

July 31, 2021 Annual Meeting Ballot Information

This meeting fulfills the requirements of our bylaws to gather membership for an annual meeting. At the meeting members in good standing (i.e. any member up to date on their dues) will be asked to vote on the three items listed below. These documents not only need to be revised for compliance purposes but ratifying them will allow us to apply for 501c3 status. As has been discussed in *The Canister* in the past year, the Board feels this is important move for us to continue and grow the stewardship work we do.

1. Restated Certificate of Incorporation, which has not been updated since 1993 and is out of compliance.
2. Revised bylaws which have been revised by the governance committee in consultation with a lawyer to bring us into compliance.
3. Slate of officers to serve until our next annual meeting which will be held in April of 2022.

All those items can be found on our website for your review at <http://catskill-3500-club.org/governance.php>

- If you do not know if you are up to date on your dues, contact [Dave White](#).
- If you want to pay your dues or are interested in a life membership, our member page is [here](#).
- If you are a member in good standing and are unable to attend the meeting, you can request a proxy vote through our secretary, [Linda VanSteenburg](#).
- Do you have other questions or concerns about the governance documents? Reach out to [Maria Bedo-Calhoun](#).

A note from the Nominating Committee about the Slate of Officers

We would like to thank Stash Rusin for his dedicated service these past two years as 2nd Vice President for the Club. His energy and enthusiasm during that time is much appreciated and we know he will stay involved with the Club in other ways. Stash has let us know that he will need to resign from the Board as of the annual meeting. His life has gotten too busy with work and personal responsibilities to be able to fulfill the requirements of the position properly and he wants the Club to have someone who can give the time needed. We believe Lisa Gizzarelli-Drago is a great choice for his replacement and are recommending her as 2nd VP. Her bio information is included below.

Additionally, while normally the term for President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents has been two years, this year we are recommending that the terms of the current President and 1st VP be extended until April 2022 when we will return to our normal meeting schedule. With the COVID crisis and the change in governance structure, we feel it would be best for the Club if the current slate continues until that time. As you will see in the governance documents, the Club

will be moving to a different governing structure, as is necessary by New York State law for non-profits. We believe this continuity will make things smoother as we transition with the changes to a 501c3.

Nominating Committee: Rob Stewart, Marvin Freedman, Tim Luby

2021-2022 Slate of Officers Ballot

President: Maria Bedo-Calhoun

1st Vice President: Charlie Lutomski

2nd Vice President: Lisa Gizzarelli-Drago

Treasurer: Jay Hui

Secretary: Linda VanSteenburg

Introducing Lisa Gizzarelli-Drago



Lisa's love of the Catskills started when she was camper at Frost Valley YMCA, where she hiked her first Catskill peak, Doubletop in 1989. Her years as a camper and counselor at Frost Valley taught her to love and respect the environment, and led her to major in environmental science.

Lisa backpacked in the Catskills with college friends and later lived and taught environmental education at Frost Valley for a year. This is when she learned about the Catskill 3500 Club and

hiked most of the peaks, finishing in 2001. She gradually then got into cycling and was an avid cyclist for several years, riding across the country in 2007. Lisa spent years riding up (and down!) the many mountain road passes of the Catskills on bicycle instead of hiking its mountains. Her knees, sadly, don't like the cadence of cycling anymore and she is back to her first love - the mountains. Living between the Gunks and the Catskills, Lisa loves to explore both of these beautiful places, with her two dogs or with her husband (who are all 3500 Club members). Having hiked all of the Catskill trails, she is now slowly working on the grid and savoring each hike. Lisa has been a hike leader for the Club for the last few years and she enjoys sharing her love of the mountains with others. This year, Lisa also joined the CMSAR team and she is working toward being mission ready. She recently received the Wilderness First Responder training through SAR. As a middle school biology teacher, she tries to get kids to love and appreciate the outdoors. Lisa's other favorite things are gardening, sailing adventures with her husband, sleeping in a tent, hanging out with her silly chickens, building things out of wood, cooking, and watching the woods from a tree stand while bow hunting. Her friends know Lisa as 'that person' who will pick up trash and will carry it out, no matter how heavy it is, and will educate others about the impact we have on our woods and how to help keep the woods a healthy ecosystem and special place, for generations to come.