

VALLEY VIEWS

Potomac
Valley
Audubon
Society

Volume 36, Issue 1

August 2017

Director's Report

by Kristin Alexander, PVAS Executive Director

Welcome to the revamped *Valley Views*! I hope you enjoy this new "take" on *Valley Views*, now distributed bi-monthly. The next newsletter will be coming out in October. We'll be keeping you up to date in between by e-mail with our new *Heads-Up PVAS* note on the 1st and 15th of each month. These messages will contain PVAS program highlights, upcoming programs, and Kathy Bilton's links to interesting stories and news reports. If you did not receive an e-mail from me on July 1 or 15th, let us know at admin@potomacaudubon.org, and we'll either sign you up or troubleshoot.

I have some wonderful news to share in our first *Valley Views* of the new PVAS year. PVAS has received an extremely generous donation from an anonymous source that will help us achieve our program and conservation goals. The donors have committed to donating \$25,000/year for the next five years to provide us with the stability we need to grow to the next level.

In the first year, this unrestricted donation will be partially used to hire a program director to oversee both our youth and adult programs. For financial reasons, we have not filled Ellen Murphy's position as program director since her partial retirement after ten years of dedicated service. This generous gift will help us fill this staffing gap so that we can continue to provide the quality programs the community has come to expect from us.

This gift will also help us make a home for PVAS at the Cool Spring Preserve. The historic cottage needs work, and we have some capital improvements planned to make the Studio into a functioning community nature center.

I can't express how grateful the Board and I are for donations like this one. Such gifts, whether they be through planned giving, direct contributions, or gifts in memory or in honor of a loved one, allow us to move forward with our strategic plan and our dreams for what PVAS can achieve as a conservation and educational resource for the community.



PVAS Celebrates 35th Anniversary

PVAS has contributed so much in the last 35 years!

From policy to conservation, education to nature preserve stewardship, PVAS has had an influence on thousands of people and is now in charge of managing 500 acres.

How did we get here? Thirty-five years ago, Jean Neely put a notice in the local papers. The notice invited individuals to a meeting in the basement of the Martinsburg Library for those interested in starting an Audubon Chapter here in the Panhandle. And voila! Dozens of people turned out, signed up as founding members, and PVAS was born.

To celebrate this significant milestone of 35 years, PVAS had a birthday cake (baked by Founding Member Diana Mullis) at its annual meeting in June at the Yankauer Preserve. Three of those founding members were present at the meeting to celebrate the occasion: Suzanne Offutt, Jean Neely and Diana Mullis (in photo).

Happy Birthday, PVAS! And thank you to all those who showed up in Martinsburg 35 years ago. See what you started?!



Potomac Valley Audubon Society is people dedicated to preserving, restoring, and enjoying the natural world through education and action.

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*)

By Wil Hershberger

The Spring-and-Summer of 2017 has been a terrific season for nesting birds. The warmer than normal temperatures and higher than average precipitation has resulted in many successful nests of multiple species. There seem to be baby birds everywhere!

Among these nesters is a Neotropical migrant, the White-eyed Vireo. This species is fond of brushy vegetation from secondary successional habitats, shrubby pastures, and edges of woodlands. White-eyed Vireos are gorgeous birds decked out with olive-green backs, yellow flanks, white wing-bars, yellow spectacles, and white irises – a very handsome attire. All of our vireos have stout beaks with a small hook at the end of the upper mandible used to help snatch caterpillars from the undersides of leaves. The process of flying out from a perch and hovering to pick prey from a leaf or stem is referred to as “sally gleaning,” and all of our breeding vireos use this technique to secure food.



Photo of a White-eyed Vireo ©Wil Hershberger

Nest sites are selected by the female. Nest construction is carried out by both members of the pair, starting with the attachment of spider or caterpillar silk to a fork in a horizontal limb. The woven silk forms a cup onto which the rest of the nest is secured. Bits of grasses, bark, leaves, flower petals and other plant materials are used to construct the cup of the nest. The outer surface is decorated with bits of lichen to help the nest blend in with the surroundings. Nests are completed in 3-5 days! Females lay 3-5 creamy-white, lightly speckled eggs, which are incubated by both parents for about two weeks. The young are fed by both parents and fledge at about 10 days after hatching.

White-eyed vireos are often hard to see, as they prefer to hide in dense, brushy vegetation well out of sight. However, they are very vocal, producing loud songs that are sung for many minutes on end. Roger Tory Peterson penned that White-eyed Vireos sing, “chick’-a-per-weeoo-chick’.” It took quite a while to actually find a male singing this song: <http://macaulaylibrary.org/audio/107427>.

