

# **Friends of Wilderness Battlefield**

Annual Membership Meeting

November 13, 2010

Lake of the Woods Church

Locust Grove, Virginia

**Friends of Wilderness Battlefield, Inc.**

Annual Membership Meeting  
11:00 AM, Saturday, November 13, 2010  
The Lake of the Woods Church

**Board of Directors**

**Officers**

Zann Nelson, President

Carolyn Elstner, Vice President

Jeff Slunt, Treasurer

Carolyn Rourke, Secretary

**Members**

Curtis Abel

Dale Brown

Dorothy Mosso

Dwight Mottet

Robin Nimmo

Zoila Ortega

Linda Resler

Mark Wakeman

Ann Woerner

Brian Wolfe

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**Agenda**

**Call to Order**

Zann Nelson, President

**Declaration of Quorum**

Carolyn Rourke, Secretary

**Welcome and “State of the Organization” Remarks**

Zann Nelson, President

**Treasurer’s Report**

Jeff Slunt, Treasurer

**Ellwood Restoration Project Update**

Carolyn Elstner, Vice President and  
Chair, Ellwood Restoration Project

**FoWB Battlefield Stewardship**

Mark Wakeman, Chair, Battlefield Resources Committee

***Inspiration and Innovation: General John B. Gordon in the Wilderness***

Greg Mertz, Supervisory Historian, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

**Election of Board Members**

Jimmy Lee, Member, Board Enhancement Committee

**Recognitions**

Dale Brown, Member of the FoWB Board of Directors

**Remarks**

Russ Smith, Superintendent, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

**Announcements**

**Adjourn**

**Lunch and Drawings**

**Walking Tour (weather permitting)**

Greg Mertz

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## **2010 Highlights**

### The Battlefield:

- Hosted the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Park Day
- Established the 1<sup>st</sup> VDOT Adopt-a-Highway program
- Designed and constructed an exhibit at the Wilderness Library about the Wilderness Battle
- Coordinated the Ed Bearss/Greg Mertz Civil War bus tour
- Collaborated with NPS on a battlefield maintenance plan for 2011

### The Ellwood Season:

- 51 trained interpreters; 10 members of the Ground Force
- 4,683 visitors and donations of \$4096.30
- Extended hours included 7 days per week mid-June- mid-August
- 12 special events, an increase of nine from 2009

### Ellwood Restoration:

- Permanent exhibits were designed, executed and installed in the Ellwood Room and the Wilderness Room.
- Restoration of the four second-floor bedrooms is expected to begin in December.

### Membership:

- Holds steady at 258 and includes members in Canada and 26 states.
- Two new members to the Wilderness Brigade and one to the Ellwood Legacy

### Volunteers:

- Over 8,000 hours were contributed by Interpreters, Ground Force, Board of Directors, Event participants and other special activities.

### Recognition:

- Wilderness Battlefield: National Trust for Historic Preservation's 11 Most Endangered
- Wilderness Battlefield: Civil War Preservation Trust: Most Endangered

**Friends of Wilderness Battlefield  
Treasurer's Report  
2010 Annual Meeting  
Data as of October 31, 2010**

**Ellwood Restoration Checking  
Account**

Balance per Books 10/31/2009	\$6,508.73
Balance per Books 10/31/2010	\$52,100.06
Change	\$45,591.33

**FoWB Operating Checking  
Account**

Balance per Books 10/31/2009	\$7,566.31
Balance per Books 10/31/2010	\$5,486.98
Change	(\$2,079.33)

**Ellwood Restoration Money  
Market Account**

Balance per Books 10/31/2009	\$10,361.64
Balance per Books 10/31/2010	\$10,366.05
Change	\$4.41

**FoWB Money Market Account**

Balance per Books 10/31/2009	\$15,911.65
Balance per Books 10/31/2010	\$15,919.98
Change	\$8.33

Total Assets as of 10/31/2010	\$83,873.07
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**The Friends of Wilderness Battlefield keeps their books on a cash basis.**

# Friends of Wilderness Battlefield

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## Ellwood Committee Annual Report

*Submitted by Carolyn Elstner, Chair*

Members of the Ellwood Committee are Dale Brown, Carolyn Elstner, Zann Nelson, Dwight Mottet, Lisa Van Winkle, and Brian Wolfe. Brian Dendis and Greg Mertz are the NPS liaisons to the committee.

