

Volunteer Vibes - *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!*

June Finer

Where did you grow up?

I was born and raised near London, England, and came to the USA (Chicago) in 1960, having just completed my medical training. I moved to NYC in 1967 to attend Columbia School of Public Health. I started coming upstate with my children in the 70s to attend International Folk Dance weekends and discovered hiking which I found to be most enjoyable. In 1983, I bought a weekend home in New Paltz and started regular hiking on the Shawangunk Ridge.

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

Bob Babb Wednesday Walk Leader.

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

I am concerned for the health of the planet. The conservation of our Ridge is greatly important to me. I think the Preserve is a wonderful organization and want to support it as best I can. I love hiking and want to encourage more people to become members, hike regularly, and support all the Preserve's goals.

What is a volunteer accomplishment you are really proud of?

I am proud that in 1995 I was part of a group of hikers who formed a weekend hiking group called the "Mohonk Preserve Singles Hiking and Supper Club." Bob Babb started the "Wednesday Leisurely Walks" in the Spring and Fall. Several of us started leading the Wednesday group and expanded it to a year-round program. The Weekend Hikes and Wednesday Walks continue to be sponsored by the Preserve.

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

Whenever someone asks me, which trail is my favorite, I say "The one that I am on. Our Ridge is so beautiful that all the trails are great."



June Finer, photo by Roberta Forest