made a wide

range of miniature carvings over the years, depicting waterfowl, game birds and other species. He also made a number of decorative pins for ladies to wear, mainly of small flying birds between 1½" and 2" long. He even crafted a canvasback ash-tray. And in addition to all of this, Joseph found time to build a variety of furniture and wooden accessories.

While he did occasionally sell or give away some of his decorative work, much of Joseph's output was produced expressly for his immediate family. Ann agrees, recalling that: "He gave away some of his early decoratives, but as he got more grandchildren, he kept more and more of his works in the family."

When it came to birds and bird carvings, Joseph was a stickler for detail. He was also unendingly curious. To illustrate the point, granddaughter Ann recalls a memorable car ride with her grandfather in the 1940s, when her mother Mary was driving them all back from town. "He was looking out the window and all of a sudden he said, 'stop, go back,' and he got really excited. Well, we backed-up and wouldn't you know it, there was a dead hummingbird on the side of the road. I don't know how in the world he saw it, but he picked it up and brought it home. He studied that bird so carefully and he carved one." Henry also remembers the story, recalling that Joseph stored the hummingbird in the family icebox, preserving the little bird as long as possible to afford him every opportunity to scrutinize its color, form and proportions.

Over the years, Joseph carved and painted from memory a number of passenger pigeons. In part due to the publicity he and his wild pigeon carvings gained in Joel Barber's book, this became one of his signature species and many early collectors sought and even commissioned examples from him. Ann recalls that her grandfather told her that he'd seen great flocks of the now long-extinct species as a young man. The captivation he felt for the bird was obvious. As an early conservationist, Joseph was powerless to bring the extinct bird back to life, but he could render it in wood.



LEFT: Joseph Coudon enjoys a stroll through Ellerslie with two of his dogs. **ABOVE:** An outstanding relief carving of a duck in flight, ca. 1930s.

Praise From the Architect in New York

Among the many notable people who Joseph Coudon counted among his friends was Joel Barber (1876 -1952), a New York architect who is considered the father of decoy collecting. Barber met Joseph on one of his early jaunts through the Upper Bay region and Joseph became one of Barber's dear friends and a trusted source for waterfowling lore and quality decoys from the region. Barber included many of Joseph's decorative decoys in the various exhibits he curated in New York and elsewhere and even incorporated some of his panel carvings into his architectural design work for wealthy clients in the city. Barber visited Joseph at Ellerslie many times throughout the 1930s and 1940s and the two remained close until Joseph's death.

Barber's references to Joseph in his seminal 1934 work, *Wild Fowl Decoys*, are so descriptive and so insightful, that in our celebration and remembrance of the man, they bear retelling here in their entirety:

"The Canvas-back decoys of this region [Susquehanna Flats] show many and similar features of excellence arrived at through the process of evolution. Here one also finds queer offshoots of the main issue. The pair of Wild Pigeon decoys of Plate No. 103 is an example. As the Wild Pigeon is now extinct, these old carvings take on a special significance. As far as I know they are the only authentic 'stool pigeon' in America.

"These rare decoys came to light in the attic of a fine old house at the head of the Bay and are reproduced through the courtesy of their maker, Mr. Joseph Coudon, of Aiken, Maryland. In the role of native sportsman Mr. Coudon, the son of Henry Coudon, has participated in many branches of Chesapeake fowling. His experience goes back to the days of muzzle loading 8 gauge shot guns and the handmade decoys of a fastidious sporting family. And they were very fine decoys. His first toy, for example, was a handsome little Blue-bill made by his father. The Black-head, as he calls it, is over 70 years old now, battered, worn and marked by the teeth of

puppy dogs. 'It has never been overboard,' the owner tells me—'just a plaything.'

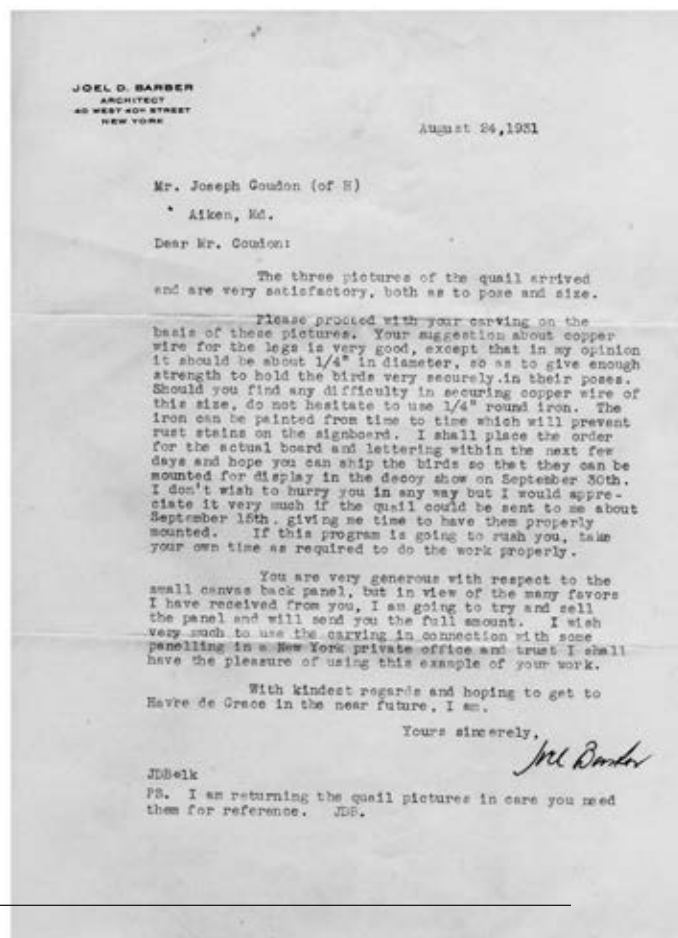
"As the passenger pigeon was passing out of the American picture, Mr. Coudon and his elder brother made the pigeon of the illustration. As a matter of record, I quote a portion of his letter under date of February 4, 1930, with respect to the episode:

"This may be of personal interest to you. Today I found in the attic, a box containing about three dozen wooden birds that I and my brother made for decoys. They are more than half a century old and were made for decoys and used as such. Among them are represented black birds, larks, doves and wild pigeons. They all did service at the time they were made and a few succeeding seasons. There is a hole in the under part of the pigeons and doves. We planted the top of a small dead tree in a buck-wheat or Hungarian grass patch to hold up the decoys. This was all arranged nicely by cutting the ends of the perpendicular branches to fit the holes. After arranging this, we would make a blind and wait for the birds to come...If you do not want to see some of these birds, notify me in time to stop shipment.'

