VALLEY VIEWS

Potomac Valley Audubon Society

Volume 28, Issue 7 April 2010

WV Environmental Education Association (WVEEA) Conference

An enormous thank you goes out to Board Member Clark Dixon; Director of Youth Programs, Ellen Murphy; and several Potomac Valley Master Naturalists for organizing a very successful annual conference of WV Environmental Educators Association (WVEEA) on March 12-14 in Harpers Ferry. The organization is only four years old, but brought in about 75 teachers and environmental education practitioners from across the state for professional development and networking opportunities.

One of the highlights of the conference was the keynote address by Hilary and John Grabowska. Hilary participated in the Digital Nature Photography Camp offered by PVAS and NCTC two years ago, and then accompanied her father, John, on a filming project in Yellowstone for the National Park Service. Hilary and John's images and stories offered an inspiring kickoff to the event, and indicate just how powerful environmental education programs and life experiences can be.

Below is an excerpt of Hilary's portion of the keynote address. Many thanks to Hilary and John for allowing us to share this with our members.

March 13, 2010 – Harpers Ferry, WV

"Good morning. I'm Hilary Grabowska, and this is an incredible experience for me and I'm not even technically an adult yet …

… when I got older, I went to the Mountain Institute camp at Spruce Knob, where I learned—from environmental educators—how to test water quality, how to make spring water potable, how to use a compass, how to identify stinging nettle (very important) and even how to feed a pig our leftovers. We named the pig Weldon, because that's what he was going to be at the end of the summer: Well Done.

But one nature photography course changed my life, the way your environmental education courses and workshops can change lives. Just a simple one-week course, sponsored by the Potomac Valley Audubon Society and the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown…

Following the course I paid my own way to Yellowstone to volunteer with the National Park Service on an independent project doing location photography for my dad, who was making a film on Yellowstone's geology…

This fall I'll be attending the University of Montana. Everyone asks me what I'm going to major in, if I'm going to become a biologist, or study photography, or go into filmmaking like my dad, or become an environmental educator.

I have no idea. But it doesn't really matter what I study or what I become in life. An environmental education will be part of it, and I think everyone, no matter what, should receive an environmental education!

And I thank you for giving it to me."

February Storms Wreak Havoc at Yankauer

February's heavy snows caused major damage to the Cedar trees at PVAS's Yankauer Nature Preserve, rendering major trails impassable for a time.



A great deal of work has been done to make the preserve accessible again, and clean-up work is continuing.

In all, scores of Cedars were felled by the snows, and these trees have had to be cut up and hauled away from the trails. Broken tops have had to be removed from another 20 or so trees.

Our volunteer land and facilities manager, Tim Murphy, has been coordinating all these efforts, with the help of other volunteers.

In addition to these problems, the floor of the preserve's pavilion has deteriorated badly over the winter and will need to be replaced before summer camp begins.

The floor was an earth-cement mix that was intended to be environmentally friendly, but it has not proven to be durable.

Because of all these difficulties, installation of a new, handicapped accessible trail at Yankauer, which was supposed to have begun shortly, will likely have to be delayed to late summer.

President's Perch



Hello everyone:

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you'll read about our upcoming "Race for the Birds," which is being expanded significantly this year.

Like many things PVAS does, this race is very much a collaborative effort.

As in the past, we're very grateful to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for letting us use the National Conservation Training Center campus for this event.

NCTC Director Jay Slack has called the Race "a natural fit" for NCTC, and it surely is. It's a great way to get people of all ages involved in healthful, wholesome outdoor activity in a beautiful natural setting.

We're also very grateful to the individuals who have been helping to pull the race together.

This year, Dr. Mark Cucuzzella, who founded and co-directed last fall's "Freedom's Run" marathon, deserves special credit for urging us to take the race to another level by including more challenging running opportunities.

Our very capable directors of this year's race are James and Suzy Munnis, of Shepherdstown. Both are avid runners and bikers with years of experience with events of this kind.

Dr. Cucuzzella has also been helping to plan the event, as have Tom Shantz, of Falling Waters, who was also very involved with the Freedom's Run marathon; PVAS Board member Carolyn Thomas; and PVAS Executive Director Kristin Alexander.

Our excellent new race website (the first race website we've ever had) was designed and developed by Kristin Kaineg, of Kaineg Print and Design, and it's being hosted and managed by our longtime webmaster Kathy Bilton.

