

The Canvasback

HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM

Summer 2012
Vol. 21 No. 3

\$7.00





410-939-3565

927 Pulaski Highway • Havre de Grace, MD 21078

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!

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.

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.



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

When was the last time you stopped by your Museum?

Looking back over the past year, I have visited the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, The Maryland Historical Society, The Harford County Historical Society, The Havre de Grace Maritime Museum, and The Baltimore Museum of Art, each

several times. I do this because I am in love with history, to discover what was here before we arrived. What happened before us, allows us to better understand who we are.



Visitors to the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum from across the United States and around the world come to see what's new

and view what they haven't seen before. It is a destination for others, how about you?

My own life is filled with not just old decoys, but with the history that those old decoys carry with them. There is not a room in my house that does not reflect my passion for the wooden fowl. Why, one might ask, would I want to work somewhere where the theme so closely resembles my very own space? That old ad campaign comes to mind; "I live and breathe this stuff."

When a visitor from far away stops by and says to me or one of the staff, "What a great museum you have here!", I am reminded of why I am here, this is a great museum! It is a great place to visit, but a place, a museum, that I strive to make an even better place for our guests.

This magazine, *The Canvasback*, does an excellent job of giving you a snapshot and a story of the events and activities here at the Museum. But, for your own personal snapshot and story consider paying us a visit. I assure you that you will not be disappointed.

—C. John Sullivan

Contents

- 6 Print Donated by Collector**
By Jim Trimble
- 6 Thank You to the Festival Volunteers**
- 7 Thank You to the Festival Sponsors**
- 8 2012 Festival Carving Competition Results**
- 13 Clay Shoot Winners**
- 14 Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival**
By Jim Trimble
- 18 Waterfowl Decoys**
By Ralph Hockman
- 24 Collector's Corner**
By C. John Sullivan
- 27 Museum News**
► New Member Wins a Bill Veasey Bluebill Decoy!
- 28 Call for Decoys**
- 36 2012 Festival Patrons**
- 37 Festival Acknowledgements**

DEPARTMENTS

- 5 From the President
- 30 Calendar of Events
- 26 Museum Members

Tidewater Grille



**HAVRE DE GRACE
MARYLAND**



*Enjoy Spectacular Views of the
Susquehanna River and
Chesapeake Bay While You Dine*

**Fresh Seafood & Steaks
Daily Specials • Enjoy Lunch or Dinner**

.....
COZY BAR • ENCLOSED PORCH • EXPANSIVE DECK • BANQUET ROOM

300 Franklin Street • 410-939-3313 • 410-575-7045

www.TheTidewaterGrille.com

**Havre de Grace Decoy Museum
2012 Board of Directors**

OFFICERS

Pat Vincenti, *President*
Charles E. Packard, *Vice President*
James W. Carroll, Jr., *Secretary*
Ralph C. Hockman, *Treasurer*
Allen J. Fair, *Member-at-Large*

HONORARY DIRECTORS

David & Joan Hagan
Charlie Joiner
Kenneth Lay (deceased)
Jim Pierce
William Donald Schaefer (deceased)

DIRECTORS

Jeff Coats
John Case
James Dodd
Ralph C. Hockman
John Hostetter
John Ingolia
Jerry Rutkowski
Madelyn M. Shank
Myrtle M. Street
William Veasey

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

C. John Sullivan

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

CO-EDITORS

John T. Case
James W. Carroll, Jr.

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

James W. Carroll, Jr.
Mindy Elledge
Margaret Jones
C. John Sullivan

Photography

Leo Heppner
Margaret Jones
Terry Shepke-Heppner

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Margaret Jones
C. John Sullivan
Jim Trimble

DESIGN AND TYPESETTING

iDesign Graphics

PRINTING

Stockson Printing Company

The Canvasback is a quarterly publication of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum. All rights are reserved. No material may be reprinted without prior written permission of the publisher. Send letters to the editor, inquiries for display advertising, and requests for membership to:

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,

We hope you are having an enjoyable and safe summer. Here at the Museum the staff, board, and volunteers have been busy with daily operations such as visitation, exhibits, mailings, and planning special events.

Several board members have been very busy working with our staff enhancing membership services and also working with outside consultants overhauling and renewing the Museum's web site and internet presence.



Photo by Leo Heppner

Over the next year or so we will be working closely with Brigitte Peters and the City's Tourism Office as well as the Mayor and City Council preparing for the 1812 celebration here in the City of Havre de Grace. It is important to mention that all five of our local museums will be participating in this celebration and do a fantastic job preserving, presenting, and interpreting our local heritage. They are a must see when visiting our great waterfront community.

Also, I have put together a Long Range and Strategic Planning Committee which will be meeting to explore the possibilities for our future growth. Several members and businesses have expressed a strong interest in this project and will be participating.

Finances are always an issue, so whenever possible please participate in our raffles, fund drives, and special events. We are always looking for volunteers; the Decoy Museum has a variety of areas where we could use your help and welcome your input and expertise. Your participation will ensure every visitor to our Museum has an educational and memorable experience.

Sincerely,

Pat Vincenti
Pat Vincenti

FUNDED IN PART BY

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

The Havre de Grace Decoy Museum is funded by an operating grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

Funding for the Maryland State Arts Council is also provided by the National Endowment for the arts, a federal agency.

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.



Lower Susquehanna River Decoys Print Donated by Collector for Auction at the Havre de Grace Decoy & Wildlife Festival

by Jim Trimble



Lower Susquehanna River Decoys — One of the items offered at the Havre de Grace Decoy & Wildlife Festival auction was a recently printed Lower

Susquehanna River Decoys print of 16 “up river” decoy makers that was donated to the museum by Chesapeake Bay/Susquehanna River collector Jack Barnhart. The artistry was done by decoy maker Art Boxleitner of Willow Street, PA (See *The Canvasback* Winter 2010 cover story entitled “*The Artistic Flair of Art Boxleitner*.”)

The original painting was commissioned by Barnhart and was done on an old menu board that hung for ages in a New York City Italian restaurant. Barnhart enlisted the opinions of other collectors as to which carvers should be included. All of the carvers are deceased except for Boxleitner who Barnhart insisted be included.

The map covers 16 Pennsylvania makers (except for Madison Mitchell whose decoys dominated the area), from the Columbia/Wrightsville area south to the Holtwood Dam, just a mile or so north of the Maryland/Pennsylvania line. Obviously all of the Susquehanna makers could not be included.

Area collectors who visited Barnhart expressed interest... so a limited number of prints were made with most selling immediately. The Havre de Grace auction print hammered at \$60 before add-ons. ■



THANK YOU TO THE 2012 FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS

*Thank you to all the
many Festival Volunteers.*

**We could not manage
this event without you!**

Don & Louise Angert	Cecil & Katherine Hill
Ted Barnhart	Ralph & Pat Hockman
Bob Bendler	Judy Horne
Norma Bennington	John Ingoglia
Al & Mary Boehly	Ed Itter
Nancy Bratcher	Ian Jones
Lisa Bratcher	Morgan Jones
Elaine & Paul Bushman	Robert Jones
Nora Bye	Becky & Scott Krieger
Frank & Joanne Calder	Henry Krotee
John Case	Mary & Renee' Lambert
The Castillo Family	Tyler Martinek
Colleen Chamberlain	Chris Martin
Betty Coakley	Charles & Linda Packard
Elly Coale	Patrice & Hank Recciardi
Jeff Coates	Jerry Rutkowski
Capt. Bill Collins	Gary Sargable
Mary Cowan	Warren Saunders
John Day	Norma Schnepf
James Drabo	Madelyn Mitchell Shank
Joe Engers	Mike Smyser
Allen Fair	Andrew Speers
Nita Foley	George Stram
Jean Gamble	Mert Street
Ken & Tina Glassman	Ellery James Street
Shirley & Harry Graves	Chad Tragakis
Leonard & Teri Hamilton	Clo & Jim Trimble
Carolyn Hargis	Pat & Jeanne Vincenti
John Hartman	George Williams
Dale Heitkamp	

J. Evans McKinney Old Decoy Contest

2012 COMPETITION

Congratulations

*to the J. Evans McKinney
Old Decoy Contest Winners*

BEST UPPER BAY SLEEPER

Will & Marshall
Freng

BEST UPPER BAY MATCHED PAIR

Lloyd & Sharyn
Sheats

BEST UPPER BAY CANVASBACK

Chad & Christy
Tragakis
*(with old known
market gunner,
gunning yacht,
or gun club brand)*

BEST DECOY IN SEVERIN HALL PAINT

Darrell & Kathy
Hagar

BEST WOOD WING DUCK

Chad & Christy
Tragakis

BEST DORCHESTER COUNTY

Chad & Christy
Tragakis

Diving Duck

BEST ROCK HALL PUDDLE DUCK

Chad & Christy
Tragakis

BEST VIRGINIA BRANT

Lloyd & Sharyn
Sheats

BEST JIM PIERCE DECOY

Tom East
*(age requirement
waived)*

BEST UNKNOWN

Jack Schmader

*For detailed descriptions
of the winning decoys see
Jim Trimble's Festival article.*

THANK YOU

TO THE 2012 FESTIVAL SPONSORS

To The Sponsors of this year's 31st Anniversary Festival!

*The Festival Committee greatly appreciates the
local businesses who sponsored this year's 31st
Anniversary of the Havre de Grace Decoy Festival*

APGFCU

Bayside Internal Medicine, LLC

Bill Denny's Body Repair, Inc

Brusters Ice Cream

Cecil Bank

Chesapeake Rent All

Churchville Veterinary Clinic

Constellation Energy Group

Environcon Associates Ins

Ferrell Fuel Company, Inc.