"In this way one acquires items of historical interest. It is needless to say that the shipment was not stopped, and Wild Pigeon came into the record of American decoys. In his later years Mr. Coudon has turned to the serenity of conservation. He no longer shoots or makes decoys, but carries on tradition in the carving and painting of game birds and game panels. His interest has wide scope and his work carries distinction, but his favorite subject is Canvas-back, the treasure and legacy of his locality."

From Barber's memorable passage, we learn that Joseph came from a family steeped in waterfowling and that decoy-making extended to his father and brother, and quite possibly, to other family members. We also "hear" Joseph's manner, voice, and passion in his own words in excerpts of his letter to Barber. In other parts of Barber's book, we also learn that Joseph remained on the lookout for choice examples of regional decoys for his friend and that he served as one of Barber's primary sources for local gunning knowledge and lore. The wild pigeons remain one of Joseph's most famous carvings and, like most of Barber's amazing collection, they can be seen today at the Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, Vermont.

A letter from Joel Barber. Joseph grew to know him well.



Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

26th Annual Decoy Festival Auction

Saturday, May 5, 2007

Havre de Grace Activities Center

Both Buyer's and Seller's premiums go to benefit the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum.

Preview begins at 1:00 PM

**Bidder Registration begins at 4:00 PM;
personal identification required.**

Auction begins at 5:30 PM.

Settlement of all sales transactions will begin at close of auction.

TERMS OF SALE: Cash, Personal Check, Visa or MasterCard. A 10% Seller's Premium will be applied to all consigned items. A 10% Buyer's Premium and 5% sales tax will be applied to all items purchased.

(Consignors will be charged 20% of the auctioned price for all buy backs)

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
1	_____	R. Madison Mitchell Camouflaged Duck, signed & dated 1930
2	_____	R. Madison Mitchell Canvasback Drake, signed & dated 1948
3	_____	R. Madison Mitchell Cork Canada Goose w/decorative head, signed & dated 1954
4	_____	Redhead Drake by Joey Jobes, carved from the boom of the Martha Lewis 11 of 14
5	_____	R. Madison Mitchell Bluebill, toupolo, paint by Titbird Bauer
6	_____	Mounted Shingle Head by R. Madison Mitchell, from the shop, signed

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
7	_____	Miniature Canvasback by Capt. Jessie Urie
8	_____	Ringneck by Bob Coleman, 1986 Festival winner with ribbon
9	_____	Pintail Drake by Jim Pierce, signed & dated 1974
10	_____	Canvas Swan by Frank Muller
11	_____	Antique Swan by Frank Muller
12	_____	R. Madison Mitchell Goose, signed & dated 1983
13	_____	Canvasback Drake by Richard Rineer



LOT #01



LOT #02



LOT #03



LOT #04



LOT #05



LOT #06



LOT #07



LOT #08



LOT #09



LOT #10

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM	LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
14	_____	Canvasback Hen by Richard Rineer	24	_____	R. Madison Mitchell cast iron Canvasback Drake head, signed & dated 1984
15	_____	Brant by Richard Rineer	25 A & B	_____	Mallard Pair by Capt. Harry Jobes, signed
16	_____	Old Squaw Drake by Richard Rineer	26 A & B	_____	Bluebill Pair by Capt. Harry Jobes, signed
17	_____	Old Squaw Hen by Richard Rineer	27 A & B	_____	Canvasback Pair by Capt. Harry Jobes, signed
18	_____	Pintail Drake by Richard Rineer	28 A & B	_____	Canvasback Sleeper Pair by Paul Gibson, drake signed & dated 1973
19	_____	Ringbilled Gull by Richard Rineer	29 A & B	_____	Canvasback Pair by Ralph Pyle, Chesapeake MD, signed
20	_____	Bufflehead Drake by Richard Rineer	30	_____	Miniature Canada Goose, signed M E Affleck 2/27/93
21	_____	R. Madison Mitchell Cork Black Duck Sleeper, signed & dated 1956			
22	_____	R. Madison Mitchell Cork Canvasback Drake, signed & dated 1974			
23	_____	R. Madison Mitchell Brant, signed & dated 1980			



LOT #11



LOT #12



LOT #13



LOT #14



LOT #15



LOT #16



LOT #17



LOT #18



LOT #19



LOT #20



LOT #21



LOT #22



LOT #23



LOT #24



LOT #25 A & B

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
31	_____	Miniature Woodduck Drake, signed Dan Brown, Salisbury MD
32 A & B	_____	Baldpate Pair by Capt. Harry Jobes, signed
33	_____	Canvasback, unpainted, carver unknown
34 A & B	_____	Bufflehead Pair by Capt Harry Jobes, signed
34 ADD	_____	Woodduck Pair by Speed Joiner, signed & dated
35	_____	Coot by Capt. Harry Jobes
36	_____	Greenwing Teal Hen by Jim Pierce
37	_____	Canvasback Drake by Jim Currier, 1957, repaint by RMM

