

Storation of the contraction of

to benefit the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

Be sure to purchase your tickets early and encourage your family and friends to do the same.



← 2ND PRIZE

Pair of Paul Gibson

1950 Bluebills



25.00

←3RD PRIZE

R. M. Mitchell 1950

Bluebill Drake

4TH PRIZE **15th Annual Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival**limited edition print by

Paul Shertz, signed by past Honorary Chairmen

5TH PRIZE

\$100 Museum Gift Certificate. (NOT SHOWN)

Winners drawn at 3:30 pm. Sunday, May 4th, 2008 during the Havre de Grace Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival at the Havre de Grace Middle School.

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM AND HAVE BEEN MAILED TO MEMBERS.

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

HAVRE DE GRACE



DECOY MUSEUM

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



Bill Veasey, 2009 Honorary Festival Chairman

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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,

Festival time is almost here, May 1st, 2nd, 3rd and we have much planned for this year. There will be carving competitions at the Activity Center. At the Middle School you will see collectors, artists and carvers as well as the ever popular Old Decoy Contest.



The BIG new event for this year's Festival is the "DockDogs" sponsored by the Upper Chesapeake Chapter of Delta Waterfowl. This event will be held at Harris Stadium, across from Havre de Grace High School. The DockDogs have been featured on TV shows all across the county and what a fantastic show they put on. So add this to your list of events you will want to see at the Havre de Grace Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival.

The Decoy Museum will be open as usual. While you are at the Museum take the time to look at the stained glass windows, they are unique to our Museum. This winter, while looking at the maintenance items, I took time to look at each of the stained glass windows. What a blessing they

are. At the time this letter was being written we had (1) space left for sale. Don't miss the opportunity to have your own stained glass window.

Bill Veasey is the Honorary Chairman. He is a carver, teacher, and author. You will enjoy spending time with this fascinating man. Bring a friend to this year's festival.

Sincerely,

Sulato

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 Canvasback 2009 5



Locations

Havre de Grace Decoy Museum, Giles Street (DM) Havre de Grace Middle School, Lewis Street (MS) Havre de Grace Activity Center, Lewis Street (AC) Havre de Grace High School, Harris Stadium (HS)

2009 Honorary Chairman William Veasey

Admission: \$6.00 per day. \$10.00 for weekend pass. Children under 12 are admitted free with an adult.

Friday, May 1

6:00 – 9:00 p.m	Show opens
3:00 p.m	Registration opens for Big Air WAVE competition / Open Dock Practice
HS	•
4:00 p.m	Big Air WAVE competition #1
HS	
6:00 p.m	Big Air WAVE competition #2
HS	
•	Big Air WAVE competition #3
HS	

Saturday, May 2

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m. — Registration opens for Big Air WAVE competition / Open Dock Practice

#S

9:00 a.m. Big Air WAVE competition #4

#S

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

HdG Activity Center

Decorative L/S Floating Division
Decorative L/S Non-Floating Division
Decorative Miniature Division
Whitey Frank Decorative Slick Division
Decorative L/S Fish Division
Youth Gunning Division—
Sponsored by Foredom Electric Co.

Cocktail Division Shorebird Division

Carving Competitions sponsored by PNC Bank

11:30 a.m	Big Air WAVE competition #5
	HS
1:00 p.m	Gunning Rig Division
•	DM Grounds
	Carving Competitions sponsored by PNC Bank
12:00 9 2:00 5 5	n Silent Auctions
12:00 & 3:00 p.11	MS Cafeteria
12:30 – 2:00 p.m	Past Honorary Chairmen
•	Autograph Signing Session
	MS
1:00 p.m	Old Decoy Contest
•	MS stage
1:00 p.m	Live Auction Preview
•	AC Gym
2:00 p.m	Big Air WAVE #6
	HS
4:00 p.m	Live Auction Bidder Registration
	AC Gym
4:30 p.m	Extreme Vertical competition
	HS
5:30 p.m	Live Decoy Auction
-	AC Gym
6:00 p.m	Big Air WAVE competition #7
	HS

Additional activities at the Havre de Grace Activity Cen-

ter throughout the weekend, check posted schedules

for more information.



CONTINUED

THANK YOU TO THE 2009 FESTIVAL SPONSORS

Sunday, May 3

6:30a.m. – 9:00 a.m.....Exhibitor Breakfast *MacGregor's Restaurant*331 St. John Street, Havre de Grace

9:00 a.m. Registration opens/
Open Dock practice

HS

11:00 a.m. River Gunning Division DM Grounds

Carving Competitions sponsored by PNC Bank

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

MS Entrance

Outside—Facing Revolution Street

1:00 p.m. Speed Retrieve Heat #1

3:00 p.m. Divisional Finals

3:30 p.m. Festival Raffle Drawing

MS Lobby

4:00 p.m. Festival Closes

Check Postings for additional activities at the Havre de Grace Activity Center and at the Havre de Grace High School Harris Stadium!