Most of our songbirds learn their songs from males other than their fathers. The young males leave the nest and explore the neighborhood, and eventually find a place to call their own. There they listen to the songs of the males that will be their neighbors in the following breeding season and learn songs from these males. Interestingly, White-eyed Vireo males appear to learn most of their songs from their fathers and only a few songs from their to-be neighbors. No one knows why song learning in the species would be so different. Many of the notes, or syllables, that make up the songs of this species are mimicked notes from other species including Northern Flicker, American Robin, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Gray Catbird, and many other species that are found in the area where the vireo is nesting. Again, no one knows for sure why these birds would mimic notes and calls from other species. Perhaps these sounds carry well in the dense habitats that vireo calls home, so why not imitate them instead of making up new sounds from scratch?

White-eyed Vireo males also sing what is referred to as a “rambling song.” Rambling songs are composed of notes from their typical songs as well as other short notes and harsher-sounding syllables. Apparently, adult males only use these rambling songs during a brief period during the breeding season when they are soliciting matings with a female. Rambling songs are often sung at a lower volume than typical songs and are rarely heard and even more rarely recorded. I was fortunate to be in the right place at the right time to record several excellent examples of rambling song from a male White-eyed Vireo at Indian Springs Wildlife Management Area in Washington County, Maryland this past June: <https://soundcloud.com/wilhershberger/white-eyed-vireo-male-rambling-song>.

A week later, this male’s neighbor was doing rambling song from very thick vegetation at a greater distance from me: <https://soundcloud.com/wilhershberger/wh-17t0700-white-eyed-vireo-south-male-rambling-song-and-song-washington-co-md>.

While the pattern of the song is similar, the syllables used to compose the rambling songs are different. Apparently, each individual male has his own unique version of the rambling song – fascinating!

With luck, you will have the opportunity to seek out White-eyed Vireos in brushy habitats next year. May and June are excellent times of the season to listen for the staccato songs of the males. Perhaps you too will hear the rarely-heard rambling song and be amazed at its complexity, as I was when I first heard this ecstatic song from a White-eyed Vireo.

PVAS Events

Bridge Gallery Bazaar

Once again, Shepherdstown's Bridge Gallery will be holding a Charity Art and Antiques Bazaar to benefit PVAS from August 4-12. The Bazaar will feature donated works of art, collectibles, and antiques, and all profits will go to PVAS programs.

You can join in this event in two ways. First, PVAS invites you to **donate items** for the Bazaar. The Bridge Gallery is generously donating items of its own, but donations from members of our PVAS community will make this benefit even more successful.

Donated items should have artistic, collectible or antique value or be unique, fun conversation pieces. Examples include paintings, prints, photographs, sculptures, ceramics, antiques, jewelry, fabric, embroidery, instruments, and art books. Please, no clothing, dishes, kitchenware or children's toys or games, unless these are antique or uniquely valuable.

Items may be dropped off at the gallery on Thursday, August 3, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. or by appointment with PVAS's AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer Erin Shaw (admin@potomacaudubon.org or 304-703-2510). Please contact Erin with questions about the appropriateness of donations, drop-off logistics and pricing, or to arrange for items to be picked up if necessary.

Next, PVAS invites you to **support** the Bazaar:

Sneak Preview: Friday, August 4, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Opening Reception: Saturday, August 5, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Bazaar Hours: Wednesday-Friday, August 9-11, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.;
Saturday, August 12, 12:00-6:00 p.m.

The Bridge Gallery is located just to the south of Shepherdstown at 8566 Shepherdstown Pike (Route 230). Website: www.bridgegalleryandframing.com.

Heads-Up about PVAS Events

In order to keep you up to date on PVAS events, we are now sending a bi-weekly e-mail entitled *Heads-Up PVAS*. This will include a list of upcoming events, important reminders, and links to stories in the news that we think will be of interest to the PVAS community. The first edition was sent out recently. If you did not receive it and would like to, please contact Erin Shaw at admin@potomacaudubon.org.

Each bi-monthly print edition of Valley Views will include an insert listing upcoming events for the next two months. For the most current information on these and other events, please check the PVAS website.

Volunteer Spotlight

Have You Met the PVAS Events Committee?