Freedom Federal

Harford Bank

Havre de Grace Chamber of Commerce

Hostetter Agency

JLR Designs

MacGregor's Restaurant

PNC Bank

Seidenber & Protzko Eye Associates, PA

The Bank Gun & Pawn

Vincenti Decoys

Winter Gardens Quality Foods

WXCX 103.7 FM



FESTIVAL 2012

Carving Competition

RESULTS

DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE FLOATING — OPEN

Diver

Canvasback

1st Dwinton Morgan

Merganser, Hooded

1st Dwinton Morgan

Merganser, Hooded

1st Dwinton Morgan

Best of Diver

1st Dwinton Morgan

Canvasback

2nd Dwinton Morgan

Hooded Merganser

Marsh

Mallard

1st Ralph Nester

2nd Dale Heitkamp

Pintail

1st Jay Polite

Teal, Green Wing

1st Charlotte Dutton

Wood Duck

1st F. J. Valentino

Best of Marsh

1st Dwinton Morgan

Hooded Merganser

2nd F. J. Valentino

Wood Duck

3rd Jay Polite

Pintail

Best of Show

1st Ralph Nester

Mallard

2nd F.J. Valentino

Wood Duck

3rd Dwinton Morgan

Hooded Merganser

DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE FLOATING—INTERMEDIATE

Diver

Bufflehead

1st George F. Burchness

Canvasback

1st George Burchness

Redhead

1st Nelson White

Best of Diver

1st Nelson White

Redhead

2nd George Burchness

Bufflehead

3rd George Burchness

Canvasback

Marsh

Teal-Green Wing

1st Nelson White

Teal-Cinnamon

1st Nelson White

Wood Duck

1st James Drabo

Other- Fulvous Duck

1st Ronald R. Janicki

Best of Marsh

1st James Drabo

Wood Duck

2nd Nelson White

Green wing Teal

3rd Nelson White

Cinnamon Teal

Best of Show

1st James Drabo

Wood Duck

2nd Nelson White

Green wing Teal

3rd Nelson White

Cinnamon Teal

DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE FLOATING—NOVICE

Diver

Canvasback

1st Tom Herron

Merganser- Hooded

1st Michael Collier

Old Squaw

1st Tom Herronman

Best of Diver

1st Michael Collier

Hooded Merganser

2nd Tom Herron

Canvasback

3rd Tome Herron

Old Squaw

Marsh

1st Lou Caputo

Pintail

Wood Duck

1st Charles O'Neal

Wood Duck

2nd Charles O'Neal

Wood Duck

Best of Marsh

1st Charles O'Neal

Wood Duck

2nd Charles O'Neal

Wood Duck

3rd Lou Caputo

Pintail

Goose and Confidence

1st Karen Hahman

Spectacled Eider

Best of Goose and Confidence

1st Karen Hahman

Spectacled Eider

Best of Show

1st Michael Collier

Hooded Merganser

2nd Charles O'Neal

Wood Duck

3rd Karen Hahman

Spectacled Eider

DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE NON- FLOATING—OPEN

Birds of Prey

1st Harvey Wilson

Peregrine Falcon

2nd Jeffrey Moore

Screech Owl

3rd Brad Wiley

Great Horned Owl

Carving Competition Results

Songbirds

1st Susan Dorsch
Cardinal

Other—Hummingbird

Moth

1st Ralph Nester

Best of Show

1st Harvey Wilson
Peregrine Falcon
2nd Jeffrey Moore
Screech Owl
3rd Susan Dorsch
Cardinal

DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE NON-FLOATING—INTERMEDIATE

Shorebird

1st Henry T. Jacobs
Red Knot

Birds of Prey

1st Henry T. Jacobs
Red Tail Hawk

Songbirds

1st Gary C. Taylor
Cedar Waxwing

Best of Show

1st Gary C. Taylor
Cedar Waxwing
2nd Henry T. Jacobs
Red Tail Hawk
3rd Henry T. Jacobs
Red Knot

DECORATIVE LIFE-SIZE NON-FLOATING—NOVICE

Waterfowl

1st Carl Tosi
Blue wing Teal
2nd Bruce Krown
Redhead
3rd Ken Guelta
Whiteface Pintail

Upland Game Birds

1st Joe Zappo
Bobwhite Quail

Birds of Prey

1st James McClasky
Screech Owl
2nd Ronald E. Kussrow
Saw-Whet Owl

3rd Walter Maliszewski
Saw-Whet Owl

Songbirds

1st Carl Tosi
Cardinal
2nd James McClasky
Chickadee
3rd Konrad Steck
Toucan
HM John Dominick
Cardinal

Best of Show

1st Carl Tosi
Blue wing Teal
2nd Carl Tosi
Cardinal
3rd James McClasky
Saw-Whet Owl

MINIATURE—OPEN

Waterfowl

1st Harvey Wilson
Cinnamon Teal

Seabirds

1st Bob Whiting
Forester Tern

Best of Show

1st Bob Whiting
Forester Tern
2nd Harvey Wilson
Cinnamon Teal

MINIATURE—NOVICE

Waterfowl

1st Harry Korch
Canada Goose
2nd Tim Stewart
Pintail

Shorebirds

1st Walter Maliszewski
Long Billed Curlew

Bird of Prey

1st Ronald Kussrow
Saw-Whet Owl

Songbirds

1st Marianne Stoker
Raven

Seabirds

1st Konrad Steck
Pelican

Best of Show

1st Konrad Steck
Pelican
2nd Marianne Stoecker
Raven
3rd Walter Maliszewski
Long Billed Curlew

“WHITEY FRANCK” SLICK DECOY

Diver

Bufflehead
1st David Jack
Merganser, Red Breasted
1st Jay Polite
2nd Jay Polite
3rd James L. Baker

Scaup

1st William Bailey

Best of Diver

Merganser, Red-breasted
1st Jay Polite
Merganser, Red-breasted
2nd Jay Polite
Scaup
3rd William Bailey

Marsh

Gadwall
1st James Baker
2nd William Bailey

Mallard

2nd Steve G. Reiner

Pintail

1st James Baker

Shoveler

1st James Baker

Teal- Blue wing

1st William Bailey

Widgeon

1st William Bailey

Best of Marsh

1st James Baker
Pintail
2nd James Baker
Teal- Blue wing

3rd James Baker
Gadwall

Goose and Confidence

Other

1st Charlotte Dutton
Red Necked Phalarope

Best of Show

1st Jay Polite
Red-Breasted Merganser
2nd Jay Polite
Red-breasted Merganser
3rd James Baker
Pintail

GUNNING DECOY

Diver

Bufflehead
1st Scott Green
2nd Gene Daugherty
3rd Karen Rynarzewski

Canvasback

1st Scott Green
2nd Brian Lilly
3rd Gene Daugherty
HM Mark Daly

Golden Eye

1st George Williams
2nd Zach Benson
3rd Terry Ford
HM Bill Bertz

Merganser- Red-breasted

1st William S. Belote
2nd William S. Belote
3rd David Robbins

HM Mark Daly

HM James Romig

HM Michael Adcock

Merganser- Hooded

1st Robert Barlett
2nd Rodney Klahr
3rd Robert Barlett

HM Heck Rice

Merganser- American

1st Pete Schaffer

Old Squaw

1st Tom Yocum
2nd Tom Yocum
3rd Jack Berkurt
HM Zach Benson

Carving Competition Results

HM Heck Rice
HM Tom Herron

Redhead

1st Robert Barlett
2nd Lou Caputo

Ring Neck Duck

1st Robert Barlett
2nd Robert Barlett
3rd Nick Ossman

HM Terry Ford
HM Michael Adcock
HM Kevin Remasse

Ruddy

1st William S. Belote
2nd William S. Belote
3rd Lou Caputo

Scaup

1st Robert Barlett
2nd Robert Barlett
3rd Michael Collier

HM Terry Ford
HM Michael Collier

Other—Scoter

1st Scott Green
Black Scoter
2nd William S. Belote
Black Scoter
3rd Robert Barlett
Black Scoter

HM Brian Lilly
Surf Scoter
HM Heck Rice
Scoter

Other

1st Charles O'Neal
Spectacled Eider

Best of Diver

1st William Belote
Ruddy
2nd Robert Bartlett
Greater Scaup
3rd William S. Belote
Ruddy

Marsh

Black Duck
1st James Romig
2nd James Romig
3rd Rodney Klahr
HM Wayne Wheeler

HM Wayne Wheeler

Gadwall

1st Robert Barlett

Mallard

1st Bruce Krown
2nd Charles O'Neal
3rd Charles O'Neal
HM Michele Herron

Pintail

1st James Romig
2nd James Romig
3rd Charles O'Neal
HM Charles O'Neal

Shoveler

1st Scott Green
2nd Bill Bertz

Teal, Blue wing

1st Robert Barlett(hen)
2nd Guy S. Band

Teal, Green wing

1st Heck Rice
2nd Tom Herron
3rd Gene Daugherty

Wood Duck

1st Wayne Wheeler
2nd Wayne Wheeler
3rd Heck Rice

Other

1st George Williams
Chilean Widgeon
2nd Mark Daly
Florida Duck

Best of Marsh

1st James Romig
Black Duck
2nd Robert Barlett
Blue wing Teal
3rd Robert Barlett
Gadwall

Goose & Confidence

Canada
1st Rodney Klahr
Brant

Coot

1st Robert Bartlett
2nd George Williams
3rd Heck Rice

Grebe

1st Heck Rice

2nd Tom Herron

Other

1st Charlotte Dutton
2nd Tom Herron

Other

1st Tom Yocum
Ross Goose
2nd Terry Ford
Snow Goose
1st Heck Rice
Razor Bill Gull
2nd Bill Bertz
Sea Gull

