



# The Alpine Steward

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Fostering the Spirit of Wildness and Conserving the Alpine Areas of Northeastern North America

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# Fostering Stewardship, Stone by Stone

*By Ryan J. Harvey*

**I**would like to begin this year's President's Message with a heartfelt thanks to Kim Votta, outgoing Waterman Fund President. Having led the Fund for two productive years, we are grateful for her leadership. She remains a great resource and mentor.

### OUR 20 YEAR COMMITMENT TO TRAIL WORK

On the eve of 2020, the Waterman Fund is excited to be entering its 20th year! It is a milestone worthy of celebration, reflection, and looking forward to future opportunities. Much changes in 20 years—technology, politics, family, and more; however, many things remain the same. The presence of wildness and wilderness remains an enduring motivation in the lives of those of us at the Waterman Fund. The basic premise to accessing and enjoying the wild in the mountains and hills, however, is the stewarding of trails and its environs. This is what enables so many to enjoy the land without degrading it. As such, the hard and satisfying labor of trail work remains a timeless and very necessary act. Regardless of technological advances trail work still remains, the product of labor, sweat, time, and dedication. Although we have grown smarter in how to move rocks, design trails, and ways to save our backs, when it comes down to it effective trail work

remains the product of an enthusiastic individual or crew with tools in hand.

There is something about physical labor such as trail work that can instill a certain sense of confidence and responsibility. The physical labor gives form to our aspirations and values. It is as if we become doubtless in our vision when we apply effort. Dedication coalesces to a long-term vision and a sense of stewardship matures. Such are the efforts of the Waterman Fund. Vision, effort, and continued support has yielded diligent and consistent support of this fundamental work.

### ALPINE TRAILS RESTORATION

This year the Fund has awarded \$22,000 for alpine trail restoration projects to the Adirondack Mountain Club and the Green Mountain Club (see next page). This is in addition to our annual grants, for a combined total of \$31,000 awarded to clubs and organizations. This the highest amount of grant money awarded annually by the Fund since its inception. Because alpine trail work and restoration is costly by its nature—due to remote locations, challenging work conditions, and limited on-site material availability—the Waterman Fund feels it is imperative to leverage funds to address these challenging conditions and financial costs. We believe that supporting this work reverberates far beyond the trail's tread and contributes towards the fostering of a strong stewardship ethic.



## IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message: <i>Stewardship</i> .....	1
Grants Report: <i>Trailwork &amp; Education</i> .....	2-3
Grant Spotlight: <i>Adirondack Trail Work</i> .....	4
Annual Essay Contest Winners .....	6-7
The Year in Photographs .....	8-9
NEW: <i>Emerging</i> Alpine Steward Award .	10-11
NE Alpine Stewardship Gathering .....	12
Sean Robinson Joins Board .....	13
Treasurer's Report .....	14
Waterman Fund Donors .....	15



The Waterman Fund  
P.O. Box 1064  
East Corinth, VT 05040  
[watermanfund.org](http://watermanfund.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ryan Harvey, *President*  
June Hammond-Rowan, *Vice President*  
Will Kemeza, *Secretary*  
Nancy Ritger, *Treasurer*  
Seth Jones  
Sean Robinson  
Kim Votta  
Laura Waterman  
Brendan Wiltse

A notice to friends and supporters that the board of directors amended the Fund's Bylaws in 2018. Amendments included a change in our fiscal year to April 1 to March 31. We also simplified requirements on how we communicate meeting notices to board members and expanded options for communicating notices of By-Law amendments to include publication in the Fund's annual newsletter. Lastly, the by-laws were made gender neutral. If you would like a copy of the Fund's By-Laws, contact us at [info@watermanfund.org](mailto:info@watermanfund.org).

The Waterman Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.  
All donations are tax deductible.

Copyright © 2019 The Waterman Fund.

## 2019 WATERMAN FUND GRANTS REPORT

# Grants Awarded for Trailwork and Education

By Seth Jones

**T**he Waterman Fund grants program, which was started in 2002, has awarded 98 grants totaling \$261,071. These grants have supported trail work, stewardship, education and research across the alpine of Northeastern North America. In 2019 the Fund awarded 4 grants totaling \$31,000. This was the first year The Fund offered \$15,000 in additional funding towards alpine and sub-alpine trail reconstruction and rehabilitation projects.

### TRAIL WORK ON ALPINE SUMMITS

Two of the four grants awarded this year were to help with trail work in the alpine and sub-alpine zone. The Fund awarded the **Adirondack Mountain Club** \$15,000 for their Professional Trail Crew to do trail work on alpine summits in the summer of 2019. Work included rebuilding carins on Mt. Haystack and dismantling a large rock pile that was created by hikers and damaging vegetation on the summit of Skylight while also rebuilding cairns on that summit also. (see page 4 for *Grant Spotlight*)

### TRAIL REHABILITATION ON MT. MANSFIELD

The **Green Mountain Club** (GMC) was awarded \$7,000 to complete trail rehabilitation on the Hellbrook Cutoff Trail in Mt. Mansfield's subalpine zone. The trail is a beautiful alternative to the increasingly popular alpine zone trails, and acts as a respite for hikers seeking solitude. There is a significant backlog of tread improvement which has reached a critical level and must be completed to keep the trail functional.

### STEWARDSHIP OF SADDLEBACK AND BIGELOW MOUNTAINS

One grant awarded this year went towards education. The **Maine Appalachian Trail Club** was awarded \$5,000 for the stewardship of Saddleback and Bigelow Mountains. Funds will support expenses associated with the staffing, outfitting and operation of two Appalachian Trail Ridgerunners. From May through October, the Ridgerunners live and work on Saddleback and Bigelow Mountains. They are positioned to reach over 8,000 hikers with alpine education and Leave No Trace outdoor skills and ethics.

