



## 2021 Golden Binocular Award recipients

**Kathy Barnes**, New Hampshire Bird Records webmaster, nominated by Becky Suomala

Kathy Barnes has been the Web Master for the New Hampshire Bird Records (NHBR) web site since 2011, re-designing it twice, keeping it up to date throughout the year, and filling emergency needs such as the creation of a new data entry portal for the 2021 Backyard Winter Bird Survey at the last minute. She has been a key part of extending NH Audubon's web presence.

**Susan Burkhardt**, office assistant, nominated by Becky Suomala

Susan Burkhardt was a new volunteer when COVID-19 in March 2020 and thanks to her flexibility, willingness to do anything, and proximity to the McLane Center, she filled in on many tasks. She processed innumerable Backyard Winter Bird Surveys, took home mailings, and did miscellaneous projects, providing critical help at a challenging time when volunteers could not come into the office.

**Andrei Campeanu**, Sanctuary Steward, nominated by Phil Brown

Andrei has been a sanctuary volunteer since 2018 (he actually signed on as a volunteer during that year's annual meeting). He and his trusty battery-powered chainsaw cheerfully travel across the southern tier of the state wherever there is a need to clear trails. He has spent time helping to improve several well-used and less-used trail systems including at the Bellamy River, Deering, and Kensan-Devan Wildlife Sanctuaries. Recently, he spent several days clearing a trail system at the Kensan-Devan Sanctuary in Marlborough, where his volunteer time also served as match for a grant that enabled this trail's redevelopment.

**Eddie Damon**, Sanctuary Steward for Silk Farm Wildlife Sanctuary, nominated by Phil Brown

Eddie has been a dedicated volunteer of the organization for over 5 years and has stepped into the role of Sanctuary Steward for the Silk Farm Sanctuary (McLane Center property), bringing tremendous energy and abilities to the tasks of trail maintenance and habitat restoration. Eddie has been instrumental in expanding the popular Field Loop trail, working on site preparation for the pollinator demonstration meadow, improving signage, and has recently even taken on the role of co-stewarding the nearby Chase Wildlife Sanctuary, bringing this sanctuary's trails back to life.

**Bill Dumont**, Massabesic Center Volunteer, nominated by Kimmie Whiteman

Bill has volunteered at MAC for over ten years as an integral part of our grounds maintenance team. His contributions to the trails, gardens, the raven's enclosure, and even our programming materials are so greatly appreciated, and we are elated that he has expanded his volunteer role even further by becoming the newest member of MACAC!

**Dan Hubbard**, Chapter officer and more, nominated by Pam Hunt

Dan has been a driving force within the Seacoast Chapter for several years, most recently being part of the team that organized an impressive series of virtual talks during COVID and re-instituting field trips in the spring of 2021. In a more statewide capacity, he has served on the NH Bird Records Editorial Team for several years and helps with bird surveys in his Strafford County stomping grounds.

**Walter Keane**, photographer and communications volunteer, nominated by Dyanna Smith  
For a number of years now, Walt has been wandering all over the state taking marvelous photographs of nature, often on our sanctuaries. He shares his photographs with us nearly every week, with a summary of his field notes (what he saw and anything interesting to share), and allows NH Audubon to freely use them in our communications – and we do! He is an amazing and generous resource, and we are very grateful.

**Nanci Mitchell**, Backyard Winter Bird Survey Assistant, nominated by Becky Suomala  
Nanci is a key Backyard Winter Bird Survey office volunteer and her many responsibilities were magnified when COVID-19 hit causing massive challenges working at home on the 2020 incoming surveys and then again in 2021. Nanci's dedication, knowledge, flexibility, and commitment have made the Backyard Winter Bird Survey possible, especially during the pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

**Maureen Sinclair**, Lead master gardener, nominated by Kimmie Whiteman  
Maureen has taken the reins in the garden at MAC for coordinating not only our Master Gardener volunteers, but all of the grounds volunteers. Her helpfulness in organizing various stewardship projects throughout MAC, and facilitating communication between NH Audubon staff and the volunteers, has been crucial during the Covid-19 pandemic and staff transitions.

**Mary Stewart**, Backyard Winter Bird Survey Assistant, nominated by Becky Suomala  
Mary Stewart is a longtime Backyard Winter Bird Survey office volunteer and when COVID-19 hit in March 2020 she worked at home on the 2020 incoming surveys and then again in 2021 – mailing, processing 700+ incoming donations, entering data from 1400+ participants. Mary's dedication, knowledge, flexibility, and commitment have made the Backyard Winter Bird Survey possible, especially during the pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

**Jean Sweeney**, Massabesic volunteer and advisory council member, nominated by Doug Bechtel  
Jean has been a tireless and exuberant volunteer at MAC and for NH Audubon for years, if not decades. She has been present for countless events and has shown excellent leadership among our long-term volunteers. Her term on MACAC similarly was long and characterized by strategic, optimistic, and tangible contributions to MAC and NH Audubon.

Posthumously to **Beverly Youree**, presented to her wife, Carol Nepton.  
Bev was a volunteer for MAC for dozens of years. Her many contributions include serving on the Advisory Committee, establishing and running the Enchanted Fall Festival (not to be confused with Enchanted Forest), establishing and running the MAC scavenger hunt called Passport to Adventure, working on and running the Christmas wreath effort, and volunteering at MAC's Earth Day, Winterfest, pancake breakfast, at MAC's front desk as a greeter, and was a leader on countless education programs for the public and school groups. For these contributions she was awarded NH Audubon's Volunteer of the Year Award in 2012, at which time she had compiled over 1,600 hours of volunteer labor. And, Bev wrote songs about NHA and NHA staff. And sang them, in public. We will miss her presence and commitment to NHA.