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
38	_____	Canvasback Drake by R. Madison Mitchell, repaint by RMM
39	_____	Canada Goose by R. Madison Mitchell, signed & dated 1956
40	_____	Redhead Drake carved by Joey Jobes from the boom of the Martha Lewis 10 of 14
41	_____	Yellowleg Shorebird on base by Ray Yingling, signed
42	_____	Cinnamon Teal by Dan Carson, signed
43	_____	High neck Black Duck by Johnny Clark, signed #6
44	_____	Print by Wheeler



LOT #26 A & B



LOT #27 A & B



LOT #28 A & B



LOT #29 A & B



LOT #30



LOT #31



LOT #32



LOT #33



LOT #34



LOT #35



LOT #36



LOT #37



LOT #38



LOT #39



LOT #40

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM	LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
45	_____	Swan, 1/2 size by Johnny Clark, signed	53	_____	Litzenberg shop sign, hand painted by Art Boxleitner
46	_____	Miniature Swan by L M Burcham, signed	54	_____	Gadwall by Art Boxleitner, branded
47	_____	Black Swan by Dame Sinclair	55	_____	Canvasback Drake by John Holly Jr, old repaint
48 A & B	_____	Dove Pair by Jesse Lynch, signed & dated 1994	56	_____	Canada Goose by R. Madison Mitchell, original paint 1950's
49	_____	Print by Wheeler	57	_____	Museum Decoy Collection (8), all #7, various makers and species
50	_____	Bluebill drake by Robert McGaw Jr. 1920's	58	_____	Yard Snow Goose by Charlie Bryan, signed
51 A & B	_____	Canvasback Pair by Charlie Bryan, signed & dated 04	59	_____	Brant, unknown, branded GRAY
52	_____	Canvas Black Duck			



LOT #41



LOT #42



LOT #43



LOT #44



LOT #45



LOT #46



LOT #47



LOT #48 A & B



LOT #49



LOT #50



LOT #51



LOT #52



LOT #53



LOT #54



LOT #55

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
60 A & B	_____	Miniature Bluebill Pair by Bob Litzenberg, signed & dated
61 A & B	_____	Miniature Redhead Pair by Bob Litzenberg, signed & dated
62	_____	Miniature Canada Goose by Bob Litzenberg, signed & dated
63 A & B	_____	Black Head Pair by Paul Gibson, signed & dated 1980
64 A & B	_____	Black Duck Pair by Paul Gibson, signed & dated 1980
65 A & B	_____	Pintail Pair by Paul Gibson, signed & dated 1980
66	_____	Goldeneye Drake by Paul Gibson, signed & dated 1973

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
67 A & B	_____	Redhead Pair by Paul Gibson, signed & dated 1979
68	_____	Bufflehead Hen by R. Madison Mitchell, signed & dated 1983
69	_____	Black Head Drake by R. Madison Mitchell, repaint 1950, branded MVW
70	_____	Black Head Drake by R. Madison Mitchell, signed & dated, original paint
71	_____	Goldeneye by R. Madison Mitchell, signed & dated, original paint
72	_____	Mallard Drake by Coot Garton, branded



LOT #56



LOT #57



LOT #58



LOT #59



LOT #60



LOT #61



LOT #62



LOT #63 A & B



LOT #64 A & B



LOT #65 A & B



LOT #66



LOT #67 A & B



LOT #68



LOT #69



LOT #70



LOT #71

LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM	LOT #	PRICE REALIZED	ITEM
73	_____	Greenwing Teal Drake by Coot Garton, branded	80 A & B	_____	Ruddy Duck Pair by E T Clark, Cape May NJ, branded dated 1984
74	_____	Ruddy Duck Hen by Coot Garton, branded, dated 1978	81	_____	Ruddy Duck by Dave Rhodes, signed
75	_____	Ruddy Duck Drake, unknown	82	_____	Ruddy Duck Drake by Andy Loder, Cape May NJ, signed
76	_____	Ruddy Duck Hen, unknown	83	_____	Ruddy Duck Hen, unknown
77	_____	Ruddy Duck Hen by Coot Garton, branded, dated 1978	84	_____	Greenwing Teal by Jamie Hand, branded, dated 1978
78	_____	Ruddy Duck Hen, unknown	85	_____	Bluewing Teal by Coot Garton, branded
79	_____	Ruddy Duck Hen by George Brooks, signed & dated 1992			

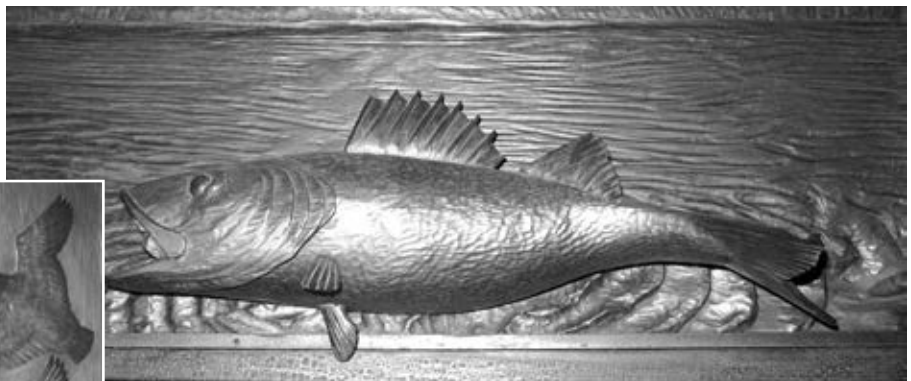
Hunting and Other Pursuits

Joseph once claimed that his father, Henry, was the best shot he ever saw. But he too is said to have mastered the shotgun at an early age and earned a reputation as a gunner who was as good as any and better than most. He was qualified as a sharpshooter with the rifle and certified as an expert pistol shot. He was also an accomplished archer. Joseph maintained a small cabin on Furnace Bay where he kept his boat and decoys. He would often spend the night there in order to get an early start the next morning. Clarita would often accompany him and, according to family accounts, she too was a very good shot.

