Hail and Farewell

Many of you may already know that the CNHA has a new part-time manager. Our former manager, Marcia Kessler, moved to Long Island, New York, with her husband, Kenny, who accepted a position as a special agent with U.S. Fish and Wildlife. Kenny was previously a law enforcement officer at the Chincoteague refuge.

As our first and only employee since 1991, Marcia was involved with many of the evolutionary changes that the CNHA experienced during this period. Perhaps the most challenging task during her tenure was the start-up of a new CNHA sales outlet when the Eastern Shore of Virginia NWR built a visitor center. Some of Marcia's other notable contributions include starting mail order sales, credit card sales, and adding a host of new books and sales items at both CNHA outlets. During her stint as our newsletter editor, Marcia was also responsible for several of its format and production improvements.

In July, Ellen Ellis took over the reins from Marcia. Ellen, her husband, Drew, and two-year old daughter, Morgan Nicole, moved to the Shore in April when Drew was selected for a Biological Technician position with the Chincoteague NWR.

Ellen and family came to us from Belpre, a small town in southeastern Ohio, where they were born and raised. Both are graduates of Ohio University - Ellen with a degree in Accounting and Drew with a Wildlife Biology degree.

Just prior to moving to the Shore, Drew was at the Ohio River Island Refuge and Ellen was employed with Magnetic Specialty, Inc., in sales and customer service. Her education, experience and personality made Ellen a natural for the CNHA job - as she’s clearly demonstrated in the short time that she's been on board.

On most Saturdays, Ellen can be found behind the Chincoteague NWR Visitor Center sales counter checking out what's hot and what's not and keeping in touch with our customers and the refuge staff. If you're on the refuge then, stop by the visitor center and say "Hi."

Frank V. Moore,
Co-editor