

The Canvasback

HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM

Fall 2007
Vol. 16 No. 4

\$4.00

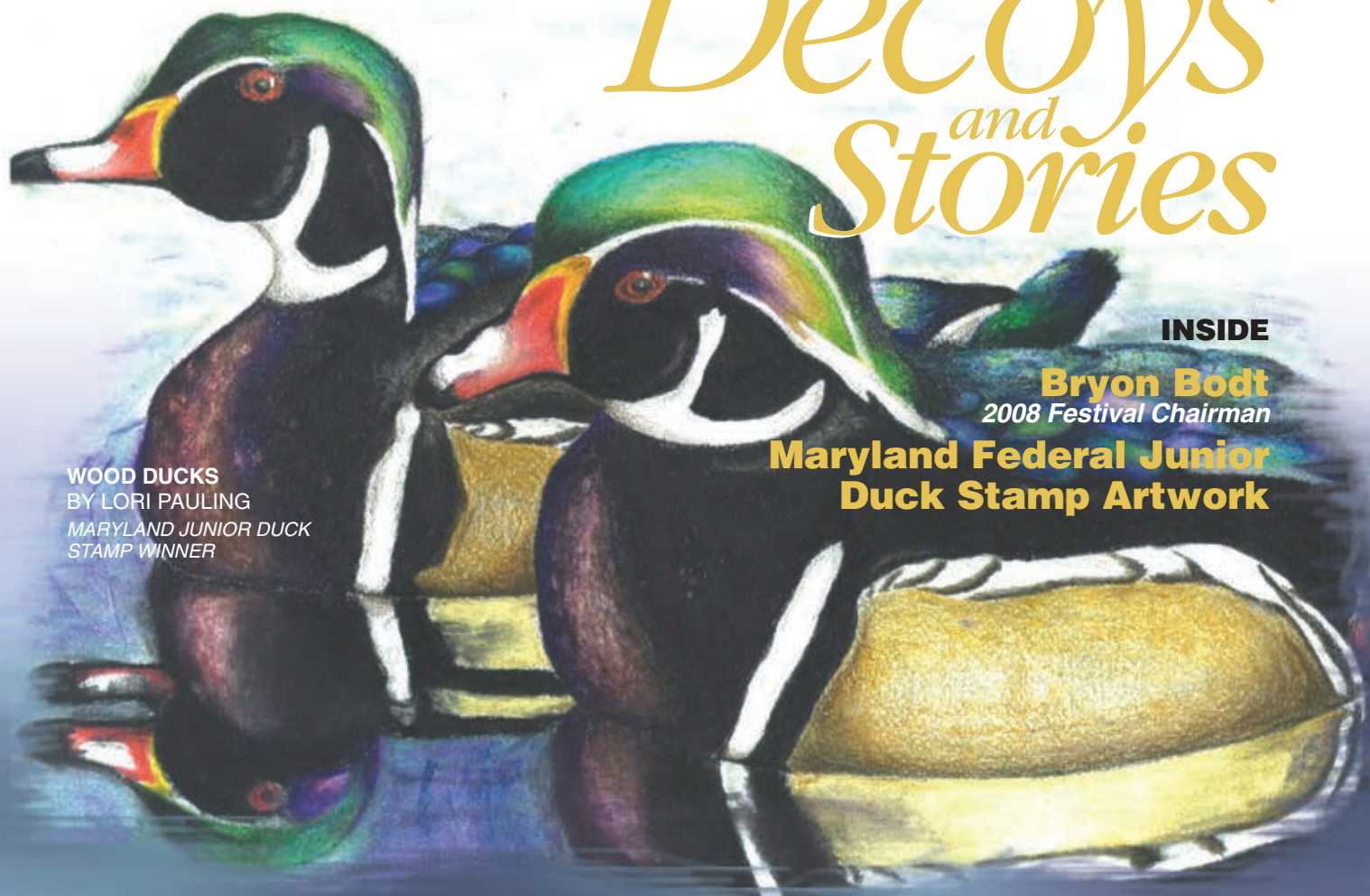
C. John Sullivan's
*Collecting
Decoys
and
Stories*

INSIDE

Bryon Bodt
2008 Festival Chairman

**Maryland Federal Junior
Duck Stamp Artwork**

WOOD DUCKS
BY LORI PAULING
MARYLAND JUNIOR DUCK
STAMP WINNER



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

2007 Fall Raffle

To Benefit
Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

This year the raffle items are particularly spectacular! Be sure to purchase your tickets early, and encourage your family and friends to do the same!

1ST PRIZE

Pair of miniature redheads by
Capt. Bill Collins

2ND PRIZE

18K gold brooch featuring Canada
geese in flight, courtesy of
Johnston Brothers of Bel Air

3RD PRIZE

Half-size blue-wing teal by
Steiner Pierce

Winners will be drawn at 8 p.m. during the
Candlelight Tour and Carvers' Celebration
at the Decoy Museum.

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM AND WILL
ALSO BE MAILED TO MEMBERS.

*For more information, please call the
Museum at 410-939-3739.*

CAN YOU HELP?

LIVE AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED FOR DECOY & WILDLIFE ART FESTIVAL

Auction items are needed for the live auction
to take place at the **2008 Decoy and Wildlife
Art Festival** to be held on **May 2, 3 & 4.**

The Festival Committee is accepting con-
signments of quality decoys up to 100 lots.
The commission rate will be 10% from the
buyer and 10% from the seller.

*Please drop off any items you have for the auction at
the museum.*

All proceeds will benefit the Havre de Grace Museum.

To ensure that your item is cataloged and photographed
for inclusion in the festival issue of *The Canvasback*,
we must have your item(s) no later than
March 20th. If you have any questions,
please call Margaret at the museum.



*Please
contact us if
you have any
questions.*

410-939-3739



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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Maryland Federal Junior Stamp Artist Lori Pauling's Pair of Wood Ducks.



FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Museum Family,

Each year I can't help but share with others my love of the autumn season, for it truly is my favorite time of the year. It brings to mind a cornucopia of vivid images... azure skies, festive foliage, spiraling foot-balls, warm, wooly sweaters, crisp, crunchy apples, and devils and fairies and demons gathered 'round my front door.

Of course, I can't omit what pleasures the olfactory senses... the sweet scent of cooling pies, the spicy essence of mulled cider, and the mouth-watering aroma of thick, hearty homemade soups and stews. Speaking of food, I recently heard someone speaking about a delectable duck chili they had tried. I think that sounds yummy! With gunning season at hand, I thought perhaps *The Canvasback* would serve as a fine vehicle for us to share some of our interesting and delicious water-fowl recipes. If you have one, please send it to my attention at the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum, 215 Giles St., Havre de Grace, MD 21078, or via e-mail at kjones@decoymuseum.com. In the following issue we may have the opportunity to try out a favorite recipe offered by a member who has tried and tested it!

As this edition of *The Canvasback* lands on your doorstep, I will be approaching my six month tenure as your director and editor. I have

Continues on page 10

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Havre de Grace Decoy Museum
215 Giles Street
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
(410) 939-3739

www.decoymuseum.com

From the President

Dear Museum Member,

By the October board meeting I will have completed a two year term as President of the Board of Directors. When I was elected president I was asked, "Does this call for a celebration or commiserations?" At the time I wasn't sure.

Being president requires dedicating many hours to the museum and its activities. It is a very rewarding experience when we are able to wrap up a successful auction or complete another good festival.



