

Amy Morrissey Kleppner

Amy Kleppner is the niece of Amelia Earhart. She graduated from Smith College in 1952, worked for the Mount Holyoke News Bureau and received an M.A. in 1954, and earned a Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University while teaching physical education in New York City.

She taught philosophy at Wellesley College, Howard University, and at University College of the University of Maryland. After marrying Adam Kleppner, her husband of over 50 years, she gave up full-time teaching to raise two sons, Bram and Caleb. She later returned to teaching as a high school English teacher and spent the last ten years of her professional career at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, Maryland.

Following retirement, she and her husband moved to Wardsboro, Vermont, where they had spent summers since 1964. She now devotes most of her time to writing. In addition to several articles, she has written a manual for high school students, *Research Paper Procedure*, published by Teacher's Discovery, and she co-authored a local pictorial history, *Wardsboro VT: Exposing the Past*, now in its second printing. She was elected to the town's Selectboard in 2008 and still serves in that capacity, only the third woman to do so since the town was chartered in 1780.

A lifelong hiking and kayaking enthusiast, she has ascended the 46 high peaks of the Adirondacks and has hiked end-to-end on the Long Trail in Vermont, the C & O Canal towpath in Maryland, and the Coast-to-Coast Path in England. Reaching the top of Half Dome in Yosemite on her 64th birthday remains her most memorable hiking experience. In 2010 she realized a longtime dream by paddling the entire length of the Connecticut River, 373 miles from Canaan, Vermont to Long Island Sound. She hopes to reach many more heights, sometimes accompanied by her six remarkable grandchildren and their tireless parents.