<u>Volunteer Vibes</u> - Volunteers play many crucial roles at the Preserve. They maintain trails, welcome visitors, conduct research, educate youth groups, support special events, beautify our gardens, capture breathtaking photography, and much more, contributing their time, talents, and thousands of volunteer hours annually. We will be regularly featuring our volunteers in Talus Talk so that we can all learn who they are and why they do what they do for the Preserve. Let's meet our volunteers!

Stacey Spiegler

Where did you grow up?

I was born in Jamaica Queens, NY. After high school, I moved to the Hudson Valley. Years later I met my husband, and we built a home in High Falls just down the clove from the Preserve.

What is your volunteer role(s) here at Mohonk Preserve?

Mohonk Preserve is a very special place so I volunteer whenever I can at Rock the Ridge, the Pfalz Point Trail Challenge, and the Annual Auction. I primarily volunteer with the Gardening group and Trailhead Ambassadors welcoming visitors and helping them to find an adventure.

Why did you decide to volunteer your time and talents at Mohonk Preserve?

I discovered the Preserve when I went rock climbing for the first time. I remember reaching the GT

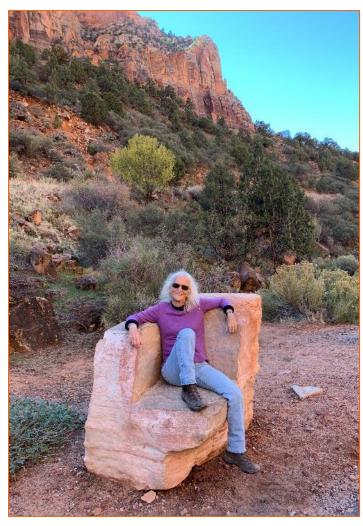
belay ledge, turning around, and seeing the magic of this place. How could I not be a part of it by helping to make people aware of the need to support and protect the Preserve?

What is a volunteer accomplishment you are really proud of?

When volunteering at an aid station to support runners during a race, I enjoy the appreciation runners give to the volunteers who are there to support them. This year I filled in as the Lyons Road Aid Station Captain for the Rock the Ridge race. I'm also proud of volunteering with my daughters at various events over the years.

Where is your favorite place/trail on the Preserve and why is it your favorite?

A friend asked me to get her out hiking after open heart surgery. I began to explore places I hadn't been to before - so many inspiring hikes it's hard to pick a favorite. My go-to at the end of a workday is Pin Oak Allee to Duck Pond. For a little more adventure Clove Chapel to Split Rock is always a good one.



Stacey Spiegler provided by Stacey