

## ***Your vote for our 2023-25 BOD should be received by December 1<sup>st</sup>***

***Please take a moment to read these brief biographies of each candidate.***

**Bill Butterfield**, with his wife, Carol, purchased their home in Mallard Point subdivision in late October 2016 and moved to the lake full time in late 2018. They have 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 6 step-grandchildren and 2 step-great grandchildren. They purchased their home here on the lake to be closer to their youngest son and his young family who live in Roanoke. Together they enjoy summer time filled with a household of family at this beautiful lake and the peaceful atmosphere the water provides during the winter months.

Bill's is currently serving as the SMLA BOD President. He also serves in the Water Quality Monitoring Program as a sampling volunteer of 3-5 sites on the lake around Gills Creek. Bill previously served one year on the BOD as the SMLA chair of the Fish Habitat and Invasive Species committees.

Career wise Bill has been responsible for global technology for Andritz Paper Fabrics and Rolls division. As the CTO, he had global responsibility for R&D, application engineering, quality, procurement/sourcing, marketing and IT. He holds graduate degrees in Pulp and Paper Science and Metallurgical and Materials Science. Bill is a member of the BOD at the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation. The Butterfields are excited to be full time residents of SML and it is Bill's desire to become more involved in the lake community and donating his time to helping wherever he can be of service to the SMLA.

**Eric Cheney** was born and raised in the Finger Lake's region of upstate New York. Upon graduation from Jordan-Elbridge High School, he enlisted in the United States Navy where he studied nuclear propulsion and mechanical systems. Three years after his initial enlistment, Eric earned an appointment to the United States Naval Academy where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in economics and was commissioned as an Officer in the US Navy. He later earned his MS in Financial Management from the Navy Post-Graduate School in Monterey, CA.

Highlights of Eric's Naval career include graduating flight school, ultimately flying the A6E Intruder off of three different aircraft carriers, flying missions over Bosnia, Somalia, and Iraq. He had the privilege of commanding two different organizations, and working with, and leading, hundreds of talented and intelligent people over the course of his 37 year career.

Highlights of Eric's personal life include marrying his wife of 33 years (and counting), Marita Steinmetz from Grafton, Massachusetts. Together, they raised 3 exceptional children—Michael (West Point undergrad/Univ of Texas MBA), Kyle (US Coast Guard Academy/BYU MBA), and Heather (Acadia undergrad/Wake Forest MBA). Together, they moved 14 times in 30 years. Eric and Marita bought their home at Smith Mountain Lake in 2014, and retired here permanently in 2019 where they are blessed with exceptional friends and volunteer with many organizations in their community.

**Nancy Davenport** is a Certified Public Accountant actively licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia. She first visited Smith Mountain Lake with her family in 2013, and instantly loved the beauty and expansiveness of SML and the surrounding area, so much so that in 2014 she and her husband purchased their first property at SML and have been vacationing here every year. She and her husband, Dave, moved to the lake full-time in October 2021.

Nancy has worked at the Executive level in a variety of organizations over the course of her career. Nancy has extensive experience in strategic planning and execution, operations activities, as well as preparing financial and strategic materials for a variety of non-profit boards. She currently is semi-retired and works with a business partner offering outsourced CFO, consulting and bookkeeping services

**Keri Green** became a full time SML resident in October of 2021, after owning a home in Union Hall for 9 years. She has a significant background and education in ecology, lake management and natural resource protection, having worked for the State of New Jersey running the science team for a regional planning agency for 12 years. Prior to that she worked in the environmental remediation and investigation field, and was a very active Boy Scouts of America volunteer, serving in many roles. She also chaired her local Environmental Commission and was a founding member of a municipal Green Team in New Jersey.

Now a full time "laker" Keri has a small environmental consulting business and is excited to become more involved with the SMLA on the technical side of lake management. Her true passion for lake management developed through her work in New Jersey. Keri worked to fund and advise more than 20 towns in the development of lake management plans and managed associated grant funding. It only seems natural to make the leap to volunteering with SMLA to further the good work done here, and to hopefully make meaningful contributions to the excellent water quality of the lake. Keri has been the SMLA Invasive Species Committee Chairperson in 2022, which also is a great fit as she still serves as a steering committee member to the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team.

**Robert Hastings** built his retirement home at the lake in 2013 after having vacation homes in the Penhook and Mountain View Shores area of the lake since 1998. Moving to the lake as a fulltime resident upon retiring in 2017, he has been an active member of SMLA since 2018, chairing the Buffer Landscape committee through 2021 and the SMLA marketing initiative since that time. Bob and his wife Pam enjoy boating, gardening and leisurely dinners with friends. With 3 sons and 5 grandkids (so far), they enjoy their family time especially when it's in or on Smith Mountain Lake. Bob is an avid bicyclist and enjoys hiking our local mountains and water sport on our beautiful lake. He is taken aback every day by the natural beauty that we are fortunate enough to live around. He feels strongly that we all have a responsibility to protect what is obviously a blessing.

