

# VALLEY VIEWS

Potomac  
Valley  
Audubon  
Society

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November 2013

## Bird Friendly Coffee Update

We've been talking for some time now about finding a local source of bird friendly coffee. Hypnocoffee, a roaster in Shepherdstown, agreed to partner with us and sourced a Smithsonian Certified Coffee from El Salvador. We've been waiting for some time for the coffee to pass through customs and other checkpoints. Unfortunately, it appears that some of the farmer's paperwork was misfiled, so the coffee is stuck in customs with large fines involved. It's likely never to be seen.

Hypnocoffee and PVAS are very disappointed at this situation, but there's nothing to be done at this time. PVAS will continue to seek a local source of Smithsonian Certified Coffee for our members and will keep you posted of progress. In the meantime, sources of Bird Friendly Coffee are listed at: <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/scbi/migratorybirds/coffee/online.cfm>.

And if you're a coffee lover and want to learn more about why Smithsonian Certified Bird Friendly coffee matters to migratory birds and other wildlife, you may learn more at: <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/scbi/migratorybirds/coffee/lover.cfm>

Thanks for your patience, and we hope to provide you with another local option soon!

## Birdseed Orders Pickup Dates

**Ranson - Gower's** Pick up any day AFTER Monday, November 4 (during store hours)

**Berkeley Springs - Hunter Hardware** Pick up day is Saturday, November 2 from 10:00 am until noon

**Williamsport - Gower's** Pick up day is Saturday, November 2 from 10:00 am until noon.

Questions? Call Diana Mullis at 304-267-3482 or email: [dianamullis@aol.com](mailto:dianamullis@aol.com)

## Do you have an item to donate for the Rotary Ball?

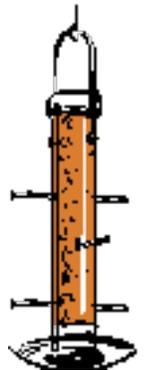
Items such as cabins or services are always well-received. Contact Gary Heichel for information and offers as soon as possible: [garyiris.heichel@frontier.com](mailto:garyiris.heichel@frontier.com) or 304-274-8931

## Preparing for Winter Bird Feeding

by Wil Hershberger

It's that time of year again, the beginning of the winter bird feeding season. It is important that we offer our birds a clean and safe place so that they can fuel up to survive the cold winter nights.

The first thing to do is to make certain that your feeders and bird baths are clean and safe. Examine all of your feeders and baths for any sharp edges, gaps that could trap a foot or toe, excessive rust, or rodent damage. Clean the feeders and baths thoroughly with a one part bleach to nine parts warm water solution (do not use really hot water as the bleach will release chlorine gas). Using rubber gloves will protect your skin from the bleach. Allow the feeder or bath to soak a few minutes and clean off all old food residues with a brush. Clean the feeders inside and out. Rinse the feeders and baths in clean water for several minutes to completely remove traces of the bleach solution. Allow the feeders to dry completely. If the feeder or bath requires repair or repainting, this is the time to do so.



Make certain that the area below the feeders is cleaned as well. Old food and seed shells should be removed. It wouldn't be a bad idea to disinfect the area with the dilute bleach solution as was used for cleaning the feeders. Depending on the activity at your feeders, it would be best to clean feeders and feeding stations once a month to prevent the spread of diseases within the flocks of birds that are visiting your feeders.

It is also important to make certain that the areas around and below feeders are free from traps and places where cats could hide and ambush your birds. There should be a brush pile or thick bush within 20 feet of the feeders, but not right against them. This gives the birds a place to dive into when a hawk appears and it is far enough away from to keep cats from using it as a hunting spot.

Popular feeders include tube feeders for sunflower seed and nyjer (also known as thistle though it is actually an aster from Ethiopia). There are nyjer feeders that require that the birds hang up side down to access the food. American Goldfinches seems to like these and this design keep house finches away. Metal suet cake holders are very popular with woodpeckers and nuthatches.

Winter Feeding continues on page 2 ...

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

## Director's Report

by Kristin Alexander, PVAS Executive Director

PVAS's programs for adults have grown significantly over the years. Our incredible cadre of volunteers continues to provide more and more opportunities for community members to get out and enjoy the natural world and learn about what they see and hear. So many programs were being offered that the complexity of administering them was outpacing our ability to stay on top of the details to ensure participants were getting the quality experience they've come to expect from PVAS.