The 2010 season brought 4,683 visitors to Ellwood. (This number does not include four busses that made abbreviated stops, mostly to the cemetery.) They deposited \$4096.30 in the donation box. In March fifteen new interpreters were trained. Fifty-one interpreters stood the duty on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from May 1st through October 31st and on weekdays from mid-June to mid-August. The addition of a daily schedule for nine weeks was very successful, averaging 28 visitors per day. We honored at least two requests a month for private tours, and one is already on the calendar for November.

The Ground Force welcomed John Polis and Bob Neel to the team of ten. John is also an interpreter. Tragically we lost John Irvine in July. Coordinator of the group, Det Wilkins, prepared the report below. Karen O'Brien of Fawn Lake Garden Club and Carolyn Elstner maintained the herb garden.

Architect Tony Bochicchio completed the drawings for Phase III. Federal compliance approval was received during the summer. Contractor Noah Bradley of Blue Mountain Builders has met with Zann, fund development chair, and Carolyn, Ellwood restoration chair. The outcome of that meeting gave Noah the go-ahead for Phase III, restoration of the four second-floor bedrooms. Work is expected to begin in December. Zann will continue to guide us in acquiring the additional funds necessary, \$35,000.

During the winter and spring of 2010 permanent exhibits were designed, executed and installed in the Ellwood Room and the Wilderness Room. They are superior and have been well received by visitors. Dwight, Zann, and Carolyn served on the NPS's exhibit committee.

Again this year special appreciation goes to Lisa Van Winkle for always "being there" to serve Ellwood's special appetite needs and to Dale Brown whose Ellwood key gets as much use as Carolyn's.

### 2010 events

- January 1 -- Post Victorian-Christmas at Ellwood
- March 6, 22, 27 – Interpreter training
- April 30 – Phase II Restoration Celebration
- May 1 – Annual Dinner/Auction
- May 8 – 146<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Wilderness
- May 9 – Mother's Day at Ellwood
- May 15 – Book-signing with Chris Mackowski
- May 23 – Civil War Hospital Tour with Greg Mertz and John Pelletier
- May 29 – Memorial Day Saturday
- July 24 and October 16 – Medical re-enactor, John Pelletier
- September 26 – Taming of the Wilderness
- November 7 – Ellwood volunteer appreciation lawn party

## Ellwood Ground Force 2010 Accomplishments

The Ellwood Ground Force is responsible for maintaining and improving the grounds of Ellwood. The team has an average of ten members. The team works every Thursday morning.

*During the grass-growing season the GF:*

- Mowed all grass areas with riding mowers, push mowers, and string trimmers. This and little clean-up tasks filled about 80% of the work time.
- Disassembled the parking lot fence and reassembled it to allow parking on both sides of the fence. This expanded the mowing area as well.
- Disposed of Osage oranges and other mowing obstacles.
- Trimmed trees just enough to provide head-space for walking and mowing (8'). Trimmed trees in the driveway to 13' as required for busses.
- Provided firewood for Living History events.
- Trimmed boxwood hedges to allow visitors to walk to the cemetery from the main house.