Finally, as part of an effort to reduce the race's environmental impact, we're partnering with Karen Valentine, of Go Green Gals, to help with recycling, composting and overall waste reduction efforts.

Many thanks to all these folks for everything they're doing to make this year's race bigger and better than ever.

Want to get involved too? All sorts of volunteer opportunities are available. To learn more contact Carolyn Thomas at crthomas25443@gmail.com.

—Peter Smith

Audubon Discovery Camp Update

Though some sessions are already full, space is still available for some sessions of Audubon Discovery Camp both at the Yankauer Preserve in Eastern Berkeley County and at our new camp location, CraftWorks at Cool Spring Farm, in Southern Jefferson County.

The most popular sessions continue to be "Camp Survivor" but even if the week or theme you want is full, please sign up on the waiting list! We do have quite a bit of turnover as summer plans shift and settle.

Camp will begin with our short "Out of the Nest" sessions for three-year-olds and an adult on May 26 – 28, followed by "Just for Fledglings" for ages 4-5 and an adult June 1-4. Then children entering Kindergarten get to attend camp on their own like the big kids during "First Explorers" June 7-11.

Sessions for kids entering grades 1-6 start June 14. Kids can get dirty during "Dirt", learn to survive during "Survivor" and get artistic during "Earth Artists."

Sessions for youth entering grades 5-7 include "Dirty Jobs," "Wildlife CSI," and a session to train junior counselors.

For more details and to register, go to www.potomacaudubon.org and check out full descriptions and dates of each session.

Word of mouth is the best advertising there is, so please feel free to spread the word about these wonderful camp opportunities right here in the Eastern Panhandle!

Master Naturalist Workshops Announced

The spring/summer Master Naturalist Workshops, which are also open to the general public as space allows, are now open for registration. For Master Naturalists all sessions are $10, for the general public they are $15.

This year's offerings will include Nature Sketching on April 17, Wildfires in May (specific date TBD as controlled burn sites become available to visit), Project WILD at Cacapon State Park on June 5, and Ferns at Eidolon Preserve in Morgan County on June 5th.

For more details and to register, go to www.potomacaudubon.org and download the Spring/Summer Workshop Schedule and Application. You may also call 304-676-3397 or e-mail PVASmail@aol.com with questions.

Fall workshops are currently being scheduled and will be announced once dates and locations are confirmed. They will likely include "Leave No Trace," "Working with Kids of all Ages," "GIS for the Citizen Scientist," and "Beavers." Watch the website for more information.

Race Volunteers Needed

"Do you …enjoy spring mornings, want to watch the bald eagles at NCTC, support outdoor fitness opportunities?"

This Race is for the Birds" needs your help. Forty volunteers are needed to help with registration, serve as course marshalls, direct traffic, welcome and assist runners, post signs, serve refreshments, clean up and more. Volunteers are needed on Saturday, April 24 from 7:00 - 11:30ish. If you can lend a hand, please contact Carolyn Thomas at (304) 267-3115 or crthomas25443@gmail.com We need and greatly appreciate the assistance of all volunteers - teen to adult

Race for the Birds Coming Soon!

Our ninth annual "Race is for the Birds" is set for Saturday, April 24 on the campus of the National Conservation Training Center.

NCTC isn't normally open to the general public so this is a great opportunity to enjoy the Center's beautiful, 538-acre campus at a time when many spring wildflowers should be in full bloom.

As we've noted previously in this newsletter, we're expanding the Race for the Birds significantly this year.

In past years, the event was mainly focused on a simple 5K run. This year, it will feature two professionally timed races—one 4.9 miles long and another 7.7 miles long.

In the past, between 75 and 125 runners turned out for the 5K race. With the new expanded format, we expect as many as 250 to 300 runners to compete this year.

Registration for the two professionally timed races will be capped at 300 for both.

In spite of this shift, the Race for the Birds remains a great family-friendly event with something for everyone.

There will also be a self-timed 2-mile community jog/walk for families and those who prefer a slower pace, and a 1-mile "Fun Run" for children under 10 years of age.

The 4.9- and 7.7-mile races will follow trails that wind through the Center's forests and fields.

The 2-mile jog/walk will follow a course that will be very user-friendly for families with small children, and trail-friendly baby joggers will be appropriate and encouraged.