I am pleased to announce that PVAS is now the proud employer of Krista Hawley, our new part-time Adult Program Coordinator. She'll be helping to coordinate adult programs such as the monthly meetings, Master Naturalists, field trips, International Migratory Bird Day, Birding 101, Race for the Birds, and others.

Krista moved to the Eastern Panhandle in August of 2011 after spending 12 years living overseas - 9 years on the island of Saipan, CNMI, and 2 years in Suriname, South America. Upon moving back to the States, she has kept busy substitute teaching, tutoring and volunteering with schools.

While living on Saipan, Krista managed her own educational counseling business. She was contracted through the schools to provide a processing and educational program that enabled students to succeed academically. Before moving to Saipan, Krista worked for a non-profit counseling agency in Wisconsin where she successfully developed and managed a Treatment Foster Care Program. Krista is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Suriname 1996-1998, where her main focus was Rural Community Development. Krista has a BA in Sociology from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and a Masters Degree in Social Work from University Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She enjoys traveling, running, reading, hiking, playing on the Potomac and spending time with her husband Nate and their three children. Please welcome Krista as you have the opportunity! She will be a tremendous asset to PVAS!

## PVAS Volunteers "Man the Booth"

PVAS had contact booths at both the Charles Town Heritage Festival and the Berkeley Springs Apple Butter Festival this year. Without our great volunteers, we could not be at these events. Not

only do they volunteer to be at the tent during the festival hours, they collect the tent and supplies, put things up, and take things down! Thanks go to Susan Marklin and Tom Tsakaris who were in Charles Town and Stan Oakes, Dawn Darling, Keith Jones,

Gail and Lou Siano, Carol Coryea, Leigh Jenkins, Linda Mercer, and Flo Wilbik who took care of the Apple Butter Festival booth (in the rain!)



Lou Siano mans the booth at Berkeley Springs

... *Winter Feeding* continued from page 1

If you have a lot of Gray Squirrels in your area a feeder with a surrounding cage will keep the squirrels out while allowing the birds free access. Even a Red-bellied Woodpecker can get to the sunflower seeds with a feeder of this design. Many people like to use thistle socks, but these do not keep the seed dry and mold growth can become a problem. A well-designed platform feeder allows water to freely drain through the seed holding area.



Citizen science projects with the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology have found that, among the birds that come to feeders, the most popular food is black oil sunflower seed, followed closely by sunflower hearts, and nyjer. Safflower is a favorite food of Northern Cardinals in our area and Grosbeaks to the north. If you have a lot of White-throated and/or White-crowned Sparrows in your yard you might want to try white proso millet offered on the ground or in a low tray feeder. Mixes of seeds that include red millet, oats and other fillers should be avoided as most of the mix will not be eaten and will accumulate on the ground and rot. There is nothing like watching a feeding station full of birds on a snowy winters day. Keep your feeders closer to windows, or really far away, to reduce fatal collisions. There are many effective decals and other methods for reducing bird-window collisions. And, finally, remember that PVAS is here to help with any questions that you might have regarding bird feeding and bird watching.

## Master Naturalist Update

Potomac Valley Master Naturalists will have their annual meeting, potluck lunch, and silent auction on Saturday November 2. The event is being held at Orchard House, 4599 Shepherdstown Road (about 3 miles west of the four-way stop sign in Shepherdstown). Members who have completed their coursework and volunteer hours will officially graduate. Those members who have been active for five years will be honored and all Master Naturalists who have recertified this year will be recognized as well. One of the high points of this event is the silent auction which raises funds for Master Naturalist scholarships. Members donate items and intense bidding sometimes follows. This year's items include books, novelty items, Master Naturalist shirts, crafts, and food.

Our eighth Master Naturalist class will begin in March 2014! Students participate in 64 classroom/field hours on a variety of natural history topics including birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles, terrestrial habitats, aquatic habitats, ecology, and nature interpretation. Students must also complete 30 hours of volunteer service before being certified as West Virginia Master Naturalists. We have almost 100 active members in our chapter!

Applications for next year's class are currently being accepted although classes will also be available on an individual basis for persons interested in sampling natural history topics without committing to the entire program. Cost of the course, which includes all required class hours, is \$300 and scholarships are available. Individual classes cost \$30 each. All classes will be listed in the Events Calendar at [www.PotomacAudubon.org](http://www.PotomacAudubon.org).