If you have ever attended a PVAS event, you are familiar with the amazing ladies of the PVAS Events Committee (grouped around Director Kristin Alexander (front row) are, (back row, left to right): Susan Brookreson, Gretchen Meadows, Jane Vanderhook, Deb Patthoff, Diana Mullis; and (middle row) Alice Barkus).

From PVAS's Spring Fundraiser to the upcoming Art & Antiques Bazaar, these ladies prepare and coordinate it all: invitation design, decorations, location logistics, and of course, the incredible food and drinks.

With a wide variety of backgrounds and talents, each member of the Events Committee brings something special to PVAS events. These ladies have invested countless hours of volunteer service into making PVAS events possible, and we at PVAS are incredibly lucky to have them.

We know all our PVAS volunteers are great! If you know someone whom others should meet, please contact Bridget Tinsley at bridget@potomacaudubon.org.



PVAS Events

Summer Concert Series

As promised in June's issue of *Valley Views*, here is a full schedule for this summer's free Tuesday-night concert series sponsored by PVAS. Come out and support these talented musicians, who generously volunteer their time so concerts can be free of charge.

August concerts take place on the lawn of Cool Spring Nature Preserve's natural amphitheater (1469 Lloyd Road, Charles Town WV), and September concerts at Yankauer Nature Preserve's open-air pavilion (directly across the road from 455 Whiting's Neck Road, Martinsburg WV). All concerts are held from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

August 1: Lucia Valentine kicks off PVAS's summer concert series with a soulful mix of original pop and R&B songs, including tracks from her self-titled debut album.

August 8: Todd Coyle & Don Oehser bring their "Acoustic Madness" tour to Cool Spring, performing a variety of blues and folk tunes.

August 15: The Dilettantes (Jeff and Trudy Roth) perform a mix of folk-rock songs, with side trips here and there, and a handful of originals thrown in just for fun.

August 22: The SheepShifters (Sam Morgan and Paul Young) perform a mixed set of rock and old-time West Virginia mountain music.

August 29: Flowers and Birds (Sophia Adara and Scooter Scudieri) are a father/daughter acoustic duo performing mostly original music with sweet, melodic harmonies.

September 5: Tom Musselman performs traditional folk music with concertina and vocals - and mixes in the harmonica every now and then.

September 12: Steve Warner paints vivid pictures of characters and places, spicing his songs with humor, emotion, and color.

September 19: The Woods Ukulele Club performs familiar tunes, inviting the audience to sing along, clap, stomp, and even bring their instruments to join in the jam.

September 26: Flowers and Birds return to close out PVAS's summer concert series with their harmonious musical stylings.

Please note the following:

You are welcome to come early or stay late and take a hike around our beautiful preserves.

If you would like to bring a picnic supper, please carry out everything you bring in, since the preserves do not have trash pickup. Picnic tables are available in the Yankauer pavilion on a first-come, first-served basis, as are benches at Cool Spring.

Bring chairs or blankets as needed for your comfort.

Please leave pets at home.

For additional information, contact PVAS's AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer Erin Shaw at admin@potomacaudubon.org or 304-703-2510.

Family and Youth Programs

Birthday Parties at Cool Spring

PVAS hosted a birthday party at Cool Spring Preserve in July! The birthday boy picked our "Nature Fairies" theme for his special day, and partygoers stayed entertained with fairy house construction, magic wand design, and a toadstool obstacle course.

Know any other kiddos who might be interested? PVAS is now offering birthday parties at Cool Spring year-round for ages three years and up! Guests may choose from a variety of party themes, including Campfire, Scavenger Hunt, Buggy, or Nature Fairies.

Parties will run for two hours – one hour led by a naturalist and one hour of party time. If you have questions concerning pricing, or just want additional information, contact Cool Spring Preserve's Site Manager and Naturalist Amy Moore at amy@potomacaudubon.org.



Family and Youth Programs

Youth Programs

Just because Discovery Camp is over doesn't mean that PVAS's programs for children are going away. This fall we will offer Homeschool and Wee Naturalist programs at Cool Spring Preserve.

All programs are one-and-a-half hours in length, and include time outside for exploration of nature. Participants should dress for the weather.

Pre-registration for these programs is required. Register each child for the appropriate class online at the PVAS website. A minimum of five participants is needed to conduct each program. Fees are refundable if the program is cancelled by the instructor or by the parent more than one week in advance.

More detailed information can be found on the PVAS website, or you may contact Amy Moore at Amy@potomacaudubon.org.



Wee Naturalists

These programs are designed to introduce preschoolers (ages 3-5) to the natural world through walks, circle time, games, crafts, and activities. Program cost is \$5/child/session.

