

2023 Board of Director Elections - Voting Instructions:

Please place your vote for the Highpointers Club Board. We have ten (10) nominees for five (5) open board positions. All board members serve three (3) year terms.

How to vote:

- Read the candidate's statements.
- Send the names of your five (5) candidate choices by email to election@highpointers.org

OR

- Check the boxes on the ballot provided and mail to:
Denis Dean, Election Chair
4214 N. Meadow View Drive,
Fayetteville, AR 72703
- One vote (email or mail) per household
- Must be postmarked or emailed by 7/7/23

2023 Board of Directors Candidates

Vote for Five (5)

election@highpointers.org

Katheryn Bertine

☐

Tom Martin

☐

Scott Brumund

☐

Tom Shea

☐

Steve Eilertson

☐

Gary Szelc

☐

John Lawton

☐

Ander Thompson

☐

Shelly Messenger

☐

David Walsh

☐

Board of Director Nomination Statements

Katheryn Bertine

I had the honor to be nominated for the board this year, and I'm truly moved to be part of the Highpointers Organization. Completing all 50 states (August 2022) was a very meaningful, personal journey, but the bigger picture of Highpointing is something even greater. I look forward to helping preserve, protect, and promote our highpoints, and help educate new generations on the history and future, and importance of this wonderful organization.



Scott Brumund

I was appointed to the board in March 2023 to fill the empty seat and appointed Assistant Treasurer. Recently I compiled the Highpointers 2022 finances and tax return. If elected to the board, I will continue as Assistant Treasurer until I qualify as Treasurer. My goal as a Board member and Assistant Treasurer is to simplify the accounting making it easier for my successor and the Committee Chairs to do their work.



Steve Eilertson

Hello to all outdoor enthusiasts. I enjoyed hiking the state highpoints as a follow-up to growing-up in rural northern Minnesota. Skiing, fishing, berry picking, family togetherness; the outdoors has much to offer for those who like to "get-out-there". I have been happy to share excerpts from my book "Reaching Higher" in this newsletter. I encourage you to keep sharing your adventures. Thank you for considering me for nomination to the board.



John "Quincy" Lawton

Our family visited Clingman's Dome a few years ago while camping in Gatlinburg and since then we have been to the highpoints of NH, NJ, KS, WI, CT, and RI. Now we have a spreadsheet of all the Highpoints and Tripoints and make efforts to visit them. I am a retired New York City Firefighter and an actively drilling member of the US Coast Guard, having completed 21 years of combined active and reserve time.



Shelly Messenger

I live in New Hampshire's White Mountains. I have 28 state highpoints. I joined this club a year ago, wanting good general information. However, when I went to the Konvention, I found a whole community of people who love the outdoors and love the companionship of other highpointers. I am interested in becoming a member of the board to be able to be involved in maintaining and creating more opportunities for the organization to grow.



Board of Director Nomination Statements (continued)

Tom Martin

I communicated with Jack in 1988 and started my HP membership in 1989 for \$5! I have 49.8 Highpoints, 32 with my wife, and many with our four children. I have written articles on “Highpointing” and regularly update the Martin Classification of Difficulty for U.S. State Highpoints. I have been instrumental in placing a Highpointers display and webcam at the OH Highpoint. If you permit me, I will be an active Board Member.



Tom Shea

I was appointed co-editor of Apex to Zenith in Jan 2023. My goal is to improve club connectivity and communication by taking A2Z to the next level, reliably delivering a quarterly issue, and showcasing as many of your Highpointing adventures as possible. I have many years’ experience in business information and professional services and, when not highpointing, work as a leadership and communications trainer/consultant. I’m excited to continue to support, build and grow the HP club!



Gary Szele

I am a “Forty-Niner,” teller of bad jokes, have a mind filled with useless facts, and am a former Board member. Having participated in Club activities for 20+ years and an author of the infamous Konvention Handbook, I want to continue to promote the ideals and traditions of the Club and to continue to make it a forum for sharing experience, adventure stories, and the good ol’ camaraderie that comes with sharing a common purpose.



Ander Thompson

As a Colorado native, my passion for climbing mountains runs deep. As a West Point graduate with a Civil Engineering degree, I thrive on utilizing my technical expertise to deconstruct complex problems and lead highly successful teams. Fostering relationships, organization, and a positive mindset are core elements that I embrace across life. I would be honored and humbled to be considered for any position on the Highpointer Club’s Board. Thank you for your consideration.



David Walsh

I am a life-long hiker and climber. In 2022, I completed all 50 state summits. According to the Highpointers records, I am the 6th oldest person to complete all 50 states. This took me 43 years, which shows my level of commitment to achieving the goal. I am semi-retired from business and have experience serving on nonprofit boards. I am currently semi-retired, working on a Ph.D. when I am not hiking and climbing.



Board of Director Elections excerpt from the Highpointers Club Bylaws, July 27, 2019 for reference.

SECTION 2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2.1 Composition

Subject to the powers of active members as provided in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall manage the business of the Highpointers Club. The Board of Directors shall consist of fifteen (15) active members of the Highpointers Club. The Board of Directors shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer from among themselves. Five Director seats shall stand for election each year. If the Board of Directors drops below fifteen (15) members for any reason, within sixty (60) days, the President shall appoint an active member(s) to fill the unexpired term(s). The appointee must be approved by a majority vote of the remaining Directors.