

Matthew D. Carney



Matthew is a native of Northern New York and the Adirondack foothills who has long associations with both the Adirondacks and the Tug Hill. He met his wife Linda during a three year Peace Corps assignment in the Kingdom of Tonga and the two settled, in 1986, in Natural Bridge on 120 acres adjoining the newly designated Baker Woods Preserve. Their children, Siobhan, Liam, and Sinead, learned to love the land and the Indian River and have subsequently all become avid enthusiasts of the outdoors. Matthew recently retired after 36

years in public and private education. He is thrilled to be caring for his menagerie of animals, skiing, snowshoeing, paddling, gardening and trekking...in the daylight. Before retirement, much of this was done by virtue of a headlamp.

“I strongly believe that the environment is the quintessential issue of our time. Many do nothing in the face of a problem that seems too big and intangible. Involvement in the IRLC allows me to engage in meaningful action to preserve a pristine water source, educate friends, family, and others and involve them in conservation efforts. I have been an informal caretaker of the Baker Woods for 30 years and enjoyed a wonderful and enduring friendship with Doris and Norman Baker, so I am especially gratified to become both an IRLC steward of that special land and a member of the IRLC Board of Directors.”