



Mohonk Preserve 2015 Year in Review

Sharing a Stewardship Ethic



Dear Supporters:

Committed supporters like you make Mohonk Preserve's conservation mission possible. Now in our second half-century as a leading conservation organization, the Preserve – thanks to you – is a place where people and nature come together and where respect for the natural world is cultivated through steadfast protection and stewardship of this treasured landscape, inspirational environmental education, and a deep legacy of long-term ecosystem science.

Generous individuals like you sustain the Preserve from year to year. Less than four percent of the Preserve's annual program budget comes from government sources, so the Preserve stands as a time-tested model of how a privately funded organization can engage the community in natural area management and provide a place for people to discover nature and experience its positive impact on their lives.

While our stewardship legacy began on the ridge, recent acquisition and planning for formally welcoming visitors to the Mohonk Preserve Foothills has dramatically expanded and deepened our role, connections, and commitment to the quality of life in the greater Shawangunk Mountains region. In the coming years, the Preserve will work to provide balanced access to this area with two trailheads, new trails to explore, and fresh opportunities to experience and learn in this cultural and natural landscape setting.

Beyond the Foothills, the quality of the visitor experience on the Preserve, whether recreational, educational, scientific, creative, or spiritual, is of utmost importance. We want visitors to be able to immerse themselves in the Preserve; to reflect, be restored, and connect to it in a deeply personal way. Our challenge is to manage the land so that we can provide a seamless and inspiring experience. That means active stewardship to consistently restore and maintain a vast network of trails and historic carriage roads, balance visitation with safeguarding the natural communities of plants and animals, provide meaningful interpretation and navigation, and find new ways to enhance exploration and discovery of this special place.

Thanks to you, the Preserve's innovative Environmental Education programs have brought over 100,000 schoolchildren into nature and our pioneering *NatureAccess*® program enables outdoor experiences for people of all ages and abilities. We are growing our Environmental Education offerings with a focus on underserved children and building science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) curricula for all students across the Hudson Valley. These new and established programs are all aimed at helping to prepare and inspire the next generation of conservationists.

Long before climate change and land resilience rose to prominence, the Preserve's Conservation Science program created an internationally recognized source of long-term biological, weather, and other natural history records spanning over a century.

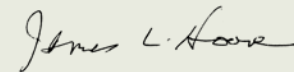
While this data is shared with other scientists and utilized at regional and global scales to understand and address climate change, our goals include interpreting this data for use in land management across the ridge and region, while also making it more broadly available, helping to inform you of actions we can all take to protect our environment for current and future generations.

The Preserve needs your continued help. Working together with our members, supporters, visitors, volunteers, and the community at large, we will take significant steps to better the Preserve in each of our program areas – Land Protection and Stewardship, Environmental Education, and Conservation Science – in the coming years.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Glenn D. Hoagland (R)
Executive Director



James L. Hoover (L)
Board President



Photo Credits

Front: Birding at Pin Oak Allée by Jacob B. Reibel

Left: Jim Hoover and Glenn Hoagland by

Amanda Rogers



Sharing a Stewardship Ethic

At Mohonk Preserve, stewardship is part of our DNA. Our founders, Daniel and Keith Smiley, were land stewards before conservation was part of the collective consciousness.

At the beginning of the 20th Century, the brothers embarked on a study of natural history that would form the basis of the Preserve's conservation science-based land management and help shape the organization's stewardship ethic.

In 1927, Dan wrote about his personal sense of stewardship, noting that in his relationship to the land, *"there was implied a sort of stewardship or trusteeship. And that such personal responsibility can only cease with life."*

In April of 1974, *The Mohonk Land Ethic* was published by Mohonk Preserve's predecessor organization, the Mohonk Trust, acknowledging a combined commitment to peace and human understanding with a dedication to conservation and ecological accountability.

In that document, Dan Smiley further articulated the key components of stewardship: *"Stewardship is not an abstract concept,"* he wrote. *"It means physical maintenance, ranger patrol, ecosystem research, long-range planning, and constant evaluation. It means imagination, hard work, and expense. Because it is never-ending, and because it brings us face to face with all the wonderful and terrible things men can do, it is not a task for the faint-hearted or for those who seek quick satisfaction. It is like life itself, a process, and our only hope is to embrace the opportunity."*

Today, Mohonk Preserve is actively realizing and practicing this stewardship vision in our mission, programs and pocketbook – 30 percent of our annual budget is dedicated to stewardship.

We're continuing the legacy of connecting people to nature, welcoming over 165,000 annual visitors to the Preserve's lands, inspiring them to explore, enjoy and care for their natural world. We're also employing conservation science-based land management techniques developed from over a century of ongoing research and natural history data from the Preserve's Daniel Smiley Research Center.