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Carpet by the Yard
Cecil Federal Bank
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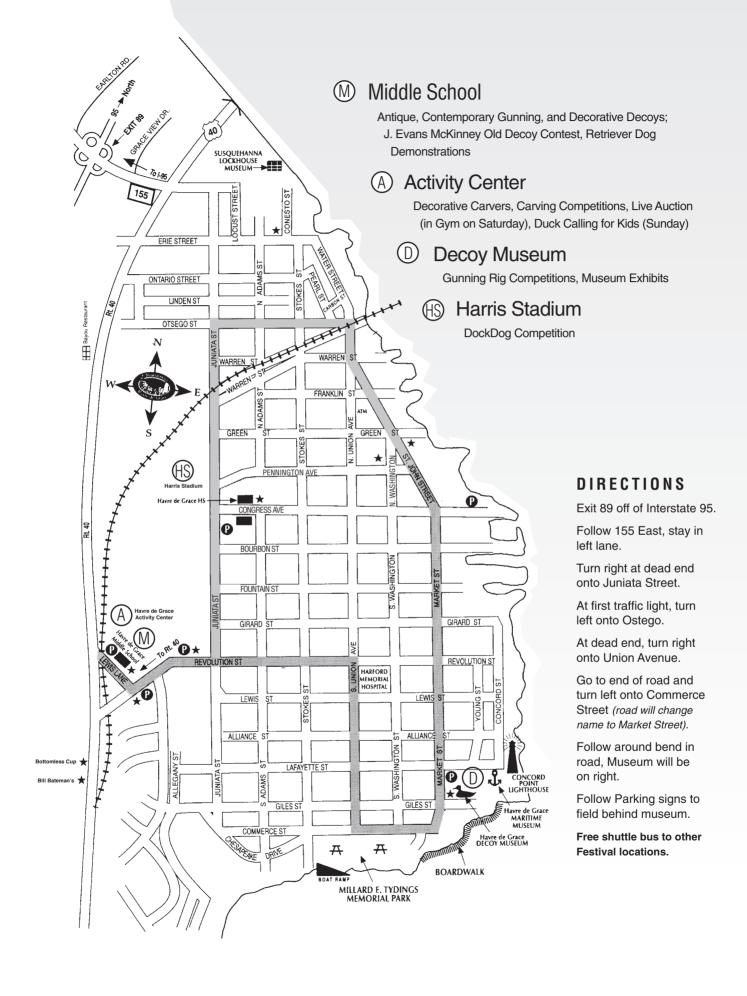
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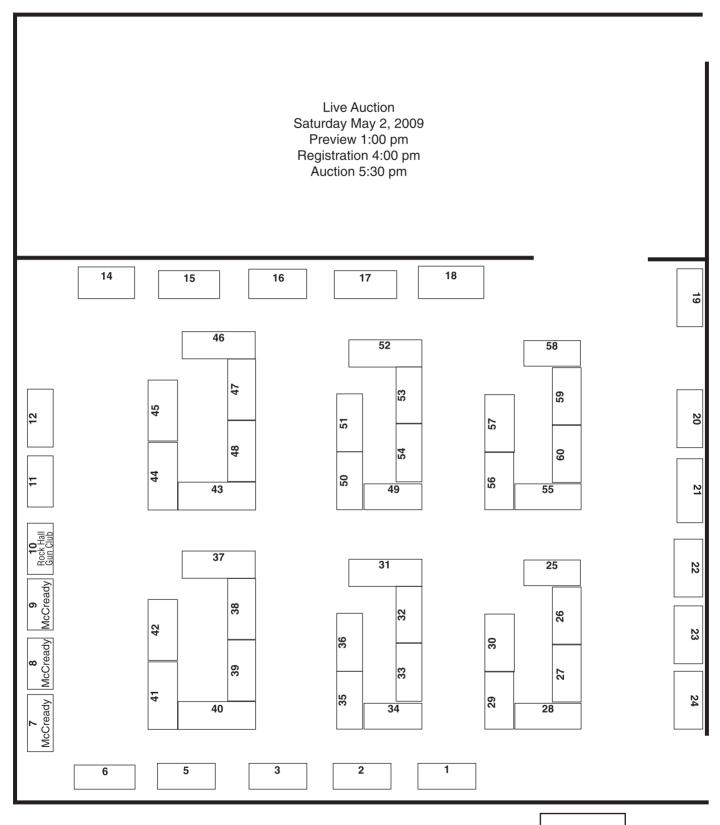
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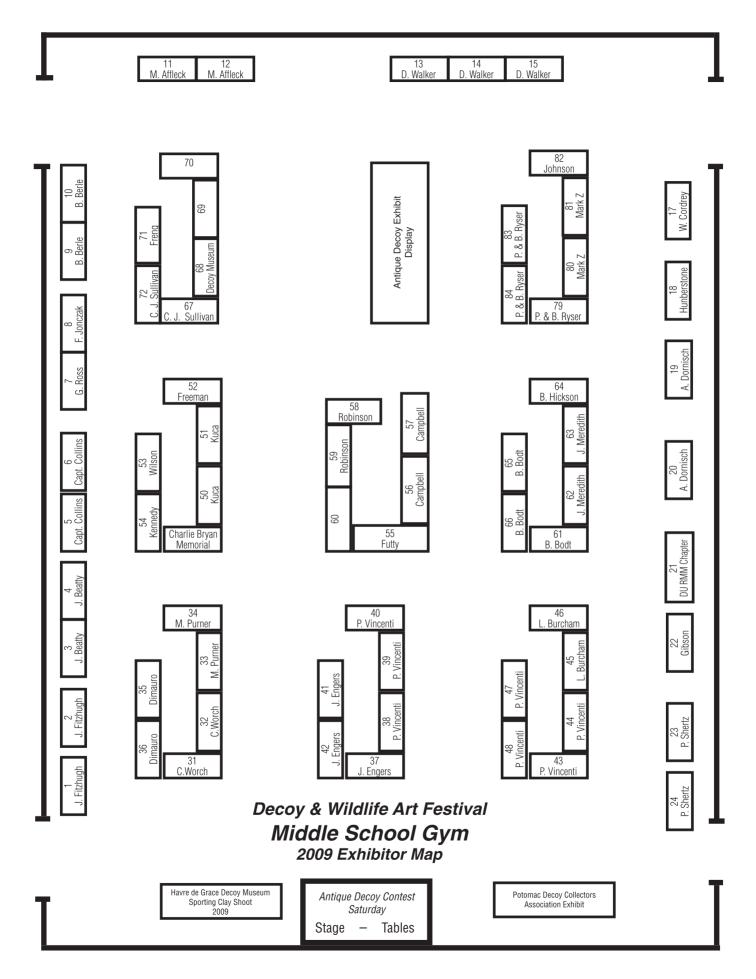
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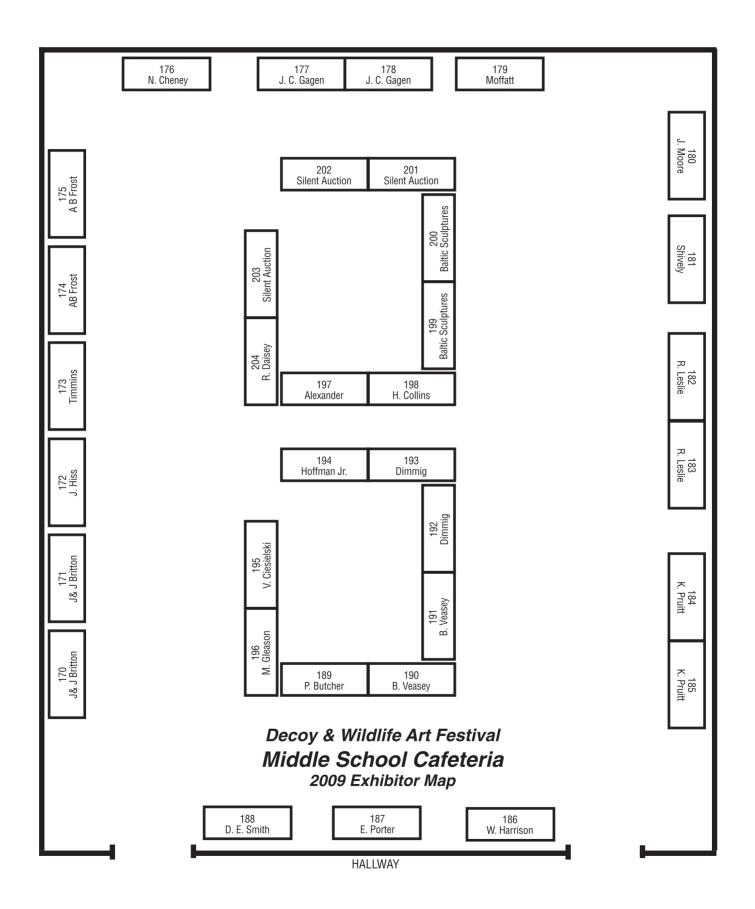