Now I would like to tell you what some of your board members have been doing. Pat Vincenti and Griff Evans of the collections committee have been busy all year. The Coudon exhibit has drawn raves from everyone who has come to see it. The Potomac Collectors' exhibit is always a big hit, and the Evans McKinney contest is a wonderful competition and makes an excellent exhibit of winning entries.

Paul Howshall has been busy with getting information to upgrade our security system. Paul is also working with Ken Stevenson, John Ingoglia and Bill Collins on the 21st Anniversary Dinner. I'm told there will be a 'Beauty and the Beast' contest, and you will be surprised who dresses up in drag!

Bob Bendler is working on a general membership meeting to be held in early April, and John Case, who was our interim editor of *The Canvasback*, is now working on revising our corporate by-laws. Mitch Shank is working with both Bob and John on these tasks.

Madelyn Shank handles getting volunteers for our Festival. Each year Madelyn says "Don't you think someone else might like to do this?" Each year the Festival committee convinces her to continue doing a great job. Madelyn also coordinates the silent auction for the Duck Fair.

More about our board members and our committees will be coming up in future issues of *The Canvasback*. Please continue to support our museum, and visit us soon!

Sincerely,

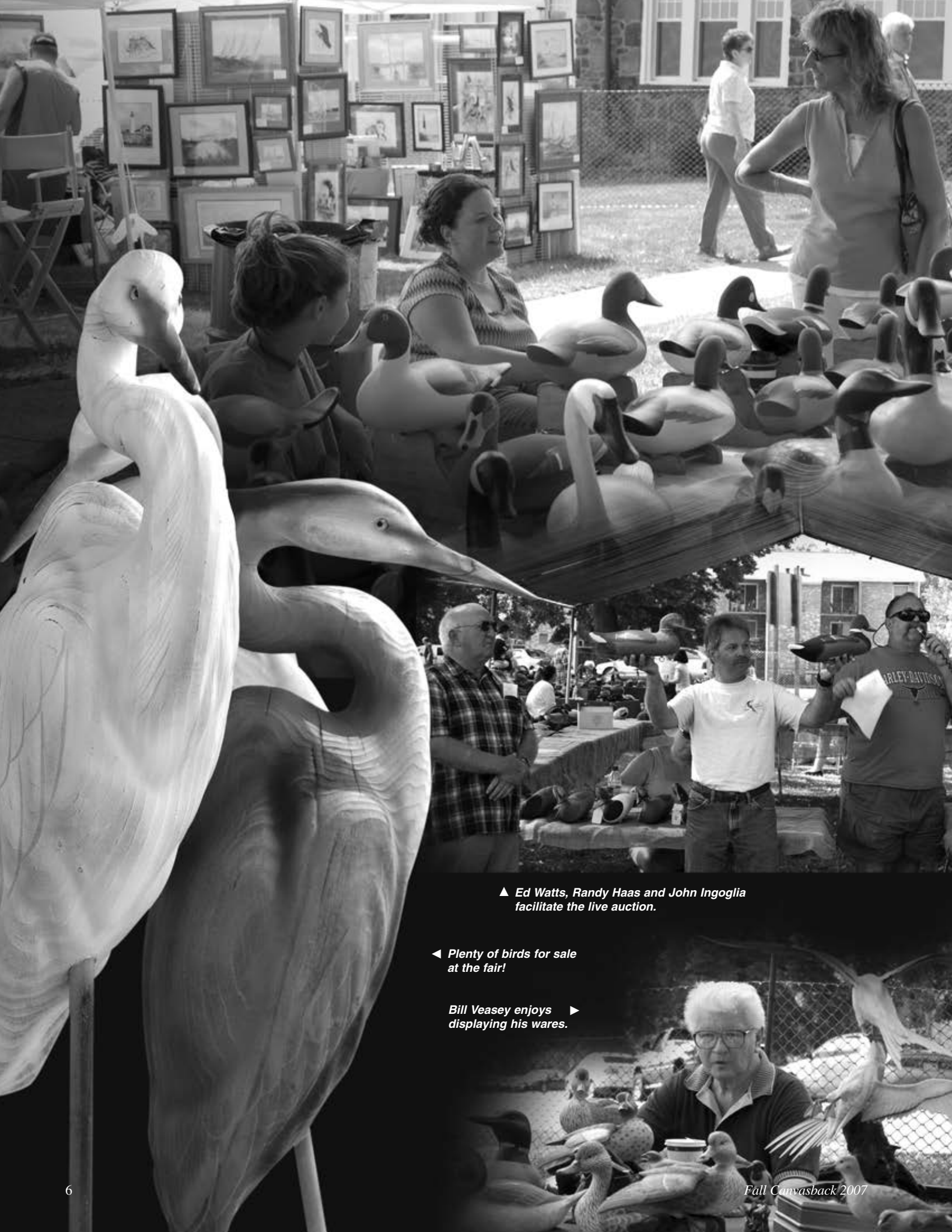
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ed Watts'.

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.



▲ Ed Watts, Randy Haas and John Ingoglia facilitate the live auction.

◀ Plenty of birds for sale at the fair!

Bill Veasey enjoys displaying his wares. ▶

The Duck Fair

BY MARGARET JONES
PHOTOS BY RUSS HUDSON & MARGARET JONES
EXPERIENCE

This year's Duck Fair was a one day event... and what a day it was! The sun was shining, a steady breeze was blowing off the Flats, and it was pleasantly warm, not hot. Essentially, it was a perfect autumn day, and as such, made for a wonderful atmosphere for guests to visit the activities offered at the Decoy Museum.

This year the Duck Fair's Honorary Chairman, Frank Muller, was recognized by the museum for his talent as a carver and for his continued support of the museum. Frank's Currituck style decoys are beautiful, and are cherished by those who collect them. Frank Muller is a good friend of the museum, and supports the Decoy Festival and the Duck Fair each year by donating a canvas swan and goose to the auctions. Frank was welcomed by many who visited the fair, and he was pleasant to all who stopped by to see him, graciously explaining the history and construction of his style of decoys.

The fair's silent auction proved to be a great gathering spot. Every visitor dropped by and either placed a bid on one of the many items offered, or just sat in the shade and visited with silent auctioneers, Madelyn and Mitch Shank. There's nothing like spending a lovely afternoon 'shooting the breeze' with some good friends, even though it is not in keeping with the "silent" theme! Mitch kept the

peace when the bidding for a painted tie and tie tack got heated. He also kept the bidding building up, up, up on a beautiful Gibson piece that ultimately sold for nearly \$300!

The children's activities were supervised by Morgan Jones and Collin Asbury. These two young volunteers continue to do an excellent job supervising games, crafts and face painting. Morgan did spectacular work decorating children's faces with colorful ducks, butterflies, flowers and lighthouses. Colin's help moving furniture and boxes, and dumping trash was greatly appreciated. It takes a lot of hard work behind the scenes help to get an event of this magnitude off the ground... and keep it there!

Momma Goose (Jeanne Hiss), her daughter, Nancy Hiss, Loren Vincenti and a few other helpers (we know Papa Goose was not far away!) did an outstanding job facilitating the children's decoy painting session. Jeanne, a volunteer carver at the museum, and her husband, Warren, a weekly museum volunteer, are enormous assets to our museum family. This year's duck to paint was a drake Mallard, and was a very popular duck with the children. Momma Goose did a splendid job, and when her 'goslings' completed the task set

before them, the painted ducks were very colorful, as were a few fingers and noses!

A new project this year was the assembly of a wooden pull along duck toy. The toy kits were donated to the museum compliments of Mr. Duane Henry. The duck toy activity was supervised by Noble Mentzer. Mr. Mentzer is a talented, well known local carver, and he enjoys working with children. Upon completion of this activity, children were able to put together their own toy and were seen pulling them along the fairgrounds.