*During non-mowing months the GF:*

- Before the winter storm hit, cleared around the Brooder House (chick barn). This included taking down some trees in front, clearing off the roof, and clearing an area around the building. During the year, growth in that area was kept down. More recently the NPS took down additional trees around it. They also cleared out a load of timbers from the barn.
- During the storm period, the NPS created emergency access to the house by plowing the driveway. This necessary process caused some damage to the road and roadside. After the storm, the NPS performed a less-than-perfect job of rehabilitating the damage. The Ground Force had to scrape up a lot of the gravel lying on the grass that is regularly mowed, filling in driveway depressions as well as gouges left by the snow plow in the parking area.
- Cleared all the tree debris from the storm along the driveway and branches and deadfall from the cedar grove. The NPS chipped this into the grove, which we try to keep well manicured.
- Cut up and cleared all that it could of several other trees and branches that came down during the snow storm in the area around the old burn pile. One large cedar was left for the NPS, but they burned the pile without it. With unburned remains still there, the GF finally got down the cedar and placed it on the ash area. Therefore both it and the newly established burn pile are set for burning during winter 2011. Broken branches higher in the trees continue to hang there.
- Cut up and hauled to the new burn piled two big branches from the coffee tree near the handicap ramp after yet another storm brought them down. The same thing happened later to the other coffee tree near the corn field and to the sugar maple at the front of the house. The NPS removed the branches. They also cut up the big poplar at the turn of the driveway, previously struck by lightning. The GF subsequently cleaned up these cut areas.
- Replaced a couple of rails at the cemetery.
- Filled potholes at the entrance off route 20.

# **Friends of Wilderness Battlefield**

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## **Battlefield Resources Committee Annual Report**

*Submitted by Mark Wakeman, Chair*

**The purpose of the Battlefield Resources Committee (BRC) to provide resources and manpower to the National Park Service for the physical maintenance and upkeep of the Wilderness Battlefield portion of the Fredericksburg Spotsylvania National Military Park, helping to provide an enhanced experience for visitors to the battlefield.**

The BRC coordinated the 13th annual Civil War Preservation Trust's 2010 Park Day on April 10. The event had over 100 people and 10 scout troops, (count of ~50 troops). Over 4 pickup truck loads of trash were cleaned up from the Wilderness Battlefield. Parking areas and monuments were also cleaned. Over 100 bags of leaves and brush were cleared from the Wilderness Shelter, Hill-Ewell and Vermont & Longstreet wounding sites.

BRC is scheduled to participate in the 2011 Park Day, scheduled by CWPT for 2 April, 2011.

Virginia Department of Transportation approved the FoWB request for the Adopt-a-Highway section on Route 20. Gary Mauss has volunteered to be in charge of coordinating the cleanup of the two-mile long stretch that begins at Hill-Ewell Drive and goes west.

Linda Ressler and Jim Smith constructed an outstanding Wilderness Library Exhibit during April 2010 that helped highlight the Wilderness Battle and the Library's collection of new books on the subject donated by the FoWB.

Jim Smith, Mark Wakeman & numerous other FoWB members, with CWPT and various other organization representatives participated in the Payne's Farm Battlefield review (Mine Run Campaign) on 29 July, at Zoar Church, Locust Grove. Mark coordinated for CWPT with a private party (who owns a "bobcat" tractor) to provide needed grading and excavation work for the site's development.

The BRC coordinated the FoWB sponsored bus tour "*The Race to Spotsylvania From the Wilderness via Todd's Tavern to Laurel Hill*" on 11 October lead by NPS Historian Greg Mertz. Approximately 45 people attended the all day tour. Proceeds from the tour will support the Phase III Ellwood restoration.

The BRC and NPS Maintenance conducted (September) a comprehensive review of the Wilderness Battlefield to discuss future BRC maintenance projects. A project plan has been approved out through 2011 that will continue to enhance the visitor experience of the historic landscape. Volunteer recruitment for this yearlong effort is the current focus of the BRC.

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## Membership Committee Annual Report

*Submitted by Curtis Abel, Chair*

In August of this year Dorothy Mosso stepped-down from the Membership Chair after almost 10 years of truly meritorious service. She leaves the Membership Committee a well organized committee with strong policies and procedures in place. Dorothy will continue with the Membership Committee as an advisor until the end of this year. During this period, Dorothy will complete her comprehensive manual detailing the policies and procedures of the Membership Committee. Curtis Abel has replaced Dorothy as Membership Committee Chair.

Changes are being implemented in the Membership Committee. Going forward, the Committee will be comprised of a minimum of 3 members; the chair, who is a FoWB Board member and two committee members. One of these two new members will be designated from the Board of Directors and the other member from outside the Board. I am pleased to announce that the new Board committee member is Robin Nimmo. Any of you with an interest in filling the open Membership Committee position should contact Curtis Abel at [Membership@fowb.org](mailto:Membership@fowb.org). We are particularly interested in someone with a background in genealogy.