## This Race is for the Birds!

April 5, 2014

Registration opens Thanksgiving Day at [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com)

## Nature Writing Group Visits Hawk Mountain Sanctuary

Members of Potomac Valley Nature Writing Group visited Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in east central Pennsylvania on October 13.

The October book selection was *Hawks Aloft: The Story of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary* by Maurice Broun. November's selection is

*Feathers: The Evolution of a Natural Miracle*, by Thor Hanson. For more information, visit <http://potomacvalleynaturewritinggroup.blogspot.com/>



*Pictured are Master Naturalists Cheryl Jennings, Vicki Blazer, and Sandy Bloom at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary*

## November Program Will Focus on Deer Impacts on Forest Health

Our November program, originally scheduled for October, will feature a presentation about the negative impacts deer are having on area forests, and the implications for efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay. The program will be held at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 13 in Room 151 of the Instructional West Building at the National Conservation Training Center. Admission is free and everyone is welcome to attend.

The speaker will be Neil Gillies, Director of Science and Education at the Cacapon Institute, in High View, WV. Founded in 1985, the Institute maintains research and education programs aimed at protecting rivers and watersheds in the region. His presentation will include a look at some of the Institute's research into strategies for mitigating deer damage to forest environments.



*free deer image jurko.net*

## Waggoner's Gap Birding Trip

The Potomac Valley Audubon Society is sponsoring their annual visit to Waggoner's Gap, PA on Sunday, November 3.

Waggoner's Gap is one of the best hawk watch sites in the northeastern United States and consistently reports high numbers of Golden Eagles during the first week of November.

The trip will focus on Golden Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, Northern Goshawks and other raptors. This trip has become one of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society's most popular hawk watching trips during the fall migration.

The event is free; however, pre-registration is required and the

trip is limited to 8 participants. Anyone with an interest is welcome, regardless of their birding skills.

Waggoner's Gap is located about 20 minutes west of Carlisle, PA. The meeting place is TBA once the number of participants is established.

Participants should dress appropriately for the prevailing weather and dressing in layers is a good idea since it can be quite cold on the ridge. In addition, everyone should bring a cushion to sit on during the watch.

Binoculars will be available for anyone who needs them.

Anyone interested should contact Sandy Sagalkin at [monsansagalkin@myactv.net](mailto:monsansagalkin@myactv.net) for pre-registration, details and departure times.

## Harpers Ferry Bird Walk Set for November 13

PVAS will sponsor a bird walk on the C&O Canal near Harpers Ferry on Wednesday, November 13.

There is no fee and anyone with an interest is welcome to come along, regardless of their birding skills. Children will be welcome.

The walk will involve about 4 miles of level walking along the towpath.

Participants should plan to meet at 8:00 a.m. outside John Brown's Fort, where Potomac and Shenandoah Streets meet in Harpers Ferry National Park. Parking is available along Potomac Street near the train station.

From there, participants will take the footbridge over the Potomac River and walk about two miles northwest along the C&O Canal towpath and back. Species likely to be sighted include raptors, waterfowl, and other winter birds.

Participants should bring water and dress appropriately for the prevailing weather conditions. The Society will provide binoculars for those who do not have their own.

The walk may be cancelled in the event of bad weather.

For more information, or to check on possible weather cancellation, contact trip leader Deb Hale at [debhale72@gmail.com](mailto:debhale72@gmail.com) or 304-535-2346.

## Murphy Farm Birding Trip

The Potomac Valley Audubon Society will sponsor a birding trip to the Murphy's Farm section of the Harper's Ferry National Historical Park on Saturday, November 16.

The bird walk will begin at 10:30 a.m. and last about three hours. It is free and open to anyone with an interest, regardless of their

## United Way and CFC Campaigns

The United Way and Combined Federal Campaigns have begun! Don't forget that you can designate PVAS as the recipient of your donation through those agencies! (CFC #29061)

birding skills. Children are welcome. No pre-registration will be required.

Participants should plan to meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Park's main Visitor Center off Route 340. Please note that the Park Service will charge a fee of \$10 per vehicle to enter the Park unless you have an annual Park pass or an NPS Golden Eagle pass.

This trip will involve about 2 miles of moderate hiking, mostly through fields. It will be focused on birds that migrate in fall and early winter.

Binoculars will be available for anyone who needs them. Participants should dress appropriately for the prevailing weather and bring water for drinking. The trip may be cancelled in the event of bad weather.