From its original concept as a place where people and nature could thrive together, Mohonk Preserve has become a model for natural area stewardship, sharing our philosophy and practices on the local, regional and national levels.

With the help of our members, visitors, donors, and communities, the Preserve will continue to embrace the opportunity of stewardship, challenges and all, for generations to come.



Top: Christmas Bird Count by Carl Mueller
 Left: Dan and Keith Smiley in the 1970s
 Top Right: Phenology Volunteers by Jacob B. Reibel
 Bottom Right: Peregrine Falcon by Deborah Tracy-Kral



Protecting With Purpose

As its name signifies, the Preserve's Land Protection program helps fulfill our commitment to permanently protecting the land needed for quality natural communities and habitats, and public recreational and restorative space.

In 2015, the Preserve hired our first Land & Boundary Steward, Ed Pestone, who focused on monitoring, record-keeping and report-writing for both Preserve-owned lands and conservation easement lands. Ed, who is a graduate of SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry with extensive experience with surveying, mapping and fieldwork, has dramatically improved signage along Preserve boundaries, and alerted staff to any stewardship issues on the land.

Land Protection staff also monitored all 16 of the Preserve's conservation easement properties, and inspected over 28 miles (1/3) of the Preserve's boundary. In addition, staff marked the boundaries of all 857 acres of the newly acquired Mohonk Preserve Foothills property.

Throughout 2015, Land Protection staff participated in the ongoing planning process for the Mohonk Preserve Foothills. Land Protection and other Preserve staff participated in meetings with the Town of New Paltz Planning Board and Historic Preservation Commission, and met with neighbors and community members to discuss the Preserve's plans for safe, managed public access to this landmark landscape.

In July 2015, after over a decade of litigation, the Preserve prevailed in a case involving adverse property claims by private landowners to 71.45 acres of Preserve land in the Town of Rochester. The State of New York Supreme Court Appellate Division ruled in favor of the Preserve in a unanimous decision on both the facts and the law of this case. Unfortunately, the private landowners have continued to pursue unsuccessful appeals, which have been rejected by the New York State Court of Appeals, along with further attempts to cloud the title to these same Preserve lands. These challenges affirm the importance of our continued vigilant land protection efforts.

The Preserve remains committed to keeping the promise of permanent land protection by preserving and, when necessary, legally defending the lands entrusted to us, and by upholding and advancing the Preserve's stewardship ethic in perpetuity.



Top: Mohonk Preserve Foothills by Gerald Liddelw

Bottom: Land & Boundary Steward Ed Pestone by Amanda Rogers



Planning For Preservation

Purchasing land or securing a conservation easement is just the first step in stewardship-based land protection. Mohonk Preserve's philosophy involves actively managing land by determining appropriate uses and then consciously planning to balance access with protection.

In the case of the Mohonk Preserve Foothills, this has involved a lengthy planning process that is still ongoing. In 2011, after agreeing to manage and, as resources permitted, purchase the land now designated as the Mohonk Preserve Foothills, the Preserve undertook an extensive, community conservation-based planning process to create a Land Asset Management Plan for the Mohonk Preserve Foothills.

Comprehensive planning continued in 2013 with a Trail & Connectivity Master Plan for the entire Foothills landscape and planning for a formal trailhead entrance to the Mohonk Preserve Foothills. These planning processes included multiple meetings with our neighbors and the community, resulting in the development of a full site plan for the Mohonk Preserve Foothills.

In 2014, the Preserve formally submitted a site plan for the Mohonk Preserve Foothills Project to the Town of New Paltz Planning Board and in 2015, the Planning Board commenced the SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) process, opening a Public Hearing and reviewing the Preserve's extensive independent reports and studies on the environmental, agricultural, cultural, transportation, and historical aspects of the project.

The Mohonk Preserve Foothills Project has been carefully designed with neighbor and community input to provide safe, controlled access to the Foothills, while also optimizing recreational, educational, and conservation science opportunities. The footprint of all proposed, carefully sited visitor amenities comprises under 7 acres – less than 1 percent of the 857-acre Mohonk Preserve Foothills landscape – at two different sites, one near the Testimonial Gateway Tower and one near Humpo Marsh.

Upon completion of the project, the Mohonk Preserve Foothills landscape will remain in its current state – wide-open farmlands, marshlands, extensive tree cover, numerous historic structures, and glorious vistas.

We look forward to continuing to work with our partners in the community on safe, managed access to the Mohonk Preserve Foothills and to inviting neighbors and visitors to participate in and actively support stewardship of these remarkable lands.