Best of Goose & Confidence

1st Charlotte Dutton
Pied Bill Grebe
2nd Robert Bartlett
Brant
3rd Rodney Klahr
Canada Goose

Best of Show

1st William S. Belote
Ruddy
2nd Robert Bartlett
Greater Scaup
3rd William S. Belote
Ruddy

TRADITIONAL WORKING SHOREBIRD

1st Vincenti A. Pagliaroli
Spotted Sandpiper
2nd Vincent A. Pagliaroli
Greater Yellow Leg Sandpiper
3rd James Belote
Black Bellied Plover

SLICK WORKING SHOREBIRD

1st Chris Martin
Lesser Yellow Leg Sandpiper
2nd David Robbins
Stilt

Best of Show

Working Shorebird

1st Chris Martin
Lesser Yellow Leg Sandpiper
2nd Vincent A.
Black Necked Stilt

3rd Robert Whiting
Avocet

Decorative Cocktail

1st Jeff Thomas
Brant

Gunning Cocktail

1st William S. Belote
Shoveler
2nd Scott Green
Black Scoter
3rd F. J. Valentine
Canada Goose

Best of Show

Decorative Cocktail

1st William S. Belote
Shoveler
2nd Scott Green
Black Scoter
3rd F. J. Valentine
Canada Goose

CONTEMPORARY ANTIQUE STYLE DECOYS

Diver

1st Jeff Keiffer
Old Squaw
2nd Tim Stewart
Canvasback
3rd Michael Collier
Bufflehead

Ruddy

1st Kristi Rehnaker

Marsh

Wood Duck
1st Jeff Keiffer

Goose & Confidence

Canada
1st Tom Langan
2nd Robert Clements
3rd Robert Clements

Gulls

Sea Gull
1st Tom Langan
2nd Jeff Keiffer

Other

1st Ryan Short
Great Blue Heron

Shorebirds

1st Ryan Short
Curlew

Carving Competition Results

- 2nd Tom Langan
Curlew
- 3rd William S. Belote
Sanderling

Best of Show Contemporary Antiques

- 1st Kristi Reinaker
Ruddy Duck
- 2nd Jeff Keiffer
Old Squaw
- 3rd Tom Langan
Canada Goose

YOUTH

Decorative Floating

- 1st Olivia Dutton
Blue wing Teal
- 2nd Amy Green
Cinnamon Teal

Working Decoys

- 1st Corey Green
Black Scoter

DECORATIVE NON-FLOATING

Song Birds

- 1st Olivia Dutton
Chickadee
- 2nd Laura Dutton
Chickadee

Best in Show

- 1st Corey Green
Black Scoter
- 2nd Olivia Dutton
Chickadee
- 3rd Olivia Dutton
Blue wing Teal

FISH

- 1st James S. Belote
Black Crappie
- 2nd Sandie Butt
Large Mouth Bass
- 3rd Charlotte Dutton
Walleyed

INTERPRETIVE WOOD SCULPTURE

Swan

- 1st Michele Freed
- 2nd Susan Dorsch

Other

- 1st Bob Whiting
Swallow
- 2nd Susan Dorsch
Cardinal

Best of Show

- 1st Bob Whiting
Swallow
- 2nd Michele Freed
Swan
- 3rd Susan Dorsch
Swan

WOMEN'S CARVING DIVISION

Ducks

- 1st Sandie Butt
Bufflehead

Shore Bird

- 1st Peggy Wroten
Sandpiper

Best of Show

- 1st Sandie Butt
Bufflehead
- 2nd Peggy Wroten
Sandpiper

RIVER GUNNING DECOY

Diver

- Bufflehead*
- 1st Mike Smyser
- 2nd Scott Green
- 3rd Mike Smyser

Canvasback

- 1st William Thurman
- 2nd Eric Holveck
- 3rd Mike Smyser

Golden Eye

- 1st Mike Smyser
- Merganser- Red Breasted*
- 1st Heck Rice

Merganser- Hooded

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd Ed Lewandowski
- 3rd Scott Green

Old Squaw

- 1st Tom Yocum
- 2nd Tom Yocum

Redhead

- 1st William Thurman
- 2nd William Thurman

Ring Neck

- 1st Scott Green

Scaup

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd Scott Green

Other

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd Scott Green
- 3rd Vincent Pagliaroli
- HM Scott Green

Best of Diver

- 1st Heck Rice
- 2nd Mike Smyser
- 3rd Scott Green

Marsh

Black Duck

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd Scott Green
- 3rd Mike Smyser

Mallard

- 1st William Thurman
- 2nd William Thurman
- 3rd Ed Lewandowski

Pintail

- 1st Ed Lewandowski

Shoveler

- 1st Scott Green

Teal- Blue wing

- 1st Ed Lewandowski

Teal- Green wing

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd William Thurman
- 3rd William Thurman

Wood Duck

- 1st Mike Smyser
- 2nd Ed Lewandowski
- 3rd William Thurman

Widgeon

- 1st Mike Smyser
- 2nd Mike Smyser

Best of Marsh

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd Mike Smyser
- 3rd Mike Smyser

Goose & Confidence

Canada

- 1st Heck Rice
- 2nd Mike Smyser

Brant

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd Paul Dobroski
- 3rd Mike Smyser
- HM Vincent Pagliaroli

Other

- 1st Vincent Pagliaroli

Grebe

- 1st Heck Rice

Other

- 1st David Jack
- 2nd Mike Smyser
- 3rd Heck Rice

Best of Goose & Confidence

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd Heck Rice
- 3rd David Jack

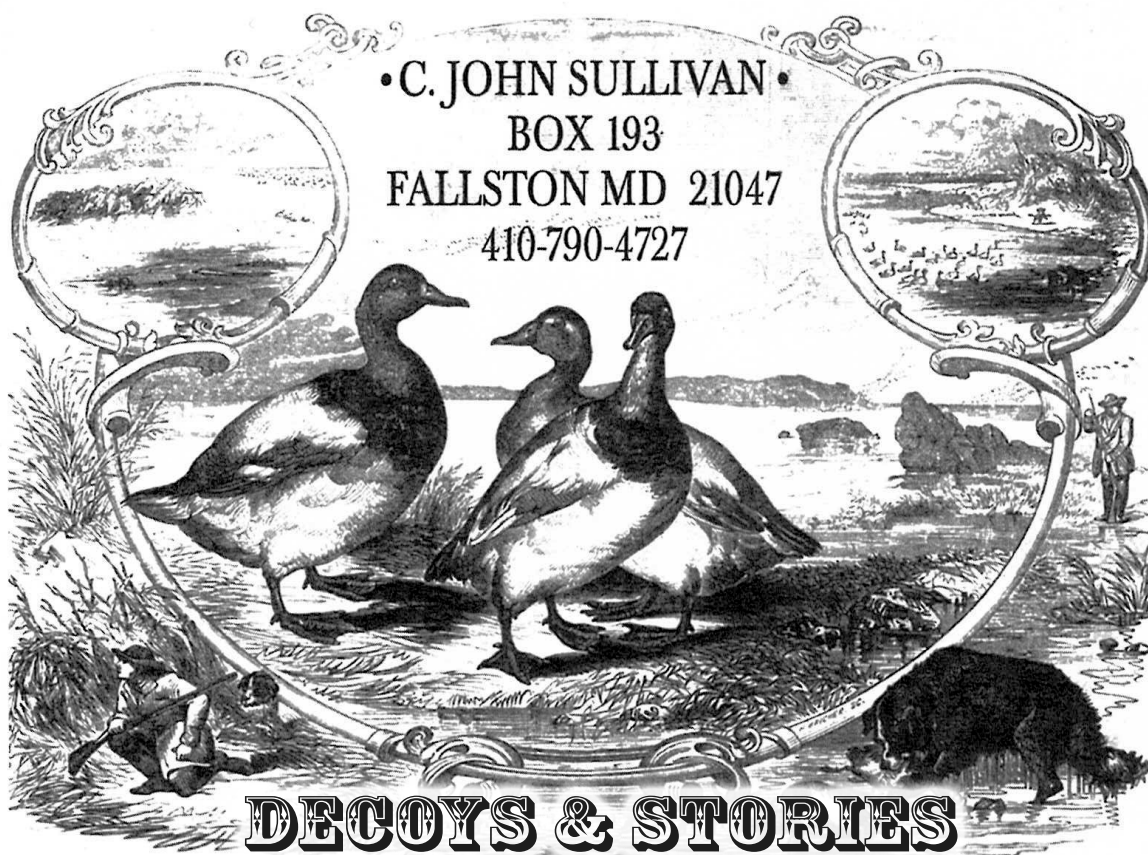
Best of Show

- 1st Scott Green
- 2nd Heck Rice
- 3rd David Jack

Thank You to the 2012 SPORTING CLAY SHOOT SPONSORS

C. John Sullivan
Chesapeake Rent All
Churchville Service Center LLC
Clarke Franke
Ebb Tide Tent & Party Rental
Ed & Jane Zimmer
Harford Refrigeration Co. Inc.
Harris Seafood Co. Inc

JLR Design Consultants
John O. Mitchell Family Charitable Trust
Queenstown Bank of Maryland
Sanger Inc Western Tire & Auto
Stamper Electric Inc.
Telegent Engineering Inc.
United Products Distributors Inc



2012 CLAY SHOOT

13



Havre de Grace

Decoy & Wildlife

ART FESTIVAL 2012



by Jim Trimble

This three day show held the first full weekend in May is the primary fund raiser for the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum. This annual show coincides with the War of 1812 re-enactors who defend this small waterfront community each year from British invasion (the Brits bombarded in 1813). Also, it is "First Friday" with downtown celebrations as stores stay open late with promos welcoming visitors; and the streets, blocked for pedestrian use, fill with noisy crowds strolling past a variety of street musicians and performers. There was even a locally sponsored racing car on display with many gawkers. The downtown restaurants seemed full to capacity. Visitors filled local room accommodations for this weekend (our bed & breakfast was full). Some visitors took time to chase ducks


This year's show was held May 4-6. Allen Fair, a local business man/collector who has been involved with the museum since inception, and Rob Leslie of New Jersey, a well-known blue ribbon wildlife artist with numerous awards to his credit, served as this year's Honorary Chairmen. Besides decoy vendors and an antique decoy competition, the three-day show also included carving as well as contemporary gunning rig decoy competitions and a live auction. The museum prints a festival issue magazine each year that serves as an event roadmap. There was also an outdoor hunting show/displays to compliment.