**Current membership stands at 258.** Our membership is widespread with members in Canada and 28 states. The states represented are Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Vermont, and Washington. As is to be expected, the majority of our members come from Virginia in Lake of the Woods along with the Spotsylvania/Fredericksburg area. However, New York is our next most active state.

Work is moving forward on a new FoWB membership brochure. This brochure will provide information about our organization, our activities and a membership application.

Without the financial support of our members we would not be able to function. Membership dues pay for **all** FoWB operations, which include

- The Wilderness Dispatch
- FoWB Web Site
- All Training
- Educational Activities
- Special Projects
- Annual Meeting
- Membership Processing
- Other Activities

In order to keep you better informed, we solicit your assistance in notifying us of any changes in your membership data, e.g., change of address, new phone number or email address.

A gentle reminder of how money donated to Ellwood has to be accounted. Any donation made to Ellwood must be used for Ellwood exclusively. Also please note that donating to Ellwood does not automatically provide membership in Friends of Wilderness Battlefield. Membership fees are separate from donations to Ellwood. Our MOU with the National Park Service requires we keep these two categories in separate accounts, and monies from one may not supplement the other.

Many 501 (3) (c) organizations are feeling the effect of the economy with declining membership. Even though our country continues in difficult economic times, FoWB is very fortunate to have so many committed, dedicated members who continue to support the organization with their time and donations in addition to their annual dues. We are most grateful and appreciative of this continued support. Our members have the knowledge that they are playing a vital role in preserving and enhancing the historic Wilderness Battlefield for present and future generations.

## **HERITAGE PROGRAMS**

### **Wilderness Brigade**

The Wilderness Brigade was formed in 2008. There are currently 12 members in the Wilderness Brigade.

We are very pleased, that during this current year, we added two new members to the Wilderness Brigade:

Alexander Hays IV: Ancestor, Brevet Major General Alexander Hays, Army of the Potomac, Fought and died in the Battle of the Wilderness.

Barry York: Ancestor, Private Amos Gilbert Bean, Private, 3<sup>rd</sup> Maine Volunteers, Co E. Fought bravely in the Battle of the Wilderness.

### **The Ellwood Legacy**

The Ellwood Legacy was also introduced in 2008. There are currently 3 members of the Ellwood Legacy. In 2010 we added one new member:

Marcia Hovenden: Ancestor, Lt. Col. Henry "Lighthorse Harry" Lee who was a guest at Ellwood.

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## Board Enhancement Committee (BEC) Annual Report

*Submitted by Zann Nelson, Chair*

“The Board Enhancement Committee shall provide assistance and advice to the Board of Directors to maximize efficient management of the Friends of Wilderness Battlefield, Inc.”

### 2010 Activities:

1. Conducted the annual ***Orientation meeting*** for the new board members.
2. Conducted the annual ***Board Retreat***. This year’s retreat established a three-year strategic plan
  - a. Enhance Visitors’ Experience on the Battlefield
  - b. Enhance Functionality of Ellwood
  - c. Increase Public Awareness of the Organization
3. Served as the ***Nominating Committee*** for elections to the Board of Directors for the 2010 term.

### Members:

Carolyn Elstner, Jimmy Lee, Craig Rains, Lisa Van Winkle

## **FoWB BOARD of DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHIES**

### *Continuing Board Members*

#### **Curtis Abel (2012)**

**Chair, Membership Committee; Interpreter at Ellwood**

I am a husband to my wife who was a high school and college sweetheart, a father of 4 children, a grandfather of 6 grandchildren and since 2008, a resident of Lake of the Woods (LOW). My roots go back to East Tennessee where I was raised and attended college with a double major in Economics and English. I also spent two years maturing in the US Army. My business career was in sales and management in the data processing industry. I moved to Northern Virginia in 1972 and resided there, with brief stays in California and Connecticut, until my retirement in late 2006. My current activities include Friends of the Wilderness Battlefield, sailing with the LOW Sailing Club, member of the LOW Maintenance and Ecology Committee, and the Mary Washington ElderStudy Group. I have always been an avid reader and about 10 years ago I became infected with an interest in Civil War history. The proximity of the battlefields was one of the reasons for the decision to move to LOW. My great-grandfather was a drummer boy in the CSA. Friends of Wilderness Battlefield has provided a real outlet for sharing my enthusiasm for our Civil War history with others

