

# Blue Goose Alliance Bulletin

#13 - July 28, 2001 (Revised June 14, 2002)

## **Alliance Granted Tax Exempt Status by IRS**

On July 12, 2001, the Internal Revenue Service notified the Blue Goose Alliance that it had determined the Alliance to be exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3). The Alliance is considered by the IRS to be a publicly supported organization.

As indicated in our last Bulletin, tax exempt donations may be made to the Alliance by making them payable to the "Blue Goose Alliance" to the following address.

Blue Goose Alliance  
1080 Eagle Bluff Ct.  
Greensboro, GA 30642

Several Alliance members have stepped forward and pledged their tax rebate/relief checks as contributions to the Alliance. This is significant because the donation matches announced in our last Bulletin have not been fully matched. The time frames for these matches have been extended, so there is still time to contribute the matching funds. The work of the Alliance is being conducted by an all volunteer group of folks. To get the message out and to reach the agency status goal requires travel, production and distribution of documents, and other financial outlays. Your contribution is needed.

Following our last Bulletin, we received feedback suggesting that the Alliance seek inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) to facilitate contributions by Federal employees. Following up on that suggestion, we learned that the application period for 2001 closed on January 31, 2001. The application period for 2002 will open in November, and we intend to apply at that time. Thus, the CFC will not be available for making contributions until next year during the fall campaign.

Several Bulletin subscribers who are current FWS employees expressed reluctance to make donations to the Alliance for fear of reprisal from the FWS. Two methods are available to potential donors who share these concerns. If the donor is not interested in the tax deduction, the contribution can simply be mailed in the form of a money order with no return address. Otherwise, the donor can request that the donor's name be kept confidential. The Alliance will respect such a request.

## **Outreach to Other Organizations Increased**

We have recently stepped up efforts to provide informational and educational materials and personal briefings to other organizations. These materials and briefings clarify the critical need for separate agency status for the Refuge System. More details on this effort will be reported at a later date.