Top: Mohonk Preserve Foothills by Gerald Liddelow

Left: Birding in the Foothills by Jacob B. Reibel

Right: Mohonk Preserve Testimonial Gateway Tower by Kate Schoonmaker



Sustaining Stewardship

Nowhere is Mohonk Preserve's stewardship ethic demonstrated in practice more directly than in the dedicated work of Stewardship staff.

Every day and in every season, Stewardship staff meets the challenge of balancing expanding opportunities for healthy outdoor recreation with protecting culturally and environmentally significant lands.

In 2015, our exceptional Ranger staff was placed under the leadership of Andrew Bajardi, who was promoted to the position of Chief Ranger. Former Seasonal Ranger Roger Ennis was also promoted to the new position of full-time Ranger-Program Specialist.

To improve safety in the Shawangunks, the Rangers coordinated an advanced Emergency Medical Services (EMS) practices and pararescue skills training with the New York Air National Guard's 103rd Rescue Squadron. They also leveraged a grant from Patagonia Meatpacking, NYC to train 50 local climbing guides in search and rescue skills to assist in ridge rescues. The Preserve's Rangers are known as one of the most active and well-trained mountain rescue teams in the country.

The Preserve's Facilities and Carriage Roads and Trails staff were also hard at work throughout the year on a variety of projects across the Preserve. For example, working with three different volunteer groups, staff completed restoration of 200 feet of bog bridges on the Coxing Trail. Students from the San Miguel Academy of Newburgh, SUNY New Paltz, and the Bruderhof

Woodcrest Community donated over 200 hours of time to complete this project.

Adjacent to Preserve headquarters, Stewardship staff provided essential support to ensure that the new Samuel F. Pryor III Shawangunk Gateway Campground opened on time with all facilities available. Bruderhof Woodcrest Community volunteers and Preserve staff assembled 50 picnic tables and 20 benches, logging 240 volunteer hours in one day!

Staff also worked on several sections of the historic Carriage Road network as part of a \$215,000 grant from the Open Space Institute Butler Conservation Fund. With this partnership funding, Stewardship staff oversaw restoration work of the legacy White Oak Path from White Oak Bend to Pine Road, upgrading the road from trail width to its former carriage road width; and restoration of the Lower Duck Pond and Kleinekill Farm Roads. Other carriage road improvement work included Trapps Road and a section of Lenape Lane. In total, over a mile of carriage roads were restored in 2015.

Mohonk Preserve continues to invest in Stewardship capacity and leadership to ensure that the lands we all love are carefully preserved for you today and for future generations.



Top: Samuel F. Pryor III Shawangunk Gateway Campground by Nora Scarlett

Left: High Angle Rescue Training by Rich Cronk

Right: White Oak Bend by John Mizel



Creating a Stewardship Community

As a member and active participant in the local, regional and national land conservation community, Mohonk Preserve has seen many of our colleague organizations struggle to steward the lands under their protection.

With the Preserve's legacy of over half a century of stewardship experience, we found ourselves increasingly sought out to provide guidance to our colleagues.

Recognizing the need for a sustained group focus on stewardship, Mohonk Preserve received grants from the Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation and the New York Conservation Partnership Program/Land Trust Alliance to increase the capacity of land trusts in New York to better steward the open spaces in their care. These grant funds have enabled the Preserve to review existing land trust stewardship and natural area management training models, and convene a series of peer-exchange meetings and site demonstration field outings with leading land trusts in the Hudson Valley region.

Grant funding also enabled the Preserve and the Wallkill Valley Land Trust to launch a pilot program to share stewardship services surrounding the Preserve's Giant's Ledges pocket park, the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail trestle, and Wallkill Valley Land Trust's Joppenbergh Mountain. This model may prove useful to other land trusts if appropriate levels of funding, staff and volunteers are available.

Throughout this project, our team has noted that most land trusts, regardless of size, are experiencing the same stewardship

challenges. The predominant concern is the continuing lack of appropriate funds for the growing long-term costs of land stewardship following acquisition. Land trusts often work diligently to raise funds to protect important open spaces through conservation easements or purchase, only to realize that they have to struggle to fund the necessary and ongoing work of land management, which may include complicated issues of public access, ecological monitoring/treatments, vandalism, littering and trespass, and other legal challenges, all at substantial and ever-growing cost.

In 2015, Mohonk Preserve Executive Director Glenn Hoagland joined the Land Trust Alliance's National Leadership Council and presented the Preserve's model of integrated natural area management at a retreat of the nation's leading 50 land trusts in Santa Cruz, California.

Mohonk Preserve continues to embrace our expanding role as a leader in stewardship by sharing our expertise and seeking solutions to help make stewardship services more accessible to all conservationists.



Engaging Education

For 30 years, Mohonk Preserve has informed and inspired generations through inclusive outdoor education. In 2015, the Preserve's education programs helped over 13,200 children and adults get into nature.

