

# FOCAL POINTS

## Vienna Photographic Society

***APRIL, 2018***

**INSIDE:**

**New Nature Group**

**Meadowlark Workshop  
April 15**

**April's Nature  
Extravanzas**

**USGS Exhibit Deadline**

**Salamander Hunt**





**APRIL, 2018**

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*VPS is a member of*



<https://www.PSA-photo.org>

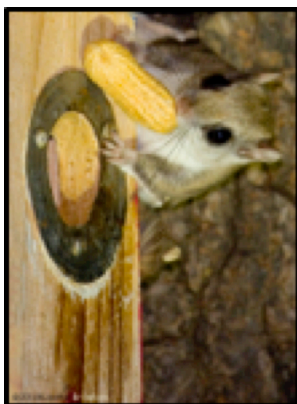
**VPS meets the first, third, and fourth Wednesdays, September through June at the Thoreau Middle School in Vienna, VA. Visitors are welcome. Please check VPS's calendar for details.**  
**<https://www.VPSva.org>**



## **SPRING. *FINALLY!***

We made it! We endured – and even enjoyed – the winter. But was it a bad omen or a good one that we were belted by snow on the first full day of spring? Anyway, now it's time to head outside to reap our photographic rewards by permanently capturing the ephemeral beauty, bounty, and majesty of spring. I've listed some of April's photogenic nature spectacles inside. Also, VPS is announcing its new Nature Group, which is hosting its first professionally-assisted outing April 15 at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens.

***- Barbara J. Saffir***

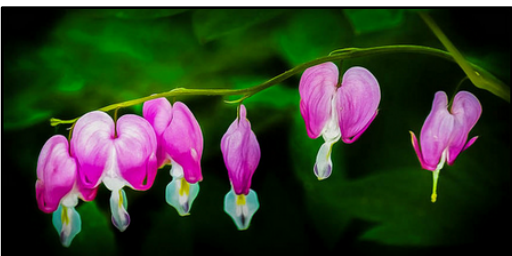
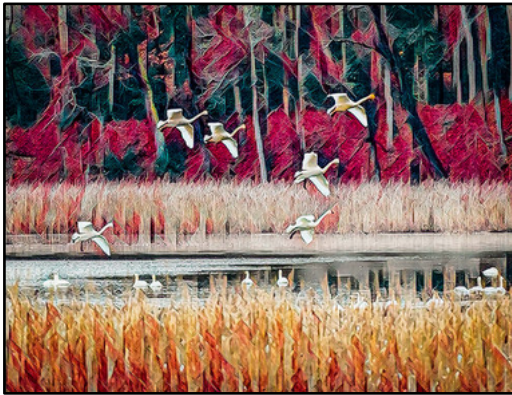


**COVER PHOTO:**  
***SOUTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL***  
***By Lisette Brisebois***

I cherish my opportunity to photograph flying squirrels in Arlington this winter. A few photographers bundled up and anxiously awaited the flying squirrels who had not made an appearance on our previous visit. We were thrilled to see several "fly" or, really, glide in from a great distance and dare the light to feast on peanuts, peanut butter, and birdseed. They are the smallest squirrels and can easily fit in the palm of a hand.

***Editor's Note: This is a ridiculously tough shot to snag because the squirrels often race through space like hummingbirds on steroids laced with crack.***

# Love Nature? *Join Nature Lovers!*



VPS is starting "**Nature Lovers**," a special interest group within the club to promote nature photography at all levels for all Northern Virginians. As an innovative start-up, we might morph, depending on members' goals, but these are our current plans:

## **ACTIVITIES:**

1. **Education:** Speakers, workshops, classes, critiques, etc.
2. **Exhibitions:** USGS, webpage, community center, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, and hospitals. (We may be able to get an exhibit at Inova Fairfax or Fair Oaks hospitals.)
3. **Community and Camaraderie:** Field trips, coffee club/lunch bunch, conservation/awareness initiatives, sponsor youth/senior programs
4. **Competitions:** Nature judge at VPS club competitions, Glennies, open nature competition/ exhibition with open judging , and PSA activities, including possible PSA international exhibition, youth showcase, scholarship awards, and nature interclub competitions

**MEETING PLACES/TIMES:** As a group, we will decide where, when, and how often to meet. Our first outing is at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens on April 15. (Please see separate article.)

**PARTNERS:** We envision seeking community partners and/or sponsors, such as nature centers, senior centers, gardens, parks, Vienna Community Center, libraries, bird/nature stores, schools, and hospitals.

**NEW MEMBERS:** How to attract members? Ideas include: sponsoring a community photo contest, paper fliers, co-hosting Vienna Community Center's contest, social media (Meetup, Facebook, etc.) and recruiting/ inspiring current members to help brainstorm ideas.