**Joanne Houpt** has been a full-time Smith Mountain Lake resident since 2021. She and her husband Bob live in the Park Place community and enjoy boating, swimming, and photography. Joanne was raised in a farm business in rural New York State and learned to love lake life at a family-owned cottage on Keuka Lake. Her career was in the natural gas pipeline industry where she held various positions from administration, pipeline and compressor operations and right-of-way/land management. This career provided significant exposure with FERC regulations, environmental compliance, operations and maintenance, rights-of-way and encroachment management and safety. After being relocated to the Stephens City, Virginia area in the mid 90's, Joanne discovered SML and knew immediately where she wanted to retire. Joanne uses her knowledge to support SMLA in its goal to protect the water of SML and promote safe recreation. She is a past President of SML Newcomers, a former SMLA Save Our Streams volunteer, currently a SMLA office volunteer and has served on the SMLA Board of Directors since 2001 where she focuses on Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) and Septic Education.

**Yvonne McMahon** Yvonne McMahon and her husband Dave purchased their townhouse at Bernard's Landing in 1998. They have enjoyed weekends at the lake with their three children; with fond memories of fishing, boating, and swimming. Yvonne is now a full-time resident of Smith Mountain Lake and is honored to serve on the board of the SMLA. Yvonne holds a Master's of Education from the University of Lynchburg and she is a Special Education Teacher. Yvonne will focus her attention on working together with the community to promote stewardship practices that will continue to keep our lake healthy.

**Geoff Orth**, born in Philadelphia, has spent most of his life in Virginia. He and his wife Kathy built a vacation house on the Lake in 1994, and it now serves as their full-time residence in retirement. He has lived full-time in Village East (Bedford County) since 2013.

His educational background is in the humanities, with degrees from Washington and Lee University and the University of Virginia. Professionally, he worked as an academic administrator, retiring as associate vice-president of academic affairs at Longwood University. He also served in the U.S. Army as a tactical intelligence officer in Vietnam, then over twenty years in the Reserve, with final assignment to the U.S. Atlantic Command in Norfolk.

In our Lake community, he is a vice president of the Blue Ridge Foothills and Lakes Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalists. As a certified streams monitor and trainer, he has been the SML area coordinator for Save our Streams since 2016, directing the work of about forty volunteers assigned to sixteen streams in Bedford and Franklin Counties. In that position, he has served on Board since 2020 and is responsible for gathering and sharing stream quality data with Virginia's DEQ. His special interest is in promoting cooperative efforts in water quality programs among Virginia's lake associations.

**John Rupnik** purchased his residence in Cedar Key Estates in 1992 and has lived here with his wife Patsy full-time since 2013. He currently serves as SMLA's Chair of the Buffer Landscaping Committee and is actively supporting a collaborative buffer garden project with Mariners Landing. He previously has served as SMLA President and Treasurer. John is an active volunteer monitor of 3 sites within the water monitoring program and manages the SMLA lake map program. John also serves as Secretary on the Cedar Key Estates Association Board of Directors. He hopes his continued participation on the SMLA Board will actively support the current president's vision of protecting our water in the future.

**Robert Sanders** has been a full-time lake resident in the Betty's Creek area since June 2018 with his wife, Maureen. He is a retired chemistry teacher, coach, and assistant/associate principal from the Fairfax County Public Schools after 31 years of service. Since relocating he has been active with several lake organizations including the Discovery Shop and the SMLA Water Quality Committee, and the AEP Erosion/Sedimentation, Recreation, and Debris committees. He enjoys being at SML, taking advantage of the lake for activities with family and friends, getting to know the community, and searching out places and businesses to visit. As a board member, he brings enthusiasm for teaching and learning, and looks forward to securing the future of the lake so that others can enjoy all it offers.

**Mike Streff**, currently Vice President of SMLA, has enjoyed Smith Mountain Lake since 1995, first as a guest of lake residents, then as an occasional renter on the lake, then as a weekend and vacation week homeowner in the Waterways community. Mike is now a full-time resident in the Boardwalk Community. Originally from South Dakota, and then raised near the Snake River in Washington State, Mike served in the Army for 22 years and then in the defense industry in the Washington DC area, where he specialized in allocating resources to achieve strategic objectives. He retired in 2018 and moved to the lake full time in 2019, where he lives with his wife Sara, also a SMLA volunteer. Mike worked on increasing SMLA membership, the SMLA strategic plan, and other data initiatives supporting SMLA during his time on the board. He enjoys water skiing in retirement.

**Edgar Tuck** is a lifelong resident of Smith Mountain Lake Community and the 4th generation operating the family farm in Moneta. He is a Mortgage Loan Specialist for Truist with 35 years of banking experience. He is a Bedford County Supervisor representing District 2 which covers the majority of Bedford side of SML & Leesville Lake. He is married to Alison Tuck, a pharmacist with Roanoke Memorial Hospital. Their family includes: Aaron, who works at Interstate Batteries in Salem; Davis, currently serving in US Army; Laura Lee, a sophomore at Liberty University, and a granddaughter, Sage. He attends Eastlake Community Church and has a BBA from James Madison University, majoring in business management with a concentration in human resources.

**Please deliver ballots to the SMLA Office. If closed, leave it in the drop box by the door, or mail to:  
SMLA, 400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100, Moneta, VA 24121 or email to: [theoffice@smlassociation.org](mailto:theoffice@smlassociation.org)  
Again, please VOTE, and return your ballot to the office by December 1<sup>st</sup>**