The two races will begin at 9:00 a.m. The jog/walk will begin shortly afterwards and the children's Fun Run will be held at about 10:45 a.m.



The children's Fun Run will be free. Fees for the other portions of the event will range from $15 to $25.

All proceeds will be used to support PVAS's programs for children, and all fees will be tax deductible.

To register or get more information, go to the race website at www.raceforthebirds.org or call 304-876-6784.

The idea to expand this annual PVAS event came from Dr. Mark Cucuzzella, a Harpers Ferry physician and PVAS member who founded and co-directed the very successful "Freedom's Run" marathon that was launched in the Eastern Panhandle last fall.

"I applaud the PVAS for expanding the format of the race," says Dr. Cucuzzella. "The main theme here is to give a unique opportunity for all. New runners will have an opportunity to challenge themselves beyond the standard 5k on some beautiful trails. For the experienced runner, the 7.7-miler will be a real challenge and certainly worth the drive if you live anywhere within a couple hours of here. You will lose track of time and distance on the NCTC campus's beautiful trails."

Another main goal is to create a family-friendly outdoor experience. This is a major priority for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which operates NCTC. "This event is a natural fit for us," says NCTC Director Jay Slack. "It's a way to get people outside, away from TV and video games. People who connect with the outdoors are more apt to participate in conservation efforts."

Both NCTC and PVAS are taking steps to reduce the race's environmental impact. This year's race t-shirts will contain a blend of organic cotton and a fabric made from recycled soda bottles. PVAS is partnering with Karen Valentine of Go Green Gals to help with recycling, composting and overall efforts to reduce waste from the event.

Summer Camp Scholarships Still Available

Families have until April 9, 2010, to apply for PVAS scholarships at a variety of summer nature camps, so act now! Scholarships are available for eligible young people within the PVAS membership area – the WV Eastern Panhandle and Washington County, Maryland.

Camps, locations, ages, and dates are as follows:

- West Virginia State Conservation Camp, at Camp Caesar, Webster County, WV; June 14 - 19, 2010; Campers must be 14 by January 2010 and not past their 18th birthday on June 1, 2010.
- Trout Unlimited Conservation & Fishing Camp, at Syria, Virginia (next to Shenandoah National Park, grades 8 through 11, June 27 – July 2, 2010.
- Burgundy Center for Wildlife Studies, at Capon Bridge, WV; ages 11-15, June 27 - July 10; July 13 – 27; or August 3 – 16, 2010.
- Oglebay Institute Junior Nature Camp, at Dallas Pike (near Wheeling), WV, ages 10-15, July 18-24 or July 25 - 31, 2010.
- Mountain Adventures Camp, at Mountain Institute, Spruce Knob, WV; ages 11-17; June 20 - 26, June 27 – July 3, or July 4 - 10, 2010.
- Audubon Discovery Day Camp, at Yankauer Nature Preserve, Shepherdstown, and at Craft Works in southern Jefferson County; pre-school to age12 and Junior Counselor-in-Training for age 13 and up; nine weeks late-May to late-July

Every year throughout its history PVAS has sent youngsters to camp on scholarships, supported by our fall bird seed sale. Additional community sources also support scholarships to our own day camp program at the Yankauer Nature Preserve.

To obtain more information and/or an application form, go to www.potomacaudubon.org, where you can also find additional links to the camps' web sites; or contact Kathryn Henry, 304-876-6681, dhenry@myexcel.com.

April PVAS Program at NCTC Will Focus on Warblers



PVAS will sponsor a presentation about Wood Warblers the evening of Wednesday, April 14, at the National Conservation Training Center outside Shepherdstown.

The program will be held at 7:00 p.m. in Room 151 of the Center's Instructional West Building.

Admission is free and anyone is welcome to attend.

The speaker will be Peter Webb, the president of the Baltimore Bird Club, which is a chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society.

Mr. Webb is an expert field birder with many years of experience leading bird trips. His talk will focus on identification of Wood Warblers by sight and their distinctive songs. He will also describe typical habitats and behaviors of each species.

There are many species of Warblers (Family Parulidae). They are small, very active, brightly colored birds with slender, pointed bills. Males in spring and early summer are fairly easy to recognize.

Warblers will be migrating in this area from mid April through May and many species will nest here.