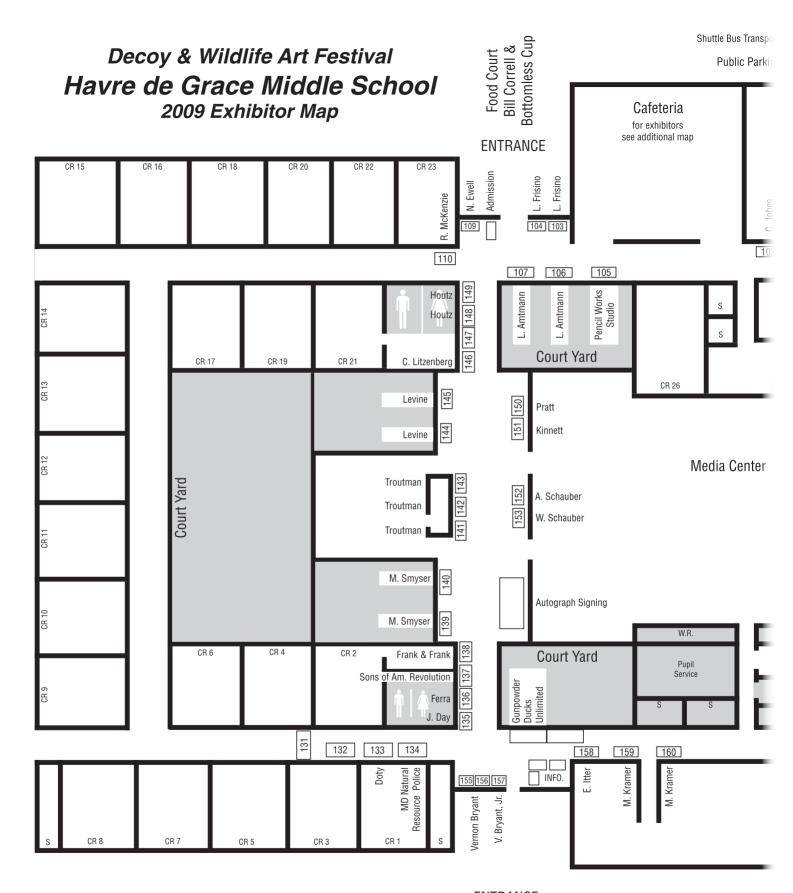


Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival
Activity Center Gym
2009 Exhibitor Map

Knotts Knives







ENTRANCE

Shuttle Bus Transportation

c Parking



By JoAnn M. Macdonald

Detailing a baby Wood duck.



he December day was chilly, but walking into Bill Veasey's workshop-the private place where he carves and contemplates—the warm welcome he extended was refreshing and immediate. He expressed his sincere pleasure that we had come to talk with him amid his decoys and personal memorabilia. Julie, his granddaughter, was working on a Green-winged

Detailing a Wood duck hen.

Teal, carefully applying the brush strokes to its back. Bill said they were working on "low-end pairs"-Red Heads and Greater Scaup—dubbed that because they sell at the low end price range. He told us that the Green-winged and Blue-winged Teals are more common on the east coast. His higherend decoys and sculptures sell equally well.

Above his chair, almost unnoticed among the shelves, books and working

Decorative Old

Squaw (long tail duck) Drake

materials, was a prized picture of Bill with President George H.W. Bush. "It was a heady moment," he recalled. The picture was taken before President Bush's first environmental speech in which the president mentioned the carved duck in that speech. The organization Ducks Unlimited was instrumental in arranging for Veasey to present it to the president for the occasion. President Bush has it in his Kennebunkport, Maine, residence. Recalling the moment, Bill was very pleased we did notice. The gentleness in his character showed the man he is. We would come to have our impression of him verified again and again.

Veasey went on to discuss other things of which he is proud: decorative and working duck decoy carving is a family affair in both business and personal interests. Three of Bill's four children (Michael, Roxayne and Tricia) are carvers and painters who passed along their enthusiasm for producing high quality craftsmanship and artistry to their spouses and children. Darcy owns and manages the Flyway Gallery in Elkton,

wildfowl and an accomplished authorfollowing her father. Michael is also published and Roxayne is published in another field.

As Veasey said of his brood, they "do all the ducks, some geese, plus Steller's

Maryland. Tricia is a photographer of Common Terns fighting over fishing lure. Eider, the smallest of the eiders," which Painting: Waiting for Dinner

Veasey continues on page 16

is mainly found in Alaskan freshwater tundra ponds, and the King Eider which is a large duck of Arctic coastal waters and the most spectacular and highly gregarious bird for most of the year. Long-time friends and students find the perfect space in his workshop for crafting their decoys. Eddie, Bill's son-in-law, sat in the next room, masked and hunched over while sanding a bird when we visited.

In looking around the workshop where ducks' bodies were neatly lined in a row, we asked why the heads are added later to the birds' bodies. Why not use a block of wood and carve it all at once? To a person who carves all the time it would be easy to chuckle at the question, but Bill didn't. He the question so clearly and completely:





been instrumental in getting over two hundred books by other authors published.

Also, when you visit the Museum, please notice the donation of Bill Veasey decoys which enabled the Museum to fill large voids in its collections. At the time, 1999, "the donation helped to create an in-house endowment fund," as Patrick Vincenti said in his tribute to Bill in the Summer Canvasback 2002 article "William 'Bill' Veasey 2002 Honorary Duck Fair Chairman." The article was "a collaboration of introspection and insights by Mr. Veasey, and some of his many friends and family." Many friends who are carvers gave testimony to Bill's teaching and writing accomplishments as well as his integrity. Patrick Vincenti recounted Bill "being instrumental in the design of the Detail Master Burner and helping to create Jo Sonjas line of carvers' colors."

Michael Veasey said this of his father: "I would have to say one of the things that has always impressed and amazed me the most about my father is his unique ability to touch the lives of people in a positive way."

From Darcy, one of Michael's three sisters: "He's almost always working, 'If I don't, who will?' He could always count on himself and so could everyone else. For support, guidance, friendship, food, shelter, a job, or a hug! He would always help others. Dad has the courage to dream...."

In the article "Carving a Legacy," which was featured in the October 2, 2007, edition of the Cecil Whig, Bill engaged in "a project promoted by the



Above Left: "Master" at work. Above Right: A collection of Veasey's decoys assembled on his workbench.

Ward Museum in Salisbury, Maryland, and through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. It allowed him to spend much of the month of August working with students to teach them the basics of carving a traditional hunting decoy." His group of nineteen students ranged in ages from eight to seventy-five. He said in the article, "I wanted as many people involved as possible. For many of them this was their first bird. The art of decoy carving is disappearing. The important thing is that we preserve this legacy. It's part of Americana, and it needs to be preserved." Bill added this: "Therefore,

in 2008, I increased the group to fifty-one people which included fifteen children."

Veasey tirelessly and selflessly strives to involve his students in this challenging but self-satisfying endeavor. He encourages his students to enter their hand-crafted art proudly in the shows and festivals around the Mid-Atlantic region. Exhibiting his own unique working and decorative decoys at the wildlife and waterfowl shows has been and remains one of the joys of his career. Bill won Best of Show in several Havre de Grace Decoy and Wildlife Art Festivals carving competitions for working birds. One of his unusual carvings was of a roasted turkey, positioned on a platter, ready for eat-

ing. He is very proud of that carving. So, when you see Bill at the Festival, ask him about that turkey.

