



Nancy Troxler
2016 recipient of the Holman Award

Volunteer leader of great dedication and zeal

By Callie D. Moore

Nancy Troxler's commitment to the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition's water quality mission began in 2002 when she and husband, Brian Mitchell, engaged the organization to improve water quality on their property bordering Little Brasstown Creek. But Nancy's commitment to the environment and volunteerism began long before that. Nancy has always loved and appreciated the outdoors and has helped with landscaping and gardening projects over the years at John C. Campbell Folk School, Martins Creek Elementary School and House Raising Volunteer project sites, just to name a few. Nancy was also a Girl Scout leader for 17 years, helping teach younger generations of women about the outdoors and self-sufficiency.

Nancy's years of volunteer work with HRWC have involved helping with the Adopt-A-Stream program, educational events for elementary and middle school students on the River Walk, restoration program work days, the C.R.E.E.K. summer youth education program and the service learning program at Tri-County Early College. Nancy also makes baked goods for fundraisers and lunches for college students working streamside during HRWC's Alternative Spring Break program.

Nancy was born in Greensboro, NC and is one of five children. Her mother was a political activist working for peace and civil rights. Her father was an orthopedic surgeon who did much charity work serving the poor. Nancy received her training as an RN at Boston University and Brian there in 1975. After they married and his internship was complete, they came to Western North Carolina to serve as a visiting nurse and doctor.

Nancy and Brian have two daughters, Kate, a graduate of Wesleyan University and UNC Chapel Hill now living in Durham, NC and Anna, a graduate of Centre College now living in Lexington, KY.

Nancy prefers to stay behind the scenes and it is her consistent devotion to the smaller tasks that convinced the award committee to choose her over the other eleven nominees for the 2016 Holman Award.