



## Catskill 3500 Club Official Ballot 2025

As outlined in the Catskill 3500 Club Bylaws, Officers and Directors are elected annually by the membership. The Nominating Committee proposes a slate, which is approved by the Board. All Directors must chair or serve on a committee, with appointments made by the President. Members in good standing may submit additional nominations to the nominating committee at least ten days before the Annual Meeting, with the nominee's consent.

All active members (current on dues paid) are encouraged to vote. Please complete, sign, and return your ballot by email (PDF or photo) to Colin DeVries at [secretary@catskill3500club.org](mailto:secretary@catskill3500club.org) or by mail to: *Catskill 3500 Club, P.O. Box 294, West Hurley, NY 12491.*

Below are the nominated candidates approved by the Board. Please check the box to approve or provide a write-in.

### Officers (4)

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President: Michael Bongar   | Write-in: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vice President: Lori Herpen | Write-in: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer: Chris Hummell    | Write-in: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary: Sherri Goffman   | Write-in: _____ |

### Directors (12)

- ☐ Chris Adams
- ☐ Maria Bedo-Calhoun
- ☐ Jim Bouton
- ☐ Jake Haisley
- ☐ Colleen Hardcastle
- ☐ Julie McGuire
- ☐ David Oliver
- ☐ Maria Orchard
- ☐ Lourdes Sonera
- ☐ Jack Walker
- ☐ David White
- ☐ Bill Winterbottom

Or

- ☐ Director write-in: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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## New Candidate Bio's

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### David Oliver #2360 W1040 - Director

David Oliver began hiking in the Catskills in 2012 and went on to complete the 3-season Catskill 3500 peaks, followed by both his Winter 35s and a solo Winter round. After stepping away from the mountains for several years to care for his parents, he returned with a renewed focus on personal endurance challenges—completing both the Devil's Path and the Catskill Fire Tower Challenge in a single day.

Some of David's favorite peaks include Cornell, Wittenberg, and Kaaterskill High Peak, especially in winter. Winter is his favorite season to be in the mountains, where he finds the combination of solitude, intensity, and clarity especially rewarding.

David has completed Wilderness First Aid (WFA) training multiple times in the Catskills and brings a safety-focused, preparation-first mindset to every hike. In addition to the Catskills, he has hiked extensively throughout the Adirondacks, White Mountains, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and other regions across the U.S.

He lives in Long Valley, New Jersey, and works in marketing. He enjoys picking up trash during his hikes and promoting respect for the mountains through action, not just words. David is passionate about encouraging newcomers to explore hiking year-round—especially in winter after proper training—and helping others view hiking as a sustainable, long-term approach to fitness, stress reduction, and personal growth.



### Maria Orchard #4120 W1584 - Director

Maria is a native of North Jersey and currently lives and works in Bridgewater, NJ. She has spent the last 15 years working in the chemical industry. Maria was fortunate to spend her childhood visiting the Catskills, spending much of her time fishing and cooking outdoors with her family. These experiences instilled in her a deep passion for the outdoors.

Despite Phoenicia being her "home away from home," Maria's hiking adventures began outside of the Catskills. She has traveled to Mt. Fuji, Nepal, the Rocky Mountains, and completed the Camino de Santiago in Spain. It wasn't until 2020 that she decided to hike the Catskill high peaks. Her first hike with the 3500 Club

took place in 2022 at Kaaterskill High Peak, and she became a member of the club that same year. She obtained her Winter patch shortly after.

In the summer of 2023, Maria joined the Outings Committee for the 3500 Club, which has provided her with valuable learning experiences and deepened her interest in hiking and promoting the outdoors. She enjoys participating in trail maintenance events and has recently started volunteering with the NY-NJ Trail Conference to help maintain a section of the Warner Creek Trail. Maria has also begun leading hikes for the 3500 Club and looks forward to helping others achieve their hiking goals. Her next personal goal is to complete the NEU8 in 2025. Maria has a genuine appreciation for the outdoors and is committed to supporting and educating others on their hiking journeys. She looks forward to giving her time and support back to the Catskills we all love.