For more information, go to the PVAS website at [www.potomacaudubon.org](http://www.potomacaudubon.org). Bob Floren is the trip leader and can be reached at [bobbyfloren53@gmail.com](mailto:bobbyfloren53@gmail.com) or [804-398-8052](tel:804-398-8052).

## November 16 Birding Trip to Stauffer's Marsh

PVAS is sponsoring a birding trip to the Stauffer's Marsh Nature Preserve in Berkeley County on Saturday, November 16.

The event is free and no pre-registration is required. Anyone with an interest is welcome to come along, regardless of their birding skills.

Participants will meet in the parking area at the north end of the Preserve at 7:30 a.m.

The Preserve is located in Back Creek Valley, one-half mile south of Shanghai, on the east side of Back Creek Valley Road (County Route 7).

The preserve is only 46 acres in size, so the distances to be walked are not great. However, the terrain will include wet meadows and marshlands, as well as dry areas, so waterproof footwear is strongly recommended.

Possible species to be sighted include raptors and waterfowl.

Participants should dress appropriately for the prevailing weather and bring water. Because ticks can be a problem at the Preserve, bug spray is recommended even at this time of year.

Binoculars will be available for anyone who needs them.

For more information contact trip leader Jim Farley at [jamesfarley@frontiernet.net](mailto:jamesfarley@frontiernet.net) or 540-686-2056.

## Owl-Banding Trip a Family Favorite

PVAS is sponsoring a special nighttime field trip to watch an expert catch, band, and release migrating owls on South Mountain, in Washington County, MD.

The trip will be held on Saturday, November 16. It will start at about 9:00 p.m. and last until approximately 11:30 p.m.

These trips have long been a favorite for whole families, and

interested members of the public are invited to participate.

There is no fee but a donation of \$5 or \$10 to the South Mountain owl banding station is suggested. This will help support the station's work.

The expert who will conduct the banding is Steve Huy, who has been banding owls on the mountain for many years as part of Project OwlNet.

The owls he will be banding are the Northern Saw-Whet Owl, the smallest owl in eastern North America. Visits to his banding site offer a unique opportunity to see these birds up close and learn about their life history.

Pre-registration is essential because space for the trip is limited to 25 persons.

To pre-register, go to the PVAS website or contact Kelly Wolf at [kheldreth@hotmail.com](mailto:kheldreth@hotmail.com) or 304-229-6229.

For more information about the trip, contact Carolyn Thomas at [webethomas@aol.com](mailto:webethomas@aol.com) or 304-267-3115.

This trip involves a walk over uneven ground and it is therefore not recommended for anyone who needs assistance.

Participants should bring a flashlight and be sure to dress warmly.

Owls do not fly if it is raining, so the trip may be cancelled if conditions warrant.

## Claymont Birding Trip

The Potomac Valley Audubon Society will sponsor a birding field trip on the historic Claymont property outside Charles Town, WV on Saturday November 23, 2013.

The trip will begin at 8:00 a.m. and last about four hours. It is free and open to anyone with an interest, regardless of their birding skills. Children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult.

No registration is required.

Field trip participants should plan to meet the trip leader on the Claymont main entrance road where a wetland meets the access driveway. The entrance is located at 667 Huyett Road; it is marked by a street sign that says "Claymont Mansion."

The trip will involve about three miles of moderate hiking. If you don't wish to stay for the whole trip, you can easily return to your car at any time.

There should be opportunities to see waterfowl and winter residents such as the Yellow-bellied sapsucker and other woodpeckers, White-throated and White-crowned sparrow, Dark-eyed juncos as well as a good variety of birds.

This field trip will be conducted rain or shine. Participants should dress appropriately for the prevailing weather and bring drinking water, trail snacks and insect repellent. Those who need binoculars should let the trip leader know ahead of time, as loaner binoculars will be available.

For more information, contact trip leader, Joette Borzik, at [240-440-4221](tel:240-440-4221) or [pep4223@comcast.net](mailto:pep4223@comcast.net).

## Shannondale Springs Birding Walk Set for November 23

PVAS will sponsor a birding trip to the Shannondale Springs Wildlife Management Area and Shannondale Lake, on the east bank of the Shenandoah River in Jefferson County, on Saturday, November 23

The trip is free and anyone with an interest is welcome to come along, regardless of their birding skills. Children will be welcome. No pre-registration is required.

Participants should plan to meet at 7:30 a.m. at the WMA parking area by the boat launch site, off Mission Road.