Wildflower Festival April 17

Join PVAS for its annual spring Wildflower Festival on Saturday, April 17 from 11-4 at Yankauer! Mid- to late April is traditionally the best time to view early spring wildflowers at the preserve. Some of the wildflowers on display should include bloodroot, spring beauties, Dutchman's breeches, and rue anemone.



Festivities will include children's activities, refreshments, and guided walks. Visitors are welcome to explore the trails on their own as well. Back by popular demand, the festival will also include a special Poetry Walk component—poems that focus on spring themes will be posted all along the preserve's Kingfisher trail where the majority of wildflowers are found.

Guided walks will leave the kiosk area on the hour, and will include walks for beginners and wildflower aficionados. The last guided walk will depart at 3pm.

Admission to all these events will be free and everyone is welcome. It will be held rain or shine. For more information contact PVAS at 304-676-3397 or pvasmail@aol.com.

February Birding Trips Rescheduled to April

PVAS will sponsor two Jefferson County birding trips during April.

Both trips were originally scheduled for February but cancelled because of snow.

Both will be free and anyone with an interest is welcome to participate.

The first trip will be an April 3 trip to Flowing Springs Park and Altona Marsh.

Possible highlight species include Wood Duck, Wilson's Snipe, Rusty Blackbird, and White-crowned Sparrow.

Participants will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Home Depot parking lot in the Potomac Towne Shopping Center on Route 9 northeast of Charles Town.

The trip will include walking about four miles on sometimes rough terrain and railroad tracks.

The second trip will be an April 14 trip to the Shenandoah River and Country Club Road Ponds.

It will concentrate on waterfowl; possible highlight species include Hooded Mergansers, Common Mergansers, Redheads, Wood Ducks, Buffleheads, Gadwalls, and Pied-billed Grebes.

Participants will meet at 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot in front of the Martin's Supermarket in the Jefferson Crossroads shopping Center off Route 340 just east of Charles Town.

This trip will mostly involve driving from place to place by car, with not much walking.

For more information about both trips contact Sandy Sagalkin at 301-432-6847 or monsansagalkin@myactv.net.

Morgan Co. Redbud Weekend Will Include Eidolon Open House

PVAS will participate in this year's Morgan County Redbud Weekend by holding an open house at the Eidolon Nature Preserve on Saturday, April 24.

The open house will run from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

It will feature guided nature walks, led by naturalist Joe Gentile, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Throughout the day, docents will be on hand to help direct visitors around the preserve, and light refreshments will be available.

There will be no fee and anyone is welcome to attend.

The Eidolon preserve is owned by The Nature Conservancy and co-managed by PVAS. It is 354 acres in size and includes about 4 miles of walking trails.

It was first opened to the public in the spring of 2007.

Visitors should wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots and dress appropriately for the weather.

There are some relatively easy walks within the preserve but many trails include fairly steep and rugged sections and are fairly strenuous.

The preserve is located on Sideling Hill in Morgan County, due west of Berkeley Springs.

Directions can be found on the PVAS website.

This year's Redbud Weekend will include a wide variety of activities and events April 23-26.

Full details should be posted soon on the Travel Berkeley Springs website at www.berkeleysprings.com. A handy brochure will be available at several locations in Berkeley Springs, including the Travel Berkeley Springs office at 127 Fairfax Street (telephone 1-800-447-8797) and the Nature Niche store at 50 North Washington Street, Berkeley Springs (304-258-0992).

"Know Your Streams" Workshop Set for April 2

The Sleepy Creek Watershed Association will sponsor a "Know Your Streams" educational workshop the morning of April 2 in Berkeley Springs.

Anyone with an interest is welcome to attend.

The workshop will focus on West Virginia stream classification and protection issues.

Speakers will include two West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection officials: Pat Campbell, Assistant Director for Watershed Assessment, and Dave Montali, TMDL Program Manager.

The workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon in the Assembly Room of the Country Inn at 110 South Washington Street, Berkeley Springs.

There will be no fee to attend, but pre-registration is required. To pre-register and/or get more information, contact 304-258-6155 or dgfoulds@aol.com.

Get Involved in Watershed Efforts!

This is the time of year for watershed cleanup efforts.

PVAS encourages its members to pitch in and get involved whenever they can.