### INTERACTIVE DISPLAY EXHIBIT

The final grant that was awarded to the **Museum of the White Mountains** (\$4,000) for an exhibit titled, "Walking in the Whites: Why Do We Hike?" which will be an important element of a major exhibit at the Museum entitled, "Walking into the Whites: A Poet/Painter Dialogue. Why Do We Hike?" The project, as part of the larger exhibit experience, will involve the creation of an interactive display designed to engage visitors in wilderness ethics.

## THE FUND 2019 GRANTS: \$31,000 TOTAL

**Adirondack Mountain Club:** \$15,000 for trail work on alpine summits

**Green Mountain Club:** \$7,000 for trail rehabilitation on Mt. Mansfield

**Maine Appalachian Trail Club:** \$5,000 for stewardship of Saddleback and Bigelow Mountains

**Museum of the White Mountains:** \$4,000 for interactive display exhibit



## DEADLINE FOR 2020 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Grant applications for alpine project funding are due on December 15, 2019.

For information: Visit [watermanfund.org](http://watermanfund.org) or write to [grants@watermanfund.org](mailto:grants@watermanfund.org).



# Grant Spotlight: Professional Trail Work in the Adirondack Alpine Zone

By Seth Jones

The Waterman Fund was pleased to support the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) doing trail work on two alpine summits in the Adirondack Mountains of New York in 2019. This was the first year The Fund offered \$15,000 in additional funding towards alpine and sub-alpine trail reconstruction and rehabilitation projects.

**ADK reports:** *There were two main objectives of the work* that the Waterman Fund supported. The first was to remove a large pile of rocks on Mt. Skylight. These rocks were placed on the summit by the public as a result of folklore that encouraged placing a rock on the summit will keep rain from falling. This rock pile had grown so substantially that it was spilling onto the alpine vegetation and damaging it.

**The second objective of this project was to rebuild the cairns** on Haystack Mountain, as they were not easy to see

in the summer months, and completely obscured when there is any snow accumulation on the ground. Both projects work to protect fragile alpine vegetation and the spirit of wildness, which are tenets of The Waterman Fund’s mission, by delineating the trail and removing excess rocks from the summit. This project was a team effort between Adirondack Mountain Club’s Professional Trail Crew, the Adirondack High Peaks Summit Stewardship Program, and ADK’s Volunteer Trails Program.

**All of the stones placed on Mt. Skylight** were removed and relocated below treeline. In addition, the Professional Trail Crew was able to build four cairns on the summit of Skylight over the course of five days. On Haystack Mountain, the Professional Trail Crew spent a total of two weeks constructing 14 cairns. This project challenged ADK’s Professional Trail Crew due to remoteness and rugged nature of this worksite. Another challenge was the hike in and out of the worksite on Haystack Mountain.



## •• FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR TRAIL PROJECTS CONTINUES ••

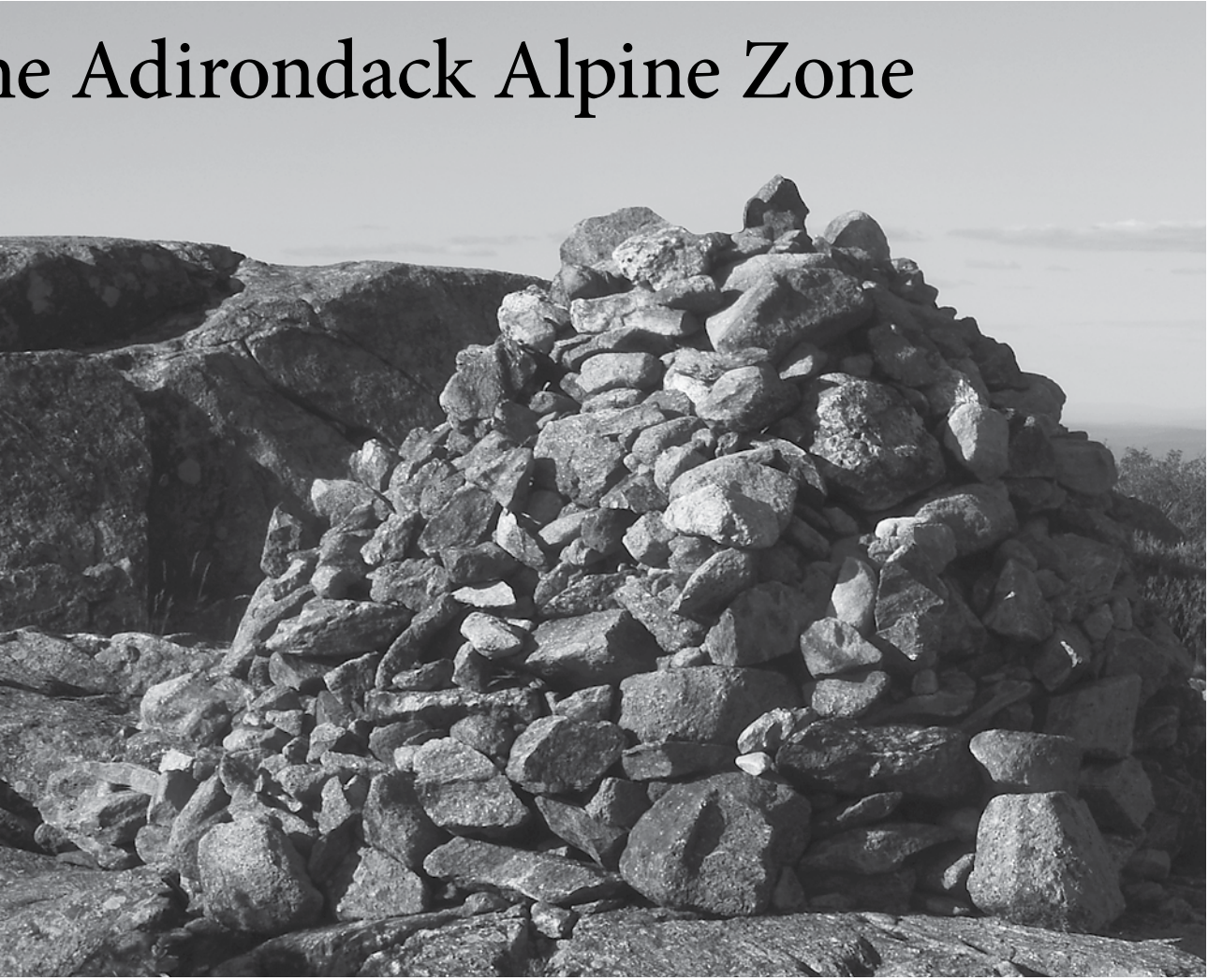
In previous years the Waterman Fund has discussed providing larger grant awards towards trail projects to better serve the mission of the Fund. The Fund has cumulatively awarded over \$22,000 towards trail projects since 2002, consisting of only 11% of the total grants awarded. These individual grants have been generally between \$2,000- \$3,000. As a result, the Fund has not been able to invest a significant amount of funding towards trail projects.