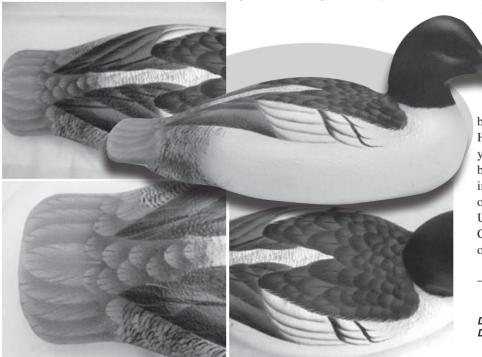
Examples of Bill's diverse accomplishments are: serving on the Board of Directors for the Easton Waterfowl Festival, Board of Directors for the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum, and President of the Cecil County (Maryland) Arts Council. He also served on the Waterfowl Foundation Board, and was elected to the Waterfowl Hall of Fame, Easton, Maryland in 1994. Bill, along with Jim and Bob Dodd, funded the Ward Foundation World Class for Miniatures for the first three years. He also wrote the first and second articles on carving for the Ward Foundation News.

The New Castle County, Delaware,
Ducks Unlimited organization recognized "William
Veasey as Decoy Carver of
the Year 2008." To quote
from the citation: "He has

been inducted into the Ducks Unlimited Hall of Fame in recognition of his many years of support. He has authored 14 books and produced 6 videos about carving. His unique carving style has won over 100 ribbons and awards." For Ducks Unlimited Bill served as Maryland State Chairman, Regional Vice President, and on the National Membership Committee.

Veasey continues on page 26

Detailed views of a Common Merganser Drake, hunting style decoy.



STATESTIVAL 2009 STATESTIVAL 2009 STATESTIVAL 2009

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120 Bryan Rd Knotts Island, NC 27950 252-429-3197

MS 052

Exhibitors continued on page 20



Exhibitors continued from page 14

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'09 EXHIBITORS LIST Alphabetical continued

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Fowl Play Studios 549 Pearl Street Rising Sun, MD 21911 410-658-5451

MS 180

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Marshall Purner

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MS 033, 034

Dick Robinson

Robinson Decoys 1319 Plymouth Rd Bel Air, MD 21015 410-838-7545

MS 058, 059

Exhibitors continues on page 25

AUTOGRAPHS

1982	R. Madison Mitchell [DECEASED]	A. Madisin Mitetal
1983	Paul Gibson [DECEASED]	R. Madeson Mitetall Paul Gibson
1984	Charles Bryan [DECEASED]	Thanks Bryan
1985	No Chairman	
1986	Robert Litzenberg [DECEASED]	Bobus & Litzenberg
1987	Charles Joiner	
1988	Captain Harry Jobes	
1989	Captain Bill Collins	
1990	Captain Roger Urie [DECEASED]	
1991	James Pierce	
1992	James Currier [DECEASED]	James a Bunier
1993	William "Bill" Schauber and Allan Schauber	
1994	Robert McGaw [DECEASED]	Potet f. W. Gaw Je.
1995	J. Evans McKinney [DECEASED]	V
1996	Harry V. Shourds II	

AUTOGRAPHS

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]	Charles Melege Barnard
2002	Patrick Vincenti	
2003	Ned Mayne	
2004	Grayson Chesser	
2005	Jim Britton	
2006	George Williams	
2007	Joseph Coudon [DECEASED]	Joseph Condon
2008	Bryon Bodt	
2009	Bill Veasey	

Festival Canvasback 2009 23



THE HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM'S ANNUAL

SPORTING CLAY CLASSIC 2009

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW — for the Havre

de Grace Decoy Museum's annual Sporting Clay Shoot to be held on Sunday, May 24, 2009 at 9am at Pintail Point in Queenstown, Maryland.

It may be Memorial Day weekend, but Pintail Point would be a wonderful way to spend the day. The shooting course is along the Wye River. The air conditioned club house has a great view, nice gift shop and a friendly atmosphere. Visit their website at www.

THERIVERPLANTATION.com for directions and further information about their other facilities.

Registration begins at 9am and the last shooter is allowed on the course at noon. Registration is \$75 and includes lunch. Contact the museum for additional information by calling 410-939-3739 or email decoymuseum@yahoo.com.

Exhibitors continued from page 21

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MS 152

Bill Schauber

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MS 153

Paul W. & Debra L. Shertz

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Exhibitors continues on page 27

25

The Canvasback archives hold a treasure of biographies about Bill. The late Mel Stout, a close friend for over thirty years, wrote in the Winter Canvasback 1999 that "he is committed to 'creating beauty' not only with the work of his own hands, but with the hands of hundreds of others who have followed and are following his teachings of waterfowl carving."

The "hundreds of others who have followed," as Mel put it, now number in the thousands—those boys and girls, men and women who learned from Bill and those who are still learning from him continue to earn Blue Ribbons and other awards. His competitions in shows across the United States from Ocean City, Maryland, to San Diego, California, and from Thousand Islands, New York, to Atlanta, Georgia resulted in many awards for his distinctly crafted waterfowl. In January this year one of his students took Best of Show in a Toms River, New Jersey, competition. Meanwhile, Bill was at the Georgetown, South Carolina, show selling his own decoys. His was also a successful trip!

How did William "Bill" Veasey accomplish so much? What did he do before finding his niche in the decoy carving and painting world? At age 77, Bill Veasey is one of those rare people about whom you would never guess—you know that cliché?

He was born in 1932 in Elkton, Maryland, and graduated from Elkton High School in 1949. Since those days his life filled with many adventures which took him from Maryland to Florida and



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back. He served in the USAF and later attended Lebanon Valley College (1957). Bill and Dorothy "Dottie" Biddle were married in 1953. (Dottie learned to carve waterfowl, too.) The auction business provided a good living from 1954–1970. Bob Biddle, his brother-in-law, who is an accomplished carver and painter in his own right, insisted Bill meet Harry Waite and the rest is carving history.

An unfortunate health incident occurred about ten years ago to Bill. Shannon Dimmig, "friend, carver, and protégé," said it this way in the Canvasback 2002 article: "...on Thursday before the Ward World Competition in 1999...Bill had a stroke." Despite the disabling effects of the stroke, Bill Veasey started rehabilitation immediately. "He attacked his therapy like his life depended on it." Indeed, from Bill's point of view, it did. But it is the very essence of William "Bill" Veasey to overcome those disabilities the lack of speech, the limp right hand which had to be taught to hold a pencil in order to form letters and numbers, to learn how to walk again. After coming home from the hospital, he was determined to teach soon. And he did: a three-day seminar for eleven people the next weekend. Six weeks later he conducted the annual auction at the Clayton, New York show. "He was witty, funny and confident as ever"-testimony to Bill's determination to stay with life and not let life defeat him.

Tricia Veasey, the daughter who is author and photographer, in the same article said it this way: "For me, the most telling of qualities one can examine about another is their influence upon their environment and those around them. There can be no doubt that this man will leave an extensive mark, the depth of which few in the industry will ever know."

Bill Veasey's philosophy of life is exemplified in an excerpt from the poem he wrote entitled "To the Sea":

On and on I ride the Crest of Life!

Up on High the breaking Waves of Strife

Are stifled.

And then in one Majestic Triumphal March,

The Mighty Sea Proclaims Independence!