Last, but surely not least, the live auction was a popular attraction. Board member and Duck Fair Committee Chair, John Ingoglia, served as auctioneer and did a fabulous job. Randy Haas and Board President, Ed Watts assisted John with displaying the lots. Thanks to all of the bidders, donors and consignors who made the live auction so successful.

The Duck Fair is a pleasant way for families and friends to spend a few hours of quality time together. If you enjoyed this year's Duck Fair, or missed out, make sure you mark your calendar for September 6, 2008 for some more Duck Fair FUN!

Children paint mallard drakes under the supervision of Momma Goose (Jeanne Hiss).



Fall Canvasback 2007



Board member John Ingoglia presents plaque expressing appreciation to Duck Fair Honorary Chairman Frank Muller.

HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM

Proudly Announces

Bryon Bodt

as the

2008 HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF THE 27TH ANNUAL DECOY & WILDLIFE ART FESTIVAL

Bryon grew up in Harford County, Maryland and currently lives in Churchville. He is a 1981 graduate of Bel Air High School and graduated in 1985 from Washington College with a degree in biology. Bryon is presently making decoys as a full time occupation.

Bryon's enthusiasm was sparked by his father's interest in antique decoys and hunting in the Havre de Grace area. Bryon's style is patterned after the classic working decoys produced by carvers such as R. Madison Mitchell, Paul Gibson, Charlie Bryan, and Bob McGaw. The traditional working birds (gunning decoys) are characterized by their flat paint, absence of raised feathers, and presence of ballast weights and anchor rings.

Bryon began carving a few duck heads in 1977. In the early 1980's he spent three years in apprenticeship under Jim (Jimmy) Pierce, a renowned Havre de Grace decoy maker. Now Bryon produces in his own style, birds native to the Atlantic flyway. He carves the hen and drake of about 16 species of ducks. The Canada goose, snow goose, blue goose, and swan are the larger species that he makes.

Bryon is featured in the book *Upper Chesapeake Bay Decoys And Their Makers* by Hagan & Hagan. Bryon's decoys have been shown in the Havre de Grace Decoy Festival, the Waterfowl Show at the Harford Day School, The Chestertown Wildlife Show, The Upper Shore Decoy Show, The Easton Waterfowl Show and other shows in Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Bryon has been involved with Ducks Unlimited, Izaak Walton League of America and Otter Point Creek Alliance. Bryon is currently serving as the vice-president and membership director of the Harford County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America. He spends a great deal of time at the Chapter's Melvin G. Bosely Wildlife Conservancy, especially working with the wood duck nesting program. Bosely Conservancy is also part of the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Maryland—in which he is a volunteer.

In 1994, Bryon was named the Volunteer Carver of the Year by the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum for his work with school groups.

His blackhead decoy was selected as the Maryland state bird for Ducks Unlimited in 1983. In 1998 his antique Canvasback drake was selected by the Maryland Ducks Unlimited. Bryon is a life member of the Izaak Walton League of America, the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum and the Upper Bay Museum.

In addition to making decoys, Bryon enjoys hunting, crabbing and working on his family's Christmas tree farm.



— Memoriam —

IN MEMORY OF Ken Clodfelter

1923 - 2007

Ken Clodfelter and his wife, Shirl, lived on Gettings Avenue in Baltimore for 49 years and had celebrated 60 years of marriage. They had two children, Janis Bahner of Baltimore, and Wood Clodfelter of Jupiter, FL. They also had two grandchildren, Lt. Comd. Christopher Bahner of Seattle, Washington, and Jessica Ports, also of Jupiter, FL. Ken and Shirl were additionally blessed with one great grandchild, Lea Kathryn Bahner. Bertie Krause, who shared more than fifty years of friendship with Ken and Shirl, was also like a member of their family.



I first met Ken in 1982 at a mutual friend's house, having been invited to an evening of carving decoys. Ken had been carving for some time and had co-authored a book with Ed Cassidy on "How to Carve a Green Wing Teal." This initial meeting led to many years of friendship between us.

Whenever anyone met Ken, he always offered a handshake with an impish grin. He clearly let you know that he enjoyed your company. There were three things you could count on from Ken: he often talked about Shirl and their family; he loved his church; and, he was fiercely proud of being a U.S. Marine. Ken was stationed in Okinawa during World War II, and the words "Semper Paratus" were often heard coming from his lips.

Ken had assembled many study books of song birds, birds of prey and ducks. When his eyesight was failing him, he donated these books to the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum. Ken's books are kept in the carving classroom at the museum for future carvers to use and study. Ken's daughter, Jan, called me after Ken's funeral and said that her dad had miscellaneous tools and cutouts which he wanted the Decoy Museum to have as well, to assist fledgling carvers with their new hobby.

My good friend Ken was always trying to help others. He will surely be missed by all who knew him.

—Ed Watts

Have You Got What it Takes to be a Volunteer?

Do you have a few hours a week you could give to the museum? How about a few hours a year for the Festival or the Duck Fair? Do you enjoy early morning bird walks and would you like to share your knowledge with others?

*If you have the time,
we have the need.*

**Contact Joanne Calder
or Margaret Jones at
the museum.**

410-939-3739

mjones@decoymuseum.com



Peggy Cecchine
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Continued from page 3

always considered myself a life-long learner and I have been very busy learning these days! Absorbing the history and art of the museum, exploring the implementation of new educational programs, and researching grant opportunities and fundraising activities have been interesting and complex endeavors. I am looking forward to working with the staff and Board to actualize some of these fresh, revitalizing ideas.

With the passing of another fabulous Duck Fair, the impending Board of Directors' election, and the upcoming Anniversary Dinner and Candlelight Tour, it has occurred to me that I will not have the opportunity to address the membership again until after the New Year. Therefore, and well in advance, I wish you and yours a happy Halloween, terrific Thanksgiving, a warm, wonderful holiday season, and a blessed New Year.

Yours very truly,



Kathleen Peotter Jones
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
EDITOR, *THE CANVASBACK*



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Captain John Smith's Shallop

visits Havre de Grace

by Margaret Jones

PHOTOS BY LEO HEPPNER

The Captain John Smith shallop made a return visit to the Upper Chesapeake Bay on July 22nd. A shallop was the type of vessel used by Captain Smith to explore the shallow waterways of the Chesapeake Bay. Originally built on his arrival to Jamestown, it was essentially a 12 man row boat. Smith's exploratory adventures were conducted over a two year period, and are marked by two different routes. The majority of the

Chesapeake regions' early history was documented by Smith in his journals and by the journals of his crew.

The Decoy Museum hosted a continental breakfast for the visiting dignitaries, affording them a beautiful view of the shallop's arrival. This was the midway point of the re-enactment of the cruise. On this leg of its journey, the vessel traveled from Perryville and Port Deposit, where it was visiting on Friday and Saturday. The ship made dock at the Tydings Park Marina in Havre de Grace at approximately 10 a.m. She was greeted by Havre de Grace Mayor Wayne Dougherty and City Council members, Senator Ben Cardin, Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, and County Executive David Craig.

The day was filled with the sounds of the Maritime Museum's Marifest, a waterfront festival which took place over the course of the weekend. The Decoy Museum set up an exhibit on the promenade where children had the opportunity to take part in one of the on going activities by making a cattail decoy or coloring a wetlands preservation flyer. Many people followed up their visit by going into the museum and exploring the wonderful exhibits inside.

If you missed the shallop's visit, you may have a chance to see the ship next summer. Plans are underway for the 400th Anniversary of Captain John Smith's original voyage.