In recent dialogue with land managers, trail maintainers, and researchers there appears to be a need to invest into the greater alpine trail infrastructure. This improved trail infrastructure will help protect the fragile alpine ecosystem

that surrounds these trails.

In the 2020-21 grant cycle, the Waterman Fund is offering up to \$15,000 towards alpine / sub-alpine trail reconstruction and rehabilitation projects. This grant will be in addition to our annual grants awarded and will follow the same guidelines and parameters.

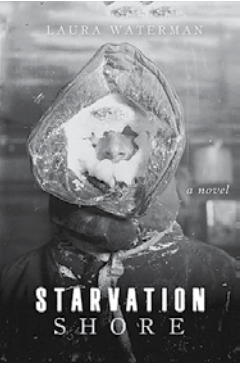
We encourage nonprofit trail maintenance organizations to apply to the Waterman Fund if there is a trail project that the Fund can contribute to. The Fund is excited to offer this expanded opportunity to help strengthen trail stewardship in the alpine areas of Northeastern North America. Please submit a grant application by December 15, 2019.



## ...BOOK PROMO...

### Laura Waterman’s First Foray Into Fiction: *Starvation Shore*

In the summer of 1881, the twenty-five men of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition watched their ship sail for home from Discovery Harbor, just 500 miles from the North Pole. Commanded by the ambitious yet underqualified Adolphus W. Greely, this crew represented the first U.S. attempt to engage in scientific study of the Arctic. The frigid landscape offered the promise of great adventure—and unknown dangers. It was an expedition Greely eagerly anticipated long before it began. Standing there on that sunny summer afternoon, no one could have known how much would go wrong.



Drawing upon historic records, diaries, and letters of the men who inhabited the makeshift shelter they called Camp Clay, Laura Waterman reimagines the true story of polar explorers fighting for their lives and their sanity under dehumanizing conditions. This gripping, tragic tale of hunger, fear, and hope is told through the eyes of men at their worst—and most desperate—moments.

Waterman’s book was published in March 2019. Visit [indiebound.org](http://indiebound.org) or [laurawaterman.com](http://laurawaterman.com) for purchasing information to supplement your wintertime reading!



# This Year’s Essay Winners

By Annie Bellerose, Val Stori, Bethany Taylor, and Laura Waterman

The Waterman Fund is proud to announce the winners of our tenth essay Contest. This year the reading committee, comprised of current and former board members, outside readers, and the editor of *Appalachia*, chose two co-winners for our Essay Contest for 2019, Jennifer O’Connell’s “Valley of the Bulls,” and Alex Pickens’, “The Do’s and Don’t’s of Trail Running in the Appalachian Mountains.” For our honorable mention we awarded John Anderson for his “Humor in the Wild.”

Our theme for 2019 asked our essayists to consider what we have all experienced: the mountain world can bring humor into our lives. Perhaps because the mere act of being in the mountains provides an antidote to the daily bombardment of the news cycle and the traumas of modern life. Perhaps because being in the mountains heightens all kinds of human experience. Perhaps because being in the mountains helps us to remember that life is full of the absurd and the unexpected. Does laughing, or just a bemused smile bring us closer to wildness? Is laughter a natural reaction to wildness—the wild within responding to the wild outside? How and when does humor intersect with our experience of the wild? As you will see in these winning essays, humor trails us. What can look like disaster at the time, is often seen as hilarious afterward.

Jenny O’Connell’s ten-year career as an outdoor guide has taken her all over the globe leading backpacking, kayaking, sea kayaking, and river trips from the mountains of Peru to the wild waters of her home state of Maine. An MFA graduate of the Stonecoast Creative Writing Program at the University of Southern Maine, Jenny’s writing carves

out space for women in the wild, exploring themes of risk-taking and transformation, and asks questions of the way we live and the way we die. She writes that her inspiration for this essay, “came out of one of those heart-stopping moments of grace I have come to live for -- the moments that teeter on the edge of elation and destruction, so full of humor and humility; the fear response is to laugh, which is not always a good thing. But laughter can also create looseness in a sticky situation.”

Alex Pickens writes that “the Appalachian mountains are very near to my heart.” He has been exploring the Appalachians of Virginia and New England for twenty years and admits to a soft spot for black bears. His experiences in adverse conditions have inspired him to become certified in wilderness first aid through the Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities (SOLO) program. His goal in life is to become a professional writer.

John Anderson, raised in a Nature Center in a New Jersey state park, claims to have been “outdoors since diapers.” He has degrees in Nursing and Political Science and History. A public speaker on such diverse subjects as injury control, advocacy, maritime affairs, history, and innovation, John is currently director of Rancocas Pathways, a non-profit organization whose mission is to gain National Water Designation for New Jersey’s Rancocas Creek. As our honorable mention choice, John discloses that he felt the need to write about his humorous (and epic!) moments in the outdoors when his nursing position ended “for reasons of a mega merger in healthcare. Humor, “he adds, “has helped me through many an epic.”