The 1,361-acre Shannondale Springs property is managed by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources; it includes a mixture of forest, brush land and open fields covering rolling hills. The trip will involve walking about two miles over mostly level ground, although some hilly, uneven terrain will be encountered.

The trip should offer an opportunity to see winter birds, such as white-throated sparrows, brown creepers, and ducks like common mergansers.

Participants should wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for prevailing weather conditions, and bring along water. Binoculars will be available for anyone who needs them.

The trip may be cancelled in the event of bad weather.

For more info, contact Jim Farley at [jamesfarley@frontiernet.net](mailto:jamesfarley@frontiernet.net) or 540-686-2056.

## Sign Up Now for November Outdoor Cooking Classes

Last summer, PVAS offered its first-ever outdoor cooking class; the response was so positive we're offering two more of these classes during November.

The first class will be held at Cacapon State Park in Morgan County on Saturday, November 16.

The second will be held on a farm in Jefferson County a week later, on Saturday, November 23.

Both classes will last from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Both classes will be led by master naturalist Clark Dixon and provide instruction and practice in cooking outdoors without pots and pans or kitchen utensils.

Participation will be limited and pre-registration will be required.

Each participant will pay a fee of \$10 to cover supplies and materials for instruction. Participants should plan to bring their own food to be cooked. A list of possible foods and suggestions for preparation will be provided to those who register, along with full details about the classes.



Each registrant may bring one guest, such as a child or spouse, free of charge.

To pre-register, go to the PVAS website or contact Kelly Wolf at [kheldreth@hotmail.com](mailto:kheldreth@hotmail.com) or 304-229-6229.

## Natural History Workshops Open To All

One more Natural History Workshops will be offered in 2013, so don't miss the opportunity to learn more about the natural history of fish in November at NCTC. There are still a few spots left in this class. If you are a Master Naturalist needed recertification hours or just interested in learning about the different fish in West Virginia, don't delay signing up! All our workshops are open to the public. Information on the Master Naturalist program can be found at [www.PotomacAudubon.org/masternat](http://www.PotomacAudubon.org/masternat)

## Camp Youth Photos on Exhibit

The Bridge Gallery, on the edge of Shepherdstown, will be exhibiting photos from our 2013 Digital Nature Photography Camp for Teens through the month of November, 2013. There will be an opening reception November 1, from 5-7pm, where we hope the instructors and participating youth will be present to talk about their photos and camp experience. Please join us!

Each of the ten youth who participated will have their favorite photo matted and exhibited as part of the show. Matting and other components of the camp were made possible by a grant from AHA (Arts and Humanities Alliance) of Jefferson County, and Shepherd University provided a computer lab for the camp.

The Bridge Gallery exhibit opening, held in conjunction with the American Conservation Film Festival, will be up until November 24th. In addition to the photos from camp, the show will include art made from recycled or found objects with conservation and nature being the unifying theme. Hours and directions to the gallery are available at [www.bridgegalleryandframing.com](http://www.bridgegalleryandframing.com). Please swing by to see the photos and thank the Gallery for including PVAS's photo camp in the exhibit!

The one-week photo camp, held in June at Shepherd University, was instructed by Hannah Swindoll with assistance from Sarah Butt. Participating high school youth spent the week learning how to use a Nikon 35mm digital SLR camera, provided by PVAS. They learned the basics of digital photography, how to compose attractive pictures, and digital editing skills. Much of the week was spent in and around Shepherdstown taking photos, and included a trip to Trego Mountain Nature Center in Keedysville, Maryland.

## Volunteer Opportunities

PVAS is currently looking for someone who loves children's books! Our StoryWalk® program is ready to take off and to make it happen, we are searching for a volunteer who would be interested in contacting the local libraries to arrange for the books to be on display and then setting up each StoryWalk® at the appointed place and time. We currently have over a dozen books, each with a nature and seasonal theme, ready to be displayed around the Eastern Panhandle. We just need someone to take charge!

StoryWalk® is a program where children's books are mounted as individual pages so that families can walk and read the book, page by page. The program is conducted in 45 states and four countries. The original idea came from Anne Ferguson in Montpelier VT and our program is being funded by the Nora Roberts Foundation. If you'd like to volunteer with our project, contact Ellen Murphy at [Ellen@PotomacAudubon.org](mailto:Ellen@PotomacAudubon.org).