Through outreach to new school audiences in the urban centers of Poughkeepsie, Newburgh and Kingston, in 2015 the Preserve's K-6 Field Study and 7-12th grade STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs served over twenty new classes. Grants from the Open Space Institute Malcolm Gordon Charitable Fund and AT&T, along with generous donations from the Preserve's Annual Benefit Auction and other supporters, provided scholarships to cover program fees and, in some cases, transportation costs.

Mohonk Preserve continued our three-decade collaboration New Paltz Central School District, working with teachers and administrators on a full revision of the K-6 Field Study Curriculum to carefully align with new and emerging statewide learning standards. The first revised programs were piloted in the fall of 2015 for kindergarten and grades 4-6.

Two new staff positions were added in 2015, including a 10-month Seasonal Environmental Educator and a full-time Citizen Science Education Coordinator. Both positions increase our capacity for serving new audiences through outdoor and in-school environmental education programming, and the Citizen Science position is the first to directly support both education and conservation science

initiatives, advancing our Strategic Plan goal to more fully integrate these programs.

Our Junior Ranger program produced its first graduating class of thirteen teens, who completed a year-long program with a weeklong excursion to the Adirondack's High Peaks region. This program is an important part of our expanded continuum of outdoor learning experiences.

In partnership with the San Miguel Academy of Newburgh, a third season of year-long outdoor STEM programs was completed and expanded to include a Junior Ranger program for all eighth grade students.

Also in 2015 we launched a new school partnership with the Nora Cronin Presentation Academy of Newburgh to help underserved girls experience outdoor education. From September through November, all classes in grades 5-8 visited the Preserve three times to participate in guided Field Studies and STEM programs. These programs advance the "Mountain of Choices" diversity and inclusion goals of the Preserve's Strategic Plan.

Preserve educators continue to reach people in ways that enhance understanding, expand access, and encourage people to visit mindfully, strengthening the commitment to natural stewardship in our community, our region, and our world.



Top: Citizen Science Education Coordinator Christy Belardo by Kim Tischler

Left: Junior Rangers by Gerald Liddelow

Right: San Miguel Academy by Jay Diggs



Summers Inspire Stewardship

Mohonk Preserve summer programs provide opportunities for children and teens to spend their summers outside enjoying the natural wonders of the Shawangunk Ridge while they laugh, play and learn together, and expand their understanding of themselves, each other and their natural world.

During the successful 2015 summer camp season, our Young Explorers (ages 4-6) experienced a new adventure every day as they spent their mornings on the trails and participated in a range of activities such as building animal shelters in the Children's Forest, playing nature games and experiencing creative movement, searching for forest creatures, and creating their own art from nature. Also, we took on our first summer camp teen volunteer who assisted education staff during the Young Explorers program in July.

Through hiking expeditions, stream play, journaling, pond studies, storytelling, land art, and forest explorations, campers in Camp Peregrine (ages 7-10) were encouraged to find their own unique expression and voice using nature as a medium. Each day was an adventure of exploration and discovery in science and the arts.

2015 included a change for Camp Peregrine families as we offered six 1-week camp sessions rather than the traditional three 2-week sessions. This allowed more children to experience our camps and made it easier for families to register siblings and friends together for the same session. It also allowed greater flexibility for families to balance summer camp and vacation commitments.

At Mountainside Adventures (ages 10-13), campers had fun while hiking to new and exciting destinations each day where they developed their problem-solving skills through exciting team challenges. Campers spent their days creating their own adventures along the trails, culminating in a star-studded overnight campout.

Mohonk Preserve is committed to serving families regardless of their economic status and in 2015, offered six scholarships to Young Explorers, Camp Peregrine and Mountainside Adventures, thanks to the generosity of supporters at our Annual Benefit Auction.

Expansion of the Preserve's summer camps since 2013 has advanced our Strategic Plan goal of providing a "Mountain of Choices" for a broader and more inclusive constituency.

The Preserve's summer camps are an integral part of our outdoor education programming, and have helped inspire a lifetime of respect for and stewardship of nature for thousands of campers.



Top: Mountainside Adventures by Anna Harrod
 Left: Young Explorers by Cathy Shiga-Gattullo
 Right: Camp Peregrine by Anna Harrod



The Science Of Stewardship

From the beginning, Mohonk Preserve's founders were keen observers and stewards of the land and all of its inhabitants, and that legacy continues to underpin our research, land management and outreach endeavors.

In 2015, Dr. Elizabeth Long joined Mohonk Preserve as Director of Conservation Science. Most recently Elizabeth was in Los Angeles working as a La Kretz postdoctoral research fellow at UCLA and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles. Paul Huth continues to support all aspects of the work carried out by the Conservation Science program in his role as Director of Research Emeritus.