Yeal

"The relationships I have developed all over the country will be treasured forever, for they have enriched my life," said William "Bill" Veasey in 2002. It was my pleasure to meet you, Bill. Thank you for enriching my life.



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Exhibitors continued from page 25

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Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

28th Annual Decoy Festival Auction

Saturday, May 2, 2009

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 6% sales tax will be applied to all items purchased.

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

These items are NOT listed in order of offering. This is for descriptive purposes only. The final auction list will be made available closer to the Festival. Please call for final listing.

1	 Mallard Hen by Clarence "Titbird" Bauer	8	 Miniature Canada Goose by Dave Walker, 1981
2	 Canvasback Hen by Paul Gibson	9	 Patriotic Canvasback by Vernon Bryant
3	 Canvasback Drake by Joe Cook		
	-	10	 Canvasback Drake by Steve Lay
4	 Canada Goose by Harry Jobes,		
	1977	11	 Bufflehead by Mike Dedekind
5	 Canvas Canada Goose by Frank Muller	12	 Coot by John Clark, c. 1989
		13	Canvas Swan by Frank Muller
6	 Canvasback Hen, branded RRJ	.5	 canvas swan by Frank Maner
		14	Canvasback Hen by Pat Vincenti,
7	 Cast Bronze Teals on leather hanger by Christopher Smith, <i>13</i> of <i>24</i>		с. 1991



15	Coot with turned head by John Clark, <i>c 1989</i>	20	 Canvasback Drake by Capt. Billy Moore, repaint, branded OO & JDB
16	 Full Size Loon by Jim Jacobs,	24	
	signed and dated 1995	21	 Redhead Drake, Old decoy by unknown maker, <i>repaint</i>
17	 Canvasback Drake by Daddy		• ,
	Holly, repaint, <i>CC Carved</i> in bottom	22	 Miniataure Swan by Jess Urie, signed
18	 Wigeon Drake, Mason Factory challenge grade, restored	23	 Canvasback Drake, unknown
	condition	24	 Canvasback Hen by Daddy Holly
19	Redhead Drake by Allen Purner, original paint, signed & dated 2000	25	 Canvasback Drake, unknown

Auction continues on page 30











LOT #15 LOT #16 LOT #17 LOT #18

Festival Canvasback 2009 29











LOT #19

LOT #20

LOT #21

LOT #22

LOT #23











LOT #26

LOT #27

LOT #28

26	 Mallard Hen by R Madison Mitchell, <i>signed 1962</i>
27	 Canvasback Drake by Sam Barnes
28	 Fish Carving by Allen Purner, signed on base
29	 Black Duck by Jim Pierce, signed and branded
30a&b	 Two miniatures by "Titbird" Bauer, signed and dated 1986

31a&b	 Miniature Mallard Pair by Steiner Pierce, <i>signed</i>
32a&b	 Bluebill Pair by Howard Foreaker, signed
33	 Miniature Bluewing Teal Drake by Steiner Pierce, <i>signed</i>











LOT #29

LOT #30 A & B

LOT #31 A & B

LOT #32 A & B

LOT #33

30

CAN YOUR DOG FLY? EVER SEEN A DOG FLY?



Havre de Grace Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival, Upper Chesapeake Chapter Delta Waterfowl & Delmarva Dockdogs

Presents

Delmarva DockDogs Competition

May 1, 2, 3, 2009







New at the Decoy Festival in 2009, the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum and Delta Waterfowl present Delmarva DockDogs and "Jumping the Flats." This is an event that is sure to entertain the whole family and is open not only to spectators, but to anyone who would like to enter the competition and get their dog flying, too! Many of the DockDogs veterans began by entering an event like this one just to see what their dog could do. The current World Record Holder tried out at a Purina Incredible Dog Challenge event and a few months later established the record at a Baltimore-area DockDogs event by jumping 28'10".

To be eligible to enter you must be turning 7 or older this year and your dog must be at least 6 months old, healthy, and have had his shots. No females in heat are allowed on the event grounds. Please remember to be prepared to clean up after your dog. More information and pre-registration will be available at www.dockdogs.com in the Events section later this month. Come on out and join the fun! *This is going to be a very exciting event*—

Tickets are \$6 day or \$10 weekend.

For more information visit www.dockdogs.com or www.decoymuseum.com



Festival Canvasback 2009 31

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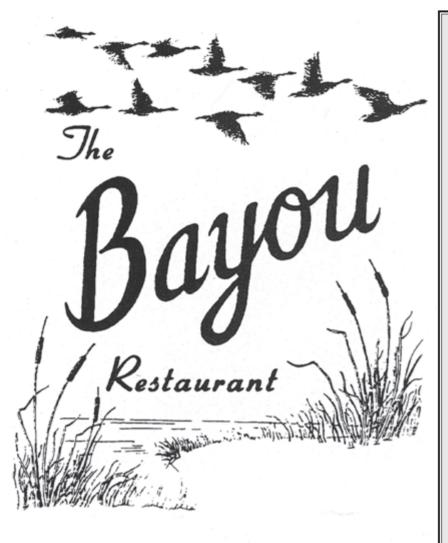
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Festival Canvasback 2009 33

R. Madison Mitchell, Havre de Grace, MD., cork body, white pine head and full bottom board. Circa 1966.

BY C. JOHN SULLIVAN

ector's

Goose Hunting in Trappe



In addition to collecting decoys and other material goods, I have always thought that collecting stories is a key to a well-rounded collection. On the next to the

final day of the 2009 Canada goose season, a trip to Trappe, Maryland, provided the ideal opportunity to collect yet another story. Leaving the 62 degree warmth of my home at 4:45 a.m. for the 27 degree chill outside, my son, C. John III, our friend Darin Martin, and I are off to Mr. James Franzoni's farm on the Little Choptank in Trappe. We arrive at the farm just after 6:30 a.m., exchange greetings in the barn, and head out to the blind. The brand new flocked goose decoys had been placed in perfect order outside the blind. The cold night air had frosted over all the decoys. Their fully-flocked bodies and felt-like covered heads are white with frost. As we rubbed the frost off of each of the decoys, I wondered if I had brought along my rig of full-bodied cork goose decoys by Jess Urie or R. Madison Mitchell, would we have been as particular about the frost or would frost have even been visible on the pores of those old decoys. John and Darin went

Captain Jimmy Wright, Massey, MD., rare full bodied swimming model, cedar body and white pine head. Circa 1958.

out dozens of times this goose season with an odd assortment of 40-year-old silhouettes, a few full-body plastic decoys, and a few mismatched 20-year-old shells. I wonder as we wipe the frost from these beautiful new decoys if the frost is truly visible to the geese and would it make the slightest difference to our success. A goose lands in the midst of our rig. A slight breeze has the beautiful plastic decoys bobbing and moving about. As our visitor walks through the group, it is nearly impossible

to distinguish him from his adopted

We settle into the blind by 7:00 a.m.

cousins.

and wait. Just as we climb in, the sight of a magnificent immature bald eagle appears just over our decoy spread. The blind is new and clean but pretty uncomfortable, as most blinds should be. I recall sitting on a plastic bucket in 3 or 4 inches of icy water in a sunken garbage dumpster some 33 years ago on Senator Fred Malkus' farm in Cambridge, and this is a 1000% improvement over that misery. Jim's friend,

Alessandro Vitale, does an early test on his acrylic goose call. John and Darin look at one another as this maestro plays his instrument. It is as clear and true as any call I have heard; the sound is perfect—almost too good to believe. John and Darin spot a high flock coming straight towards us as we look into the brilliant morning sun. Alessandro plays his music, the flock checks out our rig, and down they come, but they look us over and pass us by in a flash. The musician doesn't stop; he plays another come-back song and magically they turn around, check us out, and set their wings, right into us

and magically they turn around, check us out, and set their wings, right into us they come—bang, bang, bang, bang, bang Continues on page 36

Samuel T. Barnes, Havre de Grace, MD., Cork body, white pine head and bottom board. Circa 1919.