The John Smith Shallop retraces the explorer's route.

Preparing to greet the shallop are (from left to right): John Quarstein, the Decoy Museum's consultant and curator, Decoy Museum Board President, Ed Watts, Kathleen Jones, Director of the museum and Maryland State Senator, Ben Cardin.



An excited crowd greets the shallop at the Tydings Park Marina before the welcoming ceremony.

20th Annual Duck Fair Auction Results

LOT #	SALE PRICE	DESCRIPTION
1a&b	\$75.00	Mallard Pair by Harry Jobes, signed & dated 1988
2a&b	\$100.00	Canvasback Pair by Harry Jobes, signed & dated 1988
3a&b	\$75.00	Canvasback Pair by Joey Jobes, signed & dated 1988
4a&b	\$80.00	Mallard Pair by Charles & Bob Jobes, signed & dated 1988
5a&b	\$150.00	Mallard Pair by J Ebel w/2nd place ribbon Decoy Festival 1989
6	\$5.00	Poster, Chesapeake Bay Gunning Decoys s&d Harry Jobes glued to framed background
7	\$20.00	Poster, Chesapeake Bay Gunning Decoys s&d Harry Jobes
8	\$85.00	Swan Decoy, full-size, canvas by Frank Muller, signed & dated
9	\$100.00	Green-wing Teal Sleeper Pair, Steiner Pierce, signed
10	\$65.00	Miniature Antiqued Swan on wood base, Steiner Pierce, signed
11	\$55.00	Miniature Canvasback Drake, Dick Robinson, signed & dated 1992
13	\$100.00	Old Squaw Drake by Ed Gray, signed & dated 1989
14	\$70.00	Coot, turned head by John Clark, #3 signed & dated
15	\$50.00	Green-wing Teal Drake by R Simmons, branded
16	\$50.00	Ducks Unlimited Bufflehead Drake in box
17	\$45.00	Pintail Hen Sleeper, antiqued, branded Bryant
18	\$75.00	Loon by Norm Smith, signed & dated 97
19	\$95.00	Framed Print by Paul Shertz of Charles Bryan Decoys, signed

LOT #	SALE PRICE	DESCRIPTION
20	\$130.00	Canvasback Drake by Ed Pearson, HdG, repaint 1940's
21	\$125.00	Canvasback Hen by Paul Gibson, HdG, original paint 1960
22	\$350.00	Bluebill Drake by Madison Mitchell, original paint, 1940-50's
23	\$250.00	Canvasback Drake by Madison Mitchell, original paint, 1940-50's
24	\$20.00	Pintail Hen by Victor Animal Trap, original paint
25	\$45.00	Bluebill Drake by Oscar Moxley, original paint, 1930's
26	\$40.00	Black Duck, natural finish
27a&b	\$60.00	Woodduck Pair by Spencer
28	\$40.00	Canvasback Hen by Ben Schmidt, repaint
29	\$100.00	Canvasback Drake by Madison Mitchell, repaint by Urie
30	\$40.00	Canada Goose, Hancock style by Jimmy Bowden
31	\$110.00	Canvasback Drake by Madison Mitchell, oversize, repaint
32	\$65.00	Bluebill Hen by Madison Mitchell, repaint by Urie
33a&b	\$225.00	Canvasback Pair, carver unknown, 1930's
34a&b	\$125.00	Bluebill Pair, carver unknown, 1930's
35	\$20.00	Black Duck, carver unknown
36a&b	\$100.00	Blue-wing Teal Pair by Harry Jobes, 1972
37	\$75.00	Canvasback Hen, used by the Barnard family
38a&b	\$575.00	Redhead Pair by Charlie Bryan
39a&b	\$425.00	Bluebill Pair by Madison Mitchell, original paint

LOT #	SALE PRICE	DESCRIPTION
40	\$100.00	Blue-wing Teal Hen by Madison Mitchell, original paint
41	\$40.00	Factory Decoy
42	\$45.00	Old Upper Bay Canvasback Hen with McGaw repaint
43	\$10.00	Bufflehead Plaque
44	\$125.00	Bluebill Hen by Madison Mitchell, original paint
45	\$185.00	Oversize Decoy, branded, possibly a Brant
46	\$75.00	Canada Goose by Paul Gibson c 1957 repaint
47	\$90.00	Redhead Drake by Wayne Harris
48	\$55.00	Canvasback Drake by Wayne Harris
49a&b	\$25.00	Canvasback bookends by Wayne Harris
50	\$10.00	Driftwood fish by Wayne Harris
51	\$55.00	Blackhead, unknown

Thank You for Your Support! at this year's Duck Fair Silent Auction

We extend an enormous helping of gratitude to all of the friends of the museum and the supporting businesses who so generously donated items for our Duck Fair Silent Auction. Without your support our event would not have been nearly as successful as it was. Thank you!

THANK YOU DUCK FAIR VOLUNTEERS

The staff of the Decoy Museum thanks everyone who volunteered their time before, during and after the Duck Fair. We are most grateful to the board members and friends of the museum for helping in ways both large and small to make this wonderful family-oriented event such a success.

MIKE AFFLECK

NOBLE MENTZER

COLLIN ASBURY

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ROD WITTSTADT

CAPT. ROBERT JONES

MORGAN JONES

C. John Sullivan III and
R. Madison Mitchell, December
1982. John is holding a 1938
Mitchell canvasback drake.

Collecting *Decoys*

“Look at those two birds sitting there together, no question who made them and when they were made,” and then I tell them the “story.”

I recently had the former President of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum Board of Directors, Patrick Vincenti, stop by the house with a Connecticut couple who are relatively new decoy collectors. The purpose of the visit was to look at some of my cast iron sinkbox decoys. I have some of them, and I think they are great companions to my sinkbox. I display a group of cast iron Hollies in the box. My guests brought along a three-ring binder with color photos of the iron decoys in their

collection. After looking around the house at some of my things and listening to some of my stories, we sat down in the living room to look at photos of their collection and make comparisons to various decoys of mine. The purpose of our discussion was an effort to fine-tune the attribution of some of these historic relics. Throughout the visit, as we walked past this item or that, Patrick would comment, “How do you keep all of this straight?” My typical response is that I just know where it is

and where it came from. I came to realize many years ago that behind every item in my custody I have a story. The stories are not just about what the item is but whose it was, where it came from, how and where it was used, and how it came to be mine. My son John was traveling with me in my arms before he walked and beside me from his days as a toddler to this current day. So he can tell the same stories about these things that I tell. What I enjoy now is having my grandsons ask “Where did

and Stories

BY C. JOHN SULLIVAN



Heverin style canvasback sinkbox decoy cast at the Whitaker Iron Works with raised initials of Nelson P. Whitaker.



C. John Sullivan III with a rig of Mitchell decoys, Fall 1980.

Canvasback hen wing duck by Samuel T. Barnes. Purchased from the late Bernie Roob at the Eastern Waterfowl Festival in 1977 for \$40.00.



this or that decoy come from?” and “do you have an extra one of those for the shelf in my bedroom?” During this most recent visit, I listened to my new friends telling stories about the decoys pictured in their album. It strikes me that this couple likes the “stuff” as much as I do and they enjoy telling the tales of where it came from, where it was used, and how it came to be theirs. My biggest fear is that Pat will garner too much from the stories and go back to my sources. I pick up a wing duck and show it to my guests—“What do you think this one is?” Then I tell them that this one was carved by my son and painted by Captain Bobby Jobes for a school project when John was in high school. I pick up the Charles Nelson Barnard coot and place it next to a Barnard blackduck—same tail, same jaunty attitude, same crisply defined paddle tail. “Look at those two birds sitting there together, no question who made them and when they were made,” and then I tell them the “story.” The Barnard coot story, how the decoy left Havre de Grace, is too sad for me to recall here, but I feel that the coot finally came home to rest near its kin from an earlier day.