**FOR MORE INFO:** Please email Kathrin Swoboda at kswoboda2421 AT gmail DOT com

*Members' photos from VPS's Flickr site:*  
<https://www.flickr.com/groups/vienna-photographic/>

*Top to bottom: Lori Saunders, Michael Cassidy, Sharon Connolly, and Sharon Connolly*

# Field Trip: April 15

## Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

### *Field Trip, Workshop, & First Nature Lovers' Foray with the Garden's Resident Photographer*



VPS's April 15 field trip is to Meadowlark Botanical Gardens in Vienna. Tom Stovall, the garden's Resident Photographer in Nature & Landscapes, will lead the workshop. He can also provide feedback on your photos. Members are encouraged to email one to two images to share at the meeting for Tom's feedback. **Please send images by Sunday, April 8 to kswoboda2421 AT gmail DOT com.**



The gardens will have a special early opening that day at **6:30 a.m.** Members are welcome to meet early and photograph in the soft early morning light. Tom will begin his presentation at 8:45 a.m.

This is a combination field trip and the first event for "Nature Lovers," VPS's new group to promote nature photography at all levels for all Northern Virginians.

**Cost:** Entry to Meadowlark: \$5 (\$2.50 for 55 years plus)

**Where:** Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, VA, 703-255-3631

Map: <https://www.novaparks.com/sites/default/files/maps/MeadowlarkMap.pdf>

Garden: <https://www.novaparks.com/parks/meadowlark-botanical-gardens>

(95 acres of ornamental display gardens and unique native plant collections, with lakes, forests and meandering walking trails, majestic views of the Piedmont hills, Korean Bell Garden, a restored 18th Century log cabin, and an atrium with an indoor tropical garden.)

**When:** Sunday, April 15, 8:45 a.m. Meet at the visitors center at 6:30 a.m. if you wish to photograph early. Stay after the talk and photograph the gardens with Tom and other members.

**Why:** Improve your photography and learn about the garden from resident photographer Tom Stovall. Learn about typical camera settings Tom uses based on the subject. He will give details on how he gets certain images. Get personal feedback from Tom. Learn more about opportunities for nature photography in the DMV.

**Who:** All VPS members are invited.

*(continued below)*



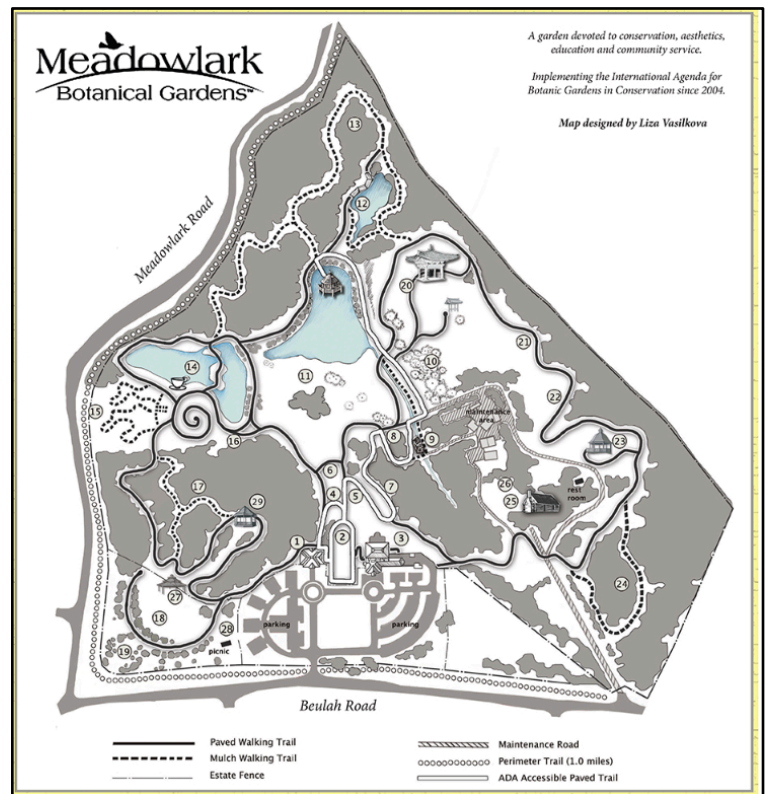


## Tom Stovall:

I have done photography since the early 1960s. My favorite subjects are family, sports, nature, wildlife, landscapes, and candid photography. I am currently the Resident Photographer in Nature & Landscapes at Meadowlark

Botanical Gardens. My photography has been published in the book "Northern Virginia," WhereTraveler (cover and four two-page spreads); Washingtonian Magazine June 2015; Public Garden Magazine 2016, DC Gardens Blog; Parks and Rec Business June 2016; Fairfax (Virginia) Magazine 2017; Fodor's Travel Guide, VisitFairfax, The Washington Post, The Centreville Times, Posh Seven Magazine, and Virginia Gardener. My photos have also been featured on CBS News and FOX News. I have also spoken on "Going Beyond Automatic: When, Why, and How I Shoot in Manual," "The Strategy of Photography," and "The Photographic Art and Perspective of Ansel Adams." I currently live in Centreville, and I'm building a house in Blue Ridge, GA where I will be relocating late this summer.