## Fom Jennifer O’Connell’s “Valley of the Bulls”

The colectivo drops us at the trailhead at the end of a bumpy dirt road. The gate is locked. A park ranger steps out of the thatched hut at the entrance and nods to a large stone wall. There’s a moment of confused gesturing (Over it? you want us to climb over it? Yes, over it. really? Yes, really.) and then we’re hoisting out backpacks up and over the wall and scrambling after them. Lucy has been one of my best friends for a decade now, and she knows that when I invite her and her boyfriend, Eric, to meet me in Peru and say “maybe bring a backpack just in case,” it means “bring the good shit, we’re going somewhere.” In this case it’s the Cordillera Blanca, the “white range” — over seven hundred glaciers, several peaks about 19,000 ft., and Huascaran, the highest mountain in Peru, its summit the place on Earth with the smallest gravitational force. ☞

# 2020 ALPINE ESSAY CONTEST

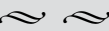
Guy and Laura Waterman spent a lifetime exploring, living, and writing within the boundaries of culture and nature, and through our annual contest, the Waterman Fund seeks new voices on the role and place of wilderness in the modern world.

2020 marks the 20th anniversary of the Waterman Fund. To celebrate this milestone, the Fund has created a reflective essay prompt focused on changes in the wild. Accordingly, writers are asked to explore this topic: *Changes in the Wild*

We’d like to think that wilderness and wildness can withstand the test of time, the change of political regimes, the evolution of technologies, the ebb and flow of social organization, and the cultural zeitgeist. But can it? How has the spirit of wildness and wilderness itself endured over the last twenty years? In this short time, we saw over 548 million acres protected across the nation under former President Obama—the most habitat protected by any president in American history; and we’ve also experienced rollbacks to National Monuments and the preference for corporate interests over conservation under President Trump. At the turn of the century, we were lamenting the shrill tones of cell phones in the mountains and a decade later lamenting the chasm that the digital, virtual age has created between the younger generation and the wild. And now, we see a resurgence of interest in and passion for the wild. Across the country, the number of hikers has increased dramatically—45 million people went hiking in 2017, up from 30 million in 2006. Ironically, social media—one of the virtual realities we hypothesized would distance Millennials and Gen Z from the wild—has helped connect people to the wild. How have cultural shifts impacted the wild in the last two decades? What have they been?

Similarly, we are interested in your personal experience with changes to the wild and changes in

perceptions of the wild in the last twenty years. What aspects of the wild endure the tests of time?



The deadline for submission is February 2, 2020. Submissions should be 2000-3000 words. Please include contact information and a few lines about why the writer feels their essay is appropriate for the contest. Online submissions of double-spaced manuscripts in a 12-point font, Word doc compatible file are preferred. If submitting by mail, please include an email address. We will announce the winners at the end of June. The winning essayist will be awarded \$1500 and published in *Appalachia Journal*. The Honorable Mention essay will receive \$500. Both essays will be published on our website. For the purposes of this contest, an emerging writer is considered someone who has a solid writing background or interest, but has not yet published a major work of prose on this topic or been featured in national publications.

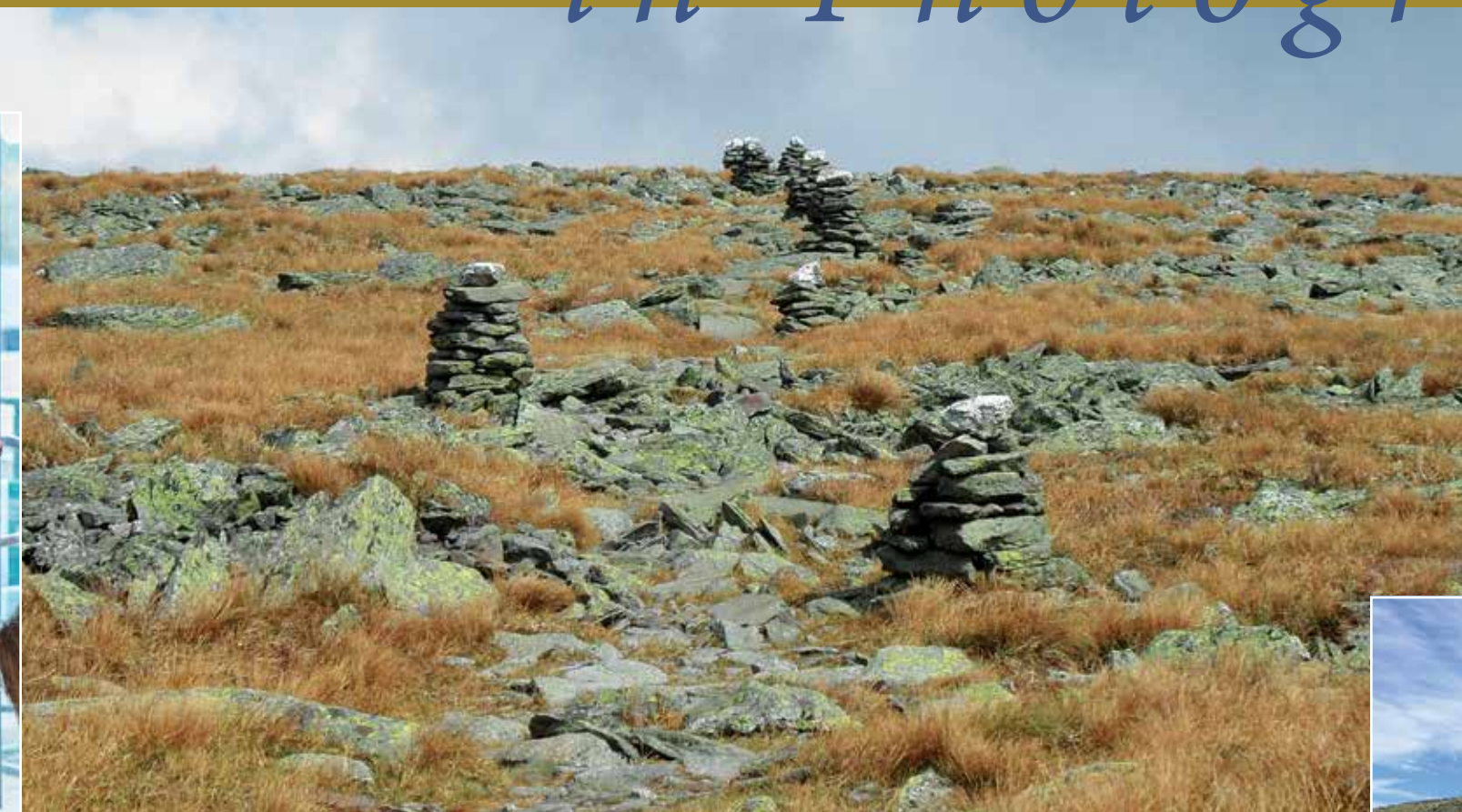
We welcome personal, scientific, adventure, or memoir essays; fiction, poetry, or songs are not eligible for this contest. More information about the Waterman Fund and on the essay contest is available at [watermanfund.org](http://watermanfund.org), Facebook, and via [essays@watermanfund.org](mailto:essays@watermanfund.org). We welcome all inquiries.