Now we examine the Charles T. Wilson cast iron teal. We hold first one and then another next to the wooden one. No doubts or questions of the maker or the time period—it was obviously carved during the same time period of the casting. We admire that great form. They all look as if they could swim away. Patrick knows the story behind the wooden one. But one of the swimming iron teal was one I had admired in the various houses that Henry Fleckenstein had lived in. It

was always next to one of his woodstoves. Always in a place of prominence. It took me almost forty years to get that one little teal from Henry. Then I tell them the story of the other pair. R. Madison Mitchell had given this pair to his brother-in-law. I had known of them for some time. When I finally got to own the pair, word quickly reached Madison Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell had told me that they had come to him from Ed Gethers. Gethers was the owner of the junkyard in Havre de Grace. The pair had rested in the scrap pile, destined for a new life in some other form. But in Mr. Gethers’ wisdom, he rescued them and brought them to Madison so that they might live on. I remember Mr. Mitchell being just a bit annoyed that his brother-in-law would have let them leave his custody. “Well, Johnny, all I can say is that my brother-in-law must’ve been pretty darn hungry to sell you that pair.”

Now I show Pat and my guests a pair of full-size high-necked cast iron Canada geese. The big geese weigh over

70 pounds each. They measure more than 22 inches in length with their erect necks nearly one foot in height. I have never seen another one nor has Pat or my guests. These big geese make the cast iron Holly geese seem diminutive in stature. The only story I can share about these is that I bought them from my dear friend Bob Hockaday, who found them in a house in Roland Park in Baltimore resting alongside a massive fireplace.

We look at my new friends’ photos of the massive cast iron canvasbacks from Currituck. We compare the images to my pair. Yes, the same vintage, style, form, and surface. He remarks that it is rare to find a pair of these with their bills intact. Most known examples were resurrected from the bottom of the Currituck Sound. Weighing in at approximately 45 pounds each, it is no wonder that many were scuttled at the end of their life riding on a sinkbox. With their reared back necks, these massive ducks have always reminded me of those pictured in *The Illustrated*



C. John Sullivan III in the warehouse of the John Pusey farm in Aberdeen.

London News of "Wild Duck Shooting on the Potomac" on December 14, 1850.

Although my guests don't collect the little cast iron decoys, they look at my collection of these and notice that they are the only things in my gatherings upon which I have placed a small sticker on each of their undersides. I have indicated on those stickers when and where I acquired them. I wonder as we pick up one, sit it down, and lift another, why these are the only things around me where I have actually made a notation of their source. Then it strikes me that they were made as ornaments, paperweights, or ashtrays. They led a very different life than that of a working decoy. Sure, they would have stories to tell, but not the stories of a sporting life on the waters of the Chesapeake region.

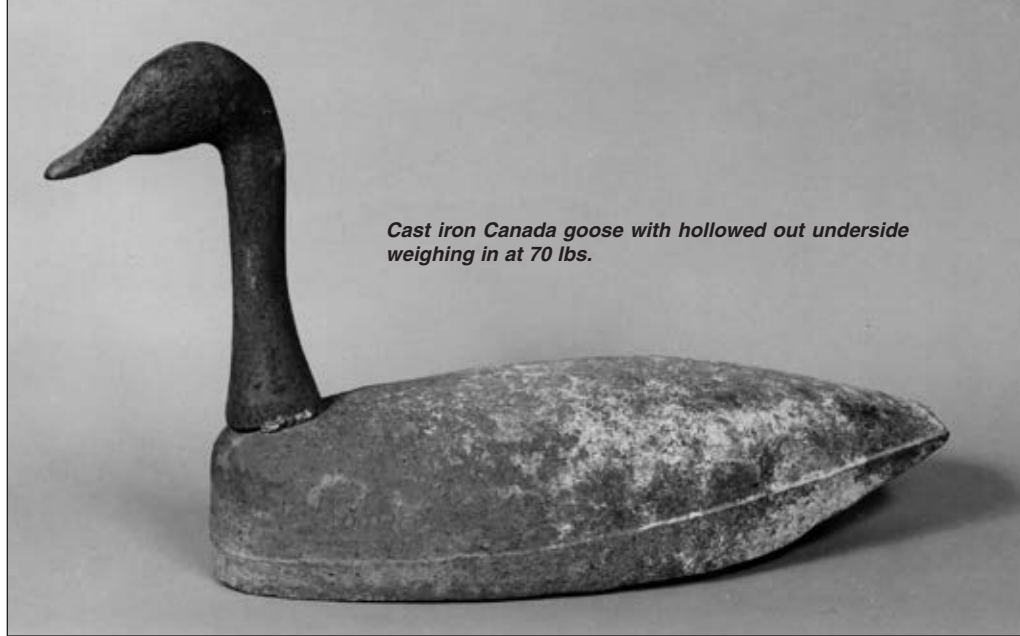
My new friends show me photos of their cast iron brant. They have examples from North Carolina, Long Island, and New Jersey. Each of their brant exhibits a different form, a different style, but all with the same function—to lure the elusive brant to within shotgun range of the lethal sinkboxes.

Then I tell another story. What is it about these old decoys and the stories associated with them? Over the years, I have heard those whom I don't consider to be serious collectors comment on how rare their decoys are, how much they paid for them, and the fact that what they have the very best of the best. Those are not the decoys or the stories that I care about. I became serious about this wonderful

hobby of ours nearly 40 years ago. I am sure that some guests who walk into my home wonder what is wrong with this man. Why would he want all of "this stuff" around him? I worry about those thoughts for a moment or two, then I move on and reflect on the great history associated with all of this stuff.

My new decoy friends left me that evening, and from all appearances they leave with only the album they carried in. My hope for them and for Patrick Vincenti is that they will retain and recall a few of the stories I shared. I looked at their business

card as they pulled out of the driveway, it says "Collecting Iron Decoys." It doesn't say collecting the best, the rarest or the most expensive iron decoys. I believe my new decoy friends are genuine collectors. Each of my decoys has a story to tell with me as their translator. My most sincere desire is that by having others admire them and handle them, listen to where they came from and where they were used and how they spent their younger days, that they will live on another day to tell another tale and to be cherished by yet another collector.



Cast iron Canada goose with hollowed out underside weighing in at 70 lbs.



Cast iron teal by Charles T. Wilson.



Blue wing teal by Charles T. Wilson.

Decoy Museum displays

Maryland Federal Junior Duck Stamp Artwork

The Maryland Federal Junior Duck Stamp Program is the end result of an integrated science and art curriculum children receive in the state of Maryland. Students learn about the importance of wetlands and wetland conservation, while also learning artistic expression. As a result of all they learn, students produce a picture of a native

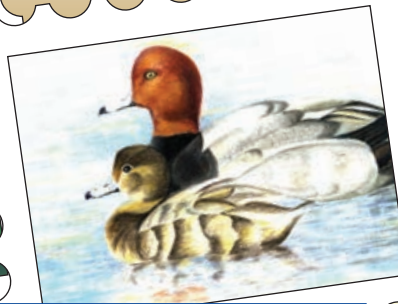
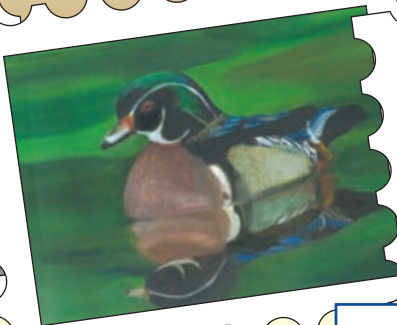
North American species of duck, swan, or goose, displayed in its natural habitat.