Vendors Aplenty

84 vendors, many with double tables, filled the middle school. Many of those tables were filled with old decoys; mostly upper Chesapeake

Bay birds, as well as offering an assortment of collectible birds from current day carvers. Virginia vendor Ron Levison returned after many years absence, and besides Madison Mitchells, his contemporary offering of Strunk, Peterson, Porterfield, Biddle and Tawes birds, to mention a few, appealed to many. Maryland vendor Marshall Purner had several tables full of old upper bay decoys from a rig recently found; as did Delaware vendor Donald Coleman, his recent find offering also included wooden wing ducks by a variety of early upper bay makers.

The Potomac Decoy Collectors Association (PDCA) table, besides members' sale decoys, displayed a fine selection of finely carved and painted fish by member artisan Ray Whetzel. Jon Frank was on hand providing decoy appraisals as well as displaying decoys for his forthcoming fall auction. Joe Engers' table was stocked



with Decoy Magazine issues that featured a wide variety of upper Chesapeake Bay carvers as well as a nice assortment of upper Chesapeake Bay original paint birds for sale. Vendors Jim and Charles Pierce got a helping hand from Tennessee collector John Cox who helped “man” the busy Pierce tables as many well-wishers congratulated Pierce about the recently published book on Jim Pierce and his decoys.

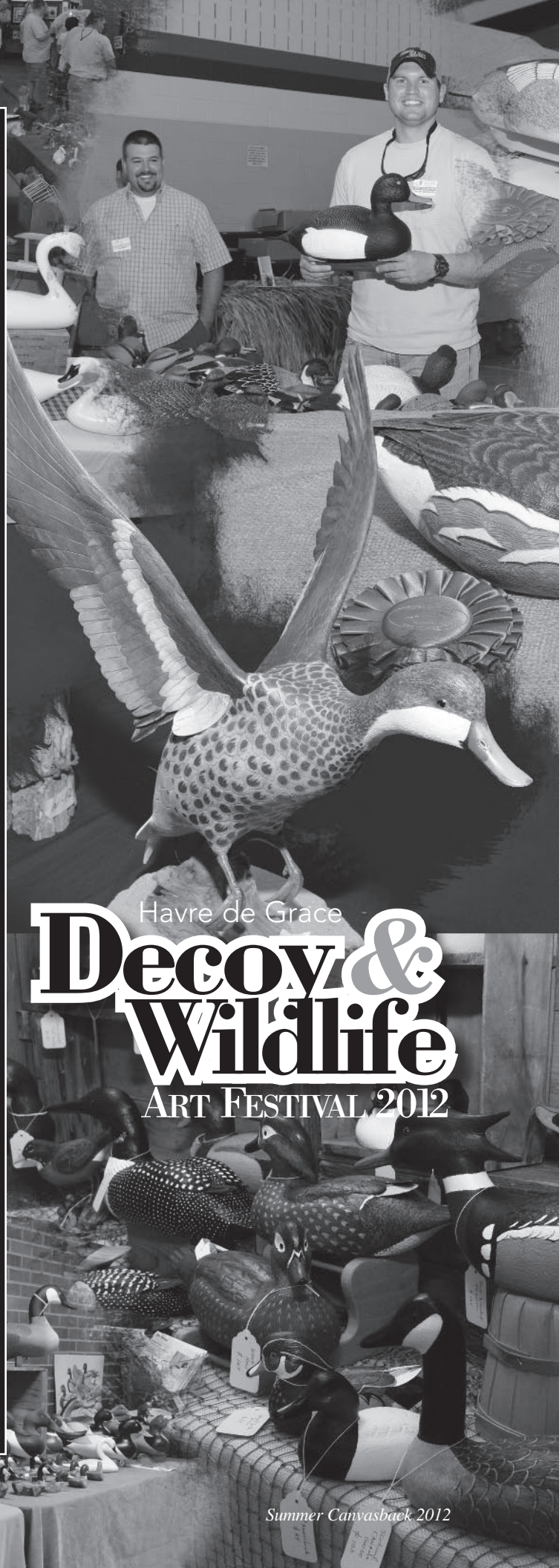
Each year Maryland collector Will Freng displays birds from his collection. This year’s display included two fine sets of Leonard Pryor (1876-1967, Chesapeake City) canvasbacks, one a full-sized presentation set sitting on a sculpted board, the other a mini-pair inscribed to his granddaughter Carolyn Jo, Easter 1942. Other birds displayed included a small Ward Bros. goose, an Ira Hudson three-piece hollow scratch-painted black duck, an early Madison Mitchell barn-door keel swan, and an early pair of Walter Humphries (Toronto) bluebills. The display also included three shorebirds by makers George Boyd, H.V. Shourds and Charles Clark, all from the first quarter of last century.

Contests and Auctions

The middle school was also the venue for the old decoy contest and the decoy auction that was to follow. Jim & Clo Trimble worked again this year as festival volunteers, taking responsibility and accepting decoys for the 10-category J. Evans McKinney Old Decoy Contest. Chad Tragakis, John Collier and Rob Knight worked as “duck handlers.” Decoy judge selection is on a yearly rotation basis with collectors Joe Engers, Tom East and Phil Jones selected to serve with this writer serving as pinch-hitter when one of the judges reclused because of category entry.

28 contestants entered over 100 competition birds. Maryland father/son collectors Will and Marshall Freng won the Upper Bay sleeper category with an early Madison Mitchell canvasback hen in fine mellow original paint.

Delaware collectors Lloyd & Sharyn Sheats won the Upper Bay Matched Pair category with a pair of Taylor Boyd canvasback gunners with alert regal heads and mellow original paint. This entry also won Best in Show. The Sheats struck again winning the Virginia Brant category with a fine three-piece hollow Ira Hudson original paint brant. Sheats also worked the floor for three days as a



Havre de Grace

Decoy & Wildlife

ART FESTIVAL 2012



vendor with his table offering many fine Chesapeake Bay decoys in original paint. Virginia collectors Chad & Christy Tragakis won four different categories as follows: An iron keeled RECKLESS branded Daddy Holly canvasback won the Upper Bay branded category. A Charles Nelson Barnard semi-hi head canvasback in original paint won the Wooden Wing Duck category; while an Ed Phillips original paint redhead won the Dorchester County Diving Duck category. And finally a John Glen original paint pintail won the Rock Hall Puddle Duck category. Delaware collectors Darrell & Kathy Hagar won the Severin Hall Paint category with a regal Henry Lockard canvasback with pulled-back head position. The Jim Pierce category was won by Virginia collector Tom East with an early gunning brant preener. The Unknown category was won by Pennsylvania collector Jack Schmader with an early large hollow Canada goose in old paint condition. This bird was a stumper with collectors opining origin from Jersey Shore to the upper Delaware River with some opining Virginia. The winning birds with their ribbons will be displayed at the museum for the next several months.

There were 72 lots in Saturday's late day auction, an auction void of the numerous old gunners from years past. The top-dollar lot was a pair of Charles Joiner mini wood ducks that hammered for \$450. Second top lot was a pair of Pat Vincenti mini canvasbacks that sold for \$425. A Robert Leslie's print placed third hammering at \$350. Pat Vincenti grabbed fourth and fifth honors when he had two pairs on minis, a golden eye pair and a pair of widgeons hammer at \$325 each. The auction was well organized. Auctioneer Bill Veasey moved along at about one item per minute, and checkout was a breeze. All prices quoted are before 10% buyer's premium.

Until Next Year

This was a fun duck-packed weekend for the decoy collector. Pat and Jeannie Vincenti and a legion of others at the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum, work hard putting on this show for our decoy collecting community. Hopefully it was a big plus in their fund-raising efforts. ■

See you in May 2013!

Waterfowl Decoys

BY RALPH HOCKMAN



Cowboy boots, boomerangs, nutcrackers, and kimonos.
Physical objects fraught with history,
technically obsolete, and yet somehow still symbolic
of contemporary cultures throughout the world.

ABOVE: From Decoy to Decorative: These three mallard drakes illustrate the evolution of carving from simple decoys to pieces of art. **(1)** This handsome gunning stool (1951) is typical of the Ward Brothers' working decoys. **(2)** Winner of the 1948 National Decoy Makers Contest, this sleeping mallard by Lem Ward showcases the sculptural aspects of decoy carving. **(3)** The standing mallard by Lem Ward (1952) takes the full leap into a decorative art form.

