



## **Slate of Candidates for 2023 Election**

As detailed in the Catskill 3500 Club by-laws, Board Officers and Directors are voted on by membership, but committee chairs are decided on by the President in consultation with the Nominating Committee.

As so many of the committee chairs who are on the slate as Directors have been in their positions for years and are known well by membership, we have only included bios for the three new candidates to the Board. Those follow this slate.

**If you are a member in good standing (current on dues)** We ask that you vote, sign and return your ballots by email to [secretary@catskill-3500-club.org](mailto:secretary@catskill-3500-club.org). If you do not know if you are up to date on your dues, contact [Dave White](#) or [Chris Adams](#).

If you are not able to digitally sign and save, you can also print, sign and take a photo of your signed ballot and email that to the above. Or send it by mail to: Catskill 3500 Club, PO Box 294, West Hurley, NY 12491

If you have any questions, email [contact@catskill-3500-club.org](mailto:contact@catskill-3500-club.org).

***The Nominating committee recommends the election of all the following individuals.***

Yes (Check)

### **Officers**

President: Michael Bongar

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President: Lori Herpin

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: Jay Hui

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: Colin Devries

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

### **Directors**

Chris Adams (Aspirant Chair)

Maria Bedo-Calhoun (Conservation Chair)

Jim Bouton (Canister Maintainer)

Marv Freedman (Outings Chair)

Jake Haisley (Search and Rescue Chair)

Colleen Hardcastle (Trailhead Steward Program Co-Chair)

Lynn Houston (Digital Content Chair)

Yanina Levchinsky-Grimmond (Canister Editor)

Lourdes Sonera (Trail Maintenance Chair)

Dick Vincent (New York New Jersey Trail Conference Representative)

David White (Membership Chair)

Bill Winterbottom (Search and Rescue Chief)

Director write-in: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print your name, member number date and sign below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## New Candidates to the Board

### Colin DeVries #3382 W1589 (Secretary)



Colin DeVries has been hiking and exploring the Catskills since he was a child growing up in the Hudson Valley. His Catskill 3500 journey began in 2009 while working as a journalist for the Catskill Daily Mail. He learned about the club through his reporting and joined a trail clean-up event Peekamoose, which was recorded as his first summit in May 2009. Later that year, he joined about two dozen Catskill 3500 Club volunteers to rebuild the John Robb lean-to along Hunter Mountain's Spruceton trail. He still considers the outcropping by the lean-to to have some of the best views around. He's grown a deep appreciation for fire towers and their history, and has volunteered as an interpreter at the Hunter and Tremper fire towers. After moving to New York City to pursue his career, he stayed committed to the Catskills and finally completed his tally sheet in March 2020. He completed his winter patch in 2023.

Colin lives in Jersey City, NJ, and is assistant director of media relations at NYU Langone Health in Manhattan. Prior, he worked nine-plus years as a newspaper editor and reporter for the New York Daily News, the News Corp-owned Times Ledger Newspapers group in Queens and daily and weekly papers in upstate New York. He served as president of the New York Deadline Club, the New York City chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, in 2021 and 2022 and remains on the board as immediate past president. He is a board member of Safe Streets Jersey City, which advocates for investment in safe street design that prioritizes safety for all road users. He has a master's degree in communication and media from Rutgers University, an advanced certificate in public health from CUNY School of Public Health, an advanced certificate in nonprofit management from NYU Wagner, and a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University at Albany, where his journalism career began writing for the Albany Student Press. He also teaches public relations at Hunter College.

### Lori Herpen #4105 (Vice President)



Lori Herpen has enjoyed hiking throughout her life and has a passion for the environment and conservation work. She started hiking in the Catskills in 2015, on a camping trip to Peekamoose Mountain. On New Year's Day 2022, she Googled "challenging hikes in the Catskills", learned of the club and thus, her journey began. She finished her required climbs on December 26, 2022 and began working on her winter patch which she hopes to complete this coming winter. Since becoming a member, Lori serves on the fundraising committee, the annual dinner committee and is leading our newly formed finance committee. In addition, Lori has completed the club's Wilderness First Aid course for certification.

Lori lives in Hunterdon County, New Jersey and has worked in the non-profit sector her entire career. She is currently the Individual Giving Manager at Norwescap, (*Northwest New Jersey Community Action Partnership*). In her role there, Lori is responsible for liaising with donors and building relationships with new donors. Lori has a degree in Environmental Science from Rutgers University and worked for the both the

national Sierra Club and the New Jersey State Chapter. She also served as a Supervisor for the AmeriCorps Program and has held several other positions in non-profit management, development and administration.

**Bill Winterbottom #1904 W858 (Director)**



Bill Winterbottom has been a long time hike leader for the Catskill 3500 Club, was the previous Outings Chair of the Club, is the Chief of the Catskill Search and Rescue Team, a medical instructor and a certified Wilderness EMT. He lives in Shohola PA. President and EMS Captain of the Volunteer Shohola Fire Dept.