At all cleanup sites, expect moderate-to-difficult work. In addition, cleanup work usually involves walking on rocky/slippery terrain.

Trash bags, gloves and other equipment will be provided to all volunteers unless otherwise noted. Feel free to bring along your own gloves, rakes, or grabbers. Waterproof boots or waders may be helpful at some sites.

Other less strenuous volunteer jobs such as volunteer check-in and recording data are often also available.

Because many sites can only accommodate limited numbers of volunteers, volunteers are frequently asked to pre-register.

In our area, most of cleanup efforts are coordinated through the Alice Ferguson Foundation's Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup and/or the state of West Virginia's "Make it Shine" Pro-



gram.

The events scheduled so far in our area are as follows. All will be held rain or shine unless otherwise noted.

April 7. Warm Springs Run, Berkeley Springs (Morgan County). 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Sponsored by the Warm Springs Watershed Association. The cleanup will concentrate on the area just south of downtown, starting in the vicinity of the Earth Dog Café and moving south toward the school. No pre-registration required. For further information, contact Kate Lehman at goldfairy39@gmail.com. Directions: Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Earth Dog Cafe. Participants should bring tools such as rakes to help pull trash out of the water, especially if they don't want to go into the Run.

April 10: Potomac River—two sites in the Harpers Ferry area (Jefferson County). 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Sponsored by the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. No pre-registration required. For further information contact Jessica Liptak at 304-535-6293. Directions, Site 1—Potomac Wayside: Meet at the wayside at the east end of the Route 340 bridge. Maximum parking capacity, 40 cars. Participants must be able to negotiate long, steep trail to river's edge. Site 2—Potomac Extension; Dam No. 3 to lower town Harpers Ferry: From lower town, proceed past the commuter train station over tracks and down to the gravel road. Park on the side of the one-lane road, as far off as possible so emergency traffic can get by if needed.

April 10 (rain date April 17): Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, MD (Washington County). 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Sponsored by the National Park Service. Pre-registration required; contact Debbie Cohen at debbie_cohen@nps.gov. Directions: Meet at the Battlefield Visitors Center on Route 65.

April 10 (rain date April 20): Opequon Creek at Van Metre Ford Stone Bridge, Martinsburg (Berkeley County). 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Sponsored by the Opequon Creek Project Team. Pre-registration required; contact Sandra Bernardi at s.bernardi@verizon.net. Directions: From Interstate 81 Take Exit 13 East (King Street) 1.5

miles Left on Queen Street one block Right on Burke Street (CR36) Follow Burke through town and along the railroad tracks for 2.2 miles until you reach Stone Bridge. Parking lot is on the right before you cross the bridge.

April 10: Yellow Springs Run, a tributary of Sleepy Creek that runs along New Hope Road (Morgan County). 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Sponsored by the Sleepy Creek Watershed Association. Pre-registration is not necessary but contact Gale Foulds at 304 258-6155 or dgfoulds@aol.com or detailed directions. Participants should bring a large bucket to pick up trash and wear waterproof footwear. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. Further information will appear in the Morgan Messenger.

April 10 (rain date April 17): Cacapon River at the confluence of the Cacapon and the Potomac near the Route 9 bridge in Great Cacapon (Morgan County). 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Sponsored by the Friends of the Cacapon River. If enough volunteers turn out and time permits, the work party may also clean up around two low water bridges on the Cacapon along Power House Road and Rock Ford Road. Pre-registration is not necessary. For more information contact Crawford Horne at bourrybox@verizon.net or 304-258-0519. Directions: Park in the parking lot under the Route 9 bridge at Great Cacapon.

Note: on April 11 Shepherd University students will be cleaning up an illegal dumpsite near the Potomac River at Shepherdstown as a service-learning project for a Dimensions of Environmental Science class. Registration for this cleanup is limited to Shepherd students and is already full.

Berkeley County Expands Plastic Bag Collection

The Berkeley County Solid Waste Authority (BCSWA) announced that the 2008 pilot program to test the effectiveness, economics and public interest in plastic bag recycling has resulted in an expansion of the items collected.

Effective immediately, residents can recycle the following items in conjunction with the current plastic bag recycling collection. These items will be accepted regardless of size, color, manufacture or quantity. These items can be comingled with each other or placed within plastic bags #2 or #4 that are currently accepted by the recycling program. These items will be accepted at the Grapevine Road Recycling Center and the South Berkeley Recycling Center. These items will not be accepted at the Hedgesville Recycling Center.