#### **Dale Brown (2012)**

**Chair, Taming the Wilderness; Member, Ellwood Committee; Member of the Wilderness Brigade**

Born in a small glass manufacturing town near Pittsburgh (PA), Dale has been a resident of the Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania area since 2000, after spending 34 years in Northern Virginia. Educated at Bethany College (WV), the University of Pittsburgh, and the George Washington University, he spent his entire professional career doing social and behavioral research, and is now enjoying retirement.

He was a founder and president of Decision Data Collection, Inc., a marketing research and public opinion polling firm incorporated in 1983. Dale has been married to the former Paula Baughman since 1964; they have three daughters and five grandchildren. He is a Certified Archeological Technician and an avid avocational archeologist. He has done volunteer work with Fairfax County (VA) Heritage Resources, Fairfax County Park Authority, Smithsonian Forensics, James Madison's Montpelier, and George Washington's Fredericksburg Foundation, among others.

**Carolyn Elstner (2012)**

**Vice President; Chair, Ellwood Restoration Project; Chair, Ellwood Committee; Co-Chair, Dinner/Auction and Anniversary Weekend; Member, Board Enhancement Committee; Ellwood Interpreter; Member of the Ellwood Legacy**

Carolyn was born in Charlottesville in November of 1946. Her trip home to Fredericksburg at age one-week included a stop at Ellwood to meet her paternal grandparents, Leo and Blanche Jones. Her father, Gordon Jones turned Ellwood over to the National Park Service in the 1970's. She is a graduate of Sweet Briar College and the University of Virginia's Graduate School of Education. She has taught music in Fredericksburg City Schools, kindergarten for Pittsburgh Public Schools, and religious education at local Catholic churches. Carolyn is married to Tom, a dentist who practices in Spotsylvania County. They reside in Falmouth (with a cabin retreat at Lake Wilderness). Tom and Carolyn have two grown children, Meg and Peter. Carolyn has been active with Friends of Wilderness Battlefield since 1996 and chair of Ellwood since 1997. She is a life member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants.

**Dorothy Mosso (2012)**

**At Large; Member, Membership Committee; Member of the Wilderness Brigade**

Dorothy was born and raised in a small West Texas town and moved to Virginia in November, 1999. She spent 23 years in Civil Service working in San Bernardino, CA in the Children's Services Department which encompassed Protective Services, Adoption and Foster Homes. She attended Crafton Hills College in Southern California. After her retirement, Dorothy went into sales and worked in Houston, Texas and Dayton, Ohio and most recently in the Northern Virginia area. She has five children, five grandchildren and three cats.

Her hobbies include genealogy, reading, traveling, and history. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution; Daughters of the Republic of Texas; The Duke of Gloucester Society, Williamsburg, VA; Civil War Preservation Trust; Charter Member of the National World War II Museum, New Orleans, LA; as well as being a nine year member of the Friends of Wilderness Battlefield.

**Dwight L. Mottet (2012)**

**At Large; Member, Ellwood Committee; Ellwood Interpreter**

Dwight was born, raised, and educated in Ohio. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Geology, from The Ohio State University and a Master of Science with Honors in Logistics Management, from the Air Force Institute of Technology

He was employed by the US Department of Energy becoming Director, Management and Administrative Division, Fossil Energy Program. He also worked in the private sector serving as vice president of a small management consulting firm specializing in information systems, education, socioeconomic analysis, and operations research.

A past president (2002-2006) and nine year member of FoWB, Dwight is also a member of the Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table, The Blue and Gray Education Society, the Civil War Preservation Trust, and the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust.

He lives in the Lake of the Woods. His hobbies include: travel, Civil War tours, AARP, church activities, golf, football officiating, and being a docent. He was married for 37 years to the late Janet F. Mottet.