<http://www.tomstovall.com>



# Salamander Hunt

*By Barbara J. Saffir*



Have you ever photographed -- or even seen -- a salamander? These rascals can be hard to find. VPS members might be able to photograph these cute critters if we arrange a one-hour salamander walk at Riverbend Park. Please email **Lisette Brisebois** ASAP if you are interested at breezyboys AT yahoo DOT com. Depending on members' interests, this outing could be scheduled for a weekday or weekend. It will cost \$60 divided by the number of attendees. Maybe we'll get lucky -- though most guided vernal pool walks appear to be held in February and March.

Can't attend? Here's a list of some other opportunities, thanks in part to amateur naturalist and nature photographer **Patrick Wamsley**. If you are super lucky, you might even catch a glimpse of one of their mass spawning events.

Unless you are experienced, don't touch them. Patrick said that during his recent naturalist-led hike, "the guides emphasized that we should carefully hold the salamanders. They carried spray bottles to keep the salamanders wet and to avoid stressing them. All salamanders were returned to the locations where we found them. They quickly burrowed beneath logs that we rolled next to the amphibians." Also, he warns that "While not aggressive, spotted salamanders do have toxic skin. When stressed, they may ooze copious amounts of poison." For details, visit the Virginia Herpetological Society's website.

## **VIRGINIA HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY:**

[http://www.virginiaherpetologicalsociety.com/amphibians/salamanders/salamanders\\_of\\_virginia.htm](http://www.virginiaherpetologicalsociety.com/amphibians/salamanders/salamanders_of_virginia.htm)

**OREGON RIDGE NATURE CENTER**, 13555 Beaver Dam Road, Cockeysville, MD, 410-887-1815

<http://oregonridgenaturecenter.org/pdf/CalendarSpring18.pdf>

**April 5:** Salamanders (geared to kids)

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD**, <https://www.montgomeryparks.org/activities/nature/>

**April 8:** Herp Search, Rachel Carson Conservation Park

**April 21:** Saturday Rambles: Rachel Carson Conservation Park

**April 28:** Evening Amphibian Walk, Maydale Nature Center

**HIDDEN OAKS NATURE CENTER**, 7701 Royce St., Annandale, VA, 703-941-1065.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks/frogs-toads-salamanders>

**April 21**, 3:30 pm, \$6, Frogs, Toads and Salamanders. (Geared to kids 2-5 years old but adults are welcome.) Explore a pond for hundreds of tadpoles and a variety of amphibians. Meet frogs, toads, and salamanders inside and on the trail. Kids also make crafts.

*Photographs of spotted salamander and mole salamander courtesy of Patrick Wamsley. Shot at Rachel Carson Park, March, 2018*



# **April 4 Speaker**

## ***Sandi Croan: "Seeing Creatively"***

# **April 18 Competition**

***Judge Sandi Croan***

***Themes: Things that Fly and Photojournalism***

*Thoreau Middle School, 7:30 p.m.*



Sandi Croan is an independent photographer from Centreville who has been living in Northern Virginia since 1978. She specializes in landscape nature, and travel photography with an eye for capturing the unique and creating fine art for homes and offices.

Sandi has won numerous competitions and awards for her fine art photographs including: Photographer of the Year and Print of the Year numerous times as well as Versatile Photographer of the Year at Northern Virginia Photographic Society (NVPS); 1st Place at the 2016 Art Space Herndon Fine Art Photography Exhibit, 2nd Place at Reston Artists PhotoArt 2015, Best Landscape and People's Choice awards at Nature Visions Photography Expo; and Best in Show and 2nd Place at the juried Meadowlark Photo Expo in Vienna. Her images have been selected to be put on permanent display at the Fair Oaks Hospital Cancer Center, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens and the Joseph Miller Center for the Photographic Arts.

She has been juried into numerous art shows including; the prestigious VisArts of Rockville Exhibitions, Fairfax County Council of the Arts Show

(Unlocked), and The Fraser Gallery International Photography Exhibition, Art Space Herndon Fine Art Photography Exhibit as well as many others. Sandi was a featured artist in Elan Magazine, and her photograph "Blue Lagoon" was on the cover. She has also had photographs published in other local and national magazines.

Sandi has sold many of her photographs to private, corporate, and government clients, and does shows for businesses and other local events. In addition, Sandi has recently/or currently is displaying her art at Broadway Gallery, The Blue Iguana restaurant in Fairfax, Meadowlark Gardens, Cub Run Recreation Center, Trummers on Main Street Restaurant, and the Fairfax County Government Center.

Sandi has been an active member of the Northern Virginia Photographic Society (NVPS) since 2004 and has served in a variety of board positions since 2005. She served as President of NVPS for two terms from 2009-2011. She also is a speaker and serves as a judge for area photographic clubs, competitions and exhibitions.

You can see a sample of Sandi's work on <http://www.sandicroanphotography.com>.