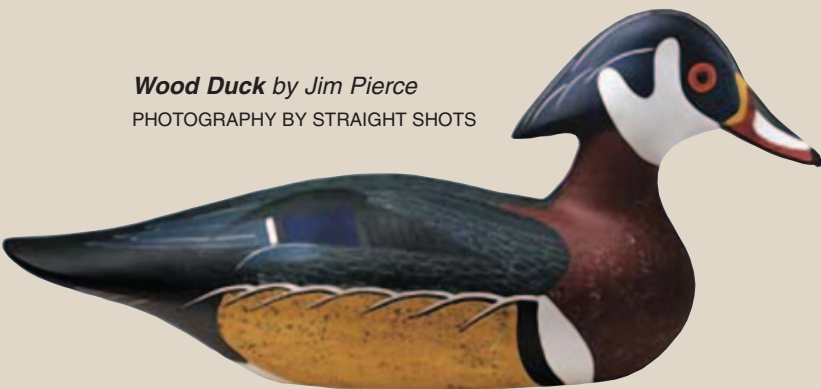
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WARD MUSEUM.

Here in the Chesapeake Bay region, and to a lesser extent in coastal communities up and down the east coast, the waterfowl decoy has gained a similar status. They've also become highly collectible. With decoys ranging in style from rustic antiques to realistic, artfully carved, precisely painted representations, there is a style of decoy for almost any predilection—and definitely mine.

Some years ago, soon after moving to the Chesapeake Bay region, I became enamored with waterfowl carving, and it wasn't long before I said to myself, "I can do this." So, with not much more than a few tools, patterns, and some basswood, I embarked on a hobby. Today my hobby has grown from the satisfaction of carving to also enjoying the work of many other carvers. Living close to Havre de Grace, Maryland, often referred to as "The Decoy Capital of the World" because of its rich carving history, I began to focus on how this area's decoy carving/making transitioned from utilitarian to decorative, tool to collectable, functional to art form.

Wood Duck by Jim Pierce

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STRAIGHT SHOTS



As with most art forms, decoy carving began out of necessity. Ancient cave wall painters depicted histories of seasonal hunts and harvests, while artists of today splash vibrant hues on the canvas to challenge the intellect, delight the senses, or simply decorate the walls. A similar evolution is true of decoys. According to master carver Bennett Scott, decoy carving can be traced to the ancient Egyptians, but the transition from functional to decorative did not begin until the late 1940s.

Since then decoy carving as an art form and the interest in collecting decoys has grown steadily, and I have been fortunate to discuss the evolution of this growth with four area experts: Pat Vincenti, Bennett Scott, Jim Pierce, and John Collier. Pat Vincenti began his carving career under the tutelage of world-renowned master carver R. Madison Mitchell and today still uses patterns from Mitchell's shop. He is also the current president of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum. Another protégé of R. Madison Mitchell, Jim Pierce carves "gunning" decoys that evoke the

Mitchell style and has done so for over 50 years. Bennett Scott has been carving "realistic waterfowl" for over 30 years. He was a masterpiece carver for the 1999 Easton Waterfowl Festival, is a member of the festival Hall of Fame, and judges at the Ward Championship Wildfowl Carving Competition. During our conversations, Scott revealed numerous reasons for taking the decoy out of the water and placing it on the mantel, table, bookshelf, or display case. John Collier brings the practice and history of carving to light for the rest of us. A dealer and collector of working decoys for over 30 years, Collier's advice can be a lesson to us all.

Form Followed Function

So what was the consensus on this shift that took place in the 40s? The answer lies in our history. Decoys are not only decorative symbols of another time, they symbolize a long, rich heritage of waterfowl hunting, which was a way of life for many families on the Chesapeake Bay. John Collier and Bennett Scott both suggested that federal and state laws limiting the "take" on waterfowl were major factors influencing the shift towards the growing popularity of collecting decoys as an art form. Pat Vincenti believes that other influences included fewer ducks in the flyways of the region known as the Susquehanna Flats and the Upper Chesapeake Bay, as well as the promotion of decoys as art and decoration in magazines such as *Southern Living* during the 70s and 80s. Jim Pierce attributes the shift to auctions along with the realization that people would buy decoys for use as decoration and as part of their heritage. He also believes that the 1980s postage stamps honoring Bob McGaw's decoys and the various state duck stamp programs were a catalyst to understanding decoys as an art form.

Another factor that likely has influenced decoy collecting is technology. Up until the 50s and 60s wooden decoys were primarily used for hunting. When plastic hunting decoys gained popularity as an inexpensive, lightweight, and durable alternative, wood decoys went the way of the horse and buggy. According to Collier, early dealers saw the value in wooden decoys as an art form and traded hunters plastic decoys for their wooden decoys one for one. Thus, wood decoys became more available as decorative pieces. Commenting on this evolution, Pierce notes that it has been "great to see what was once a tool to put food on the table become something decorative that is displayed in the house." Still, this evolution has traced three distinct paths—defined by the three significant styles that have emerged over the years: gunning decoys, smoothies, and realistic.

"Gunning decoys" are traditional working decoys (those that were set out in the water to lure waterfowl). They are characterized by flat paint, the absence of raised feathers, and the presence of ballast weights and anchor rings. "Smoothies" are gunning decoys taken to a decorative level with finely detailed painting used to articulate the feathers of the bird. In the third style, "Realistic," the carving is intended to represent the bird in as life-like a manner as possible. This style is typified by finely detailed feathers usually accomplished by burning the detail into the wood

and completing the work with painting each minute detail. Often you cannot tell the difference between the carving and the real bird until you pick it up.

Getting Your Ducks in a Row

If you are a beginning collector, how should you get started? The experts are unanimous in their response, “Education!, Education!, Education!” Fortunately, there are many fun ways to educate yourself about decoys. The first step might be an internet search. Type in decoys for 491,000 hits, duck decoys for 31,600, gunning decoys for 560, Havre de Grace Decoys for 106 hits, and so on. Museums and shows are also great.

While there, talk to as many people as possible, attend specific exhibits, buy books and magazines, and start paying attention to what you like. John Collier noted two worthwhile books by Henry Fleckenstein, Jr., that serve as excellent educational guides: *Decoys of the Mid-Atlantic Region* and *Southern Decoys of Virginia and the Carolinas*.

Mallard family by Ira D. Hudson
Private Collection.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WARD MUSEUM



Mallard Hen by Ron Rue

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WARD MUSEUM

Collier also suggests that you “find a reputable dealer—one who will guarantee what they sell and will take back mistakes.” According to Collier most reputable dealers will offer trades; that is they will allow you to upgrade by exchanging a piece you have previously purchased from them; they usually give you the current value for the previously purchased piece.

Birds of a Feather . . .

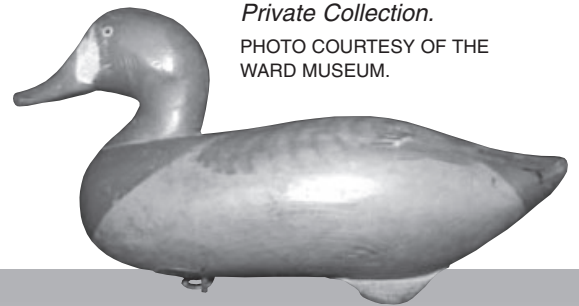
When asked how one should go about starting a collection of decoys, once again the experts issued a unanimous response: “Get something you like!” In general there are three types of collectors: the occasional collector, someone who displays decoys as accent pieces; the enthusiast, someone with a specific focus who generally displays a decoy collection; and the investor, who focuses on selecting pieces that will appreciate in value. According to Pat Vincenti some of the things to consider when collecting are region/area, species, maker, condition, originality, and form. For example, Vincenti has focused his collection of Canvasbacks (once the most prevalent bird in the Susquehanna Flats) to carvers from the Upper Chesapeake Bay/Susquehanna Flats region. He looks for representation from every carver

of known reputation from the 1860s to current day. Some may be repaints; to Vincenti, however, that does not diminish the value significantly when he considers that the decoy was a working tool that sometimes required repair in order to maintain its effectiveness. He also noted that you should “buy the best you can afford” because high quality is a major factor to maintaining value. John Collier echoed that sentiment by saying, “If you can afford to spend \$500, you should buy one \$500 decoy versus five \$100 decoys.”

If the focus of a collection is the “maker,” notable carvers include not only those carvers consulted for this article but also R. Madison Mitchell, Lem and Steve Ward, Bob McGaw, Charlie Bryan, A. Elmer Crowell, Cigar Daisy, Charlie Joiner, Ira Hudson, and Ernie Muehlmann—all of whom are known for their hunting decoys except Muehlmann, who specializes in a more contemporary realistic style of carving. Ultimately, though, collectors are most often driven by personal taste. Average collectors will buy what they like first, then consider specific makers, value, and stylistic focus.

Bluebill hen by
R. Madison Mitchell
Private Collection.

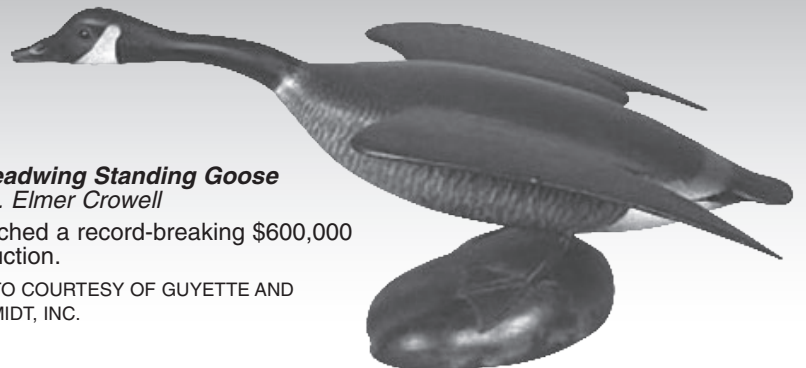
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE
WARD MUSEUM.



Spreadwing Standing Goose
by A. Elmer Crowell

It fetched a record-breaking \$600,000 at auction.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GUYETTE AND SCHMIDT, INC.