**Robin Nimmo (2011)****Coordinator, FoWB Speaker's Bureau; Chair, Auction Acquisitions Committee; Member, Membership Committee; Ellwood Interpreter**

I reside in West Fredericksburg with my husband, John. We moved to the area from South Carolina a year and a half ago, due to my husband's job promotion. We have four adult children, all living out of State.

I hail from Battle Creek, Michigan, home of Kellogg's cereal and "Tony the Tiger." After graduating high school in 1974, I began my journey which led me through several States and occupations. My employment background includes retail, banking and real estate—ranging from lower level management to office management. Along the way I have studied business and banking.

I have been involved with the American Cancer Society, volunteered in numerous community charity events in Upstate New York and was part of the Watertown, NY, Rotary Club. My interests include dabbling in gourmet cooking, reading, decorating, and learning golf. Last, I enjoy new places, new people and new challenges. My deep love of all that is history has brought me to this place and I am forever grateful!

**Zoila Ortega (2012)****Chair, Communications Committee, Ellwood Interpreter**

Saying where I am from is for me no simple matter. I was born in Cuba, grew up on Long Island, and matured in Northern Virginia. Besides Long Island and Northern Virginia, I have lived in Syracuse, N.Y., Upper Montclair, N.J., Connecticut, Chicago, and now Locust Grove. My love of history was fostered by a social historian whose class on Social American History I took in my senior year of college. But the seed was first planted by my grandfather and my father. Both of whom, loved history and instilled in me a desire to learn about how people lived and behaved in the past.

By profession, I am a nurse and a psychologist, holding degrees from Queens College, New York University, Syracuse University, and American International University. I currently teach three days a week in the Germanna Community College Nursing Department. My involvement with Ellwood and the FoWB is the result of these and many other life experiences. I am a strong believer that "the past is prologue". Therefore, we must learn from it and whenever possible preserve it.

**Jeff Slunt (2012)****Treasurer; Member, Finance Committee**

Jeff holds a Ph.D. degree in Microbiology from the University of Virginia. He works from home for PRA International on a large colorectal cancer clinical trial. His wife is the chair of the Chemistry Department at the University of Mary Washington and they have two children, Todd age 8 and Madeline age 5. Jeff enjoys either coaching or watching his children play soccer most weekends. He volunteers for the Park Service at Chatham one day a month and takes advantage of every opportunity to learn more about the American Civil War.

**Mark Wakeman (2012)****Chair, Battlefield Resources Committee; Scheduler for Ellwood Interpreter Staff; Ellwood Interpreter**

Mark was born in Topeka, Kansas. His father was career Air Force during Mark's formative years. During that time he lived in multiple states in addition to Europe and Turkey so before could really never call anyplace "home". After attending college and earning a BA in History from the University of Florida he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He served over 26 years in the Marine Corps, and retired in Spotsylvania County in 2009. He now calls Virginia home. He has a Masters of Military Science degree from Marine Corps University and is currently on the faculty as a Marine Corps College of Continuing Education Course Director.

He has assisted his wife Darcey, between multiple deployments, to raise their two sons Travis (17) and Calvin (14). Mark and Travis have been Ellwood interpreters since 2008 and Travis has contributed photos and poetry to the Wilderness Dispatch. Mark is also the Ellwood volunteer interpreter scheduler. Mark has given multiple civil war battle staff rides (Chancellorsville and Gettysburg) for military and government organizations. He and Travis have a passion for all history and are extremely interested in local history.

**Ann Woerner (2012)****Member, Finance Committee; Interpreter at Ellwood**

Growing up outside of Pittsburgh, Pa., I assumed that I would always live in Western Pennsylvania. Everything changed when I met my husband while we were attending graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh. After a whirlwind romance, we quit school so that he could pursue a career as a Foreign Service Officer for the US Department of State. During the next 26 years we served in embassies or consulates in six different countries in South America, Europe and Africa. In Uruguay I managed the embassy's duty-free commissary and at three other posts I worked as a consular assistant. My primary duty was interviewing citizens of other countries to determine if they were eligible for tourist visas to the US.