***HEADS UP: May 16 Competition Themes: Town of Vienna, Flowers, Digital Art***

# April's Nature Spectacles

*Some of nature's bounty to photograph in and near the DMV this month.*

## **VIRGINIA BLUEBELLS** *(Mid-April)*

**Bull Run Regional Park**

<https://www.novaparks.com/parks/bull-run-regional-park>

**Riverbend Park**

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend>

**Merrimac Farm**

<http://vnps.org/conservation/virginia-native-plant-registry-sites-3/merrimac-farm/>

**Susquehanna State Park**

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/central/susquehanna.aspx>

## **BIRD BANDING** *(3-4 days a week from April toward end of May)*

**Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge**

[https://www.fws.gov/refuge/occoquan\\_bay/](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/occoquan_bay/)

## **NESTING BIRDS** *(Best before trees leaf out)*

**Great blue herons & cormorant rookery on Conn Island**

**Visible from River Trail, Great Falls, MD**

<https://www.nps.gov/grfa/planyourvisit/hiking.htm>

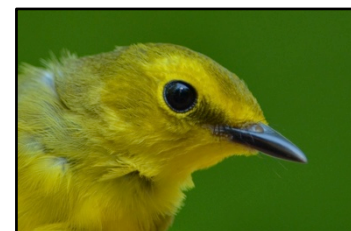
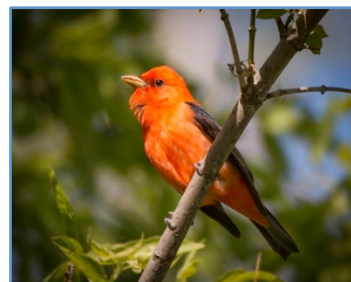
## **RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRDS RETURN** *(Mid-April)*

**Feeders at North Tract of Patuxent Research Refuge**

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/>

## **MOREL MUSHROOM HUNTING** *(Toward end of April)*

<http://mawdc.org/Forays>





# March 21 Competition Results

## Judge Brian Zwit

**Themes: Night Photography and Animals in Motion**

*(Since the snowstorm prevented our meeting, Brian judged the photos online.)*



### Monthly Theme: Animals in Motion (26 entries)

1st Bill Mugg: Making the Turn

2nd Barbara Saffir: Cruisin' Cardinal

3rd Bill Mugg: Determined Doggy

HM David Kepley: Eagle Thief

HM Joan Axilbund: German Raptor Exhibition

HM Mary Rabadan: Muskrat Mealtime

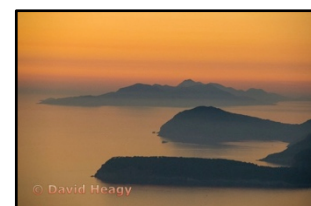
### Monthly Theme: Night Photography (14 entries)

1st Patricia Deege: Aurora Borealis

2nd David Heagy: Budapest at Night

3rd David Heagy: Croatia Islands at Night

HM Barbara Saffir: Jefferson Memorial Moon





### Open Digital Novice (5 Entries)

1st Place Robert Kroehler: Above



### Open Digital Advanced (16 Entries)

1st David Kepley: Tulips Emerging

2nd David Heagy: Abandoned Piano Strings & Hammers

3rd Joan Axilbund: Bravado

HM John Padbury: Old Door New Door



### Open Prints:

#### Combined Novice & Advanced

No prints this competition  
due to the snowstorm.



*Great photos everyone! A reminder: Please don't put your name or initials on your image in the competition or in the title of the image when downloading it for competition.*

*- Janet Gelb, Competition Manager*



## My Fav Photo

*By Wayne Wolfersberger*

This is a bloodroot flower that blossomed in my backyard in a native wildflower area around my pond. I had created an area of around 20 native species. Over the years the bloodroot populated the area and when I moved last April there were about a dozen. This was one of the last shots I took of the flowers. With so many, I could shoot them at all stages during their short flowering season.



## My Fav Photo

*By Ira Skurnick*



Mourning dove and pileated woodpecker at Difficult Run in the recent snowstorm.



# My Fav Photo

*By Patricia Deege*

**MOONSET OVER THE DUNES:** This is a composite of two images, taken within just a few seconds of each other. With the camera on the tripod, I composed the image of the moon sinking towards the sand dunes with the lowering clouds flaring above. In just a few seconds the moon sank below the horizon and the rising sun lit up the clouds with a brilliant flash of color. Combining the two images to include the moon and the sunlit clouds made an image that will always be one of my favorites.

Taken at the Sand Dunes National Monument in Southern Colorado, October 2006.





# March 17 Field Trip Report

## *Huntley Meadows Park*

*By Lori Saunders, VP, Field Trips*



We had a beautiful but cold day for our field trip to Huntley Meadows. I was joined by Patricia, Gloria, Gordon, Janet, Lisette, Julie, and new member Willy. We all enjoyed exploring the boardwalk area and watching out for ducks, geese, herons, red winged blackbirds, and other birds. I am not a bird photographer but I was happy to catch a couple of passable photos of a great blue heron in flight. It was mostly overcast, so the lighting was nice. We will all have to return in the warmer months when the dragonflies are back.