## From Alex Pickens’ “The Do’s and Don’t’s of Trail Running in the Appalachian Mountains”

Do be prepared to eat flies and run through spider webs. Given their astronomical population and their infinitesimal size, the odds are not in your favor, especially since you will be sucking air as you barrel through the forest. Think of them as unintended supplemental protein to your diet for your workout. Gyn jockeys may guzzle oversized protein shakes, but you have gone organic and turned hunter-gatherer of bugs, accumulate your prey by merely leaving your mouth ajar as you run. They will be sufficiently shaken in your intestines as you progress along uneven trails to rival any beverage concocted by health experts. No better way to kick-start your morning jog than an unintended aphid smoothie! ☞

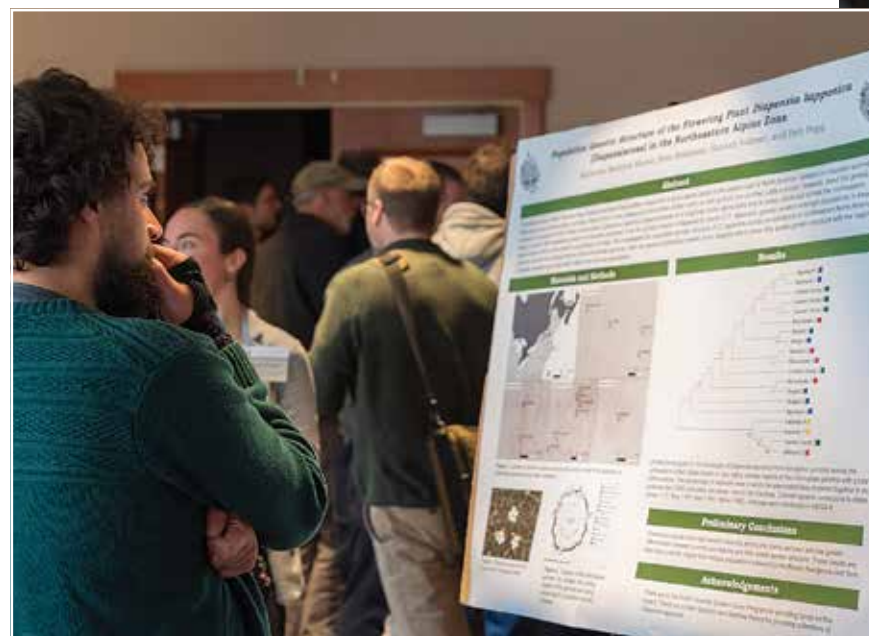


# THE YEAR *in Photographs*



1. The alpine zone in the Whites. (June Hammond-Rowan, photo)
2. An ADK volunteer works a display table at the Northeast Alpine Stewardship Gathering. (Seth Jones, photo)
3. An onlooker reviews a display board about *Diapensia lapponica* at the Northeast Alpine Stewardship Gathering. (Seth Jones, photo)
4. Laura Waterman addresses the gang at the Northeast Alpine Stewardship Gathering. (Seth Jones, photo)
5. Young people enjoy a day on the Presidentials. (Will Kemeza, photo)
6. Laura Waterman celebrates 80 years with friends!
7. Ryan Harvey and Laura Waterman on the Gulfside Trail. (Dave Govatski, photo)

2



1



5



7



6

On a beautiful October day near her home, a robust gathering of friends and colleagues celebrated Laura's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Happy Birthday Laura!** Wishing you continued years of good work and health!



## Announcing... The *Emerging* Alpine Steward Award

This year, the Waterman Fund was pleased to receive outstanding nominations for the first recipient of the **Emerging Alpine Steward Award**.

This award—open to anyone who has been an active steward of the mountains of the Northeast for five years or fewer—honors and thanks people who have begun to demonstrate a commitment to preserving both the physical landscape and the spirit of wildness in the mountains of the Northeast. The 2019 recipient of this award, **Kayla White**, perfectly embodies these qualities. Meet Kayla, below, and to nominate someone see back cover for information.

## Kayla White's Positive Attitude Serves Adirondacks' Alpine

By Brendan Wiltse

I came to know Kayla White during the summer of 2013 when she started working with me at Johns Brook Lodge (JBL). Working in a backcountry lodge requires a strong tolerance for being in close contact with other people for extended periods of time. The JBL crew wakes up together in a small cabin at 6 a.m. each morning to start breakfast for the guests. They spend the day cleaning the lodge and



Photo by Seth Jones

preparing dinner, work together to move 50-gallon barrels of human waste around, serve dinner, and tidy the lodge for the next day. Then they head back to their small cabin where they sleep in a common room in bunks. Hardly an hour goes by where another crew member isn't a short distance away.