The pieces of art are divided into four age groups from kindergarten to 12th grade. A panel of judges drawn from the art and science fields then selects the winners from each group. 26 winners are selected from each group: 16 honorable mention, 4 third place, 4 second place, and

4 first place. The four first place winners are then judged again to select the Best of Show. The student earning this award moves on to compete in the National Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest, competing against winners from the other 49 states the District of Columbia, and some of the U.S. Territories.

Best of Show by Richard Zhao





All first, second and third place winning artwork goes on a state-wide tour. Prizes for the winners vary each year depending on donations and sponsorships. The Decoy Museum was very pleased to

display this truly extraordinary art from August 6th through September 10th. If you are interested in viewing the artwork next year, please call the museum in July for the display dates.



Mallard Hen by Marisa Lu

Winners

BEST OF SHOW

Richard Zhao

FIRST PLACE WINNERS

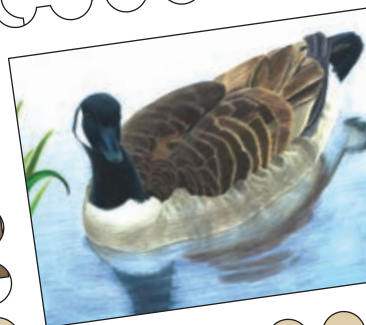
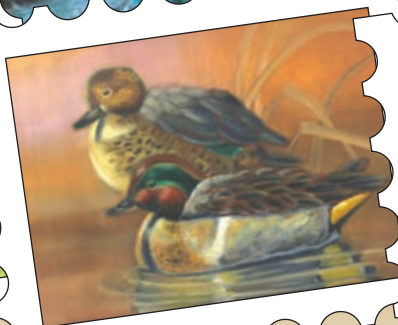
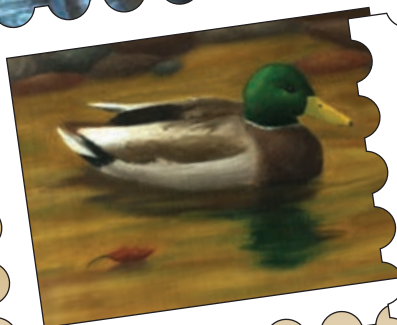
MengMeng Xu
Michelle Lyman
Zhangzhida Song
Jing Xiao
Jonathan Fei
Kathy Li
Lillian Yu

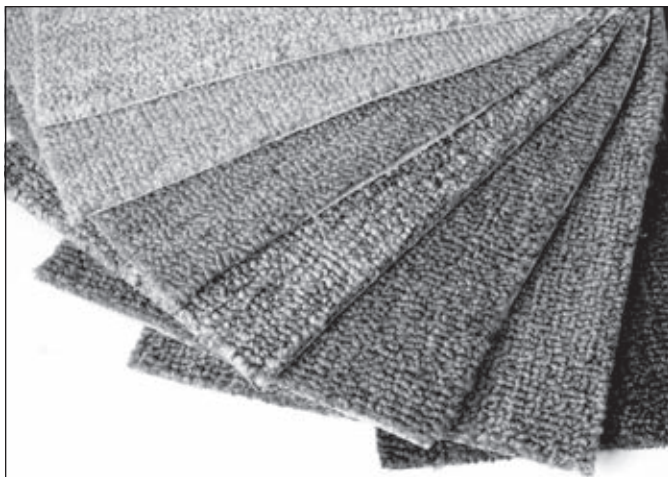
SECOND PLACE WINNERS

Angela Qiu
Benjamin Waida
Chia-Lin Hsu
Grace Chen
Hannah Wang
Judy Lau
Margaret Smith
Marisa Lu
McKinley Brumback
Michael Li
Shirley Weng
Siyuan Cao

THIRD PLACE WINNERS

Christine Ying
Cynthia Song
Diana Wang
Janet Hu
Joanna Wang
Joelle Chon
Katherine Wang
Katie Crosby
Kaylee Zou
Lori Pauling
Morgan Hilber
Sandy Wan





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Carving Classes Return!

In February of 2008, the Decoy Museum will open its doors to those interested in participating in a decoy carving class. The Decoy Museum, in conjunction with Harford Community College, will offer a Monday morning class, scheduled to meet from 9 a.m.–12 p.m., and instructed by George Stram. Registration for this spring semester class can be made through the Harford Community College non-credit course catalog, and the class itself will be held in the carving room at the museum. Your museum staff is working hard to provide new educational programs for members and non-members, and we are hoping to offer an assortment of classes in the future.

Havre de Grace Decoy Museum 1st Annual Golf Tournament

The Decoy Museum is very excited to announce that it will host its 1st Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, May 9, 2008 at Ruggles Golf Course in Aberdeen. There will be a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start, prizes and refreshments. More information will follow. Members and area businesses should plan ahead and line up teams now!

No Bake—Bake Sale

Working at the bake table at the Duck Fair over the past years, dedicated museum employee, Joanne Calder, and ever-faithful volunteer, Elly Coale, realized that there were many women who do not have the time, interest or know-how to bake. This realization gave birth to their concept of initiating a “No Bake—Bake Sale” fundraiser.

Joanne and Elly grabbed the bull by the horns (or perhaps we should say “duck by the bill?”), and sent letters to our lady members requesting that instead of baking, they estimate the cost of making a pastry item, add on something extra for their time, and send in that amount as a gift to the museum. A return envelope was included for their convenience. The 2006 “No Bake—Bake Sale” received rave reviews, and the donations and letters they received in response told them how much the ladies liked the idea of this ‘fun’ raiser.

The first sale in 2006 was so successful, Joanne and Elly continued this event in 2007. They encouraged the lady membership that there was no need for them to increase their BGE bill by heating the oven, turning up the air conditioning to cool their hot kitchen, or expend precious gasoline driving to the store for supplies. Their cleverness paid off again. The 2007 “No Bake—Bake Sale” was not only successful; the donations actually increased by 20%!



While Joanne and Elly formally thanked the members who so generously contributed to the fundraiser by way of thank you notes, the Board of Directors, staff and membership of the museum extend gratitude and appreciation to these fine ladies for the ingenuity and devotion they offer to the Decoy Museum.



MUSEUM NEWS

Stained Glass Portraits

There are still a few empty portrait spaces in the upstairs Masters' Gallery available to commemorate or honor someone special to you. We have a few \$500 and several \$750 spaces available. All you need to do is pick your bird and compose the writing for your plaque...we'll take care of the rest! These permanent, beautiful stained glass pieces would make a lovely, everlasting holiday gift!



Upstairs Gallery Open for Rental

The Havre de Grace Decoy Museum is pleased to announce that the upstairs gallery is now open for rental for all special occasions.

Guests will enjoy the breathtaking, panoramic view of the Susquehanna Flats meeting the Chesapeake Bay. Perfect for holiday gatherings, showers, business affairs and receptions.

Please contact Kathleen at the museum for details.

members

You can help promote the Decoy Museum by sending the name and contact information of your local newspaper to *The Canvasback*. With this information we can reach out and send our news releases to the papers in your area! Please mail this information to the Decoy Museum, 215 Giles St., Havre de Grace, MD 21078, Attn: K. Jones or send an email to kjones@decoymuseum.com.



