

OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

2022

“Scottie” Baker is recognized with this special Presidential Award for her decades of involvement with, and the protection of, Otsego Lake. Scottie has served OLA administratively as a long-time Director from the Town of Otsego, past Co-President, and current Vice President. She single handily is in charge of the OLA merchandise sales including development of new products, ordering, storage, display at events, and distribution of various items. She is the long-time editor of the NYSFOLA award winning OLA newsletter “Our Glimmerglass” and has served as the OLA liaison with Otsego 2000 for many years. Scottie has represented OLA at many area events including Earth Day and Otsego Lakes Festival while creating new OLA display boards and still serves as a judge for the annual OLA “We Love Our Lake” boat parade which she helped originate and still coordinates. Scottie always offers thoughtful and inspirational words and contributions to any OLA discussion and has a wonderful perspective and aesthetic sense. She is the soul of OLA with a great passion for Otsego Lake, including her stunning photographs and love for her antique boats, plus she always promotes the mission of OLA to non-members and encourages them to join. Scottie is just a wonderful person with a passion for life, a great sense of humor, and always fun to work with and be around. Most importantly, Scottie is recognized for her genuine interest and dedication to ensure the health, well-being, water quality, and future of Otsego Lake – truly a local treasure we all love. Congratulations Scottie!

2023

Doug and Rhonda Willies are recognized with this special Presidential Award for their decades of involvement with, and the protection of, Otsego Lake. Doug and Rhonda first came to Otsego Lake in 1976 and purchased their current year-round home on the easterly shore of the lake in the Town of Middlefield in 1979. They were charter members of the Otsego Lake Association when OLA was founded in 2002 and Doug served on the initial OLA Board of Directors as one of the Directors from the Town of Middlefield for several years. Doug is once again serving on the OLA Board of Directors representing the Town of Middlefield. Doug always offers thoughtful and inspirational words and contributions to any OLA discussion. Doug was appointed to the Otsego Lake Watershed Supervisory Committee (WSC) in 2020 to represent the Town of Middlefield on the five-member Board. The WSC’s mission is to protect Otsego Lake as a public water supply for the Village of Cooperstown. Since 2022, Doug has been leading the WSC’s efforts, with 100% behind the scenes support from Rhonda, in studying and coordinating the work to understand the cause of the harmful algae blooms (HABs) in the lake. Doug and Rhonda attended a full day of CSLAP training at the NYSFOLA conference in May of 2023 and are now conducting bi-weekly lake water sampling in support of the proposed NYSDEC 9 Element Plan to address the HABs. Their daughter did lake water sampling as a BFS Intern 20 years ago. In

summary, Doug and Rhoda are recognized for their genuine interest and long-time dedication to ensure the health, well-being, water quality, and future of Otsego Lake – truly a local treasure we all love. Congratulations!