

Dated: February 18, 2005.

Frank L. Davis,

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission Meeting

AGENCY: Department of the Interior; Office of the Secretary.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an upcoming meeting of the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463).

Meeting Date and Time: Friday, March 11, 2005, Time 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Heritage Conservancy, Aldie Mansion, 85 Old Dublin Pike, Doylestown, PA 18901.

The agenda for the meeting will focus on implementation of the Management Action Plan for the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor and State Heritage Park. The Commission was established to assist the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its political subdivisions in planning and implementing an integrated strategy for protecting and promoting cultural, historic and natural resources. The Commission reports to the Secretary of the Interior and to the Congress.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission was established by Public Law 100-692, November 18, 1988 and extended through Pub. L. 105-355, November 13, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: C. Allen Sachse, Executive Director, Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission, 1 South Third Street, 8th Floor, Easton, PA 18042, (610) 923-3548.

Dated: February 25, 2005.

C. Allen Sachse,

Executive Director, Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Commission.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

2005 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) Contest

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announces the dates and locations of the 2005 Federal Duck Stamp contest; the public is invited to enter and to attend.

DATES: 1. The official date to begin the submission of entries to the 2005 contest is June 1, 2005. All entries must be postmarked no later than midnight, Monday, August 15, 2005.

2. The public may first view the 2005 Federal Duck Stamp Contest entries on Tuesday, September 13 and on Wednesday, September 14, 2005 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

3. Judging will be held on Thursday, September 15 and on Friday, September 16, 2005 beginning at 10 a.m.

4. The contest will be held in Memphis, Tennessee at a location to be announced later.

ADDRESSES: Requests for complete copies of the contest rules, reproduction rights agreement, and display and participation agreement may be requested by calling 1-703-358-2000, or requests may be addressed to: Federal Duck Stamp Contest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4070, Arlington, VA 22203-1622. You may also download the information from the Federal Duck Stamp Web site at <http://duckstamps.fws.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Ryan W. Booth, Federal Duck Stamp Office, (703) 358-2004, or by e-mail Ryan_W_Booth@fws.gov, or fax at (703) 358-2009.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 16, 1934, Congress passed and President Franklin Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act. Popularly known as the Duck Stamp Act, it required all waterfowl hunters 16 years or older to buy a stamp annually. The revenue generated was originally earmarked for the Department of Agriculture, but 5 years later was transferred to the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to buy or lease waterfowl sanctuaries.

In the years since its enactment, the Federal Duck Stamp Program has become one of the most popular and successful conservation programs ever initiated. Today, some 1.8 million stamps are sold each year, and as of 2004, Federal Duck Stamps have generated more than \$700 million for the preservation of more than 5.2 million acres of waterfowl habitat in the United States. Numerous other birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, and amphibians have similarly prospered because of habitat protection made possible by the program. An estimated one-third of the Nation's endangered and threatened species find food or shelter in refuges preserved by Duck Stamp funds. Moreover, the protected wetlands help dissipate storms, purify water supplies, store flood water, and nourish fish hatchlings important for sport and commercial fishermen.

The Contest

The first Federal Duck Stamp was designed at President Franklin Roosevelt's request by Jay N. "Ding" Darling, a nationally known political cartoonist for the *Des Moines Register* and a noted hunter and wildlife conservationist. In subsequent years, noted wildlife artists were asked to submit designs. The first contest was opened in 1949 to any U.S. artist who wished to enter, and 65 artists submitted a total of 88 design entries in the only art competition of its kind sponsored by the U.S. Government. To select each year's design, a panel of noted art, waterfowl, and philatelic authorities are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. Winners receive no compensation for the work, except a pane of their stamps, but winners may sell prints of their designs, which are sought by hunters, conservationists, and art collectors.

The public may view the 2005 Federal Duck Stamp entries on Tuesday, September 13 and Wednesday, September 14, 2005, at a time and location to be announced in the future. This year's judging will be held Thursday, September 15 and Friday, September 16, 2005.

Eligible Species

Species eligible for the 2005 contest include brant, northern shoveler, Ross' goose, ruddy duck and Canada goose. Entries featuring a species other than the above listed species will be disqualified.