*Additional photos are posted on VPS's Flickr & Facebook pages.*

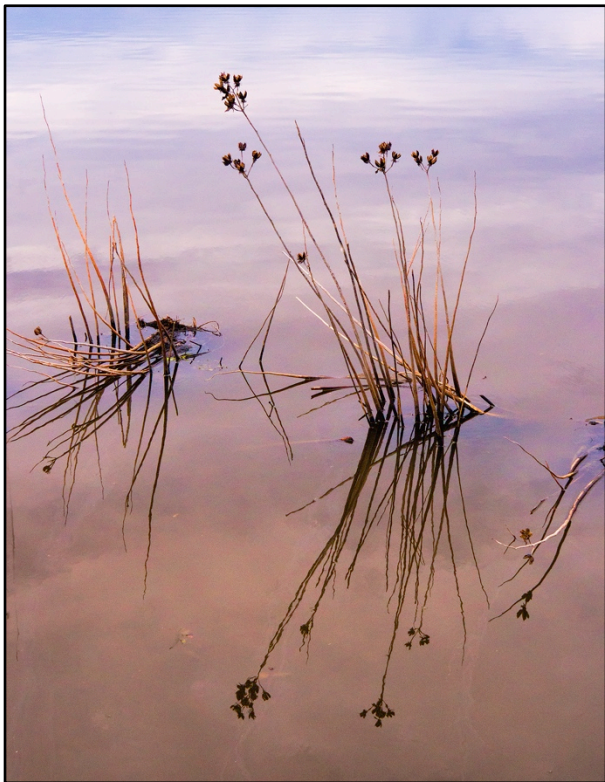
<https://www.flickr.com/groups/vienna-photographic/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/107509176593979/>



# March 17 Field Trip Report

## *Huntley Meadows Park*

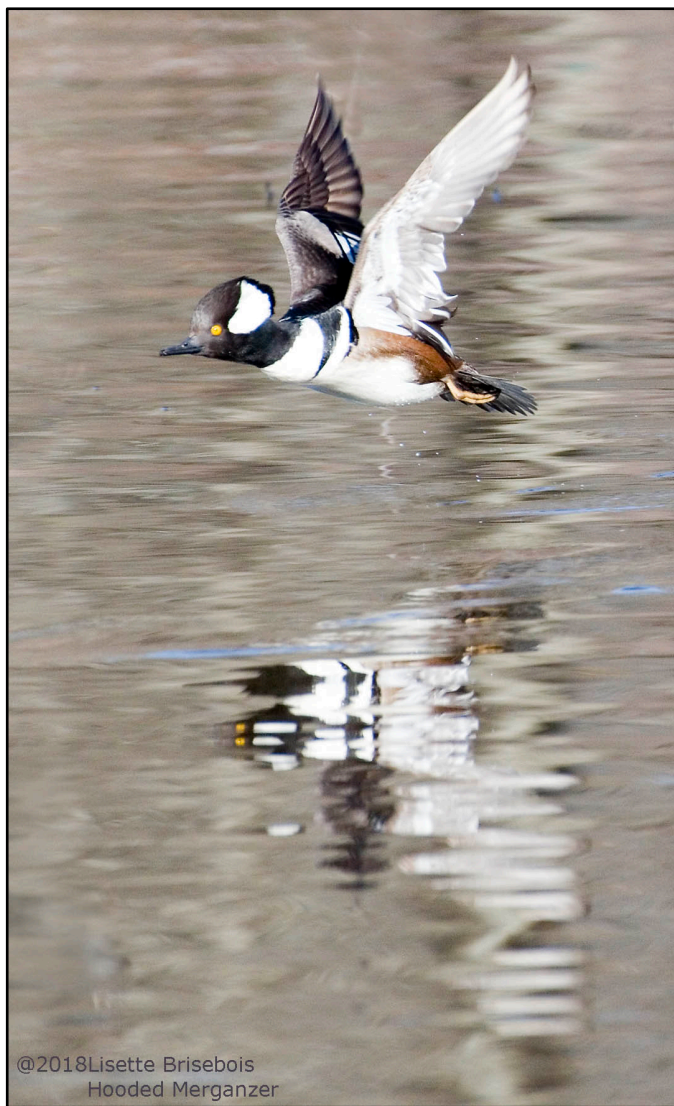
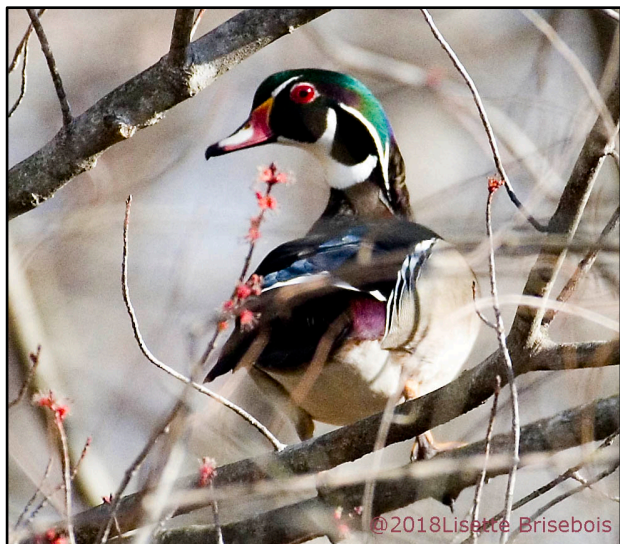


*By Patricia Deege*

A brief gleam of sun that lit up the water to a rosy glow with the sky reflecting in the water.

