

[From Spring 2003]

## **9th Annual International Migratory Bird Day Celebration**

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge is gearing up for the 9th Annual International Migratory Bird Day Celebration which will be held on Mother's Day weekend. Refuge staff is thrilled about planning this year's event because the refuge is also celebrating the 100th Birthday of the National Wildlife Refuge System. To kick off the celebration, on Friday, May 9th, National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service staff will conduct a campfire program and wiener roast on the beach. In the event of rain, the program and hot dog roast will be conducted at Memorial Park. On Saturday, May 10th, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, visitors will be able to participate in a number of activities under the tent located next to the Assateague Lighthouse. Local wildlife artists and decoy carvers will also be exhibiting their work and the Assateague Lighthouse will be open for tours from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday.

An art logo contest was announced in February. The artwork will be judged in late March and the winning logo will serve as the centerpiece for this year's celebration and be featured on the t-shirts, buttons, flyers, etc. The committee is in the process of seeking sponsors to hold a 5K Fun Run/Walk. Ron Lonque (winning 2003-2004 Federal buck Stamp artist) has been invited to sign autographs and his new duck stamp prints.

Refuge staff is anticipating a big crowd and lots of fun. So, come out and join in the International Migratory Bird Celebration. For more information and/or to volunteer for the event, please contact me or Geralyn Mireles at the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge.

Sally Bowden  
Park Ranger