His cousin Joseph of J's adjoining spread was called Woodlands, and it extended east from Ellerslie to the Susquehanna River. Encompassing a good stretch of the shoreline and a number of small coves, it presented an ideal place to store and launch sporting yachts and bushwhack boats. It's likely that Joseph of H gunned or set off from these vantage points from time to time, as well.

As his oldest grandson and a resident at the family home at Ellerslie, Henry had the good fortune to accompany his grandfather on many hunting outings and other adventures. "Lots of times in the evenings, he'd say 'let's go get a pheasant' or 'let's go get a rabbit,' and we'd go out hunting." When it came to duck shooting, Henry remembers hunting with his grandfather in the water blinds off the Flats in the early to mid-1930s. "We'd take a boat out to the blinds off Carpenter's Point or Perry Point. We used folding decoys on occasion, but mostly the floating [solid-body] decoys he made. We gunned cans mostly. People didn't fool too much with the other ducks back then."

As much as he loved hunting, Joseph was also an avid and lifelong angler. Ann relates a memorable story from her childhood: "There was a large pond on the property and every winter we'd all skate on it. He did, his children did and his grandchildren did. In fact, he never



LEFT: Relief carving of a canvasback pair in flight, ca. 1930s. ABOVE: A carved bass mounted on a wooden plaque, made around the same time. The fish carving remains a Coudon family favorite.

objected to any of the local people or neighbors ice-skating on his pond. During the rest of the year, he'd go fishing there. He'd catch yellow perch and other small fish. Well, as he was getting older, my grandmother would tell us that we had to keep an eye on him. Of course, she didn't let him know that she told us to do that, but we would all walk with him and make sure he didn't fall or get into any trouble. I can remember one time, after pulling out nothing but small fish all day, he caught a huge snapping turtle on his line. He called me over and said, 'go get your father, I'm going to need some help here.' So I went home and found my father and he helped my grandfather take that turtle home. I remember the cook made snapping turtle soup that night." Henry remembers that even his grandfather would strap on a pair of ice-skates from time to time, "the kind that clamped onto your shoes," and partake in the fun. Joseph also encouraged the hockey teams from the nearby West Nottingham Academy and the Tome Institute to use his pond for their practices.

Thinking back to the 1930s, Henry remembers that: "One of his favorite things was to go for walks through the farm fields and hunt for arrowheads and tomahawk heads. We used to love to do that with him. We'd find a lot of them after they'd plow, too." Above all, Ann reflects that: "He was a sweet, loving man. He loved jokes, always loved a good joke. He was just a decent family man. He loved his family and always took great pride in his family."

Friends and Acquaintances

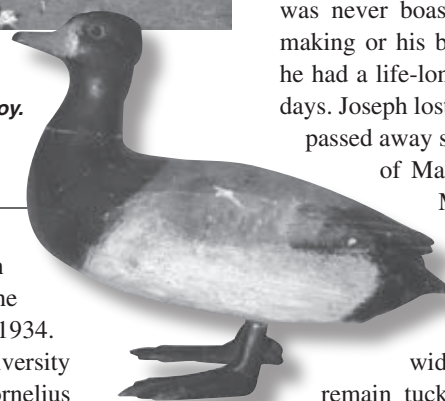
Joseph's grandchildren remember him as a gracious, quiet and humble man. Grandson Henry notes that he was as comfortable and as personable with farmhands and watermen as he was with captains of industry. This is evident in the company he kept, the friendships he valued and the relationships he fostered over the years.

One such friend was aircraft pioneer Glenn L. Martin (1886–1955), who maintained a farm on the Eastern Shore, frequented the best gunning grounds in the Susquehanna Flats region, and who became a regular visitor to Ellerslie. One of Joseph's final projects was to carve and paint a wooden panel for each of his seven grandchildren. He carved them all but failing eyesight prevented him from painting the last two. Henry recalls that Martin, a longtime hunting partner of Joseph's, was paying a visit to Ellerslie sometime around 1946. Upon learning of his friend's predicament, Martin made a suggestion. "He told my grandfather, 'I can help you with these. I have people who work for me, artists on my staff, who can finish these for you and, with your permission, I'll have them take care of these,' and he took the last two back to Baltimore with him. A month or so later, he came back and they were finished. His people did a really wonderful job."

No doubt, the warm praise Joel Barber paid to him in his book, *Wild Fowl Decoys*, raised Joseph's profile among many of the day's business and literary elite. Consequently, several of these men sought out and befriended Joseph. Among them was pioneering ornitholo-



ABOVE: Joseph Coudon sets out a rig of folding decoys off Carpenter's Point. RIGHT: An unusual "standing" full-body decoy. Joseph Coudon was one of the first makers in the Upper Bay region to craft decoys in this manner.



gist, artist and author Roger Tory Peterson (1908-1996), credited with publishing the first modern field guide to birds in 1934. Another was historian, author and University of Pennsylvania Literature professor Cornelius Weygandt (1871-1957). Joseph corresponded regularly with both men for many years.

One of Joseph's closest friends locally was fellow decoy maker Taylor Boyd (1856-1944). The pair had first met as young men while pursuing fish and waterfowl at the head of the Chesapeake Bay, but Taylor left for Baltimore around 1915, creating a nearly three decade gap since they were in regular contact. Upon Taylor's return to Perryville from Baltimore in the early 1940s, however, the men rekindled their friendship and seemed to pick right back up from where they had left off so many years before. Their enduring friendship transcended not only time and place, but class and social position as well. Although the two men came from very different economic backgrounds, they were within a few years of age of one another and had much in common. They shared a love of the outdoors, the water, the challenges of gunning, and the skill required to evoke winged life from blocks of wood. Joseph was delighted to see his old friend once again, someone who shared his understanding of and appreciation for a long forgotten time and a true passion for his beloved Susquehanna Flats. Henry remembers that his grandfather would pay Taylor a visit from time to time. To commemorate his return to Cecil County, Joseph carved a wonderful wooden Bobwhite quail, signed it with a warm inscription, and presented it to him as a gift in 1943. The fact that he made a gift of one his prized carvings to Taylor is testament to the esteem Coudon felt for him and the close bond they shared.