*By Lisette Brisebois*

Colorful males: a sitting wood duck and a flying hooded merganser

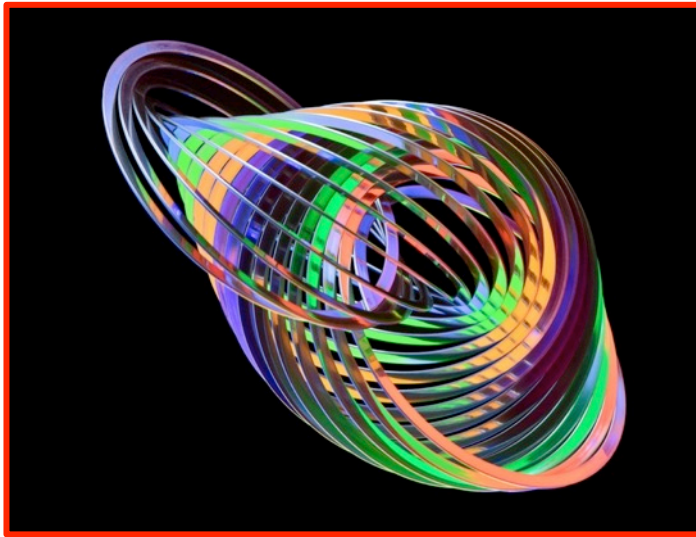


@2018Lisette Brisebois  
Hooded Merganser



# April and May Forums

*By John Naman, VP, Forums*



At every forum, we'll try to have hands-on things to do/photograph and/or totally interactive, such as critiques. The format is intended to be 30 minutes each for:

- (1) novice (cell phone)
- (2) intermediate (compact-4/3rds cameras)
- (3) advanced (full-frame cameras)

Always try to bring a camera!

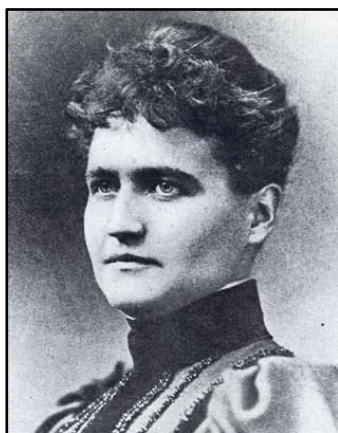
## **Schedule (Thoreau Middle School, 7:30 p.m.):**

<b>April 25</b>	Abstract photography and creative challenge (May digital art theme)
<b>May 23</b>	Field Trip: sharing photos taken on VPS field trips and critique editing assignment
<b>May 30</b>	Critique editing: results and discussion and make plans for next year

The May Forums are non-verbal critiquing of problematic images. Instead of saying, "You should crop here, do this, do that," the image will be online (soon) to fix up the way you think it should be. The fun comes when we get together and compare all the different ways we have to "fix" an image. This has been the most popular forum in past years. The problematic Images will be representative of monthly themes -- Abstracts, Black and White, Night Photography, Children and Animals in Motion, Photo-journalism , Town of Vienna, Flowers -- so that we all have a chance to keep up our skills. Expensive software is NOT required. I will gather a list of web links to free software, some just apps on a phone, to let us do crop, straighten, lighten, darken, change color saturation, delete certain people from family wedding, etc. The basics.

# Calendar/Opportunities

- **April 1:** **Volunteers needed for VPS's 30th anniversary.** For details, please contact David Heagy. (dheagy at gmail dot com)
- **April 4:** **VPS Speaker:** Sandi Croan: "Seeing Creatively"
- **April 8-12:** **Cherry Blossom Peak** (according to the National Park Service on 3/27/18) <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/cherryblossom/bloom-watch.htm>
- **April 8:** **Nature Photography Workshop**, Patuxent Research Refuge. Registration required. 4/8, 2-5 p.m. and 4/15, 9 - 11a.m. National Wildlife Visitor Center, 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop, Laurel, MD, 301-497-5776, <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/> Join Mark Seaver for a two-day photography workshop designed to improve the quality of your nature photography. Space is limited. <http://seaverphotos.zenfolio.com/>
- **April 15:** **Deadlines** for USGS and for VPS competition
- **April 15:** **VPS Nature Group Trip, Field Trip & Workshop at Meadowlark Garden**
- **April 18:** **VPS Competition**
- **April 20:** **Focal Points** deadline.
- **April 22:** **10 a.m. - noon, free monthly Sunday morning Coffee and Critique** at Photoworks. Bring photos for informal feedback by a Photoworks faculty member or just attend to take part in a lively and thoughtful conversation about fresh work from fellow photographers. Coffee and bagels provided. *Future dates: 5/20, 6/24, & 7/22.* Contact: Karen Keating, photoworks.gallery AT gmail DOT com <http://glenechophotoworks.org/2013/05/19/coffee-critique/>
- **April 25:** **VPS Forum**
- **May:** **USGS Exhibit**
- **May 6:** **Reception, 2-5 p.m., Joseph Miller Abstract Photography Exhibit**, <http://nvacc.org>