Logo Courtesy: The Progressive Bag Affiliates of the American Chemistry Council

The new acceptable items are:

- Plastic stretch film -- often referred to as pallet wrap.
- Plastic newspaper bags -- often referred to as newspaper sleeves.
- Plastic "wet" umbrella bags -- often referred to as umbrella sleeves.
- Plastic "single use" dry cleaning bags
- Plastic bread bags

Examples of plastic bags or film that is NOT acceptable continue to be household trash bags, sheet plastic, meat wrap or Saran films. Bags containing food waste, trash, wood, clothing, metal or any other foreign material will NOT be accepted.

Both recycling centers are open Tuesday through Saturday; 9 am to 5pm. Both centers close on posted holidays. All accepted items will be inspected by the recycling center staff prior to acceptance. The BCSWA reserves the right to reject any item not considered acceptable.

To find more information on the Berkeley County Recycling Program , visit the

webpage at: http://www.berkeleycountyrecycling.com

Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the Berkeley County Solid Waste Authority at 304-267-9370; or the Berkeley County Recycling Hotline 304-671-2925 or email at berkeleycountyswa@msn.com

Legislature Advances Recycling and Litter Bills

Approximately 20 separate bills related to solid waste, recycling and litter control have been introduced by legislators across the State during the 2nd Session of the 79th Legislature of West Virginia. Of those, three recycling and litter control bills have been advanced.

Senate Bill 398: A bill to amend "The A. James Manchin Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan" to prohibit the disposal of certain electronic devices, such as computers, monitors, and television sets in a solid waste landfill in West Virginia". SB 398 was introduced by Senator Karen Facemyer (Jackson) and has passed the Senate.

Senate Bill 489: A bill to amend "The A. James Manchin Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan" to require the West Virginia Solid Waste Management Board to conduct a study to determine if counties and the State have reached the recycling goals of the State". SB 398 was introduced by Senator(s) John Unger (Berkeley) and Truman Chafin (Mingo) and has passed the Senate.

Senate Bill 627: A bill to amend "The A. James Manchin Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan" to increase the civil and criminal penalties for the crime of littering". SB 627 was introduced by Senator(s) Ron Stollings (Boone), Richard Browning (Wyoming) and John Unger (Berkeley) and has passed the Senate.

To learn more about these bills, visit the West Virginia Solid Waste Management Board website at www.state.wv.us/swmb or the WV Legislative Services website at http://www.legis.state.wv.us/

Additional Scholarships Announced

PVAS is pleased to announce two additional scholarships to a summer experience for high school students at the National Conservation Training Center.

For the second year, approximately 120 student fellows from schools across the country will gather at NCTC for the Student Climate and Conservation Congress (SC3). The program is sponsored by the Green Schools Alliance and NCTC, and aims to get high school students actively engaged in "greening" their schools and community. Speakers this year include writers, scientists, architects, and activists. Students arrive Saturday, June 26 and will depart midday on July 1.

PVAS will be providing two, $200 scholarships for high school students who live in the PVAS service area (Berkeley, Jefferson, Morgan, and Washington Counties.) The remaining cost to the family will be approximately $300. The price includes overnight accommodations and meals at NCTC, all programs/activities, and a whitewater rafting trip.

For additional information and to apply for the scholarships, please contact Kristin Alexander at PVASmail@aol.com or 304-676-3397.

Sponsor a Camp Intern!

Support Audubon Discovery Camp by sponsoring a summer intern. You may sponsor a ¼, ½ or full intern with a donation of $500, $1000 and $2000 respectively. Sponsorship includes the opportunity to meet "your" intern and see him or her in action with campers in tow. This is a great way to introduce college students to careers in environmental education. To learn more, contact Kristin Alexander at 304-676-3397 or PVASmail@aol.com.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Mar 27: Field Trip- Winter tree ID at Yankauer
Mar 28: Event- Egg Hunt at Yankauer
Apr 1: Birding 101 class begins
Apr 3: Birding -Flowing Springs Park and Altona
Apr 10: Watershed clean-up at Antietam National Battlefield
Apr 10: Watershed clean-up of Opequon in Martinsburg
Apr 14: Birding - Shenandoah River and Country Club Road Ponds
Apr 14: PVAS program - Spring Warblers by Sight and Song
Apr 17: Wildflower Festival at Yankauer
Apr 24: "Race for the Birds" at NCTC
Apr 24: Open house at Eidolon
Apr 24: Earth Day at Morgan's Grove Park
May 2: Field Trip- Geology of Harpers Ferry National Park
May 8: PVAS Bird-a-thon
May 8: Boonsboro Green Fest
May 22: Eastern Panhandle Green Homes Tour
May 29: Field trip- Finzel Swamp
Sep 24-26: Berkeley Springs Birding Festival