A Legacy Secured

Today, Route 40 splits what was once the thriving, idyllic Ellerslie. The development and progress spawned by the new road prompted the first and only sale of any of his land during Joseph's lifetime. What progress cannot split, however, is the legacy of the man. Today, we clearly recognize the talent and genius of Joseph Coudon. In the latter years of his life, others were beginning to do so as well. In addition to Joel Barber's reflections, he was profiled in no fewer than three different pieces appearing in *The Baltimore Sun* in the early 1930s. His work was exhibited around the country, including several shows in New York City;

at the Purnell Galleries, the Maryland Institute and in the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore; at galleries and in top hotels in Philadelphia and Wilmington, Delaware; and closer to home, at the Hotel Bayou in Havre de Grace.

True to form, however, Ann remembers that her grandfather was never boastful. "He never talked much about his decoy-making or his business interests. He just enjoyed the work and he had a life-long work ethic." He worked right up until his last days. Joseph lost his beloved Clarita on February 19, 1947 and he passed away suddenly about three months later, on the evening of May 30. He was 87 years old. He is buried at St. Mark's Episcopal Church cemetery in Perryville.

Joseph's decorative works remain largely in the hands of his family. His working decoys have found their way into private collections and museums, and given their widespread use, many of his folding birds probably remain tucked away in attics, basements, boathouses and sheds—waiting to be discovered and appreciated once again.

Even by 1934, when the celebration of decoys as art was in its infancy and documentation of makers was scarce, the publication of Barber's *Wild Fowl Decoys* helped secure Coudon's place in the annals of decoy making history and lore. But in the seven decades since, the collecting community has come to appreciate the larger contributions and the sheer artistic genius of this quiet, humble son of Cecil County. It is fitting that a man who was so passionate about education is being recognized by one of America's foremost institutions dedicated to preserving this uniquely American legacy and teaching others about the role of waterfowling and decoy-making in our shared past. In celebrating the life and work of Joseph Coudon, we honor not only his works in two and three dimensions that have been left to us for posterity, but more importantly, we honor the many dimensions of the man himself.

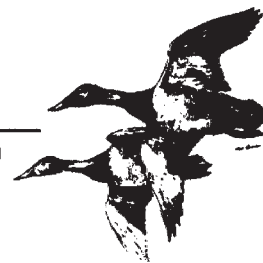
The author wishes to express his heartfelt gratitude to Ann Coudon and Henry Coudon for so graciously sharing their memories, family records and photographs—and to the entire Coudon family for sharing their collections of Joseph Coudon's work with the museum and the public. Thanks also to Chuck Robbins, Pat Vincenti, Margaret Jones, and Mike Dixon and Milt Diggins at the Historical Society of Cecil County for research assistance.

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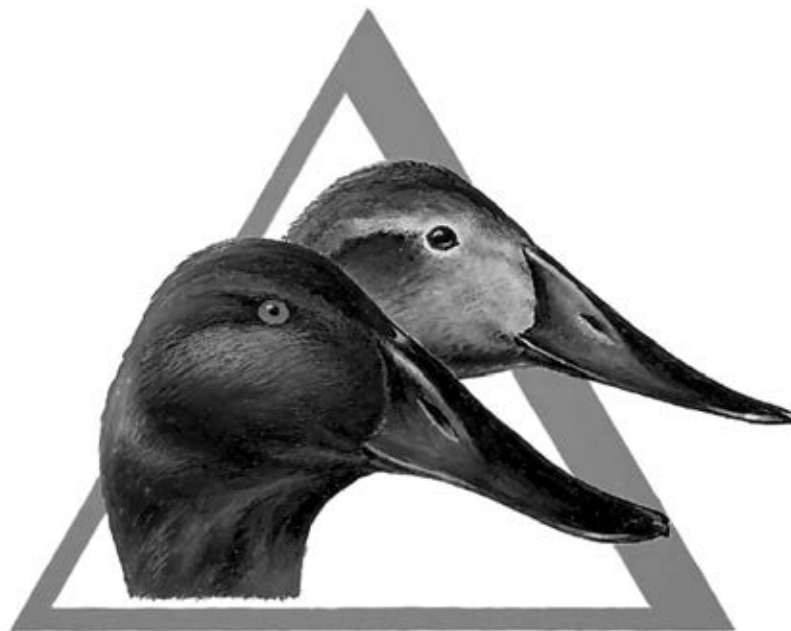
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2007 Celebrates the 400th Anniversary of the Founding of Jamestown, VA

2007 marks the 400th Anniversary of the founding of the first settlement in the New World, Jamestown, VA. To mark this occasion a re-creation of Capt. John Smith's exploration cruises in the Chesapeake will take place this summer.

In conjunction with the newly created National Waterways Trail system, Capt John Smith's re-created 17th century sailing vessel, known as a shallop, will make port all along the trail and will include stops in Perryville, Port Deposit and Havre de Grace the weekend of July 20–22. The 12 member crew will row 2,000 miles of the Chesapeake Bay and travel with only three days worth of food and water at any time. The idea is that the crew will get lodging and food from people as they travel, a lot like the original crew did in the 17th century. The ship will leave May 12th from Jamestown, VA and will take 121 days to complete the trip.

The Decoy Museum and the Concord Point Lighthouse will be participating in the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum's Mari-Time Fest that weekend. There will be exhibitors, Native American crafters, demonstrations, children's activities and entertainment. This weekend celebration will take place on the waterfront near the Concord Point Lighthouse. Capt. Smith's shallop will dock at Hutchins Park on Sunday, July 22 and remain on display for the day before leaving on Monday. Come and witness a piece of history and join us at the Mari-Time Fest. For more information regarding the Mari-Time Fest contact the Maritime Museum at 410-939-4800 or call the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum at 410-939-3739.