Last year the Preserve also expanded its Citizen Naturalist Program, led by Preserve Citizen Science Education Coordinator Christy Belardo, increasing the number of Climate Trackers volunteers and incorporating new Phenology Trail workshops.

Robust research also continued at the Preserve as the 2015 Loewy-Mohonk Preserve Fellowship was awarded to Dr. Radka Wildova and Dr. Jonathan Rosenthal of the Ecological Research Institute. Their research project is contributing to our efforts at understanding the effects of Hemlock Woolly Adelgids.

Notable publications from 2015 included Research Associate Dr. Dave Richardson's publication on Sky Lakes monitoring data, coauthored by Paul Huth and John Thompson, and Research Associate Dr. Glenn Proudfoot's study on biomarkers of animal health using Saw-whet Owls.

The Preserve's 2015 interns included Schaefer Interns James Byam (SUNY New Paltz) and David Chernack (Brandeis University), and Mount St. Mary College-Sarro Intern Lindsay Ostrander, who worked on a project developing methods of understory mapping of biological communities. Bryan Krebs (SUNY New Paltz) joined the Preserve in autumn as the Giuseppe Traverso Citizen Naturalist Intern. Bryan studied and analyzed data from recent deer hunting seasons on the Preserve.

Weather and long-term phenology records were continued uninterrupted, marking 90 years of spring bird arrivals and 119 years of weather recording, which now totals over 43,800 days!

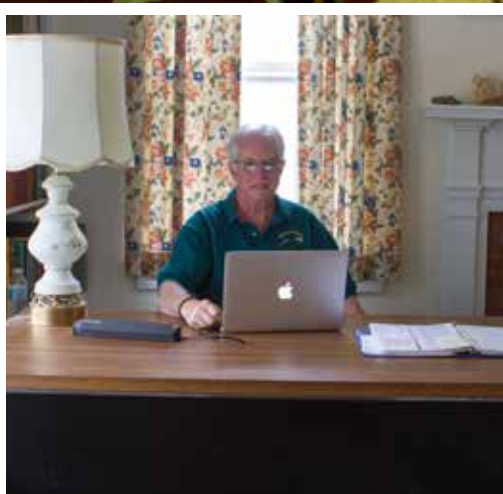
The Preserve's rich historical research records, along with ongoing initiatives to advance conservation science, help us all become better stewards as we navigate our changing world.



Top: Director of Conservation Science Dr. Elizabeth Long by John Allen

Left: Saw-whet Owl by Renee Zernitsky

Right: 2015 Interns by John Thompson



Collaborating For Conservation Science

The genesis of Mohonk Preserve's Conservation Science program was a volunteer effort by Daniel and Keith Smiley to track the weather, flora and fauna on the Shawangunk Ridge. Dan's protégé, Paul Huth, also began working as a volunteer in 1974, before becoming the Preserve's first Director of Research.

Today, the Preserve continues to benefit from a strong core group of volunteers. In addition to the growing ranks of Citizen Science program volunteers, there are a number of notable longtime volunteers working on important natural and cultural history projects.

Preserve Volunteer Gary Kitchen continues to investigate and document cultural history from the area in and around the Preserve. He has scanned and catalogued hundreds of pages of historical material collected by former Preserve Naturalist/Historian Bob Larsen, concentrating on the Trapps Mountain Hamlet and Clove families. The Preserve's Trapps Mountain Hamlet is the only subsistence community listed in the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Longtime Preserve members, supporters and volunteers Barbara Peterson and Roger Roloff continue to share their knowledge of wildflowers on the Shawangunk Ridge with staff and visitors, leading the Preserve's popular wildflower walks and contributing data on Lady Slippers to the Daniel Smiley Research Center's natural history database.

Sharon Applegate and Miriam Berg Varian are continuing their herculean efforts cataloging the Preserve's Daniel Smiley Research Center library, working their way

through the 3,000 volumes, many of which are in extremely fragile condition and most of which are irreplaceable. This multi-year project has enabled the Preserve to develop a digital inventory of this diverse collection covering natural and cultural history, and regional land-use history. While not a lending library, the Preserve has partnered with the Southeastern New York Library Resources Council, which serves libraries in eight Mid-Hudson counties, to share our catalogued data, allowing it to be more publicly accessible.

In total, the Preserve is supported by over 400 volunteers each year across all program areas. In 2015, Andrew Reynolds joined the Preserve as Associate Director of Volunteer Programs and Special Events, and has done a fantastic job working with our Volunteer Coordinators to strengthen this great team.