Upcoming Programs
(themes to be announced later):

September 13, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

October 18, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.



Homeschool Programs

These programs allow children to come together and learn about the natural world in a fun setting. To better accommodate families with siblings, different sessions for 5-to-7 year-olds and 8-to-10 year-olds will be offered at the same time. Program cost is \$6/child/session.



Upcoming Programs:

September 7, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.: Creek Critters: A Stream Study of Bull Skin Run.

September 21, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.: Go with the Flow: How Does Water Move in a Watershed?

October 12, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.: Decomposition Detectives.

October 25, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.: Change is in the Air: Trees in the Fall.



Camp Programs

Discovery Camp by the Numbers

PVAS has held summer youth camp programs for fifteen years. This year, with the addition of Cool Spring Preserve, PVAS expanded their camp enrollment, which meant more fun and educational adventures for budding nature lovers. Let's celebrate the end of 2017 Audubon Discovery Camp by looking at the numbers:

- 0 dry campers after a game of drip-drip-splash
- 2 PVAS nature preserves hosting happy campers
- 4 awesome camp counselors
- 4 fantastic volunteers
- 25 forts built in 8 weeks of summer camp fun
- 26 amazing junior camp counselors
- 235 happy campers
- 3,468,976 times campers asked "When are we building forts?"

Overheard at Discovery Camp

Here are some of the favorite comments overheard by Audubon Discovery Camp counselors in the last couple of months:

- "Do my armpits smell good?"
- "I don't want to be a kid, I want to have a job so I can stay at home all day."
- "This is more fun than a fidget spinner!"
- "Is there a bug in my ear?"
- "I can't poop next to spiders."
- "Do the Yankauer forest fairies know the fairies at my school?"
- "Where's the Grand Canyon?"



Birding

Birdathon 2017

Each year PVAS members and friends participate in a Birdathon – up to 24 hours of consecutive birding! This is an important event both as a scientific tool and as a fundraiser for PVAS programs. This year’s Birdathon raised over \$700 toward the chimney swift tower construction project at Shepherd University. But it also provided bird population and distribution data to a central database. These types of citizen science efforts are critical to support scientific research as well as population and distribution projections. National Audubon used data like this for its climate change report and as a conservation planning tool.

So THANK YOU to all who participated and/or sponsored a team! And congrats to the Old Squaws for winning this year’s Birdathon. Here they are with their trophy and plaque from left to right: Tess England, Lynne Wiseman, and Bruni Haydl. (Team member Carol Winkler is not in the photo.) They recorded 88 species this year. And the Lame Ducks (Nancy Kirschbaum, Jean Neely, and Jane Vanderhook) won the “Big Sit” by counting 47 species from one location. Kudos to both teams!



The Preserves

Nature in Focus

This stunning photo of a Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) was taken at Cool Spring Preserve by PVAS member Gary Schultz.

The four PVAS nature preserves conserve habitat for native flora and fauna. Visitors are welcome to enjoy the preserves during daylight hours 365 days a year.

If you have a photo from a PVAS nature preserve that you would like to share, please email bridget@potomacaudubon.org.



Barred Owl © Gary Schultz

Help Preserve Our Nature Preserves

PVAS is seeking volunteers to help with maintenance at all four of its nature preserves during several upcoming “work” days. We say “work” because these days are a lot of fun, a time for the PVAS community to spend time together while we care for our beautiful preserves. The work focuses on maintaining trails and removing invasive plants, so they are a good opportunity to learn as well.

The schedule is as follows, and you are welcome to come and go at any time during these periods:

- Tuesday, Aug. 1, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Yankauer
- Thursday, Aug. 3, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Stauffer’s Marsh
- Tuesday, Aug. 8, 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: Eidolon
- Tuesday, Aug. 15, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Cool Spring
- Wednesday, Sept. 20, 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: Eidolon

All necessary tools will be provided, along with water and first aid materials. Please bring a refillable water bottle, insect repellent, and sunscreen. Maps and information about the preserves can be found on the PVAS website.

For more information, contact Bridget Tinsley at bridget@potomacaudubon.org or 304-261-6016.

Conservation

Big Issues: Local Action

by Amy Evrard, PVAS Board Member-at-Large

In this new feature, members of the PVAS staff and board of directors will share some thoughts about big issues and how PVAS is addressing them locally. We hope this will allow you to get to know each of us a little better. Your comments are welcome! For comments on this piece, please e-mail Amy Evrard at amyyoung4@gmail.com.