To learn more about the Capt. John Smith National Waterways Trail, visit the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network website, www.baygateways.net.

Special Auction Lot Available

If you are a collector of quality decoys, here is a unique opportunity for you. The Live Auction during the Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival will include a very special lot, lot #57. This lot consists of the complete set of #7 Limited Edition Museum Decoys. These 8 decoys are made and painted by the finest carvers.

These decoys will ONLY be sold as a single lot and will not be broken up. The reserve bid is \$2,000. If the reserve bid is not met, the lot will be withdrawn. If you are looking for a unique opportunity, here it is. Remember, proceeds from the auction benefit the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum.



If You Have the Time, We Have the Need!

Do you have a few hours a week you could give to the Museum? How about a few hours a year for the Festival? Do you enjoy early morning bird walks and would like to share your knowledge with others? If you have the time, we have the need.

The Museum is dedicated to offering a wide variety of activities to the members and to the public. We are looking for volunteers who would like to assist with leading adult group tours, and/or answer phones. Can you help with large mailings or assist with special events like the Festival and Duck Fair? We would like to expand our activities and programs, but we need your help.

Volunteers are a great asset to any organization and as a volunteer for the Museum you will become a valued team member. If you would like to meet and chat with people from all over the country, share your knowledge of Havre de Grace and the environment, or just come in and join us while we stuff envelopes and put mailing labels on magazines, we would love to have you.

Contact Joanne Calder or Margaret Jones at the Museum 410-939-3739 or email us at decoymuseum@yahoo.com to see how you can become a part of our volunteer staff!



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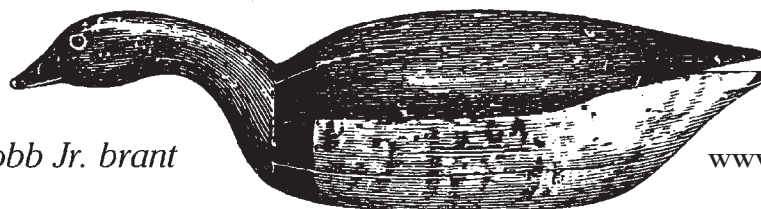
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Havre de Grace Decoy Museum, 215 Giles St., Havre de Grace, MD 21078

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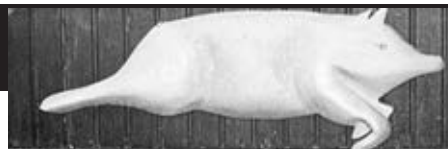
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Calendar of Events

The Ward Foundation Education Series

Call the Ward Foundation for a complete listing of this year's seminars, classes and workshops, programs and exhibits. Call Salisbury University Education Department at (410) 742-4988 ext. 110 or visit their website at www.wardmuseum.org

The Decoy Museum's Exhibits

The Magnificent Michael Bequest, An extraordinary pair of "Daddy" Holly canvasbacks.
Completion of the "What is a Decoy" main gallery exhibit.

Tour Reservations

Book your tours early. Talk to your children's or grandchildren's teachers now about signing up for educational programs and tours of the Decoy Museum. Harford County school system classes are free and we have several different tours to offer different age or grade levels. Programs for scouts and home schooled children are also available.

MAY 4-6	MAY 14
26th Annual Havre de Grace Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival. Friday, May 4, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, May 5, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, May 6, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Havre de Grace Decoy Museum 215 Giles Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Premiere decoy and wildlife art show. Antique and contemporary decoys, decorative carvings and wildlife carvers. Retrieving dog demonstrations, carving competitions and children activities. ADA accessible. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 410-939-3739. Website: http://www.decoymuseum.com	Lecture/Concert/Film Series (Subject TBA). 7:00 p.m. Havre de Grace Maritime Museum 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace, MD ADA accessible. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4800. Website: http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org
MAY 5	MAY 19
Dublin Country Fair. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., parade begins at 10:00 a.m. Grounds of Dublin Elementary School and Dublin Park Dublin-Darlington Rec Council 1421 Whiteford Road, Street, MD. Parade, crafts, games, car show, food, entertainment and contests. Supports community scholarship fund. ADA accessible. Phone: 410-836-3690. Website: http://www.dublincountryfair.org FREE COMIC BOOK DAY. 11am-5pm. Washington Street Books, 131 N. Washington St; free comic books given to celebrate comics & reading. Phone: 410-939-6215 . Email: washbks@erols.com	Guided Nature and Historical walk of the North Park Trail. 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Lock House of the Susquehanna Museum, walk begins at 10:00 a.m. Havre de Grace City Hall Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Phone: 410-939-5780. Website: http://www.lockhousemuseum.org
MAY 5-6	MAY 25
Re-enactment of the Attack on Havre de Grace—War of 1812. Havre de Grace City Hall. Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum, Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD. The public is invited to visit the Lock House grounds where the attack will take place and on which the various military units will have their encampments. There will be musket-firing displays, marching and drill, a candlelight tour of the encampment, War of 1812 military hospital and a variety of other historical attractions. Phone: 410-939-5780. Website: http://www.lockhousemuseum.org	Sunset Cruise. 7:00 p.m. – 9 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. All aboard the Martha Lewis, experience a sunset to remember. Reservations required. Price: \$25, child u/10 \$12 admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org . Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com
MAY 9	MAY 26
Ellsworth B. Shank Historical Lecture Series. An Abundant and Fruitful Land: An Overview of Human Use of the Chesapeake Through History, presented by Henry M. Miller. 7:00 p.m. Havre de Grace City Hall Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum, Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Phone: 410-939-5780. Website: http://www.lockhousemuseum.org	Margarita Night Cruise. 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha HdG, MD. Set sail with island tunes, light refreshments. Margaritas, beer & soda included. Reservations required. Price: \$35 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org . Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com
MAY 13	MAY 27
Mother's Day Brunch Cruise. 11:00 a.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. Start Mom off right with a brunch on the Martha Lewis. Reservations required; \$30 per person; Price: \$30 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org . Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com Mother's Day Tea Cruise. 1:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. Leave the hustle & bustle on shore. Enjoy a peaceful tea cruise with Mom. Reservations required; \$30 per person; Price: \$30 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org . Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com	Sporting Clays Classic. 9:00 a.m. – last shooter on course. Havre de Grace Decoy Museum 215 Giles Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Seventy-five target four Lewis class event. Enjoy an afternoon on the shore shooting sport clays. All proceeds benefit the museum. Please contact the museum for more specific information. ADA accessible. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 410-939-3739. Website: http://www.decoymuseum.com
MAY 14	JUNE 1
	Happy Hour Cruise. 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. Unwind with light jazz, beverages and munchies. Reservations required. Price: \$35 pp admission fee Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org . Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com 8TH ANNUAL HARFORD HOSPICE REGATTA. 6:30pm. Adjacent to the Concord Point Lighthouse. Enjoy a sailboat regatta, steak and chicken dinner by Outback Steakhouse, music, dancing and a silent auction. Price: \$45. Phone: 443-643-3316. Email: dbt.ol@ex.uchs.org



