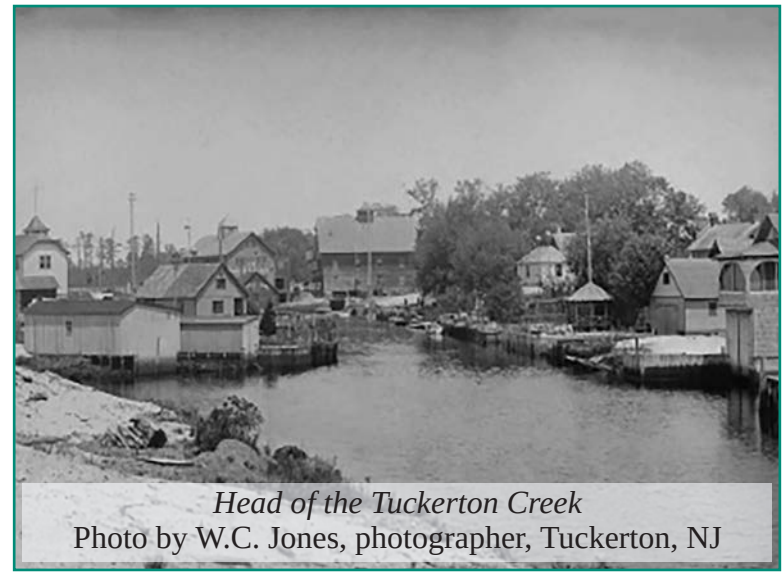
2022 Decoy Show Print

A beautiful rare photograph taken by the artist's grandfather, W.C. Jones, was the inspiration for the painting by the historical artist Cathleen Engelsen.



Head of the Tuckerton Creek
Photo by W.C. Jones, photographer, Tuckerton, NJ

This original painting features a brilliant green head Mallard Drake with its feathered tail curl, chestnut breast and teal accented wing as he flies and surveys the bustling port of the Tuckerton Creek depicted in early 1900's.

The painting shows the iconic Tuckerton Creek, a popular and busy port town that included the YMCA, Firehouse, Ice Plant, Feed Mill, Rod & Gun Clubhouse, Marina and residences that once lined the creek. Also spotted are Swallow bird houses that were used to control the pesky greenhead flies and mosquitos.

The artist says *"My grandfather began his photography as a young boy when he traveled with his father by horse and carriage from Hammonton to Tuckerton and Manahawkin photographing family portraits. I wonder if he ever thought generations later one of his photographs would be the inspiration for a painting and be featured on the cover of the Tuckerton Decoy Magazine. It is such an honor to create this iconic painting that celebrates local history for others to enjoy."*

About the Artist: Mrs. Engelsen is an Ocean County native with a deep appreciation of New Jersey's rich, historical background and its breathtaking coastal scenery. She is the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by Ocean County for her contribution to preserving local history through her original paintings. She studied art at the Samuel Fleischer Art Memorial and at the Philadelphia College of Art as well as attending classes at Stockton State College too. Her favorite medias are watercolor and acrylic.

Cathleen is keeping local history alive by painting over 200 much loved and admired landmarks. You can find everything from beach pavilions to ice cream parlors to lighthouses to clam huts to boat marinas and everything in between. Some of her most recognized paintings include a 23 foot mural of Long Beach Island that now resides in the NJ Maritime Museum. It was originally paired with an equally impressive 23 foot mural of Tuckerton that now resides in the Tuckerton Seaport. Both were commissioned by McDonalds when it first opened in Manahawkin in the late 1970's.

She is particularly noted throughout the state for her historical paintings. Each of her projects reflect detailed research where she taps into historical societies, libraries, and a treasury of rare old photographs. She particularly enjoys interviewing local residents to add to her background knowledge. She has depicted historical New Jersey scenes from northern New Jersey to the coastal shores, and to the western tip in Trenton.

Recipient of many awards and private commissions, she is honored to have been chosen as the feature artist for the 2022 Official Old Time Barnegat Bay Decoy & Gunning Show.