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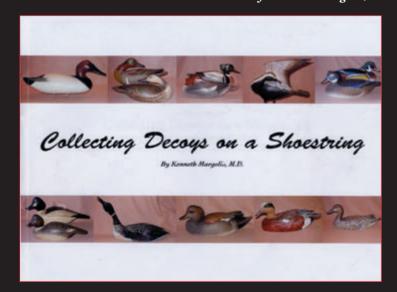
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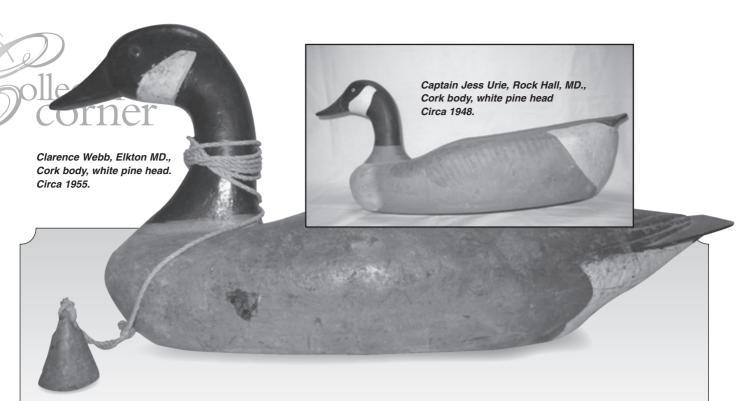


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—and there is the first success of the day. But now I recall a day in my life years go— Darin's borrowed Remington model 1100 has jammed after his first round, much like my vintage Remington model 11 did to me on more than one occasion. Dismantling of that gun begins, but only to discover that the interior damage needs a gunsmith and not one of us. Jim, our generous host, lends Darin his automatic fully camouflaged Beretta for the next flight. Alessandro continues his magic on that goose-calling flute of his, and around the blind the next flight goes, with John dropping a big Canada on his end of the blind with the best shot of the day.

By 10:00 a.m., we have half of our limit and pick up our morning's harvest. The temperature is now over 40 degrees, and the complaints or excuses that my sunglasses were flaring the geese from our blind will hopefully be forgotten by the time we make our next trip to the blind. We tour the farm on the Polaris Ranger and check out the massive flocks of geese bedded on the Little Choptank. We climb into Jim's vehicle and head down the road to Fishing Creek for a midday feast of stew and oysters on the half shell. Then, a trip back to the blind for a successful afternoon shoot and to share the stories from the morning. I recall Grover

Cleveland's words from "The Serene Duck Hunter" from Fishing and Shooting Sketches:

"When the ducks have ceased to fly for the day the serene duck hunter returns to camp in a tranquil, satisfied frame of mind befitting his fraternity membership. He has several ducks actually in hand, and he has fully enjoyed the self-deception and pretense which have led him to the belief that he has shot well. His few confessed misses are all satisfactorily accounted for, and he is too well broken to the vicissitudes of duck shooting, and too old a hunter, to be cast down by the bad fortune which has thickly scattered, over distant waters and marshes, his unrecovered dead."

As we pick up the decoys at the end of the day as the sun begins to set, a massive flock of snow geese passes over the rig. We place the flocked goose decoys into their individual compartments in their carrier, and I wonder if they were Hollys, or Hudsons, or Wards, would we have been any more successful. I think not. The beauty of the decoys makes a more pleasing vista for the gunner but does it make any difference to the goose? I doubt that it does.

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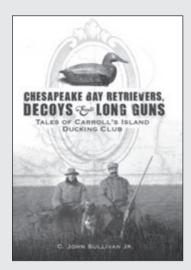
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36 Festival Canvasback 2009

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Here are a few items which will make nice additions to any decoy collection. Some of the items are in limited supply and feature autographs. All are available in our gift shop or by sending in the order form below. Member discounts do not apply except where indicated.



Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Decoys & Long Guns

Tales of Carroll's Island Ducking Club

by C. John Sullivan

John Sullivan's newest book was released in March 2008 at the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum's member meeting. Quoting the cover, "The stories from Carroll's Island Ducking club, which was founded in the mid-nineteenth century, offer special insights about the Chesapeake Bay's waterfowling heritage."

\$25.00



1992 Festival Honorary Chairman James "Jim" Currier

A 1992 Festival Chairman envelope of Jim Currier with Cancelled stamp is autographed by Robert Litzenberg, Capt. Roger Urie. Capt. Harry Jobes, Charles Bryan and reproduced signature of James Currier. Very few of these envelopes are available.

\$25.00



Decoy Magazine 1983

Featured article "Chesapeake Bay Travels; A visit with living legends"

This item is autographed by Clarence "Tit Bird" Bauer, Capt. Harry Jobes and Jim Pierce. This issue also contains a tribute to Heck Whittington and would be a unique addition to any collection. Very few of these autographed copies are available.

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Summer Carving Classes

ark your calendars now for Adult and Children Carving Classes to be held this summer at the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum.

Ages 10 – 16 years (kids classes) and ages 17 years and older (adult classes) are invited to sign up. These two days classes will be tought by the 2000.

Ages 10 – 16 years (kids classes) and ages 17 years and older (adult classes) are invited to sign up. These two day classes will be taught by the 2009 Honorary Festival Chairman, Bill Veasey.

Cost of the class includes all materials. You need to bring a bagged lunch. A minimum of 5 people will be needed to hold classes. No prior carving experience is required. These classes are perfect for the beginner carver.



Children's Classes (10yrs-16yrs)

Dates: July 9th & 10th, 2009 Time: 9am – 4pm each day Cost: \$40 includes all materials

Registration: Call the museum Monday–Saturday, 10am–4pm or Sunday Noon–4pm at 410-939-3739

Adult Carving Class (17 years of age+)

Date: July 25th & 26th
Time: 9am – 4pm each day
Cost: \$50 includes all materials.

Registration: Call the museum Monday – Saturday 10am -4pm or Sunday Noon – 4pm at 410-939-3739.

Sign up early to reserve your space. These classes will fill quickly!