## MOTHER OF DC'S CHERRY BLOSSOMS:

### Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore, (1885)

"Upon returning to DC from her first visit to Japan, Scidmore approached the U.S. Army Superintendent of the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds with the proposal that cherry trees be planted one day along the reclaimed Potomac waterfront. Her request fell on deaf ears. Over the next twenty-four years, Scidmore approached every new superintendent, but her idea met with no success." Read more about her fascinating life here: <https://www.nps.gov/articles/eliza-scidmore.htm>



# **FINAL Call For Entries: April 15**

## **VPS Nature Exhibit at USGS Headquarters**

VPS has been invited to stage an exhibit of members' photographs in the long gallery at the headquarters of the United States Geological Survey (USGS). This is an excellent venue with good lighting and many employees and visitors to view the exhibit and possibly buy your photos. The number of accepted images per person is likely two or more, depending on members' interest.

Subject matter should be of the natural world, i.e., fauna, flora, geology, or landscapes; portraits, architecture or abstract work is not very suitable for this venue. Hand of man is optional but should not be the main interest. The venue is large, so a minimum of 11 x 14 for the framed size is requested. Frames should be ready to hang, with screw eyes and wire.

Clip frames are not very secure and have been known to come apart and fall. The final presentation of each entry will be examined. All photographs under glass should be matted. Photographs on canvas are very acceptable. Digital alterations are optional, at the discretion of the author.

***Please fill out the following entry form with your details no later than April 15.***



Help is needed to hang this exhibit and someone is needed to be responsible for the take down at the end of May and make sure that all images have been picked up from USGS. Patricia Deege will be coordinating the exhibit, but will be out of town at the end May so unable to supervise the take down.

Kathleen Furey has kindly offered to compose a poster for this event, to include some of the images that will be displayed. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please send a small jpg, 4 x 6 at 300 dpi of one of your images. Since a limited number of images can be included, they will be chosen from those submitted as a collection that fits well together.

**QUESTIONS? Contact Patricia Deege at *pdeege AT verizon DOT net* or 703-255-1426.**

**CALL FOR ENTRIES**  
**VPS EXHIBIT AT USGS, MAY, 2018**  
*Open to all VPS members*

**You must return this form to Patricia Deege by April 15.** This will indicate a show of interest and allow determination of the number of entries per person to be accepted. If you cannot at this time provide the titles of your prospective images they can be submitted at a later date. Please indicate TBD in the title line. Help will be needed to install and take down this exhibit, especially at the end of May. Patricia is coordinating this exhibit but will not be available to supervise take down. Please indicate your availability and willingness to assist with this.

Please fill out the form below with your information and return it to Patricia Deege at pdeege@verizon.net or mail it to: 9828 Vale Road, Vienna, VA 22181

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info: Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list titles in order of preference; in the event that there is not space for all of them, they will be accepted in the order of preference indicated.

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Title 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \_\_\_\_\_ (or NFS)

Title 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \_\_\_\_\_ (or NFS)

Title 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \_\_\_\_\_ (or NFS)

Title 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Price: \_\_\_\_\_ (or NFS)

I can assist with:    Hanging the exhibit: \_\_\_\_\_  
                             Taking down at end of May: \_\_\_\_\_ (exact date to be decided)  
                             Supervising take down: \_\_\_\_\_ (essential)

Direct any questions to: Patricia Deege. pdeege@verizon.net , 703-255-1426



# VPS Board Members



President	David Kepley
First VP	Barbara Saffir
Secretary	<i>vacant</i>
Treasurer	Venkat Krishnan
VP, Speakers	Julie Cochran
VP, Judges	John Padbury
VP, Competitions	Janet Gelb
Digital Projection	Lilly Heagy and Lori Saunders
VP, Member Communications	Gloria Spellman
Director, PSA	Kathrin Swoboda
Director, Focal Points	Barbara Saffir
Director, Publicity	David Heagy
Director, Membership	Paige Counts
Director, Website	Gloria Spellman
VP, Forums	John Naman
VP, Field Trips	Lori Saunders
VP, Operations	George Silvas
Director, Social Events	Carol Carroll
Exhibits	<i>vacant</i>
Gift Cards/50/50 Raffle	Julie Cochran
Nature Visions Representative	Bill Mugg

*(To contact the club and/or to volunteer for open positions, please email [webmaster@vpsva.org](mailto:webmaster@vpsva.org))*

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## "Focal Points" Newsletter

is published monthly except for a combined July/August issue. Please email member news, story ideas, stories, and medium-res photos to Editor Barbara J. Saffir (Barb22030 AT yahoo DOT com).