Calendar of Events

<p>JUNE 3</p> <p>Lighthouse Cruise. 12:00 noon–3:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. View Concord Point, Turkey Point and Fishing Battery Island Lighthouses from the deck of the Martha Lewis. Box lunch included. Reservations required. Price: \$30 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com</p>	<p>JUNE 16</p> <p>Summer Salsa on the Susquehanna. Havre de Grace Community Center. Margaritas, beer, wine, dinner, dancing and dance instruction are provided. An auction is held during the event. Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum, Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD Phone: 410-939-5780. Website: http://www.lockhousemuseum.org.</p>
<p>JUNE 3</p> <p>Sunset Cruise. 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD All aboard the Martha Lewis, experience a sunset to remember. Reservations required. Price: \$25, child u/10 \$12 admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com</p>	<p>JUNE 17</p> <p>Father's Day Cruise. 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis. HdG, MD. Treat Dad to sandwiches, beverage & dessert. Reservations required. Price: \$30 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com</p> <p>Fathers' Day Chili Cook Off. 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m. Fiore Winery. 3026 Whiteford Road, Pylesville, MD. Join chili chefs from around the country in a competition to become a certified Chili Master. Served with Fiore wines. ADA accessible. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 410-879-4007. Website: http://www.fiorewinery.com</p>
<p>JUNE 4–10</p> <p>McDonald's LPGA Championship. Approximately 7:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. Bulle Rock Golf Course. 320 Blenheim Lane, HdG, MD. One of four "majors" on the LPGA tour. Proceeds benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 1-888-321-1681. Website: http://www.mcdslpgachampionship.com</p>	<p>JUNE 18</p> <p>Character Cruise. 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. This character lives under water. Ages 3-8. Reservations required. Price: \$15 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com.</p>
<p>JUNE 6</p> <p>Afternoon Tea. 2:00 p.m. -3:30 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. A relaxing sail with dainty sandwiches, scones, savory deserts and our specialty teas. Space is limited. Reservations required. Price: \$30 pp admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com</p>	<p>JUNE 19</p> <p>Character Cruise. 10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. This character lives under water. Ages 3-8. Reservations required. Price: \$15 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com.</p>
<p>JUNE 7</p> <p>Sunset Cruise. 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. All aboard the Martha Lewis, experience a sunset to remember. Reservations required. Price: \$25, child u/10 \$12 admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com</p>	<p>JUNE 20</p> <p>Afternoon Tea. 2:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. A relaxing sail with dainty sandwiches, scones, savory deserts and our specialty teas. Space is limited. Reservations required. Price: \$30 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com.</p>
<p>JUNE 8</p> <p>Lighthouse Cruise. 12:00 noon -3:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. View Concord Point, Turkey Point and Fishing Battery Island Lighthouses from the deck of the Martha Lewis. Box lunch included. Reservations required. Price: \$30 pp admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com</p> <p>Wine Cruise. 7:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. A relaxing evening sail while enjoying wine, cheese & fruit tray, beer & soda. Reservations required. Price: \$35 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com</p>	<p>JUNE 21</p> <p>Sunset Cruise. 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. All aboard the Martha Lewis, experience a sunset to remember. Reservations required. Price: \$25, child u/10 \$12 admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com.</p>
<p>JUNE 9</p> <p>Margarita Night Cruise. 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD. Set sail with island tunes, light refreshments. Margaritas, beer & soda included. Reservations required. Price: \$35 per person. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com</p>	<p>JUNE 22</p> <p>Martha's Treasure Hunters. 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. Children ages 6-10 become pirates of the bay in search of sunken treasure. They will read the treasure map and help navigate the boat to find the treasure. Children only. Reservations required. Price: \$15 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com.</p>
<p>JUNE 10–12</p> <p>CELTIC FESTIVAL. Noon-5pm. Steppingstone Museum. 461 Quaker Bottom Rd; Scottish clans, vendors, entertainment, sheepherding demos, spinning & weaving, pipe band music, dancers, food, tours. Price: \$. Phone: 410-939-2299.</p>	<p>JUNE 23</p> <p>HAVRE DE GRACE FARMER'S MARKET. 9am to noon. Corner of Pennington and Washington St. Phone: 410-939-3303.</p> <p>Summertime Blues Festival. 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. Steppingstone Museum Association, Inc. 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace, MD. Live Music, beer and wine, food, museum tours and period artisans. Outdoor event, rain or shine, advance tickets sold. Beautiful setting overlooking the river. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 410-939-2299. Website: http://www.steppingstonemuseum.org.</p>