Free as a Bird? Hardly

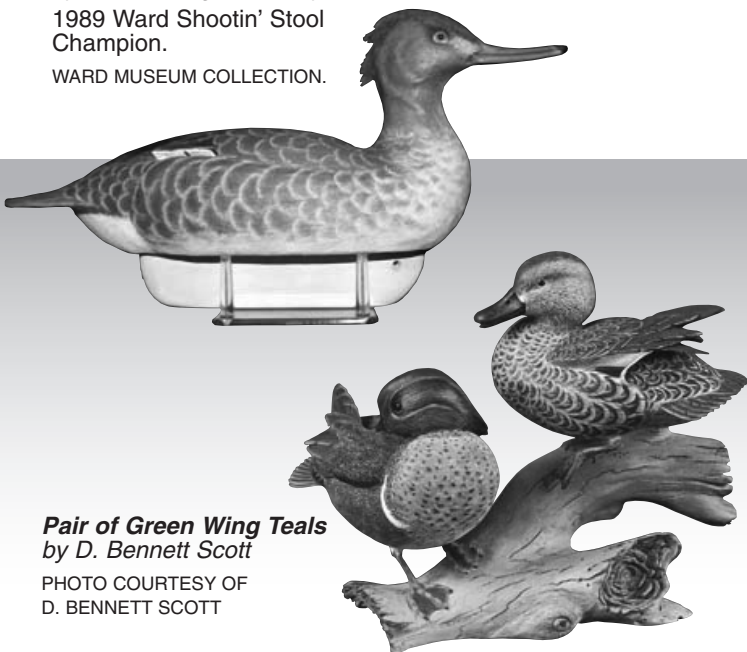
While finely crafted decoys by desirable makers are not cheap, there are decoys to fit every pocketbook, so be guided by what you can afford and by your collecting objectives. If you are collecting as a hobby, then buy what you like. In these instances, price may be irrelevant. You might like a \$20 Black Duck as much as a \$500 Black Duck. On the other hand, if the main objective for your collection is financial appreciation, then you should focus on the condition, originality, and the maker, making a judgment about the opportunity for the specific artist's work to appreciate at a rate equal to or greater than another. At the various shows I have attended, prices range from \$20 to tens of thousands. As a testament to the seriousness of this art form, a recent Guyette & Schmidt auction featured many decoys that sold for hundreds of thousands of dollars. One Spreadwing Standing Goose by A. Elmer Crowell fetched over \$600,000 before the gavel fell. While the costs of individual decoys vary widely, one thing can be said for certain: value is set similarly to any art—the more detailed the work, the more costly the work; the more sought after the artist, the more costly the work.

Still, despite the daunting \$600,000 noted above, decoy collecting can be fun and affordable for everyone. Most of the fun is in attending the shows, exhibits, and competitions, visiting the museums and interacting with the artists and other attendees, and then viewing the pieces you've acquired while sitting in the quiet of your home. ■

Ralph Hockman has been carving and collecting decoys for nearly 20 years. Ralph is a corporate consultant specializing in finance and manufacturing operations. Prior to consulting, he held various executive positions in finance, manufacturing operations, and sales and marketing.

Red-breasted Merganser Hen
by Delbert "Cigar" Daisey
1989 Ward Shootin' Stool
Champion.

WARD MUSEUM COLLECTION.



Pair of Green Wing Teals
by D. Bennett Scott
PHOTO COURTESY OF
D. BENNETT SCOTT

The Master Carvers

Madison Mitchell, Lem and Steve Ward, Ira Hudson. These master carvers are recognized as some of the most talented of the Mid-Atlantic region, yet their beginnings are humble. Madison Mitchell studied under Sam Barnes—when Barnes died, Mitchell stayed on to fill his standing orders. Local teenagers and woodcarvers often frequented the shop, some to learn his techniques, some just to talk and whittle. Mitchell influenced several generations of carvers, including Jim Pierce, Captain Harry Jobes, and Pat Vincenti. His work also motivated the establishment of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum.

Of the Crisfield school of carvers, best known are the Ward brothers, who adopted the practices of their father, a barber by trade, but also a waterman who dabbled in carving decoys and building boats. The brothers, barbers themselves, began carving to pass time while waiting for customers, and soon their birds appeared on the shelves alongside bottles of hair tonic. Although Lem and Steve Ward began carving decoys for the local waterman, when the demand for hand-made gunning decoys slowed, the brothers refined their craft into decorative art; they're now celebrated for beautifully painted birds.

Collectors also recognize Ira Hudson for his artistic renditions—a notable characteristic of this Chincoteague carver's work is his unusual positioning of the head, achieved by carving from driftwood and roots. Hudson's style changed according to his customers' needs and price range—he never followed patterns when carving, so no two Hudsons are exactly alike. And although he mostly produced working decoys, Hudson would occasionally carve decorative decoys to barter for clothing and food for his family. Like many of the early carvers, Hudson never viewed his work as an art form, but rather a hunting tool, created for its instrumentality.

Of the many notable carvers in the Mid-Atlantic, Mitchell, Hudson, and the Ward brothers were some of the most prolific and, today, collectible. They saw themselves simply as decoy makers, wood carvers, "wildfowl counterfeiters"—we see them as artists.

Flock to the Shop

Stop by the Museum gift shop.

DECOYS FROM THE "HOME RUN" BAKER RIG

John Elton Cole, Jr.



Photographs by Robert Loynd



Now
Available!
\$19⁹⁹

The Museum's gift shop has unique and whimsical items for everyone.
*Remember, as a member of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum you receive a **10% discount** on all but a few select items.*

DECOY MUSEUM
Gift Shop
Located inside the HdG Decoy Museum

**Now offering
100% custom
designed rugs.**

*There is no limit to
your imagination!*


Charlie Packard's
Flooring AMERICA
Carpet By The Yard

Charlie Packard

Phone: (410) 272-8440 • Fax: (410) 676-1937

9B Aberdeen Plaza
Aberdeen, MD 21001


cpackard@charliepackardsflooringamerica.com
www.charliepackardsflooringamerica.com



PIERCE'S DECOYS

Collector & Carver of
GUNNING DECOYS

MADE IN THE FINE UPPER BAY TRADITION



Jim Pierce
318 N. Lapidum Rd.
Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078 (410) 939-2272

Rory G. White
Financial Advisor

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

218 S. Union Avenue
P.O. Box 338
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
Bus. 410-939-5270 Fax 410-939-5271
TF. 800-755-4537
rory.white@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com

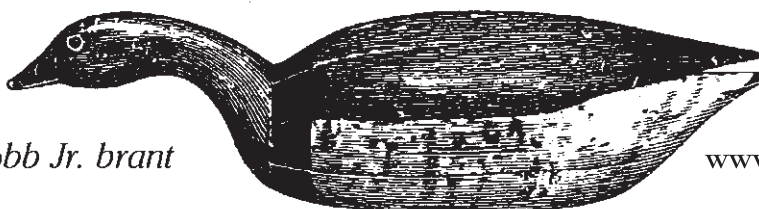
DECOY MAGAZINE

- ✦ Carver profiles
- ✦ Features on carving regions, fish decoys, sporting art
- ✦ Complete auction coverage
- ✦ Classified section for buying, selling, trading
- ✦ National calendar of all decoy shows
- ✦ Photographs of over eighty decoys, many in full color

- ☐ ONE YEAR, SEVEN ISSUES \$40.00
- ☐ TWO YEARS, FOURTEEN ISSUES \$72.00
- ☐ CANADA, ONE YEAR (U.S. FUNDS) \$55.00
- ☐ CANADA, TWO YEARS (U.S. FUNDS) \$100.00
- ☐ FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS, PER YEAR (AIRMAIL) \$75.00
- ☐ SAMPLE \$9.95

Send check or money order payable to:
DECOY MAGAZINE
P.O. Box 787, Lewes, Delaware 19958 • 302-644-9001
VISA AND MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

Nathan Cobb Jr. brant



decoymag@aol.com
www.DecoyMag.com

Collector's corner

BY C. JOHN SULLIVAN

Looking at Decoys, Searching for the Story



I was recently called upon to inspect a decoy collection and advise the collector of what he had, what he should keep and what he should let go. I sat

alone with a few hundred decoys laid out before me. No phone, no radio or television, no interruptions from another living soul, just the sound of birds singing outside the barn where the decoys were stored.

I arranged the decoys in various categories just as carefully and systematically as if they were my own. There were a group of Mitchell decoys. I lined them up by species in pairs set side by side forming a long line. A rig of Havre de Grace canvasbacks all obviously carved and painted by Charles Nelson Barnard's brother, Thomas, were placed next to the Mitchells. The Barnard cans consisted of 22 drakes and 2 hens. The consistency of the carver and painter's style was striking. As I placed them side by side their sameness was so apparent, the profile of their heads, and the form of their bodies near identical. To me, a certain pleasure is derived from seeing one carver's decoys all together and not simply placed in a box or stacked randomly among decoys by other carvers.

Next a group of a dozen Holly decoys, a few by John "Daddy" Holly and others by his son, James. The next category was a group of Susquehanna blackduck decoys. They were each in early repaint by the same hand and consisted of a few by Robert F. McGaw, Jr. and a few by James T. Holly. They too like the Barnards were each rig mates.