JOIN PVAS TODAY!

We now offer two kinds of memberships:

1. PVAS Local Membership

Here's what you get:

- Access to a wide variety of PVAS programs and events for adults and children.
- Discounts for selected chapter activities, like children's summer camps.
- A subscription to PVAS's newsletter and e-mail alerts about events and programs of special interest.
- ALL your dues stay here to support local PVAS efforts!

To become a local member: Enclose a check for $20 ($15 for seniors and students). Please make check out to "PVAS." This fee covers membership for everyone in your household for one year.

2. Dual Membership with National Audubon

You get all the benefits of PVAS membership plus membership in the National Audubon Society, which includes a subscription to *Audubon* magazine. If you select this option, almost all of your dues will go to National Audubon. To obtain a dual membership, enclose a check for $20 if you are joining NAS for the first time or $35 to renew an existing NAS membership ($15 in either case for seniors and students). Make check out to "National Audubon Society."

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip code: _____

Phone (optional): _____

E-mail: (optional): _____

Membership Type (check one):

PVAS Local Membership ____
(For PVAS local membership, check the box following if you do NOT want PVAS to share your contact information with National Audubon: ___)

Dual Membership with National Audubon ____

I'd like to get *Valley Views* by e-mail___ US mail ___ (check one)

..... (Audubon chapter code C9ZY540Z)

Clip and mail this form to:
Membership Chair, PVAS
PO Box 578
Shepherdstown, WV 25443

Thank you for your support!

RED TEXT - DOT ALERT

If red text or a red dot appears on your mailing label, your membership may have expired and this could be your last issue of Valley Views. Take action to renew your Dual membership or Local membership.

Potomac Valley Audubon Society
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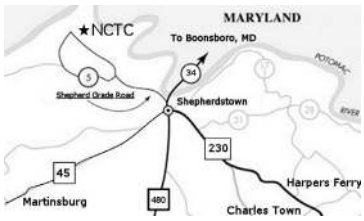
http://www.potomacaudubon.org

DATED MATERIALS

A proud partner of the United Way of the Eastern Panhandle and the Combined Federal Campaign.

MAIL TO:

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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, at the US Fish and Widlife Service National Conservation Training Center (NCTC), Shepherdstown, WV, in the Instructional West Building. Programs are free and open to the public. For additional information about PVAS or its programs and activities, please call any of the board members listed her or see http://www.potomacaudubon.org. PVAS serves the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia and neighboring Washington County, Maryland.

PVAS BOARD

The PVAS Board meets every other month on the first Wednesday of the month (Sept.-June). Meeting location will be announced prior to meetings. These meetings are open to all PVAS members.

PVAS Officers and Board Members

President:	Peter Smith 304 876-1139	pvsmith@frontiernet.net
Vice President:	Nancy Kirschbaum	nancyk500@comcast.net
Secretary:	Mina Goodrich	larrymina@peoplepc.com
Treasurer:	Lex Miller	pamandlex@frontiernet.net
Board Development:	Wayne Braunstein 304 728-7181	wbraun@frontiernet.net
Board Members-at-Large:	Don Briggs	1donaldbriggs@gmail.com
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	Clark Dixon	dixonconsultants@aol.com
	Rob Hoxton	rhoxton@hoxtonfinancial.com
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	Carolyn Thomas	webethomas@aol.com
	Open	

Ex Officio Board Members

Diana Mullis 304 267-3482 dianamullis@aol.com

Emeritus Board Members

Jean Neely jeaneely@comcast.net

Special Contacts

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Web Master:	Kathy Bilton	kathy@fred.net
PVAS Wildlife Rescue Coord:	Diana Mullis	304-267-3482