

Val Swan

I am fairly new to the Howard County Bird Club, but not to birding as my Dad is a huge fan of this fabulous hobby. My best memories are those of appreciation for all of the knowledge that trickles down from this group of highly skilled birders. I am very thankful for the help in "stepping up my game." All the little statements, such as big bills, small heads, black eyebrows, egg-shaped, squared tails, the flicker of the hawks, fine streaking, copper and pewter, lime green, etc. have been useful tools. Also thanks for sharing your birds (Rufous Hummingbird, for example), your checklists, and reviewing my pics!

My most memorable bird would have to be the Common Gallinule seen on the Fall Count 2021 with Chuck Stirrat. I also recently enjoyed the courtship display of the American Woodcock with Mary Maxey and Mary Lou Clark. I look forward to more adventures with you all!