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**NEW VP and TREASURER:** VPS's Board of Directors made two appointments last month. Barbara Saffir will serve as First Vice President and Venkat Krishnan will serve as Treasurer. All officers' terms end June 30, 2018. **If you want to serve in any office on the board next year, please contact President David Kepley at [kepley.david AT gmail DOT com](mailto:kepley.david@gmail.com). As a volunteer-run organization, VPS needs *many* volunteers for the club to succeed and to thrive.**

# VPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

JULY, 2017 through JUNE, 2018

Mail this application and your check (payable to VPS) or cash to:

VPS, c/o Paige Counts, 10315 Dunfries Rd., Vienna, VA 22181

or hand the payment and application form during any VPS meeting to

Paige Counts, Membership Director, or Burgess Levin, Treasurer

I am ( ) a NEW member OR ( ) RENEWING. I have been a VPS member since the year (\_\_\_\_\_)

First Name\* \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_ Last Name\* \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City-State-Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_ \*=required

NOTE: To receive VPS's Newsletter (*Focal Points*) and other membership messages, you must provide a unique and valid email address. *Focal Points* is emailed to members and posted on the club's website as a PDF file. You need Adobe Acrobat Reader to open it.

PRIVACY: Membership records are maintained by the Membership Director. Periodically, the records are distributed to members to manage VPS's business. Membership records may also be shared with the Nature Visions Photo Expo as part of VPS's participation in that event. Membership records are also available on the VPS website to club members only. VPS will not provide member information to persons or to organizations outside the club, other than specified above. Members may opt to restrict the display of their membership records to other members as follows. Please check one of the options below. This will govern how your records may be displayed to other members on the VPS website:

INCLUDE \_\_\_\_ my name, phone number, home and email address. (This is the default option.)

INCLUDE \_\_\_\_ my name and email address.

INCLUDE \_\_\_\_ only my name.

I have enclosed my check.

( ) \$40 for a Single Membership

( ) \$60 for a Family Membership

## DUES PAYMENT

( ) \$20 for non-renewing members joining after January 31.

( ) \$30 for non-renewing Family Members\* joining after January 31

( ) cash for:

( ) \$15 for a Student Membership (age 18 or under)

\*Family members, please make separate application and use unique email address for each member.

## IMPORTANT: VPS Liability & Publicity Release

In consideration of being given the opportunity to participate in a Vienna Photographic Society (VPS) field trip or other event, I acknowledge, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of field trips and other VPS activities, and that I am qualified, in good health and in proper physical condition to participate in such field trips and activities. I fully understand that field trips and other VPS activities are conducted in different environments, and that, accordingly, my photography equipment and I may be exposed to dangers and hazards both natural and man-made. I fully accept and assume all risks and all responsibility for losses, costs, and damages I incur as a result of my participation in VPS field trips or other activities. I hereby release, discharge, and covenant not to sue VPS, its officers, directors, agents, independent contractors, volunteers, members and sponsors.

ADDITIONALLY, I authorize the use of any images submitted to VPS for use by VPS solely for publicity activities such as websites or brochures.

Acceptance of terms of VPS Liability Release (If under 18, parent or guardian must sign):

PRINTED NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT VPS?

- ☐ A Friend    ☐ VPSVA.ORG    ☐ Meetup.com    ☐ Web Search    ☐ VPS Card/Brochure  
☐ Photo Expo or Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Photo Class or Store \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Newspaper \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

PARTICIPATION IN VPS SUPPORT NETWORK

VPS has established a support network of members who wish to contribute a few hours each month to assist in VPS program activities, including providing assistance to VPS officers. This network is mentored by the First Vice President of the Vienna Photographic Society.

Are you interested in being listed as a member of the VPS Support Network? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please indicate in what areas you might volunteer to help us (a VPS officer will follow up by email):

- ☐ WILLING TO HELP WHERE NEEDED
- ☐ PUBLICITY: Providing publicity and information to the community about VPS
- ☐ INSTRUCTION DEVELOPMENT: Development of ideas for hands-on instructional programs like Forums
- ☐ FIELD TRIPS: Planning and arranging field trips
- ☐ AUDIO-VISUAL SUPPORT: ☐ Helping set up projection equipment at meetings.  
☐ Learn to operate the projection program for competitions.
- ☐ SPEAKER PROGRAM: Help with planning guest speaker visits
- ☐ GREETING: Greeting new members and guests
- ☐ HISTORIAN: Assist in preparing historical documents about VPS activities
- ☐ TABLE SETUP: Help with setup for monthly photographic competitions
- ☐ COMPETITION JUDGING: Help with selection and planning of judges activity in monthly competitions
- ☐ PRINT HANDLING: Assist in passing prints during monthly competitions
- ☐ NATURE VISIONS EXPO: Help VPS Rep with the annual regional Nature Visions Photo Expo, Nov 11th-13th
- ☐ EDITORIAL HELP: Help by assisting editor with editing/production of monthly newsletter
- ☐ ARTICLE DEVELOPMENT: Writing, soliciting or editing articles for monthly newsletter working with the Editor
- ☐ PHOTO DISPLAY: Help with planning and arranging member photo displays and external Exhibitions
- ☐ WEBMASTER ASSISTANCE: Help with assistance to VPS Webmaster
- ☐ PARTY ASSISTANCE: Help setting up parties and social events

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR USE BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

(Please print.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_