In such close quarters I had the opportunity to quickly learn who Kayla is. She's an exceptionally hard worker who is not afraid to push others to improve the quality of work they are doing. This strong work ethic was contrasted by a light-hearted and fun-loving personality. I can't recall a time I've seen Kayla with anything but a smile on her face, even

when elbows deep in a grease trap at the lodge. Her love of the mountains also shone through during the summer we spent working together. It's easy to take the little bit of free time found at JBL to read or lay by the brook. Kayla spent her time exploring her new home, the Johns Brook valley. By the end of the season she had been up all of the surrounding High Peaks, as well as to many hidden gems tucked away in the valley.

*“I find my strength and humility on the mountains; they have become the best parts of me.”*

Kayla has a bachelor's degree in philosophy with a minor in comparative literature. She started working at the Adirondack Mountain Club in 2012 on the Loj Crew. After a summer at JBL she transitioned to the Summit Steward Program, her first season being 2014. Perhaps she had enough of living in close quarters with six other people and a dog. When Julia Goren (Past Waterman Fund Board Member & 2016 Guy Waterman Alpine Steward Award Winner) moved from being the program coordinator to the Education Director in 2015, Kayla was promoted to Chief Summit Steward. She had big shoes to fill, but the most perfect mentor as well. She served in that role for two years before being promoted to Summit Steward Coordinator, a role she has served in for three years.

*continued on next page*



ADK Summit Stewards past and present, represent 30 years of the Adirondack Summit Stewardship Program.

*“The mountains have been there for millions of years, the alpine plants for thousands. It's going to be okay. Just do your best.”*

*Kayla White ... continued*

As the Johns Brook Property manager, I was bummed to lose Kayla to the Summit Steward Program, but as a former Chief Summit Steward I knew it was the right fit both for her and the program. Her strong work ethic, interpersonal skills, and infectious positive attitude would serve her and the alpine environment well. Over the years, I've enjoyed watching Kayla's career advance. Seeing her grow into the leader of one of the most successful environmental stewardship programs in the northeast has been wonderful. I've also seen her love for wildness grow deeper.

Several years ago, as New York State was debating how to handle a large acquisition of land called the Boreas Ponds along the southern boundary of the High Peaks Wilderness, Kayla was among several young residents of the park, that working with others who saw the value of this parcel of land, began speaking for a full Wilderness classification of the Boreas Ponds. The group formed under the name Adirondack Wilderness Advocates. They turned out hundreds to public hearings, and thousands of letters

submitted to the Adirondack Park Agency. Kayla went on to help shepherd that group into a 501(c)3 and is one of the founding board members. In speaking to Kayla about her work, she said to me, “I find my strength and humility on the mountains; they have become the best parts of me.”

When I asked Kayla what advice she would give to young stewards as they face the challenges of working in a harsh environment and interacting with thousands of visitors, she said, “It's going to be okay. The mountains have been there for millions of years, the alpine plants for thousands. It's going to be okay. Just do your best,

have the most quality conversations you can and share with hikers why you love the mountains so much. It's contagious. They're already bought in, they just need a little extra nudge in the right direction. What you do matters and you should be so proud.”

Kayla's words to new stewards perfectly sum up those that I would say to her, “What you do matters and you should be so proud.” I couldn't imagine a more fitting person to receive the first Emerging Alpine Steward Award.



Kayla White receives the Emerging Alpine Steward Award during the 11th Annual Alpine Stewardship Gathering in October.





Entire group gathered for photo at the High Peaks Resort, Lake Placid, NY after dinner and awards on Saturday evening.

## Alpine Stewardship Gathering: *Packed with Inspiration and Information Sharing*

By Sean Robinson

With a record number of participants (107!), the 11<sup>th</sup> Northeastern Alpine Stewardship Gathering was a great success. Held at the High Peaks Resort in Lake Placid, NY on October 25-27, this year's Gathering was hosted by the Adirondack Mountain Club and The Waterman Fund with financial support from a number of sponsors who helped make the weekend affordable for anyone who wanted to attend.

After filling our bellies at a Mac and Cheese Bar (yes, this is a real thing!), the weekend started with an inspirational opening address by Tom Butler (Vice President for Conservation Advocacy for Tompkins Conservation and past board president of the Northeast Wilderness Trust) who made a call for a reconnection to the natural world around us to which, he reminded us, we are a part of. This was followed by a stimulating day of talks, discussions, forming new networks across organizations, and reconnecting with good friends and colleagues. Highlights of the day included plenary sessions on alpine research, stewardship, and visitor use; a panel discussion on how best to manage high use while still preserving a sense of wildness in our natural areas; reports from each of the northeast's stewardship programs; the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Adirondack Summit Stewardship Program, and the 50th anniversary of the Green Mountain Backcountry Caretaker Program; and a motivating keynote by Ben Lawhon (Education Director for the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics). Ben's talk entitled "Our Shared Public Lands: How Leave No



Charlie Cogbill, Guy Waterman Alpine Steward Award winner, with Laura Waterman and Ryan Harvey, president of the Waterman Fund.

Trace is Addressing Increasing Impacts for a Sustainable Future," presented "some of the modern drivers of increased recreation on public lands," and explored "the transferability of specific tactics for effectively educating the recreating public in order to provide tangible solutions for meeting the current challenges faced by our shared public lands."

Providing inspiring examples of alpine stewardship, Saturday evening included the presentation of The Guy Waterman Alpine Steward Award to Charlie Cogbill, of Beyond Ktaadn and Harvard Forest, (and "consummate scientist"), and the first ever Emerging Alpine Steward Award was presented to Kayla White, Adirondack High Peaks Summit Stewardship Coordinator.