Chesapeake Bay Gateway Network Holds Informational Seminar on the Captain John Smith Waterway Trail

In September the Decoy Museum hosted an informational seminar about the Captain John Smith National Waterway Trail. The National Park Service's Chesapeake Gateway Network conducted the seminar. The waterway trail was established by Congress in December of 2006. The National Park Service is visiting the various geographical locations along the trail. They have been holding meetings with the various Gateway Network sites to get input into the types of things that the sites would like to see included in literature and brochures that would be made available to visitors using the trail system. Whether a visitor travels by car along the system or travels by boat, the Park

Service is investigating the type of experiences and information people should gain by their visit.

General topics such as the formation of the bay, Native American history, local history and environmental issues were discussed. The fact finding and information gathering will be an ongoing process. The trail will be established in phases and the guides will be developed according to the areas.

The museum was proud to host and to be a part of the Chesapeake Bay Gateway Network. We look forward to being a part of the planning process.

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Museum Members

Welcome aboard to our new members. We are thrilled to have you join the Decoy Museum family!

John Archer	Leonard & Terri Hamilton	William Reilly	Philip & Beverly Ryser
Mike Bouis	Mai Ratliff	H. A. Roberts	

Thank you to the following members and businesses that recently renewed their membership. Your continued support and contributions are essential to the overall success of the Decoy Museum:

Darryl Armstrong	Michael Sayler	William Mentzer	James Johnson
Vonda Lee Armstrong	Max Schulte	Judy & Alan Miller	Madelyn & Robert Kalinoski
John Bauer	Brian Shutt	Ted Rineer	Robert Keen
Richard Berkey	Phillip & Nancy Tarnoff	Jane & John Scocca	John Lindauer
Mrs. David Bramble	Barb & Helen Wachter	Thomas Shomsky	Dennis Meadowcroft
Richard Brown Jr.	William Walper III	Harry Richards Tillman Sr	Brenda Mergler
Richard Clements	Pat & Henry Walston	Mr. & Mrs. H. Edward Townsley	Taylor Miller
Anne Conover	George Wooden	Mrs. Robert Yale	Belinda, Taylor & Joseph Miller
Larry Cook	Richard Anderson	J. Malcolm Bahrenburg	J. Paul Mullen
Peter Darwin	Mrs. Naomi Angert	Joan & Fred Baldwin, Jr.	Frank Muller
Jim Graves	Jim Augustus	Donald Booth	John Parsons
John Grove III	Harry Bach	George Cooke	John Proctor
Howard Hall	A. Marie Bannister	William Corbishley	Victor Reynolds
Kevin Henry	Terry Barley	Herb Desch	Robert Rich
Lee Higdon	Tom & Phylis Byrne	Dale Druyor	Warren Saunders
Lisa Horst	Thomas Cline	Rose Mary Evans	Gary Schuchardt
Jerry Howell	T. Franklin Fiske	Susan & Roger Forwood	Robert Staller
Justin Howell	M. Douglass Gates	Ann & John Glover	George Stinchcomb
Lisa Howell	Louis & Carolyn Guerrina	Robert Gregg	George Timmons
Mike Kalendek	John Hanna	Elizabeth & John Gross	James Tucker
Robert Kohn	Jerry Harris	Marie Hanna	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Walter
Mary Carol Larrimore	John Hartman	Daniel Heiney	W. Donald Webb
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Douglas Robinson	Paul Mazzilli		



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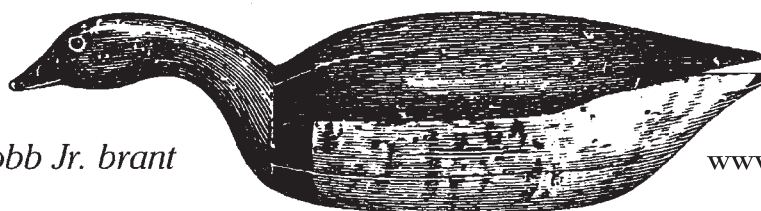
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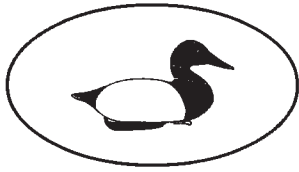
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☐ I would like to make a donation of \$ _____

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*Do you have a few hours a week you could give to the museum?
How about a few hours a year for the Festival or the Duck Fair?
Do you enjoy early morning bird walks and would you 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 its 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. We would love to have you come aboard.

Contact Joanne Calder or Margaret Jones

at the museum 410-939-3739 or email us at mjones@decoymuseum.com
to see how you can become a part of our volunteer staff.





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.

OCTOBER 25 – 27	NOVEMBER 6, 9, 12, 15, 19 & 26
HAUNTED MUSEUM. For three spooky nights, the Maritime Museum is home to pirate ghosts, nautical spooks, and a whole lot of fun! Shiver me timbers! 6:00 p.m.–9:30 p.m.; \$ www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org . 410-939-4800	DISCOVERY DREDGES. 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Skipjack Martha Lewis HdG, MD Experience life on a working skipjack while oystering the way it has been done for decades. Once in a lifetime opportunity to work with the crew dredging and culling the succulent bivalves. Reservations required. Price: \$\$\$; 410-939-4078 Email: info@skipjackmarthalewis.org ; http://www.skipjackmarthalewis.com
OCTOBER 26	NOVEMBER 10
FALL FOLIAGE & LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE. Skipjack Martha Lewis; noon–3:00 p.m. Passengers will view the shoreline in beautiful fall colors; \$30; 410-939-4078 info@skipjackmarthalewis.org	GUIDED "NATURE AND HISTORICAL WALK OF THE NORTH PARK TRAIL" 10 a.m. Meet at the Lock House of the Susquehanna Museum, walk begins at 10:00 a.m. Phone: 410-939-5780; http://www.lockhousemuseum.org
GHOSTS & LEGENDS CRUISE. Skipjack Martha Lewis; 5:30p.m.–8:00 p.m.; Adult costume party accompanied by ghostly storyteller. A light dinner will be served. \$35.00; 410-939-4078; info@skipjackmarthalewis.org	FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION. 11:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m. Havre de Grace Maritime Museum 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace, MD. A day of member discounts in the museum shop (11:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.) and an evening (6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.) of celebrating all the people who help make the museum possible—our founders, members and volunteers! Free admission for members. ADA accessible Price: Admission fee; 410-939-4800; http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org
OCTOBER 27	NOVEMBER 11
HAVRE DE GRACE FARMER'S MARKET. 410-939-3303. Corner of Pennington and Washington St.; 9:00 a.m.–noon	VETERAN'S DAY. 11:00 a.m. Tydings Park, Commerce St, HdG; Ceremonies honoring all military veterans on this special day. 410-939-0449
SPIRIT WALK. Meet the residents of a local cemetery; listen to their stories, hear about their ends. www.lockhousemuseum.org ; 410-939-5780	NOVEMBER 21
GHOSTS & LEGENDS CRUISE. Skipjack Martha Lewis; 5:30 p.m.–8 p.m.; Adult costume party accompanied by ghostly storyteller. A light dinner will be served. \$35.00; 410-939-4078; info@skipjackmarthalewis.org	THANKSGIVING EVE ECUMENICAL SERVICE. 7:00 p.m. Church of St. Patrick, Congress & Stokes, HdG, MD Susquehanna Ministerium; 410-939-2464
OCTOBER 28	DECEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 2
FALL FOLIAGE & LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE. Skipjack Martha Lewis. noon–3:00 p.m. Passengers will view the Harford and Cecil County shorelines while enjoying a box lunch and beverages. \$30.00; 410-939-4078; info@skipjackmarthalewis.org	HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AT STEPPINGSTONE. Noon–4:00 p.m.; Steppingstone Museum, 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Farmhouse decorated for the holidays, cookies and cider, story telling, music, tours, museum store open for shopping. Price: Free; 410-939-2299
NOVEMBER 2	DECEMBER 7
FIRST FRIDAYS IN HAVRE DE GRACE! 4:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. Street fair atmosphere, live music, family entertainment, and merchant specials in downtown HdG. Price: Free; 410-939-1811; www.mainstreethdg.com	FIRST FRIDAYS IN HDG—HOLIDAY EVENT! 4:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. Downtown HdG, HdG, MD. Santa's arrival, tree lighting, caroling and more in downtown HdG. 410-939-1811; http://www.mainstreethdg.com
NOVEMBER 3–4	DECEMBER 8 – DECEMBER 9
EARLY MARYLAND HISTORY — PIRATE ENCAMPMENT. Come visit the pirates in their camps, watch the attacks on the "town" and cheer on your favorites. Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum, Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD; 410-939-5780; http://www.lockhousemuseum.org	THE CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE. Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum. Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD. The Boutique is held in the historic Susquehanna Museum at the Lock House. This sale has many handmade items, as well as traditional holiday gifts, wreaths, greens, and gourmet foods. 410-939-5780; http://www.lockhousemuseum.org
NOVEMBER 4	
21ST ANNIVERSARY DINNER — DECOY MUSEUM. 6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. Bayou Restaurant. Celebrate our 21st anniversary! Enjoy dinner, auctions, raffles, and friends. 410-939-3739	