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

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Charles Yonker

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Art Ianni David Jones, Tom Malia & Family Marvann S. Dick Allen McDaniel Patricia Dougherty

John Nussle & Family Rob Olson James Partridge John Peel Maurice Pickel Gautam & Amy Pillay

Bill Sands Bernie Sykes James Tome

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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: Margaret Jones or email to decoymuseum@yahoo.com





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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

William Veasey, 2009 Honorary Chairman, Library Gallery
Potomac Decoy Collector's Association Ruddy Duck exhibit, second floor gallery
An exhibit of Factory Decoys, donated by Dr. M. Kramer, second floor gallery
Louisiana Decoys, Library gallery
The Magnificent Michael Bequest, An extraordinary pair of "Daddy" Holly canvasbacks

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 1 MAY 16

FIRST FRIDAYS SPONSORED BY HDG MAIN STREET, INC. 5:00 pm-9:00 pm. A fun-filled evening of free music in beautiful downtown Havre de Grace. Contact: Havre de Grace Main Street, Inc., Bill Price. For more information contact: Phone: 410-939-1811 or Email: hdgmainstreet@verizon. net or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.org

MAY 2 — MAY 3

SUSQUEHANNA LOCKHOUSE MUSEUM PRESENTS: WAR OF 1812: ATTACK ON HAVRE DE GRACE! Sat. 10–5, Sun. 10–3. Re-enactment of the Attack on Havre de Grace during the War of 1812. Activities for the whole family! Price: \$3.00 Adults, \$1.00 Kids (ages 5-12). For more information contact: Susquehanna Lockhouse Museum at: 410-939-5780 or Email: director@lockhousemuseum.org or visit their website: http://www.lockhousemuseum.org

MAY 2

FRIENDS OF CONCORD POINT LIGHTHOUSE, INC. PRESENTS: SPRING FLOWER SALE & FLEA MARKET. 9:00 am. Come to the grounds of the O'Neil House for the Spring Flower and Flea Market. Located on the corner of Concord and Lafayette Streets. For more information contact 410-939-3213 or 410-939-5949 or Email: directorcpt@verizon.net

MAY 10

HAVRE DE GRACE MARITIME MUSEUM PRESENTS: MOTHER'S DAY TEA PARTY. 1:30–3:30pm. Celebrate Mother's Day with a traditional tea. Show off your favorite tea set while enjoying a spectacular view of the Bay. Listen to ballads about the sea. For more information contact: Ann Persson at 410-939-4800 or Email: museum@comcast.net or visit their website: www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org

CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE CONSERVANCY: MOTHER'S DAY SUNSET CRUISE. 6:00 pm. Enjoy a relaxing evening sail with Mom as you watch the sun go down. Reservations required. Price: \$35 Adults; \$15 Child under 10 Contact Cindi Beane at 410-939-4078 or Email: director@chesapeakeheritage.org or visit their website: http://www.chesapeakeheritage.org

HAVRE DE GRACE MARITIME MUSEUM PRESENTS: SECRET GARDEN TOUR. 1–6pm. Celebrate spring and get a rare chance to visit some exclusive landscaped yards and gardens. See what's blooming, discover a variety of landscaping methods, and more. For more information contact: Ann Persson at 410-939-4800 or Email: museum@comcast.net or visit their website: www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org

MAY 17

STEPPINGSTONE FARM MUSEUM: MEDIEVAL ENCAMPMENT. 12:00–5pm. This event will feature a Medieval Encampment with fighting and fencing demonstrations; arts and crafts; period music and dance; children's games; food, and tours. Address: 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace, MD, 21078. Price: \$5 per person (Children 12 & under/members free). For more information contact: Linda M. Noll at 410-939-2299 or 888-419-1762 or Email: steppingstonemuseum@msn.com or visit their website: http://www.88steppingstonemuseum.org

BATSTO VILLAGE DECOY SHOW. Sunday 9am–5pm rain or shine. Located at Batsto Village in the New Jersey pine Barrens, 7 miles east of Hammonton on Rte 542 and 15 miles west of exit 50 on the Garden State Parkway. Come and see wood carving demonstrations, water dog demonstrations, speakers and decoy vendors. Admission is free. For more information contact: Mike at 856-783-2941.

MAY 24

HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM'S SPORTING CLAY SHOOT. 9am—12 noon. 75 target, 3 Lewis Class event. Enjoy a day on Pintail Point shooting sporting clays. All proceeds benefit the museum. Please contact museum for more details at 410-939-3739 or Email: decoymuseum@yahoo.com or visit their website: http://www.decoymuseum.com

MAY 25

CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE CONSERVANCY: LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE. 11–2pm. View Concord Point, Turkey Point and Fishing Battery Island Lighthouses from the deck of the Martha Lewis. Box lunch included. Reservations required. (Other dates available.) Price: \$35 per person. For more information contact: Cindi Beane at 410-939-4078 or Email: director@chesapeakeheritage.org or visit their website: http://www.chesapeakeheritage.org

MAY 30 — 31

LANCASTER COUNTY WOODCARVER'S WOODCARVING & WILDLIFE ART FESTIVAL & COMPETITION. Saturday 10am–5pm, Sunday 10am–4pm. Show will be located at 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA. There will be carvings and art for sale as well as carving demonstrations. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information contact: Pete Kovarovic at 717-392-4814 or Email: Woodchips624@comcast.net

JUNE 5

CONCERT IN THE PARK. 7:30PM. Project Natale ~ Diversified traditional jazz! Bring a blanket and enjoy their cool sounds. Sponsored by HdG Arts Commission & HdG Parks and Recreation. Admission is free. For more information contact the HdG Arts Commission, Carolyn Foley at 410-939-5425

FIRST FRIDAYS SPONSORED BY HDG MAIN STREET, INC. 5:00 pm-9:00 pm. Enjoy a fun-filled night with music in beautiful downtown Havre de Grace. Contact: Havre de Grace Main Street, Inc., Bill Price. For more information call 410-939-1811 or Email: hdgmainstreet@verizon.net or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.org

UPPER CHESAPEAKE HEALTH FOUNDATION'S 10TH ANNUAL HARFORD HOSPICE REGATTA. 6:30 pm-10:00 pm. Come to the Concord Point Lighthouse to enjoy a sailboat Regatta, steak & chicken dinner by Outback Steakhouse, unlimited beer & soda, live band, gaming wheels, and a silent auction. Admission is \$65.00 per person. For more information contact: Donna Tower Lonzner at 443-643-3460 or 443-643-3469 or Email: dbt.01@ex.uchs.org

JUNE 7

MARITIME TRADITIONS DEMONSTRATION. 2pm. Experience firsthand some of the traditional skills and crafts of the Chesapeake Bay region! Experts share their knowledge on chair caning, rope tying, sail mending, and more. Regular museum admission applies. For more information contact: Ann Persson at 410-939-4800 or Email: museum@comcast.net or visit their website: www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org

JUNE 8

CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE CONSERVANCY: TIDEWATER GRILLE HORS D'VORS CRUISE. 7–8:30 pm. Enjoy a fine selection of hors d'oeuvres from Tidewater Grille. Reservations required. Departs from Tidewater Grille Dock. Other dates available. Cost is \$35. per person. For more information contact: Cindi Beane at 410-939-4078 or Email: director@chesapeakeheritage.org or visit their website: http://www.chesapeakeheritage.org