Calendar of Events

<p align="center">JUNE 23 CONTINUED</p> <p>Margarita Night Cruise. 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. Set sail with island tunes, light refreshments. Margaritas, beer & soda included. Reservations required. Price: \$35 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com.</p>	<p align="center">JULY 9–13</p> <p>Children's Camp by the Bay. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Havre de Grace Maritime Museum. 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace, MD. A week long camp adventure of discovering heritage and history in your own backyard. Advanced registration required. Program fee charged. ADA accessible. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4800. Website: http://www.hdg-maritimemuseum.org.</p>
<p align="center">JUNE 25</p> <p>Teddy Bear's Picnic. 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. Children bring their favorite bear or doll for a cruise and picnic. Parents welcome. Reservations required. Price: \$10 per person admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com.</p> <p>Storytime Cruise. 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis, HdG, MD. Enjoy a sail accompanied with children's stories for your 3-8 year old. Reservations required. Price: \$10 pp admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4078. Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org. Website: http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com.</p>	<p align="center">JULY 15</p> <p>Shakespeare in the Park: <i>The Tempest</i>. 7:30 p.m. Grounds between Maritime and Decoy Museum, HdG, MD. ADA accessible. Phone: 410-939-5544. Website: http://www.havredegracemd.com.</p>
<p align="center">JUNE 25–29</p> <p>Teen Boat Building School. 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Havre de Grace Maritime Museum. 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Teens 13-18 welcome to join our resident boat builders and construct their own canoe. Built in five days, launched and taken home on the sixth! Admission charged. ADA accessible. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 410-939-4800. Website: http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org</p>	<p align="center">JULY 20–22</p> <p>Mari*Fest All day. Havre de Grace Maritime Museum. 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace, MD. The 2007 Maritime Heritage Festival promises to be our biggest, most exciting event ever! In honor of the 400th Anniversary of John Smith's voyage up the Chesapeake Bay, a replica of Smith's discovery vessel, or "Shallop," will sail into Havre de Grace from Jamestown, VA. Representatives from numerous state and national organizations will be present to celebrate, including the National Geographic Society, the National Park Services, The Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Maryland Humanities Council. The event will have venues throughout the city! Come join us as we celebrate and become a part of History! Live music, boat building demonstrations, local foods and crafts, living history displays, kids activities, a boat raffle and more! Come join us as we celebrate and become a part of History! ADA accessible. Phone: 410-939-4800. Website: http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org.</p>
<p align="center">JUNE 29 – JULY 3</p> <p>HdG INDEPENDENCE DAY CARNIVAL. Tydings Park; rides and games for all ages; June 29-7/3; Parade 6/30 2pm; Concert 7/3 7pm; Fireworks 7/3 at dark. Phone: 410-939-4362; 410-939-210.</p>	<p align="center">JULY 22</p> <p>Captain John Smith's 1608 Voyage. 10am-5pm. Join the commemoration of Captain John Smith's 1608 voyages of exploration at Hutchins Park. On hand will be the John Smith Shallop. A 30 foot open boat in the midst of retracing Smith's route around the Chesapeake Bay, an interactive exhibit tent, and the Shallop's crew of modern day explorers. Phone: 410-939-2100. Website: www.johnsmith400.org/havredegrace.htm</p>
<p align="center">JUNE 30</p> <p>Guided "Nature and Historical Walk of the North Park Trail." 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Lock House of the Susquehanna Museum, walk begins at 10:00 a.m. Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Phone: 410-939-5780. Website: http://www.lockhousemuseum.org. HdG Independence Day Parade. 2:00 p.m. Union Avenue, HdG, MD</p>	<p align="center">AUGUST 11—12</p> <p>27th Annual HdG Seafood Festival. Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Sunday, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Havre de Grace Seafood Festival, Inc. HdG, MD. Phone: 410-939-1525. Email: Seafoodfes@aol.com</p>
<p align="center">JULY 6</p> <p>FRIDAY CONCERTS IN THE PARK. 7:30–9pm. Millard E. Tydings Park. 7:30-9pm. Bring chair or blanket - different music group performs each Friday. Phone: 410-939-5425 or 410-939-2100.</p>	<p align="center">AUGUST 18–19</p> <p>44th Annual Havre de Grace Art Show. 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tydings Park HdG, MD. Over 250 juried artists from throughout the U.S. exhibit and sell their work. Food and entertainment. Sponsored by Soroptimist International of HdG. ADA Accessible. Phone: 410-939-9342</p>
<p align="center">JULY 7</p> <p>Early Maryland History: Pirate Encampment. Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum, Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Come visit the pirates in their camps, watch the attacks on the "town" and cheer on your favorites. Phone: 410-939-5780. Website: http://www.lockhousemuseum.org</p>	
<p align="center">JULY 8</p> <p>Summer Fun Day w/Lawnmower Races & Car Show. 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. Steppingstone Museum Association, Inc. 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace, MD. Car show, lawnmower races, children's activities ice cream eating contest, turtle races, frog jumping, sack races, food, museum tours. Price: Admission fee. Phone: 410-939-2299. Website: http://www.step-pingstonemuseum.org.</p>	

2007

Carving Demonstrations

at the
HAVRE DE GRACE
DECOY MUSEUM

MAY

Saturday, May 4 Festival – John Ingoglia
Sunday, May 5 Festival – John Ingoglia
Saturday, May 12 Open
Saturday, May 19 George Stram
Saturday, May 26 Bob Hess

JUNE

Saturday, June 2 Open
Saturday, June 9 George Stram
Saturday, June 16 Leonard Burcham
Saturday, June 23 Jeanne Hiss
Saturday, June 30 Open

JULY

Saturday, July 7 Open
Saturday, July 14 Jeanne Hiss
Saturday, July 21 Leonard Burcham
Saturday, July 28 Patrick Vincenti

AUGUST

Saturday, August 4 George Stram
Saturday, August 11 Open
Saturday, August 18 Jeanne Hiss
Saturday, August 25 Bob Hess



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