Conservation Science and other volunteers exemplify the spirit of dedicated stewardship that permeates all aspects of the Preserve, from illuminating cultural and natural history records to caring for rare books and manuscripts.

Top: Sharon Applegate and Miriam Berg Varian by John Mizel

Left: Historical book by John Mizel

Right: Gary Kitchen by John Mizel

A Tradition of Giving

Bequests

Planned testamentary gifts to the Preserve honor an individual's vision to protect the place they care for most. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of those people who include the Preserve in their estate plans. In 2015 the Preserve received bequests from the following:

Anonymous
Geraldine Armbruster
Marion L. Cubberley *
Estate of Walter Hoffman in memory of Lois Hoffmann
Richard E. Huff*
Roy M. Westberg
John E. Winkler

*Legacy Society Member

Endowment

Protecting the Shawangunk Ridge for future generations requires robust funding that will endure as long as the land itself. A perpetual investment in the Preserve, endowment gifts are invested into our permanent capital base, creating an annual source of income to fund critical operations. Named endowments permanently recognize an individual's or family's deep commitment to the Preserve. The following funds have been established with a gift or pledge of \$50,000 or more:

Keroden Endowed Fund
Matthew Bender IV Endowment
The Sean E. Davis Endowment Fund
Philip Allan Carlson Education Endowment
Vincent R. Clephas Endowment
Jim and Mary Ottaway Endowment
Salt Family Endowment
Lisa and David Endowment

Legacy Society

We are honored to acknowledge the following group of extraordinary donors and their families who have connected their legacy with the Preserve's future either through their will, a gift annuity, charitable trust, insurance policy, or other estate planning instrument.

Anonymous (5)	Ronald and May Knapp
Jim and Lee Amigh	Bob Larsen and Barbara Rubin
Robert Anderberg and Elaine LaFlamme	Carol B. LeFevre
Burton and Anka Angrist	Jean A. Lerner
Muriel Ayres	Richard and Barbara Marsh
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Linda Gluck	Howard and Shayna Sebold
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Margaret Hall	Robert Lee Smith
Robert Hall and Sheila Matz	Matthew and Samantha Soper
Meme Hanley	Susan F. Sosin
Jeanne-Louise Haviland	Tom Spence
Glenn D. Hoagland	Michael and Mary Tannen
Sam Hofferbert	Jane K. Taylor
James Hoover	Mary Vasse and Robert Bole
Richard E. Huff	William and Sarah Vasse
Suzanne S. Joiner	Dorothy Weinberger
Beverley J. Keith	Daniel and Marianne Winfield
Joanne L. Kirk	Eric and Allison Zinzenko

Preserver Membership Program

Leading the way in annual giving are the dedicated members of the Preserver Membership Program who infuse the Preserve with vital operating funds. Pledging to donate \$1,000 or more annually for multiple years, they ensure the future of this magnificent place with their consistent support. In return for their generosity, they enjoy special programs and events that deepen their relationship to the ridge.

Millbrook Circle (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Anonymous (4)
Galia Meiri and Troy Mack
Arthur O. Sulzberger, Jr.

Trapps Circle (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Anonymous (1)
Ed Berkel and Bena Silber
James Clark and Sandra Guenther Clark
Kristen Copham
Jennifer Cunningham
Alvin DeMaria
James Hoover and John Aubry
Ronald and May Knapp
Kirk Lawson and Dr. James Braun
Cynthia Lowe and Glenn Sutherland
Peter and Christine Naktenis
Cody Smith
Susan F. Sosin
Michael and Mary Tannen
Kathleen Weathers and Michele Ferraro
Anthony Wright

Bonticou Circle (\$2,500-\$4,999)

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Vaclav Benes and Inge Reuter Benes
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Larry and Jill Feldman
Scott Godsen and Richard Platt
Gerd Grieninger and Mary Ann Chiasson
Glenn D. Hoagland
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Johann and Angela Kunz
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Arthur G. Sulzberger and
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Bruce and Gail Whistance
Saul Zuchman and Holly Fisher
Raymond and Jean Schrag
Anthony Scordino
Ron and Linda Sussman
Saul Zuchman and Holly Fisher

Annual Contributors

Annual gifts from members, friends, foundations, and businesses are critical to supporting every facet of the work that we do at the Preserve. We continue to count on you, our most loyal supporters, but never take your commitment for granted. Your vision and generosity are as awe-inspiring as the land itself. The following people made contributions to the annual fund, land protection and stewardship, education programs, the Daniel Smiley Research Center, endowments funds, and the portion of special events where no goods or services were received. While this list includes donors with cumulative contributions received of \$100 or more who received no goods or services in return, we dedicate this annual publication to each and every one of our supporters.