JUNE 12

CONCERT IN THE PARK. 7:30pm. Bring a blanket and enjoy the cool tunes of ZIM ZEMERAL! Variety of pop music by a 5 piece group! Sponsored by the HdG Arts Commission and the HdG Parks & Recreation. Admission is free. For more information contact the HdG Arts Commission at 410-939-5425

JUNE 12—JUNE 13

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S 2009 RELAY FOR LIFE OF HAVRE DE GRACE. 7PM. Relay For Life is celebration of cancer survivorship and community spirit raising much-needed funds for American Cancer Society research, education, advocacy and patient services. Will take place at the Havre de Grace High School's James Harris Stadium. For more information contact: Kelly Scott, American Cancer Society, Staff Partner at 410-939-5174 or Email: kscott1@cancer.org or visit their website: http://www.relayforlife.org/havredegrace

JUNE 14

STEPPINGSTONE FARM MUSEUM: CELTIC FESTIVAL. 12-5pm. This event will feature pipe band music; dancing and singing; sheepherding; clan gatherings; vendors; amateur games competition; military regiment; spinning and weaving; food and tours. Address: 461 Quaker Bottom Rd, Havre de Grace, MD, 21078. Admission is \$5 per person (Children 12 & under/members free). For more information contact: Linda M. Noll at 410-939-2299 or 888-419-1762 or Email: steppingstonemuseum@msn.com or visit their website: http://www.steppingstonemuseum.org

JUNE 15—JULY 20

PROGRAM. 10:30am—12Noon Mondays & Wednesdays. Starting week of June 15th, Mondays and Wednesdays, ends July 20th. Preschool children will learn the fundamentals of reading and listening skills while enjoying stories about the sea. For more information contact Ann Persson at 410-939-4800 or Email: museum@comcast.net or visit their website: www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org

JUNE 17—JULY 19

41ST ANNUAL DECOY & WILDLIFE ART SHOW. Friday & Saturday 9am to 6pm and Sunday 10am to 4pm. Located at the Recreation Park Arena in Clayton, NY. Enjoy Nature Art, River Art, Carvings and Auctions. There will be Gunning Rig Contests and silent auctions all weekend. Form more information visit www.timuseum.org or call 315-686-5794

JUNE 19

CONCERT IN THE PARK. 7:30 pm. Come to Millard E. Tydings Park to hear Andy McIntyre's "Mojo Daddies." A contemporary mixture of tunes from this 4 piece group!. Sponsored by the HdG Arts Commission and the HdG Parks & Recreation. Admission is free. For more information contact the HdG Arts Commission, Carolyn Foley at 410-939-5425

JUNE 20

CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE CONSERVANCY: BREWS AND CRUISE. 7–9:00 pm. Sample area micro brews and munchies while enjoying an evening sail. Reservations required. Other dates available. Admission is \$40. per person. For more information contact: Cindi Beane at 410-939-4078 or Email: director@chesapeakeheritage.org or visit their website: http://www.chesapeakeheritage.org

JUNE 22—JUNE 27

HAVRE DE GRACE MARITIME MUSEUM PRESENTS: TEEN BOAT BUILDING SCHOOL. 9–4pm. Teens learn how to make their own canoe. Spend the whole week building it and get ready to paddle on the sixth day! Registration required. For more information contact: Ann Persson at 410-939-4800 or Email: museum@comcast.net or visit their website: www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org

JUNE 23

CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE CONSERVANCY: NIFTY KNOTS AND WHATNOTS CRUISE. 10:00-11:30 am. Children only. Hoist the sails, learn the ropes, and make a knot board. Reservations required. Admission is \$10 per person. For more information contact: Contact: Cindi Beane at 410-939-4078 or Email: director@chesapeakeheritage.org or visit their website: http://www.chesapeakeheritage.org

Calendar continues on page 44



JUNE 26

CONCERT IN THE PARK. 7:30 pm. Bring a blanket and enjoy the snappy tunes of the HI-LITERS - classic pop from the 30's & 40's. Brought to you by the HdG Arts Commission and the HdG Parks & Recreation. Admission is free. For more information contact the HdG Arts Commission, Carolyn Foley, at 410-939-5425

JULY 3

FIRST FRIDAYS SPONSORED BY HDG MAIN STREET, INC. 5:00 pm-9:00 pm. A fun-filled evening of free music in beautiful downtown Havre de Grace. For more information contact: The Havre de Grace Main Street, Inc., Bill Price at 410-939-1811 or Email: hdgmainstreet@verizon.net or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.org

JUNE 27

STEPPINGSTONE FARM MUSEUM'S SUMMERTIME BLUES FESTIVAL. 2-8pm. Advance tickets @\$15. available prior to the event. This event will feature live blues music by local, regional and national blues acts. Beer, food and wine will be sold. This is an outdoor event rain or shine. No refunds. Event held at Steppingstone Museum, 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace, MD 21078. Admission is \$20. adults, (kids under 12/members FREE). For more information contact: Linda M. Noll at 410-939-2299 or Email: steppingstonemuseum@msn.com or visit their website: http://www.steppingstonemuseum.org

JULY 1—JULY 5

HAVRE DE GRACE INDEPENCE CELEBRATION CARNIVAL. Come bring the family to the annual Independence Celebration Carnival! Rides and attractions for all ages.

JULY 5

HAVRE DE GRACE INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION. 2:00 pm. Parade, 7:00 pm Concert, 9:15 Fireworks Parade on Union Avenue begins at 2:00 pm. Carnival 6:00-10:00pm, Concert (7:00pm)& Fireworks at Tydings Park to follow.

JULY 6

CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE CONSERVANCY: CREATURES OF THE BAY. 10–11:30 am. Children ages 6-14 see first hand some of the animals living in the bay, find and identify the tiniest creatures. Terrapins, oysters, crabs, oh my! Reservations required. Admission is \$10. per person. For more information contact: Cindi Beane at 410-939-4078 or Email: director@chesapeakeheritage.org or visit their website: http://www.chesapeakeheritage.org





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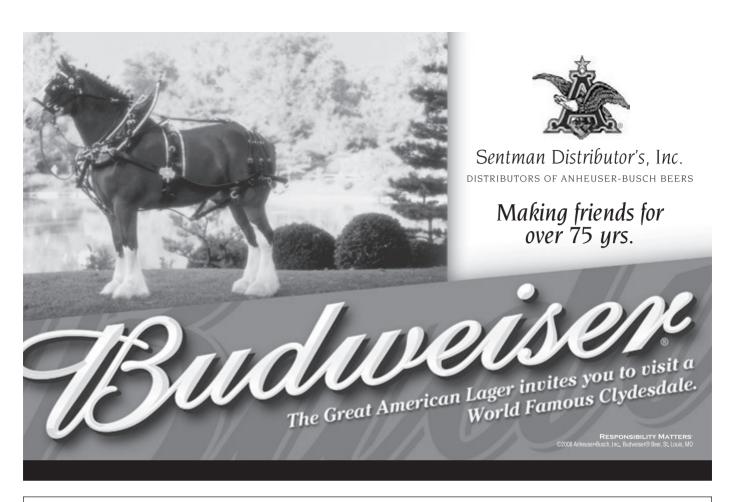


Havre de Grace Decoy Museum Membership Information

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