

## **Nominees for the Elisha Mitchell Audubon Board of Directors**

### **President: Nancy Casey**

Nancy Casey joined the Elisha Mitchell Board of Directors in 2017 and chairs its Advocacy, Conservation and Education Committee. Last year she helped write the EMAS Advocacy Plan and has worked to boost our chapter's advocacy efforts. Her professional career has been spent working for environmental non-profits and federal agencies in support of climate-related research and policy. Nancy got hooked on birding over 20 years ago and thoroughly enjoys the challenging art of birding by ear. She participates in many local bird counts, including the Breeding Bird Survey.

### **Secretary: Susan Richardson**

Susan Richardson was appointed to the EMAS board in the spring of 2018 to fill the vacant spot of Secretary. She has lived in Asheville for about four years and is an enthusiastic, but still learning, birder. Although she works full time as an engineer, she enjoys volunteering as an Audubon Ambassador and EMAS Secretary. Susan has been an active member of the EMAS board in her short tenure. She has tabled many events for EMAS, attended Lobby Day in Raleigh, and plans to go to the National Audubon Convention in July. She looks forward to continuing to serve the EMAS community.

### **At-Large Board Member, New: Noah Poulos**

Noah Poulos is a UNCA Environmental Studies alumni currently working in Asheville as an arborist. In addition to loving birds, Noah is passionate about habitat restoration, regenerative agriculture, and environmental education. He believes that avian conservation is a great tool to reach the public and get people on board with important environmental causes that benefit all life. When he's not working or out looking for spring migrants, Noah can be found operating his 1-acre homestead with his fiancé, where they have rabbits, chickens, and a garden twice the size of their home.

### **At-Large Board Member, Returning: Bethany Sheffer**

Bethany Sheffer, who joined the EMAS board in 2017, is an AmeriCorps member serving with Balsam Mountain Trust (Sylva) as Education Outreach Coordinator. She has an enormous passion for animals and conservation and has been fascinated particularly by birds since childhood. She's a recent transplant from Michigan, originally from the Upper Peninsula. Bethany has a master's degree in public administration with an emphasis in nonprofit management and hopes to apply this education, as well as her passion for birding and engaging the public, to EMAS.