I just returned from a month in Beijing, China, and it was one of the best experiences of my life. I fell in love with China and was electrified by the excitement and optimism the Chinese seem to feel about their future.

It was hard to feel optimistic about the future of the environment in China, however. Parks and other green spaces were remarkably free of wildlife, other than two or three bird species I saw again and again, and an occasional butterfly. I often felt I had walked into the pages of *A Silent Spring*. Tree planting efforts - even in “wilderness” areas in the mountains - involved monocultured rows of identical trees, precisely spaced, with no underbrush to support biodiversity. Every inch of rural land seemed to be claimed for agriculture, mining, timber, and other forms of exploitation.

I visited with farmers at an organic farmers market and attended a film screening and discussion about the state of agriculture in China. China feeds 20% of the world’s population on 10% of the world’s arable land. The future of agriculture in China will clearly follow the large-scale, industrial model. China already uses fourteen times the amount of herbicides as the United States, and two to three times the amount of pesticides.

We were in Beijing during the “good” months and still faced several unhealthy “smog level alerts. During the “bad” months, people can’t even see a few yards ahead of them. Unprecedented numbers of Chinese citizens expect to live a prosperous life, which means a big house, a nice lawn, central heat and air, meals full of meat, and consumption of all kinds of goods.

To be fair, China is working hard on all these problems. Urban programs promote bike shares and take cars off the road. Reforestation and clean water efforts are widespread and well funded. There are some small but good-start attempts to switch to clean energy. And there are many determined, hardworking activists. But many of China’s solutions are fraught and don’t live up to their hype, and others seem too small to address the scale of the problems.

This experience made me think a great deal about what PVAS works so hard to protect. After I returned, my eyes feasted on all the green land and messy, brushy roadsides of our region. Even the sight of roadkill made me happy because it indicates the area is rich in wildlife. The U.S. went through many of the problems that China is now facing and has come out on the other side with reforested land, cleaner air and water, and replenished wildlife. But we cannot take any of this for granted. Many threats loom: overdevelopment, harmful agricultural practices, extinction of species, increasing air and water pollution in some places - the list goes on and on.

The work we do in PVAS to appreciate, preserve, and educate about nature is so important, and I returned from China with a determination to recommit myself to that work. It is critical that we protect what we have, fight for the future, and educate others (especially children) about the importance of our natural world and environment.



A typical view in the park at the historic Temple of Heaven. This is the planting style of many rural reforestation and urban greening projects as well.

Take Five!

5 Tips for Promoting Native Pollinators

1. Cut back your dead and wilted plants in the spring, not in the fall. Many pollinators do not migrate and need brush cover in order to over-winter.
2. Go native with your trees and plants.
3. Avoid buying plants with neonicotinoids (a class of insecticides used commonly on wholesale nursery plants). These neuro-disrupting chemicals are responsible for a large decrease in countless species populations (both birds and insects).
4. Eradicate invasive plants. These alien invaders reduce ecological diversity and deplete habitat for our native flora and fauna.
5. Volunteer at a PVAS nature preserve and promote conservation of native habitat.

PVMN

What Does It Mean to Be a Master Naturalist?

What does it mean to be a Master Naturalist? At the July meeting of the PVMN Coordinating Committee, all members were asked to describe their most important achievement as a Master Naturalist and explain why it was so meaningful. The responses showed the diversity of reasons that Master Naturalists are drawn to the program and the countless ways that they contribute to the community.

Some of us use our professional skill sets to work on committees, organize events, design newsletters, reach out to volunteers, and build databases that help support PVAS programs. Others lead nature walks, give presentations, and teach kids through PVAS's numerous educational programs. We take every opportunity to learn more about nature and natural history and spread that knowledge to our community.

Have you ever seen someone at an event, handing out brochures about PVAS preserves and summer camps? That may well have been a Master Naturalist. Several of us participate enthusiastically in citizen science programs. At a time when national and state parks are facing funding cuts and personnel limits, Master Naturalists play a crucial role in extending park programs and providing volunteers who can help with special projects.

Overall we spoke of how the Master Naturalist program has allowed us to learn about the natural world. This knowledge is broad in that we take classes on a variety of topics, from amphibians to Appalachian geology. This knowledge is also deep, as the program provides opportunities and motivation to develop advanced knowledge about particular areas of interest. Because of this knowledge and experience, Master Naturalists are a special kind of volunteer.