Summit Circle (\$25,000 and up)

Anonymous (2)
Vincent R. Clephas
Sam and Joy Grafton
Erik Larsen and Connie Coker
Pril Smiley and Keith LaBudde
Arthur O. Sulzberger, Jr.

Millbrook Circle (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Anonymous (5)
Adam and Sabina Deaton
George Gatch
Norman L. Goluskin and Susan Scher
Noah and Maria Gottdiener
Paul and Diane Guenther
Bruce Littlefield and Scott Stewart
Galia Meiri and Troy Mack
James and Mary Ottaway
John and Karen Petry

Ed and Maureen Rogers
Albert and Nina Smiley
Hardie and Marcy Truesdale
Lucy R. Waletzky, M.D.
Steve Wood and Carol Meyer

Trapps Circle (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Anonymous (4)
Kamal Abdullah and Jeanne Person
Robert Anderberg and Elaine LaFlamme
Ed Berkel & Bena Silber
Matthew Bialecki
James Clark and Sandra Guenther Clark
Jennifer Cunningham
Alvin DeMaria
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Malcolm and Virginia Dorris
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"We as humans carry within us a yearning for landscapes that nourish and shelter us, that brings us back to the essence of being one with our surroundings. Nature nurtures, more so than the concrete jungle that most of us are subject to on a daily basis. When we lose touch with the natural world, we lose touch with our humanness. We need to keep our precious open spaces and stay human." — Brian and Sistine Jarvis, Mohonk Preserver Members. Photo courtesy of Brian and Sistine Jarvis.

Right: Saw-whet Owl by Carol Natoli

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Left: View from the Lime Kiln Loop Trail
by Gerald Berliner

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made every attempt to ensure that
these listings are accurate. Please
let us know if you feel there have
been omissions or errors. These lists
represent gifts received between
January 1, 2015 and December 31,
2015.

Financial Highlights

Mohonk Preserve sees stewardship as a critical component of preserving the Shawangunk Mountains region for future generations. Stewardship has different definitions, even within the land trust community. The Preserve defines stewardship broadly to include much of what we accomplish year to year. Land protection, studying the ecosystem, applying conservation science-informed decisions to land management, sharing our experience with our colleagues, and educating our community so they can also steward our natural resources are all ways we fulfill our obligation to best care for the land. Each year the Preserve needs to generate a diverse range of revenue to support our stewardship efforts and to re-capitalize the facilities, including carriage roads and trails, and 2015 proved to be a positive year.

The Preserve's 2015 operations concluded with a true net surplus of about \$27,000. Memberships, day use fees, contributions, and grants all increased notably over 2014. Our special events also increased significantly, primarily due to the New York City Gala, directed to operations. Total expenses for the year decreased over \$60,000 compared to 2014. This resulted from a decrease in legal fees, a sometimes unpredictable stewardship cost, and under-budget personnel expenses due to position vacancies, which have since been filled.

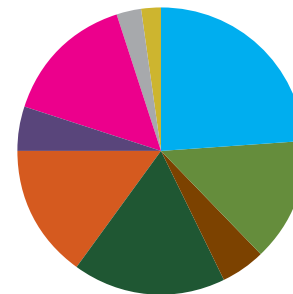
The Preserve's \$6.9 million in fixed assets (not including land) provide the facilities and equipment necessary to steward the land and to support all

of our programs. In 2015, \$681,000 was invested in stabilization of the Testimonial Gateway, engineering and planning for the Foothills and the Trapps Bridge, resurfacing the Spring Farm parking lot and restoration work on the Trapps Carriage Road, two replacement trucks, and a new roof for the Spring Farm House. Specific funds are able to be raised for some of these projects, but there is also an annual strain on the Preserve's Mohonk Fund to support these critical stewardship needs. On an additional positive note, \$500,000 was paid against debt during the past year.

The Preserve's investment portfolio mirrored the market in 2015 and over \$400,000 in unrealized loss was recorded compared to an equal proportion unrealized gain in the prior year. This is the primary reason for the loss in net asset value over the course of the year.

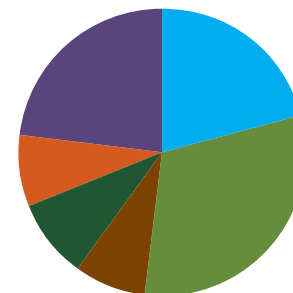
Stewardship is an ongoing challenge to fund, but in 2015 the Preserve realized positive growth in support to help meet the demand. With your help we can continue to raise the resources needed to best steward the land for life.