Calendar of Events

DECEMBER 9	DECEMBER 16 – JANUARY 6
<p>MARI*TIME CHRISTMAS. 11:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Havre de Grace Maritime Museum, 100 Lafayette Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Get into the holiday spirit-the Maritime way! Join us for seasonal munchies, music, crafts and decorations. Admission Charged, ADA accessible. Price: Admission fee; 410-939-4800; http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org</p> <p>THE 35TH ANNUAL "CANDLELIGHT TOUR OF HISTORIC HOMES OF HAVRE DE GRACE" 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Visitors will tour historic homes, Havre de Grace museums, shops, bed and breakfasts and a church. Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum, Conesto Street, Havre de Grace, MD. Price: Admission fee; 410-939-5780; http://www.lockhousemuseum.org</p>	<p>NINTH ANNUAL OUTDOOR NATIVITY SCENE CONTEST. Submit entries to HdG United Methodist Church by December 16 for judging. Best residence & business will receive awards. Open to greater HdG community. Susquehanna Ministerium. Price: Free; 410-939-2464</p>
DECEMBER 16	DECEMBER 29
<p>SKIPJACK MARTHA LEWIS CHRISTMAS TEA. 1:00 p.m. 2ND Annual Christmas Tea held at the Vandiver Inn—Elegant tea fit for Royalty (hats optional). Benefit for the Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy. Advance ticket purchase required. Price: \$30 pp; 410-939-4078; Email: info@skipjackm-artalewis.org</p>	<p>NINTH ANNUAL HDG HISTORIC CHURCH TOUR. 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 19th & 20th century churches, beautiful stained glass windows & nativity scenes, angelically decorated for Christ's birth. Everyone is cordially invited. Susquehanna Ministerium. Price: Free; 410-939-2464</p>
DECEMBER 16	DECEMBER 31
	<p>NEW YEAR'S FIREWORKS. HdG Middle School, Lewis Lane. Spectacular fireworks to celebrate arrival of 2008; Price: free; 410-939-2100</p>

Candlelight Tour & Carver Celebration

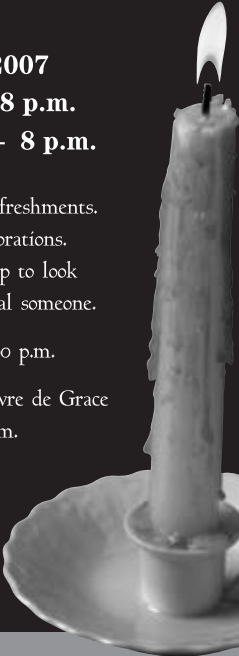
Sunday, December 9, 2007
Museum Hours: Noon – 8 p.m.
Candlelight Tour: 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Join us for some holiday carols and refreshments.
 Enjoy our magnificent holiday decorations.
 Stroll through the museum gift shop to look
 for the perfect holiday gift for a special someone.

The Fall Raffle drawing is at 8:00 p.m.

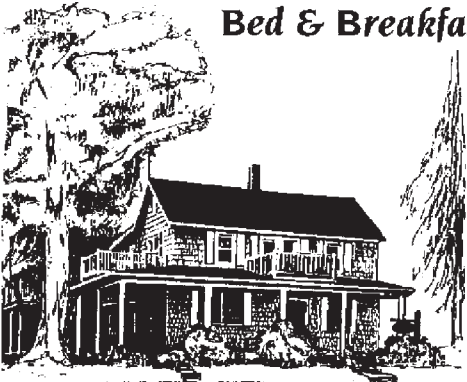
Tickets for the Candlelight Tour of Havre de Grace
 will be on sale at the museum.

Call the Decoy Museum at
 410.939.3739 for more information.



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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2008

**Havre de Grace Decoy Museum
Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival**
May 2-3-4

**Havre de Grace Decoy Museum
Golf Tournament at Ruggles Golf
Course, Aberdeen, Maryland**
May 9

**Sporting Clays Classic at
Pintail Point,
Queenstown, Maryland**
May 25

**J. Evans McKinney Old Decoy
Contest Exhibit**
June-August

21st Annual Duck Fair
September 6

22nd Annual Anniversary Dinner
November 1

**Candlelight Tour &
Carver Demonstration**
December 14



www.decoymuseum.com



Interested
in Meeting
a Guest
Carver?

Call the museum
for a list of
guest carvers.

410-939-3739

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!
Saturday, November 3, 2007

*Those members
previously invited
please R.S.V.P.*

HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM'S
21st Anniversary Dinner

Come join us as we celebrate our 21st anniversary with a dinner held at The Bayou restaurant in Havre de Grace on Saturday, November 3rd at 6:00 p.m.

Open bar from 6:00 p.m. – til...?

Win lunch with a legendary decoy carver!!
Live auction and raffles
Beauty and the Beast "Beauty Contest!!"

More fun than a Gaggle of Geese!

*For tickets and information call the
Decoy Museum at 410-939-3739*



410-939-3565

927 Pulaski Highway • Havre de Grace, MD 21078

For over fifty years the Bayou Restaurant has been a local favorite in the "City by the Bay."

Guests can enjoy dining in one of our dining rooms, decorated with prints and decoys of local carvers.

Remember the spirit of Havre de Grace's race-track. The Graw, as it is captured on a mural in our banquet room.

We have three banquet rooms with seating for 30-200 guests. Our staff will tailor a menu to make your banquet memorable.

Serving Seasonal Local Favorites

Fried Oysters • Soft Shell Crabs • Rockfish
Crab Cakes • Crab Imperial • Seafood Combo

BAYOU "GO" CARRY OUT — 410-939-3565

Open Tuesday thru Sunday 11:30 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

The place the locals always come back to!



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- ▶ Large Parties Accepted, Reservation Suggested



A Small Sampling of Lite Fare Items



- ▶ For Directions and Menu Information, visit us Online at **www.MacGregorsRestaurant.com**
- ▶ Originally a Bank built in 1924
- ▶ Watch the Amtrak Trains from our Dining Room
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