Won't you consider becoming a Master Naturalist or recertifying and becoming more active with the program? In the next few months, you will hear more about upcoming open houses and the process of applying for next year's program. In the meantime, you can find more information about the program on the PVAS website at www.potomacaudubon.org/masternat.

Did You Know...?

The PVMN Annual Meeting is just around the corner and will be held in a new place. The meeting will be held on Saturday, October 28, at the Hospice of the Panhandle in Kearneysville, WV. It will feature something new: this year's class members have been encouraged to make poster or PowerPoint presentations on topics of particular interest to them. Start thinking about items you can donate to the silent auction to fund scholarships for future PVMN students!

Also, PVMN is working on a new program to help Master Naturalists keep track of their course and volunteer hours. Stay tuned for more information on that.

And FYI: here are the education recertification hours provided by last April's Spring Gathering: Aldo Leopold bench building (2 hours), Dutch oven fire pit cooking (30 minutes), urban forestry (40 minutes), pollinator plants/monarchs (50 minutes), readings from A Sand County Almanac (30 minutes), attributes of Cacapon State Park hike (1 hour).

JOIN PVAS TODAY!

ALL of your dues will stay here to support local PVAS efforts and help us grow! And here's what you'll get:

- Member discount to many PVAS programs and events.
- A subscription to *Valley Views*, the PVAS newsletter.
- Free or reduced admission to participating nature centers and/or their programs across the country.
- E-mail alerts about events and programs (upon request).
- An invitation to a PVAS Members annual gathering.
- Discounts to participating **local businesses**.

Details available at potomacaudubon.org/member

To become a local member, send in the form below and enclose a check for \$20 (\$15 for seniors and students). Make the check out to "PVAS." This fee covers membership for everyone in your household for one year. For details, go to: <http://potomacaudubon.org/member>.

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip code: _____

Phone (optional): _____

E-mail: _____

To save postage costs, PVAS regularly sends its newsletter by e-mail. You can be assured that we do not share email addresses with anyone. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter by U.S. mail check here: ____.

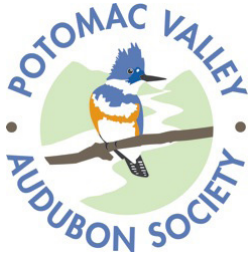
Clip and mail this form to:

Membership Chair, PVAS
PO Box 578
Shepherdstown, WV 25443



If you'd rather join the National Audubon Society:

Some people prefer National Audubon Society membership, which includes a subscription to the Society's Audubon magazine. To become a National member, go to the Society's website at www.audubon.org and click on "join." If you join National Audubon and reside in Berkeley, Jefferson or Morgan counties in West Virginia, or in Washington County Maryland, you will automatically become a member of PVAS and have access to our events, an e-mail copy of newsletter and e-mail alerts. However almost all of your dues payments will go to the National Audubon Society; only a small percentage will go to PVAS.



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The Potomac Valley Audubon Society meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, September through April. Programs are free and open to the public. For additional information about PVAS or its programs and activities, please contact any of the board members listed here or see <http://www.potomacaudubon.org>. PVAS serves the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia and neighboring Washington County, Maryland.

PVAS BOARD

PVAS Board meet-
 ings take place the
 first Thursday of
 the month (Sep-
 tember through
 June). Meetings
 are open to all
 PVAS members.
 Please contact
 the President or
 Vice President if
 you would like to
 attend.

PVAS Officers and Board Members (Year of term expiration in parentheses)

- President: Michael Sullivan (2018) msullivanwv@gmail.com
- Past President: Jane Vanderhook (2018) janehook@frontiernet.net
- Vice President: Suzanne Offutt (2018) suzanneoffutt@gmail.com
- Secretary: Diana Gaviria (2018) jpikester@comcast.net
- Treasurer: Dan Cogswell (2019) daniel.cogswell@gmail.com
- Board Members-at-Large:
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 - Don Campbell (2019) treehouseview@comcast.net
 - Laura Davis (2018) lauradavis999@hotmail.com
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Emerita Board Member: Jean Neely jeaneely@comcast.net

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- Land and Conservation Manager: Bridget Tinsley Bridget@PotomacAudubon.org
- Camp Director/Cool Spring Mgr:
 - Amy Moore, (240-818-4714) Amy@PotomacAudubon.org
- Adult Prog. Coord: Krista Hawley (703-303-1026) AdultPrograms@PotomacAudubon.org
- WV Promise VISTA Volunteer: Erin Shaw (304-703-2510) admin@PotomacAudubon.org
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