## Our School Programs Are Popular!

Our school programs have been very popular this fall! Not only are our fourth grade watershed programs underway in several schools, other classes have been requesting a presentation either at Yankauer Preserve or in their own classroom. Our Program Director, Ellen Murphy, has been keeping very busy!

About 125 second graders at Rosemont Elementary explored their own schoolyard for plants and signs of animals. Even a fire drill didn't keep them from their scavenger hunt! Students from St. Joseph's School in Martinsburg have made two trips to Yankauer Preserve; first grade classes from Ranson Elementary and fifth graders from North Jefferson Elementary visited the preserve as well. Third grade classes at North Jefferson Elementary and Warm Springs Intermediate enjoyed learning about animal adaptations in their classroom. Later in November, kindergarten students at Rosemont Elementary and second graders at South Jefferson Elementary will receive a visit from Ellen as well.

Our Master Naturalists have been busy with school programs, too, as several participated in the Jefferson County Sixth Grade Science Olympiad and the fifth grade Potomack Environmental Program in Berkeley County. Thanks go to Marybeth Grove, Carol Wood, David Pennock, Susan Brookreson, Scot DeGraf, and Karen Fuegi who spent one or more days with the students. We served almost 1000 students in those two events alone!

Finally, we will be helping seventh grade students from Wildwood Middle School investigate the water quality and aquatic insects of Flowing Springs Run in October. Captain Lou Scavnicky "retired" just in time to help these students apply what they have learned in class. Teachers that would like to learn more about or schedule a program in the spring of 2014 should contact Ellen Murphy at [Ellen@PotomacAudubon.org](mailto:Ellen@PotomacAudubon.org). Volunteers to help with these programs are always welcome!

## Take a Family Hike

Outdoor Explore! For Families has rescheduled its first program this fall with a hike to Maryland Heights. The original date was cancelled by the shutdown of the federal government, but we're trying again on Saturday, November 2. This volunteer-led exploration of the trail that overlooks Harpers Ferry is designed especially for families with younger children (ages 6-9) although everyone is welcome. Using the "supervised but unstructured" approach to environmental exploration, families will be able to enjoy the wonders of changing seasons as well as discover and explore the hike up the trail. These programs are designed to encourage families to be outside together in various locations around the Eastern Panhandle. Additional programs will be scheduled in the future.

All programs and registration information can be found on the

PVAS website under Events Calendar. The website is updated frequently so check back on a regular basis to see what's new with PVAS. [www.PotomacAudubon.org](http://www.PotomacAudubon.org) can be your best source of nature programs in this area!

## Good Time Had By All At Berkeley Springs Fall Birding Festival

Threatening weather and then heavy rain during part of this year's Berkeley Springs Fall Birding Festival may have dampened turnout somewhat, but those who did participate remained enthusiastic throughout.

The Festival was held over the September 20-22 weekend. Attendance at its two evening programs and five daytime walks and workshops totaled 184.

As usual, the attendees included a mix of people, with some coming from the Eastern Panhandle, some from nearby Maryland and Virginia, and some from the Baltimore and Washington areas.

Shown in the accompanying photo is the group who turned out for the Sunday morning bird walk at Sleepy Creek Retreat near Cacapon State Park.



The festival is sponsored by PVAS but Judy Webb and Helen Herlocker do the hard work of organizing it and deserve the community's thanks.

Thanks are also due to Susan Thomas, the librarian at the Warm Springs Intermediate School, for facilitating the workshop for beginning birders; to Janet Ardem and Jon Boone, for helping to lead the Saturday and Sunday morning walks; to Joe Gentile, leading the Saturday afternoon walk at Eidolon; and to the festival's evening presenters: Wil Hershberger, Liam McGranaghan, Marcy Heacker, and Desiree Narango.

Next year's festival has been scheduled for September 19-21. Preliminary planning will begin shortly. Anyone interested in helping with next year's festival should contact Judy Webb at the Nature Niche store at 304-258-0992 or [natureniche@earthlink.net](mailto:natureniche@earthlink.net).

## We Have a Job For You!

PVAS is an active organization, but everything depends on volunteers. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in volunteering for PVAS, we have a job to please just about anyone! We need people to:

- Represent us at contact booths at local fairs and festivals.
- Weed the gardens at Yankauer Preserve.
- Many, many more ...

We offer training for every job. Please contact us via phone, email, Facebook, snail mail, smoke signal, carrier pigeon, or in person. We will be happy to hear from you.