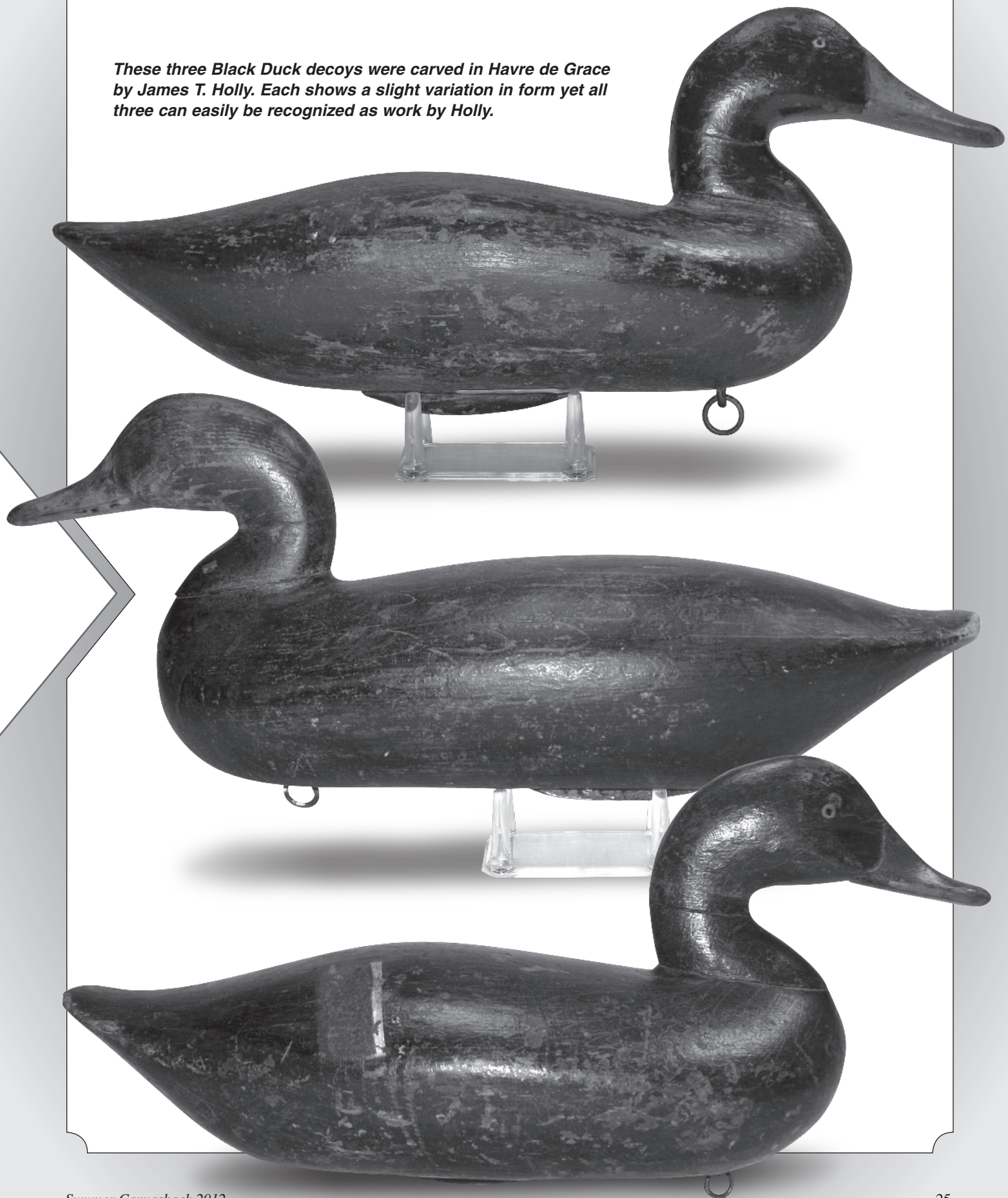
**It is this "stuff"
that gives me
an enormous
amount of
joy and pleasure.**

After spending hours alone with the decoys, I was struck by the thought of how many days and hours in my life I have spent looking at this "stuff." It is this "stuff" that gives me an enormous amount of joy and pleasure. It was of no significance that none of this collection was mine or was ever intended to be mine. For the hours that I spent with it, it was mine to hold, to arrange to admire, to inspect, and most of all to just imagine the history behind these objects. I was recently asked by a new

old friend "what's the deal with this decoy thing, why are people willing to buy these old wooden ducks and actually pay money for them, why not other objects, what's the fascination with them?" As I searched for a simple explanation I recalled this recent exercise with the collection with which I had just been working.

When I had completed my assignment and the owner and his wife met with me in front of their collection. I pulled out two dusty chairs in their barn. I dusted off the chairs for them and I began to talk about all of their decoys, carefully picking them up, one by one, then telling them who had carved the decoy, what it was, the condition of the paint and its overall condition and then a brief remark regarding the history of it. Some time later when I finished, as they thanked me for my stories, they asked me how I could possibly know so much about their decoys. My quick response could have been, "well they were all mine for a short time" but in fact it was, "this is what I do, I really do love this stuff, I love the history of it but most of all I love the great stories that each one of them hides!" I accept now that it has become my role in life to extract the stories they most surely hold. ■

These three Black Duck decoys were carved in Havre de Grace by James T. Holly. Each shows a slight variation in form yet all three can easily be recognized as work by Holly.





Museum Members

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

LONG ISLAND DECOY COLLECTORS
ASSOCIATION, INC.

GLENKIRK ASSOCIATES, INC.

BERMAN & PLATT, DDS

STEVEN ALLEN

STEPHEN H. ANDERSON

BILL ATKINSON

JACK & KITTIE BARNHART

ROY BELCHER

SHAWN BENNER

DAVE BENNETT

THOMAS BERGER

DAVID BLEVINS

REESE BRIDGMAN

ROSS BURNS, JR.

RICHARD & DOROTHY BUSH

LUKE CAMPBELL

LOUIS A. CAPUTO, JR.

TED CARMICHAEL

DAVID E. CARROLL

CARL F. CERCO

WALTER CLEVINGER

PAUL COMPTON

TOM R. DEWBERRY

MICHAEL DEDEKIND

TOM EAST

MIKE ERVINE

RONALD N. FELKER

DAVID L. & RUTH K. FERRETTI

BOB FOARD

DARYL & MICHELE FREED

RICHARD H. GARRITY

RICH GARRITY

ROBERT GROTHEY

STEVEN & KAREN HARCLERODE

TIMOTHY & LORRAINE HART

GEORGE HENNEBERGER

ROBERT D. HESS

BILL HICKSON

STEVEN HILLYER

DAVID & JOAN JACK

JIM JACOBS

ED JACOBS

ELSIE KASTE

KIM M. KELCHNER

RAYMOND KESSLER

CARL & ROSEMARY KILHOFFER

MATTHEW D. KNEISLEY

HARRY KORCH

ELIZABETH LANGLEY

ROB LESLIE

DANIEL LOZANO

JOHN MANNING, JR.

DR. BRONWYN MARTIN

TIM McENTIRE

MERRITT McMULLEN

HAROLD E. MULLER, JR.

BOB & DEBBIE NICKERSON

DONALD & NADINE OVERBY

CHAD & HEATHER PACKARD

MATT PAVEY

JEFFREY REIDER

DEAN REISINGER

EDWARD ROBERTS

RICHARD ROTE

JOHN SAMIS

RONALD & CAMERON SCHALLAWITZ

THOMAS SCHMIDT

ROBIN KYLE SEBOLD

JOHN R. SHALLCROSS

COL. ROBERT & META SHAW

CHARLES SHEPPARD

MICHAEL SMITH

DAVID A. SONN

DAN STATILE

JAMES R. STEPHENS III & FAMILY

JON SWINDLE

CARL L. TAYLOR

CHARLES A. TAYLOR

JEFF THOMAS

JAMES TOLMIE

RANDY TYLER

JIM & INA JO VAN NESS

BILL WAIBEL

PAUL ZACHRY

WELCOME NEW LIFE MEMBERS

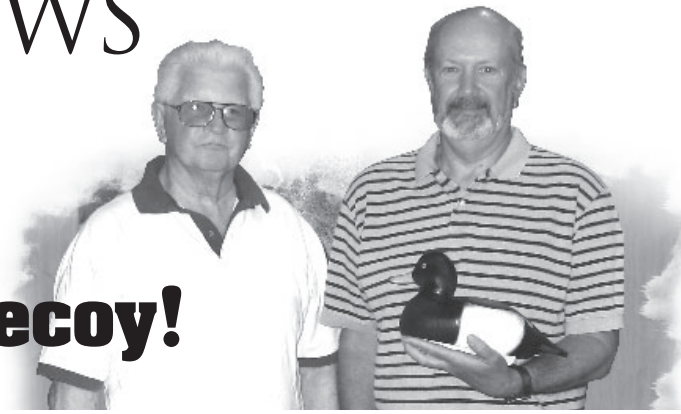
URIE BOULDEN

FRANCIS J. PIERCHALSKI



MUSEUM NEWS

New Member Wins a Bill Veasey Bluebill Decoy!



Bill Veasey stands with drawing winner Richard Garrity who displays his prize.

The Decoy Museum thanks the 24 members who either joined as new members, upgraded their membership to include their family, or renewed their current membership at the Decoy Festival on May 4-6. We appreciate your support of the Museum and its mission!

Each member was entered into a drawing for a great decoy carved by and generously donated by museum board member Bill Veasey.

The drawing for the decoy was held on May 15th. The winner was Mr. Richard H. Garrity of Aberdeen, Md. Mr. and Mrs. Garrity came by the Museum on May 24 to pick up the Bluebill and accept the personal thanks of the Museum staff and the Membership Committee. ■

**Mark Your
Calendar!**

You are cordially invited to the
26th Anniversary Dinner

for the **Havre de Grace
Decoy Museum**

November 3rd, 2012

Ticket and Reservations required!

**Come and join in the
celebration of the Decoy
Museum.**

There will be an Auction, free gifts, door prizes, commemorative items, words of wisdom by sage decoy makers, brief Museum news.