The weekend ended with a selection of field trips on

*continued on next page*

**The Waterman Fund thanks the generous sponsors of the 2019 Northeastern Alpine Stewardship Gathering:**



## Sean Robinson Joins the Board

Sean grew up in Queensbury, NY and started working for the Adirondack Mountain Club in 1992. After working at the Adirondack Loj and Johns Brook Lodge during the summers of 1997 and 1998, he worked as a summit steward in 1999 and 2000. He then

went on to get his M.S. at SUNY-ESF and his Ph.D. at the University at Albany, specializing in bryology (the study of mosses, liverworts, and hornworts).

In 2010, he joined the Biology Department at SUNY Oneonta in Oneonta, NY. He teaches courses in Botany including Bryophyte Biology, Vascular Plant Systematics, and Dendrology. His research is focused on understanding how the mode of reproduction in plants, particularly bryophytes, affects colonization of new habitats, range expansions, and gene flow within and between island populations.

The alpine summits of northeastern North America have been the primary site for his work. Sean also conducts research focused on vegetation dynamics in alpine plant communities.



Gathered for a meeting at Laura's Page Hollow are board members June Hammond-Rowan, Laura Waterman, Sean Robinson, Ryan Harvey, Nancy Ritger and Will Kemeza. Missing are Seth Jones, Brendan Wiltse, and Kim Votta.

*Alpine Stewardship Gathering ... continued*

Sunday morning including a trip to the ASRC Whiteface Mountain Field Station and Alpine Zone; a look at the new trail up Cascade mountain; a drive down Rt-73 to discuss managing parking by recreationists in our public lands; and a boreal bog walk at Paul Smith's Visitor Interpretive Center.

Overall, this year's Gathering provided a refreshing and inspiring weekend for all who attended that justified the work we are doing and provided new information and techniques to better our stewardship of the places we call home.

## Thank You ... Laura Waterman from Page Hollow



**The High Peaks Resort** in Lake Placid, NY, for welcoming our 11th Northeast Alpine Managers Gathering with unstinting hospitality. Thanks yous are also in order to all the staff of the **Adirondack Mountain Club**, and **Kayla White** and **Seth Jones**, whose work on the front lines resulted in a wonderful program.

**Ben Lawhon** of the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, for inspiring us with his keynote speech.

**Tim Butler**, Tompkins Conservation, whose address on Friday night got the Gathering off to a super start.

**Bethany Taylor** and former board members **Annie Bellerose** and **Val Stori** who jointly and brilliantly run our Essay Contest, along with unstinting assists from **Alice Tufel**, and former board

member **Rebecca Oreskes**. With a special thanks to **Chris Woodside** who publishes our winning essay in *Appalachia*.

As the Fund gears up for its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in 2020, it is our great pleasure to thank former board presidents, **Carl Demrow**, **Rick Paradis**, and **Charlie Jacobi** as well as former board member **Rebecca Oreskes** for their skillful guidance to help us celebrate.

**Brian Post**, with gratitude for hosting the Funds's website and ensuring its safety.

**Anne McKinsey** of AMCK Web & Print Design, who brings our *Alpine Steward* to life.

# 2019 Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Ritger

The Waterman Fund reports the following for fiscal year April 2018 - March 2019: annual contributions totaled \$17,444, up from the previous year's total of \$14,156. Income from investments was non-existent as investments lost \$2,016 due to the dive in the stock market during the spring of 2018. However, to date investment income has rebounded and the income gained has replaced that which was lost in stock market fluctuations. Total Fund programs expenses for the fiscal year are \$29,536, which includes \$19,208 awarded in annual grants. Operating expenses came in under budget at \$5,676. The Waterman Fund's net worth at the close of the fiscal year was \$398,509, a slight decrease of 0.18 % from the previous fiscal year.

In an effort to recognize the importance of trail stewardship, for the fiscal year April 2019-March 2020, the Fund has allocated up to \$15,000 specifically dedicated to supporting trail work. This will be in addition to \$16,000 to be granted for research & education projects. This brings the total projected grant awards for the current fiscal year to \$31,000. Due to this new initiative and the launching of the strategic planning process, the Fund will be using interest earned on its endowment for these initiatives in conjunction with annual contributions.

The Waterman Fund has remained committed to keeping operating expenses low and is projected to end the current fiscal year well poised to uphold its commitment to both new initiatives and reoccurring, annual projects.

... 2018-2019 ...					
INCOME		EXPENSES			
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	99%	GRANTS	61.5%	ESSAY CONTEST	6.6%
INVESTMENT INCOME	0%*	FIELD TRIP	1%	BOOKS	2.9%
BOOKS INCOME	1%	STEWARD AWARD	1.5%	ALPINE GATHERING	8%
		ANNUAL DINNER (xcl'd)	0.3%	OPERATING EXPENSES	18.2%
*Investment income net loss of \$2,016					

Interested in supporting our work? *Send a donation today!*

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you would like it to appear in our records and acknowledgements)

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Matching gift? ☐ In honor or in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to **The Waterman Fund** and mail to: P.O. Box 1064, East Corinth, VT 05040

☐ If your donation is for \$200 or more, we are pleased to offer you a signed copy of *Forest and Crag*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Check box if you would like us to mail you a book.

The Waterman Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All contributions are fully tax deductible.

## 2018–2019 Waterman Fund Donors

Many thanks to you for supporting The Fund!

