

## 2019 Board of Directors Candidates

Jim Cummins, Vice-President: Jim is a retired freshwater ecologist. Jim and his wife Nancy, a retired Jefferson County teacher, live in Bakerton. He has a Masters of Science (1985) in Biology from George Washington University. Jim co-started the District of Columbia's fisheries program where he worked from 1985 to 1988. From 1988 until his retirement in 2016 he was the Director of the Living Resources for the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. His projects included biological assessments of streams and rivers in WV, MD, PA and DC, environmental flow studies, habitat restoration and fish passage, especially in regard to the Little Falls Dam near Washington, D.C. and a linked American shad stocking program with integrated student and volunteer involvement. Jim enjoys woodworking, gardening, fishing, canoeing, playing music, working at various scales to improve the community, reading, and trying to keep a beagle named "Abe" from causing trouble.

Steve Paradis, Treasurer (current Board member, new position): Steve has been a resident of Bolivar since moving to the eastern panhandle nearly ten years ago to work for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy in Harpers Ferry where he was responsible for managing the internal workings of the organization as chief operating officer. An alumnus of M.I.T. and Stanford University, Steve has extensive experience in operations and manufacturing. He returned to the for-profit sector in 2014 as a business consultant, focusing on financing and organizational management of early stage ventures in energy and water. Steve was introduced to PVAS and its extensive offering of adult programs by his life partner, Lisa, an enthusiastic birder who was inspired Birding 101. He looks forward to bringing a business acumen and a love for nature and the outdoors to the board.

Don Campbell, At-large Member (re-election): Don is retired from the National Park Service. While Superintendent of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, he oversaw three decades of restoration, development and preservation at the park. He is the recipient of the Stephen T. Mather award from the National Parks and Conservation Association for outstanding stewardship and defense of the National Parks. Born in Napa, California, he joined the National Park Service in San Francisco as a park planner working on development of park and wilderness proposals in the west and southwest. After a move to the Seattle office, he worked extensively in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska on new park area studies for legislation. He shared in a Presidential Design Award for the planning of Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. Don earned a bachelor degree in Landscape Architecture from Utah State University and a master of landscape architecture from the University of California, Berkeley. During his extensive career, Don has fostered partnerships that support protection of resources through stewardship and environmental educational programs. He is concerned about loss of wildlife habitat.

Melissa Gonzalez, At-large Member: Melissa has ten years of experience in the communications field, mostly with the public sector, specifically working for federal agencies such as the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Institutes of Health. In both agencies she had both digital media production and public affairs roles. She is passionate about using the power of integrated marketing communications to protect wildlife and natural resources. She is a public servant with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where she develops communication strategies and visual productions supporting both the agency and the National Conservation Training Center's missions. Raised in a rainforest, ten minutes away from the beach on the Caribbean Island of Puerto Rico, Melissa had the opportunity to study and complete her bachelor's degree in TV and Radio Communications, as well as her Master's degree, specializing in advertising, from the University of Puerto Rico and the University of the Sacred Heart respectively.

Mina Goodrich, At-large Member (re-election): Mina retired in 1999 after a long career in health care with the Department of Veteran's Affairs, both in Martinsburg and Washington, D.C. A native of Shepherdstown, she has been a member of PVAS since its early days. She previously served two terms as Secretary of PVAS. Mina has also been active on the boards of the Friends of the Shepherdstown Library, the Jefferson County Animal Welfare Society and the Shepherdstown Community Club. She also volunteers regularly at the Shepherdstown Library. She has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from Shepherd University and an M.B.A. from Frostburg State University in Maryland.

Rita Hennessy, At-large Member: Rita brings her skills in partnerships, fundraising, and adult education from a 29-year career with the National Park Service. Currently, Rita is the NPS Program Lead for the National Trails System, focusing on legislative and policy issues, as well as facilitating national and regional partnerships. Rita holds a BS in Recreation Resource Management from the University of Montana, a MA in Community Change and Civic Leadership from Antioch McGregor, a Graduate certificate in Volunteer Administration from the University of North Texas, and recently completed a Professional Certificate in Sustainable Food Systems from Johns Hopkins University. Rita also serves on the Board of Jefferson Growers, Artisans, and Producers where she is creating a Farm to School program for Jefferson County. She lives with her husband, Sean Palmer, and 2 dogs in a net zero, solar home in Shepherdstown. Her passions include local foods, cooking, and native meadow restoration.

Peter L. Mulford, At-large Member: Peter grew up in Rochester, NY and is a graduate of The University of Vermont (AB, Political Science and Psychology) and Cornell University (MBA, Sloan Program in Healthcare Administration). He served as a U.S. Army Medevac Pilot during the Vietnam War. He is a retired Healthcare Administrator, and served as CEO of 3 community hospital systems. He was CEO of the City Hospital, Gateway Regional Healthcare System in Martinsburg from 1985-1999. He and his wife Betty returned to Martinsburg in 2012 when he came out of retirement to become CEO of the United Way of the Eastern Panhandle. Now 'fully retired', he continues as an adjunct lecturer at Shepherd University in the healthcare concentration of the graduate MBA program. "Pete" is on the Board of

CCAP/Loaves and Fishes, is the Potomac District Chair of the Shenandoah Area Boy Scout Council, and is a part-time volunteer for Meals on Wheels. He has been a life-long member of Rotary International, is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow, and serves as the Foundation Committee Chair of the Martinsburg Rotary Club. He is an active supporter of the Sierra Club, several environmental, youth and veteran organizations, and Hedges Chapel. He is currently participating in the WV Master Naturalist training program.

Patti Mulkeen-Corley, At-large Member: Patti is a newly-retired teacher who lives outside of Charles Town with her also-retired husband, Tom. She has a B.S. from Clarion University and Masters from Shippensburg University, both in special education. Volunteering at Cool Springs is on her retirement checklist. She likes to hike, bike, and kayak. She is a novice birder and enjoys tagging along with and learning from the birding experts. She is a member of the League of Women Voters of Jefferson County; while League president in the 90s, they dealt with many local land use and environmental issues. Patti and Tom are also longtime members of the WV Rivers Coalition.

Rod Snyder, At-large Member (re-election): Rod serves as president of Field to Market: The Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture, a nonprofit focused on defining, measuring and advancing the sustainability of commodity crop production in the United States. Prior to this role, Rod held positions as Public Policy Director for the National Corn Growers Association and Government Affairs Leader for CropLife America. He is particularly recognized for his work at the intersection of agricultural and environmental issues. In 2016, Rod was a candidate for the West Virginia House of Delegates in the 67th district and remains active with numerous community groups in the Eastern Panhandle. He resides on his family's farm in Shenandoah Junction, West Virginia.