This event offers something for everyone and represents an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the wonderful accomplishments of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum the Cornerstone of the Decoy Capital of the World. Tickets are available by calling the museum.

Watch for the arrival of your Invitation in October!



Call for DECOYS

by Bob Bendler



Everyone is feeling the effects of the national recession, some more than others.

Private, non-profit organizations are particularly vulnerable and museums are no exception. The Havre de Grace Decoy Museum has been very fortunate to have the strong support of its members during these trying times. Many museums have not been so fortunate and have had to reduce their hours of operation and eliminate or curtail programs. We are proud to say that our Decoy Museum remains in full operation and open 7 days per week.

The Board of Directors and staff of the Havre de Grace Decoy

Museum thank you for your continued support. Your donations, dues, purchases, and other financial support are greatly appreciated.

There is another area where member assistance would be very helpful. That is "decoys." Many of us have decoys packed away in attics, garages, and basements. The Museum can turn these into operating revenue to offset the forces of recession. They can become treasured raffle prizes, items for the gift shop, or auction lots. They can also result in a tax deductible donation for you.

To donate decoys to the Museum:

You can just drop them off at the Museum any day of the week, mail them to the 215 Giles Street, or call the staff at 410-939-3739.

Please note: According to IRS regulations, the Museum, as benefactor of the gift, cannot place a value on donated items. The value must be determined by an independent source and documented at the time of the donation. This documentation protects the donor in case of an audit.



Member
FDIC



Visit us online at www.harfordbank.com or call 410-272-5000



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

"Tools of the Market Gunner" Exhibit featuring a number of punt and battery guns, on loan from the R. Madison Mitchell Endowment Trust, in the Library

Potomac Decoy Collector's Association exhibit, second floor gallery

An exhibit of Factory Decoys, donated by Dr. M. Kramer, second floor gallery

The Magnificent Michael Bequest, an extraordinary pair of "Daddy" Holly canvasbacks, First floor near the "Gunning the Flats" 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.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual meeting of the membership of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum will be held the third Wednesday of April and will precede the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. Members wishing to attend, please let us know to expect you by calling the museum for the exact time and details.

AUGUST 3RD	AUGUST 10TH
<p>Guided Historic Walking Tour. 6:00pm. Enjoy a guided historic walking tour of the nationally registered historic district during HdG's First Fridays event. Learn about Havre de Grace's history through the old buildings that tell their story. Reserve your space by purchasing tickets at www.mainstreethdg.com. The tour begins at Jana's Java, 217 N. Washington Street. Admission is \$12.00. For more information contact: Kathy Keen at 410-939-0565 or visit their website at: http://www.mainstreethdg.com</p> <p>First Fridays! 5:00–9:00 pm. A fun-filled night for the whole family. Come to downtown Havre de Grace where you will find bargains galore, restaurant specials with outdoor cafe seating, music on the street corners, face painting, and other fun attractions. For more information call: 410-939-1811; email: hdgmainstreet@verizon.net or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.com</p>	<p>Live concert—The Marshall Tucker Band, Bad Company and special guest The Baltimore School of Rock. 6:30pm. One Ticket-Three Bands. Opening night of the Havre de Grace Seafood Festival. Located on the water in Tydings Park. Reserved seats, lawn seats and limited "Inner Circle" Party tickets available. Tickets required in advance. For more information contact: www.HdGSeafoodFestival.org; phone: 410-939-1525 or visit their website: http://www.seafoodfestival.ticketleap.com</p>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>AUGUST 10TH TO AUGUST 12TH</p> <p>32nd Annual Havre de Grace Seafood Festival. Fri. 4–8pm, Sat. 10–8pm, Sun. 10–6pm. Food, fun, and live entertainment on the Chesapeake. 28 vendors serving over 150 different foods with an abundance of mouthwatering seafood delicacies and other great foods. Over 100 arts & craft vendors featuring artisan self-made products. Join us at Maryland's longest running seafood festival! Admission is free. For more information call: 410-939-1525 or visit their website: http://www.HdG Seafood Festival.org</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 15TH</p> <p>Historic/ Nature Walk. 10 am. Enjoy a free, guided nature and historical walk of the North Park Trail. Walk is approximately one hour. FREE—Open to the Public. For more information call: 410-939-5780; email: lockhousemuseum@gmail.com or visit their website: http://www.thelockhousemuseum.org</p> <p>City Wide Yard Sale. 8am–4pm. Enjoy this huge, community-wide event. Yard sales, sidewalk sales and bargains galore. Rain date Sunday September 16. For more information call: 410-939-6562 or 410-939-2100 or email: info2@havredegacemd.com</p>
<p>AUGUST 18TH TO AUGUST 19TH</p> <p>48th Annual Havre de Grace Art Show. 10–5pm and is located at Tydings Park and presented by the Soroptimist International. Over 250 artists and crafters from throughout the U.S. display and sell their work. Food and entertainment all weekend. Free shuttle from designated parking to show, downtown, and attractions. Boat accessible on Sat. & Sun. Admission is free. For more information call: 410-939-9342 or email: hdgartshow@hotmail.com</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 29TH TO SEPTEMBER 30TH</p> <p>Fall Harvest Festival & Crafts. 11–5pm. Come to the Stepping Stones Farm Museum for the Fall Festival featuring Bluegrass music, scarecrow making, pumpkin painting, apple bobbing and pressing, clogging, straw maze, hayrides, crafts and food. For more information call: 410-939-2299 or 888-419-1762; email: steppingstonemuseum@msn.com or visit their website: http://www.steppingstonemuseum.org</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 7TH</p> <p>Guided Historic Walking Tour. 6:00 pm. Enjoy a guided historic walking tour of the nationally registered historic district during HdG's First Fridays event. Learn about Havre de Grace's history through the old buildings that tell their story. Reserve your space by purchasing tickets at www.mainstreethdg.com. The tour begins at Jana's Java, 217 N. Washington Street Tickets for tour are \$12.00. For more information call: Kathy Keen at 410-939-0565 or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.com</p> <p>First Fridays! 5:00–9:00 pm. A fun-filled night for the whole family. Come to downtown Havre de Grace where you will find bargains galore, restaurant specials with outdoor cafe seating, music on the street corners, face painting, and other fun attractions. For more information contact: 410-939-1811; email: hdgmainstreet@verizon.net or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.com</p>	<p>OCTOBER 5TH</p> <p>Guided Historic Walking Tour. 6:00 pm. Enjoy a guided historic walking tour of the nationally registered historic district during HdG's First Fridays event. Learn about Havre de Grace's history through the old buildings that tell their story. Reserve your space by purchasing tickets at www.mainstreethdg.com. The tour begins at Jana's Java, 217 N. Washington Street Tickets are \$12.00. For more information contact: Kathy Keen at 410-939-0565 or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.com</p> <p>First Fridays! 5:00–9:00 pm. A fun-filled night for the whole family. Come to downtown Havre de Grace where you will find bargains galore, restaurant specials with outdoor cafe seating, music on the street corners, face painting, and other fun attractions. For more information call: 410-939-1811; email: hdgmainstreet@verizon.net or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.com</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 8TH</p> <p>24th Annual Children's Art Festival & Contest. 11:00 AM–3:00 PM. Join us at Millard E. Tydings Park for our annual Children's Arts Festival. For Children ages 3–10. Craft projects, face painting, and entertainment. Children may submit art work (limit 2 per), for the Art Contest, to the HdG Library (August 1 thru September 1) Admission is free and open to the public. Children must be with an adult. For more information call: 410-939-2100</p> <p>Maritime Museum's Annual Crab Feast. 6–9pm. Sponsored by the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum. Enjoy fresh all you can eat steamed crabs and other bay foods including: pit beef, turkey, ham, sausage with onions and peppers, hot dogs and hamburgers, macaroni salad, coleslaw, cheese platter, and cake and free beer! All proceeds help keep the Museum operating. Tickets are \$ 55.00. For more information call: 410-939-4800; email: museum@comcast.net or visit their website: http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org</p>	<p>OCTOBER 13TH</p> <p>4th Annual Graw Days Festival. 9am–4pm. Presented by HdG Main Street, Inc. in celebration of our horse racing history and the Graw Racetrack! Live music, over 100 vendors and crafters, food and beverages. For more information call: 410-939-1811; email: hdgmainstreet@verizon.net or visit their website: http://www.mainstreethdg.org</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 9TH</p> <p>2nd Annual Blessing of the Animals. 12:30pm–3:30pm. HdG United Methodist Church is hosting the 2nd Annual Blessing of the Animals. Come join us at Tydings Memorial Park to have your family pet blessed and visit our pet-oriented vendors and demonstrations. Pet-oriented vendor space is available for a nominal fee. Admission is free. For more information contact: Tammy Brinkman at 410-939-6105</p>	<p>OCTOBER 30TH</p> <p>Halloween Parade. 6pm registration, 6:30pm parade begins. Sponsored by the HdG Recreation Committee. Meet at the corner of Washington St. and Congress Ave. dressed in costume. Join us for a great parade! Admission is free. For more information call: 410-939-6724 or email: hdgactivityctr@harfordcountymd.gov</p>



MacGregor's

Since 1987
Restaurant, Banquet Room & Catering

MacGregor's
RESTAURANT & TAVERN
Havre de Grace

331 Saint John St.
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
410.939.3003 | 800.300.6319



- ☸ OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR
- ☸ ALL TABLES HAVE WATER VIEW
- ☸ SERVING LUNCH, DINNER, LITE FARE, SUNDAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH & CHILDREN'S MENU
- ☸ PRIVATE BANQUET ROOM. CATERING ON & OFF PREMISE LOCATIONS

Daily Specials!