Hilary Alvarez & Alex Streeter	Marge Dwyer	Thomas Martin	Patty & Dave Schorr
Larry Anderson	Midge & Tim Eliassen	Andy Mayer & Michele Roberts	JoAnn & David Scott
Appalachian Mountain Club	Scottie Eliassen	Doug Mayer	<i>in memory of Jim Hirshberg</i>
4000 Footer Committee	Karen Fiebig	Mary Elizabeth McClellan	Dave Senio & Vivian Buckley
Bill & Barbara Arnold	<i>in memory of Dave Hardy</i>	Joyce McKeeman & Linda Weiss	Dennis Shaffer & Amy Emler-Shaffer
Bill Atkinson	Brian Fitzgerald & Brenda Clarkson	<i>in honor of Laura Waterman</i>	Lewis Shelley
Bill Barrett	<i>in memory of Ketch</i>	Anne McKinsey	Cindy & Paul Shumpert
Allison Bell & Leslie Harris	Sue Foster	Larry Meier	<i>in honor of Laura Waterman</i>
George, Paula & Annie Bellerose	Jane & Charles Gardiner	Scott Meiklejohn	Nancy Slack
Katrina Bennett Ashe	<i>in honor of Laura Waterman</i>	<i>in honor of Meg Meiklejohn</i>	Steve & Carol Smith
<i>in memory of Guy Waterman</i>	<i>in memory of Guy Waterman</i>	Betty Mobbs & Tom Jones	Bradley Snyder & Rex John
Peter & Emily Benson	Darius Ginwala	<i>in memory of Rick Mobbs</i>	Robert & Joan Sobel
Bill & Barbara Bentley	Nancy & John Godina	Al & Sally Molnar	<i>in honor of Laura Waterman</i>
Kevin Berend	Cathy Goodwin	Peter & Alicia Moore	Dan & Molly Sperduto
Charles Bickel	Tony & Bunny Goodwin	Susan & John Morris	Dana Sprague & Monica Hastings
Putnam Blodgett	Dorothy Goren	James Mullen & Virginia Voronin	John Stannard
Alan Brauhnoltz	Jonathan Gottscho	Hannah & John Narowski	Kimberly Steward
Dan Brodien	Patti Gray	Paul Neubauer & Clarissa Werre	Lisa & Robert Stockman
Hank Buermeyer	Carol Gregory	Emily Neuman & Isak Goodwin	Sandy & Lucille Stott
Bob Capers & Stephanie Baldwin	<i>in memory of Dave Hardy</i>	William & Brenda Newman	Howard Sussman & Margaret Gilmore
Libby & John Chapin	Ryan Harvey & Bethann Weick	Mary Nyman	Doug & Martha Teschner
Michael & Matthew Chiarella	Anne Hemingway	Ken Olson	Chris & Wendy Thayer
Barbara Child	Frances Hitchcock	Rebecca Oreskes & Brad Ray	Ned & Jean Therrien
James Christmas	Jean Hoekwater & John Gordon	Priscilla Page	Sally Tomlinson
Steve Ciras	Nancy Hood	Peter & Jennifer Palmiotto	Trailwrights
Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley	David & Kathy Hooke	Rick & Susan Paradis	Heinz & Inge Trebitz
Jan Conn	Judith & Al Hudson	Bill & Sue Parmenter	Richard Tucker & Pat Smith
John & Jane Conner	Charles Humpstone	<i>in honor of the mountains of the Northeast</i>	Kim Votta & Ken Vallery
Brian Cooley	Hope Hungerford	Peter Pettengill	Ed & Eudora Walsh
Dorothy Corey	Doug & Terry Huntley	Carol Phipps & Keith O'Boyle	Laura Waterman
Louis & Sara Cornell	Raynold & Jane Jackson	Sarah Polli & Richard Hutchins	<i>in memory of Reidun Nuquist</i>
Joseph Coughlin	<i>in honor of all Trail Tenders past and current for all their achievements</i>	Claire Porter	Patsy Weille
Peter Crane	Charlie Jacobi	Dana Query	John Wesley
<i>in memory of Holly Huhn</i>	Steven Jervis	<i>in memory of Kendall Query</i>	White Mountain Jackass Company
Barry Dame	John Hancock Financial Services	Larry & Marla Randall	<i>in memory of Guy Waterman</i>
Robert Dangel & Harriett Cohen	Joanne & Kevin Jones	John & Nancy Rapoport	David & Carol White
Natalie Davis & Dan Allen	Mike Jones & Liz Willey	John Reilly	David & Cynthia White
John & Catherine DeLeo	Seth Jones	Nancy & Gail Rent	Mac White & Susan Staples
Anne Dellenbaugh	Philip & Helen Koch	Chris & Leslie Rimmer	Hal & Virginia Wilkins
<i>in memory of Phyllis Austen, who would like to give her congratulations to Jean Hoekwater</i>	Eleanor & Ernie Kohlsaet	Joan Rising	Peggy Willey
	<i>in honor of Laura's 80th birthday</i>	Ben Rose & Lori Fisher	Brendan Wiltse
Carl Demrow	Farley Lewis	<i>in memory of Reidun Nuquist</i>	Chuck Wooster & Susan Kirincich
Bart DeWolf	Lisa Locke	Peter Rowan	Dave Yampanis & Mark Yampanis
Mike Dickerman	Curtis Macomber & Judith Sherman	& June Hammond Rowan	<i>in memory of Ted Yampanis</i>
Peggy Dillon	Lee Manchester & Nancy Rich	Pete Saile & Deb Lane	
Edward Dimmock	<i>in honor of the Rich family</i>	Myrna Samet	
<i>in memory of Jacqueline Dimmock</i>	Judy Marden	<i>in honor of Julia Goren</i>	
Audrey Duane	Reed & Penny Markley	Tom & Diane Sawyer	
	Steven Martin	Stephen Schofield & Deirdre Byers	
		<i>in memory of Don Wallace</i>	

14

The Alpine Steward    NOVEMBER 2019

NOVEMBER 2019    The Alpine Steward

15





Fostering the Spirit of Wilderness and Conserving  
the Alpine Areas of Northeastern North America

P.O. Box 1064, East Corinth, VT 05040



## **ALPINE STEWARD AWARDS: *Nominate someone for 2020!***

To nominate someone for the Guy Waterman Alpine Steward Award and/or the Emerging Steward Award, please send nomination letters to the Waterman Fund (forms available on our website), citing specific examples of the nominee's stewardship of the Northeast's wilderness, along with other relevant personal or professional experience. If you have nominated someone in the past, the nomination remains in our files and is reviewed annually. *Nominations are due January 15, 2020.*