## Eidolon Nature Preserve Fall 2013 Hunting and Hiking Schedule

The land now known as the Eidolon Nature Preserve has been hunted by neighboring families for generations, and when Marguerite Zapoleon willed the land to the Nature Conservancy, she stipulated that hunting should be allowed to continue there.

Accordingly, and also in the interest of maintaining a healthy forest and viable animal populations, the Nature Conservancy and PVAS are permitting hunting on the property.

To balance the safety of hikers and the interests of deer hunters, we ask all visitors to observe the following rules during deer season:

- Hunters must be licensed by the state and follow all applicable state laws and regulations.
- For their part, hikers should exercise appropriate caution during hunting season and wear at least one item of blaze orange clothing.
- In accordance with state law, no hunting will be permitted on Sundays.
- The Eidolon Nature Preserve will close its trails to hikers for the entire first week of the firearm season for buck deer (November 25 through 30 this year), on the last day of buck season, December 7, and during two the antlerless deer seasons in December.
- On all other days during the firearm seasons for deer, the trails will be open to hikers from 10 am until 3 pm only.

Please see the schedule below for specifics.

<b>2013 Eidolon Fall Hunting and Hiking Schedule at a glance</b>	
Monday, November 25 through Saturday, November 30	<b>First week of firearm season for buck deer; trails closed to hikers every day</b>
Sunday, December 1	No hunting
Monday, December 2 through Friday, December 6	Trails open to hikers 10am-3pm only
Saturday, December 7	<b>Last day of firearm season for buck deer; trails closed to hikers all day</b>
Sunday, December 8 through Wednesday, December 18	No hunting
Thursday, December 19 through Saturday, December 21	<b>First antlerless deer hunting season; trails closed to hikers every day</b>
Sunday, December 22 through Friday, December 27	No hunting
Saturday, December 28	<b>First day of second antlerless deer hunting season; trails closed to hikers</b>
Sunday, December 29	No hunting
Monday, December 30 through Tuesday, December 31	<b>Last two days of antlerless deer hunting season; trails closed to hikers both days</b>

### 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:

- Access to a wide variety of PVAS programs and events for adults and children, including field trips, special events, workshops and courses, and environmental projects.
- A subscription to Valley Views, the PVAS newsletter
- E-mail alerts about events and programs of special interest
- Satisfaction of supporting conservation efforts, youth and adult nature education, individual and family recreation, and a wide array of programs in your community.

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.

### 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:**

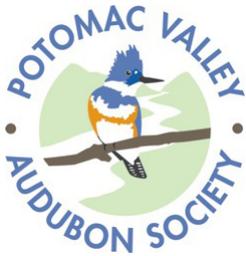
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**Thank you for your support!**



### 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](http://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**  
 The PVAS Board meets every other month on the first Thursday of the month (Sept.-June). Meeting location and time will be announced prior to meetings. These meetings are open to all PVAS members.

**PVAS Officers and Board Members**

- President: Diana Mullis (2014)..... DianaMullis@aol.com
- Vice President: Jane Vanderhook (2015)..... janehook@frontiernet.net
- Secretary: Mina Goodrich (2014)..... larrymina@peoplepc.com
- Treasurer: Lex Miller (2014)..... pamandlex@frontiernet.net
- Board Members-at-Large:
  - Clark Dixon (2013)..... dixonconsultants@aol.com
  - Diana Gaviria (2014)..... jpikester@comcast.net
  - Tanner Haid (2016)..... Tanner.Haid@gmail.com
  - Leigh Jenkins (2013)..... jenkinsleigh@hotmail.com
  - Lou Scavnicky (2015)..... captainlou@comcast.net
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  - Amanda Whitmore (2016)..... Tremba01@gmail.com

**Ex Officio Board Member:** Peter Smith (past president)..... pvsmitth@frontiernet.net

**Emerita Board Member:** Jean Neely..... jeaneely@comcast.net

**Special Contacts**

- Executive Director: Kristin Alexander (304-676-3397)..... Kristin@PotomacAudubon.org
- Program Director: Ellen Murphy (304-676-8739)..... Ellen@PotomacAudubon.org
- Adult Prog. Coord: Krista Hawley..... TBA
- Web Master: Kathy Bilton..... kathy@fred.net
- PVAS Wildlife Rescue Coord: Diana Mullis (304-267-3482)..... dianamullis@aol.com
- Valley Views editor/publisher: Don Henry (304-876-6681)..... dhenry@myexcel.com