2015 Public Support & Revenue \$3,542,050



- Membership: 24%
- Contributions: 14%
- Grants: 5%
- Restricted Gifts: 17%
- Day Use Fees: 15%
- Other Program Fees: 5%
- Special Events: 15%
- Other Income: 3%
- Investment Income: 2%
(includes unrealized loss of \$440,630)

2015 Expenses \$3,947,811



- Environmental Education: 21%
- Land Stewardship: 31%
- Land Protection: 8%
- Conservation Science: 9%
- Management & General: 8%
- Development: 23%

2015 Statement of Financial Position

	12/31/2015	12/31/2014
Assets		
Current Assets	\$1,948,365	\$2,464,510
Investments	\$3,846,864	\$4,423,482
Endowments	\$5,455,359	\$5,495,848
Land	\$6,270,209	\$6,237,495
Fixed Assets	\$6,866,566	\$6,666,298
Total	\$24,387,363	\$25,287,633
Total Assets		
	\$24,387,363	\$25,287,633
Liabilities & Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Payables	\$429,287	\$418,651
Deferred Revenue	\$105	\$5,250
Note Payable	\$2,924,835	\$3,424,835
Total Liabilities	\$3,354,227	\$3,848,736
Net Assets		
	\$21,033,136	\$21,438,897
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		
	\$24,387,363	\$25,287,633



Blue Jay by Gerald Berliner

WHO WE ARE

With over 8,500 acres of cliffs, forests, fields, ponds, streams, and other unique and beautiful places, Mohonk Preserve is the largest member- and visitor-supported nature preserve in New York State.

Our mission is to protect the Shawangunk Mountains region and inspire people to care for, enjoy, and explore their natural world.

WHAT WE DO

Education – We serve over 13,000 children and adults each year through our award-winning, innovative outdoor education programs.

Land Protection – We protect key recreational areas, fragile habitats, and scenic viewsheds.

Land Stewardship – We manage over 8,500 acres and provide a safe, participatory experience in nature for over 165,000 visitors each year.

Conservation Science – We use the latest scientific techniques and a century of natural history data to monitor and manage the diverse ecosystems on the ridge.

2015 STAFF

Executive/Administration

Glenn D. Hoagland, Executive Director
Ellen M. Sticker, Executive Projects Manager

David H. Toman, Deputy Executive Director,
Programs and Operations/CFO
Bill Sticker, Associate Director of Information
Technology

Erica Seager, Accounting, Human Resources
and Business Manager
Kathy Gallagher-Palcic, Accounting and Human
Resources Associate

Joseph Alfano, Deputy Executive Director for
Strategic Advancement
Eric Roth, Manager of Grants and
Organizational Funding

Programs

Kathy Ambrosini, Director of Education
Christy Belardo, Citizen Science Education
Coordinator
Anna Harrod, Education Coordinator for Public
and Youth Programs
Cathy Shiga-Gattullo, Interpretive Education
Coordinator
Kim Tischler, Education Coordinator for
Student Programs

Andrew Bajardi, Chief Ranger
Frank Tkac, Ranger/S.A.R. Specialist
Roger Ennis, Ranger/Programs
Justin Key, Associate Director, Facilities and
Grounds
Anthony Greco, Associate Director, Carriage
Roads and Trails
Bill Koepplinger, Grounds Worker/Mechanic
Ed Pestone, Land and Boundary Steward
Jon Ross, Associate Director of Visitor Services
Ken Halpern, Visitor Services Assistant and
Store Manager

Dr. Elizabeth Long, Director of Conservation
Science
Paul Huth, Director of Research Emeritus/
Associate Curator
John Thompson, Senior Ecologist
Hallie Schwab, Citizen Science Coordinator

Communications and Development

Gretchen Reed, Director of Marketing and
Communications
Amanda Rogers, Media Associate

Serena Marrero, Director of Development
Elena Batt, Deputy Director for Membership
and Development
Annette Ferchau, Development/Database
Associate
John E. North, Individual Giving Manager
Andrew Reynolds, Associate Director, Volunteer
Programs and Special Events
Stephanie Smallman, Capital Campaign and
Development Assistant

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Photos by Mohonk Preserve Volunteer
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Designed by Gerald Berliner

Printed at Fort Orange Press, Albany, NY

A copy of our latest financial report may
be obtained from our website: www.mohonkpreserve.org or by writing to the New
York State Office of the Attorney General,
Department of Law, Charities Bureau,
120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.



Mohonk Preserve
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Get social with the Preserve! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, YouTube, and Snapchat for updates on what's happening, along with exclusive video, photos, and more. Share your experiences on the ridge with your community and explore your natural world—even when you can't be on the Preserve.



Climber on Cuckoo Man (5.10) by Christian Fracchia

As part of Mohonk Preserve's efforts to reduce our environmental impact, we printed this annual report on 100% post-consumer waste paper that was processed chlorine-free, manufactured with wind power, and is Forest Stewardship Council® certified.