One thing that has kept me grounded through all the moves has been my love of learning. For example, in each new country I attempted to master the language. After moving to Lake of the Woods in 2002, I earned my second Bachelor's degree, this time in art history, at the University of Mary Washington. This summer I became a member of Friends of Wilderness Battlefield and have been happily learning about the Civil War as an interpreter at Ellwood.

**Brian Wolfe (2011)****Communications Committee; Member, Ellwood Committee**

Brian resides in Spotsylvania County with his wife Virginia (Ginger) and children, Gregory (10) and Anthony (7) and Natalie (3). Raised in the White Shop area of Culpeper County and graduated from Culpeper County High School in 1989. He attended Radford University double majoring in History and Social Science, graduating with a BS in 1993. Employed with Rappahannock Electric Cooperative since 1997, working in the Cooperative's Culpeper customer service department and since 2001 has been REC's public relations specialist, working in REC's Fredericksburg Office. He worked with the Ellwood Committee of the Friends of Wilderness Battlefield since the fall of 2003, assisting the committee with its publicity and communications efforts. Brian is also a member of board of directors for the Virginia Cooperative Council, serving as the organization's vice-president

## ***Retiring Board Members***

**Linda Resler (2011): Chair, Finance Committee**

**Carolyn Rourke (2010): Secretary; Member, Communications Committee; Website Manager; Ellwood Interpreter**

**James Smith (2011): At Large, Member, Battlefield resources Committee**

### **Nominations for Board of Directors**

\*Denotes incumbent member nominated for reelection to the Board

#### **Diane Logan (Three year term: 2013)**

Diane Logan grew up in rural Edgefield, South Carolina and moved to Culpeper, Virginia in 2002.

She offers to the FoWB Board of Directors 30 years of experience in the areas of Civil War history, museum and historic house management, tour and educational program development, fundraising and special events, as well as genealogical research and writing.

Diane is married to Gary and they have four children and one grandchild, two cats and one dog. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Friends of Cedar Mountain and is a volunteer at the Dupont Gallery at Montpelier. Her hobbies include genealogy, reading and gardening.

#### **Duane Hamilton (One year term: 2011)**

Duane Hamilton has lived most of his life in Connecticut. In 1994 he completed a certificate program at The Connecticut Culinary Institute and went on to hold various positions as a cook and chef. His passion for history led to his involvement as a volunteer for Mystic Seaport. During the construction of the Amistad replica, Duane stocked the schooner's galley with the food the crew would need for the six month maiden voyage which began March 25, 2000 from Mystic Seaport in Connecticut.

It was in January 2005, that he first moved to Locust Grove, VA. During his brief residence (2005-2006), Duane attended Germanna Community College. While striving towards an Associate's Degree in Police Science, he worked for Rob Sherwood, an English professor, as a History Research Assistant, helping prepare presentations on local history and catering such events. In 2006, a turn of events caused Duane to return briefly to his hometown.

In 2008, Duane came back to his former Virginia home to continue raising his family in an area rich in Civil War history. In 2010, he became involved with Friends of the Wilderness Battlefield as an Ellwood interpreter.

### **Gary Mauss (One year term: 2011)**

Born and raised in the apple country just north of Gettysburg, PA, Gary entered the Air Force straight out of high school, as a way to broaden his horizons and see the world a bit. A first tour of duty in southern New Mexico got the Southwest in his blood, from which he's never quite recovered.

Numerous assignments around the country and the world followed, and he ended up making a career of the military, retiring in Virginia two years ago, after moving here in 2005. In the process of those moves, he started school in New Mexico, and finally graduated from the University of Nebraska, and later again from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida.

Also among those moves, he found his wife Lynne in Myrtle Beach, and now has two daughters and a son. A yard wide and a foot deep, he held a variety of jobs in the Air Force, among those being a program manager, contract specialist, operational tester, aircraft weapons specialist, and command post controller.

Still on an extended post-retirement 'sabbatical', he's gotten heavily involved in local volunteer opportunities, including FoWB, a local Veteran's club, volunteer Fire & Rescue, two churches, and others, and is pending return to the active work force until his kids are out of college.

### **\*Zann Nelson (Three year term: 2013)**

**President; Director, Fund Development; Chair, Board Enhancement Committee; Member, Finance and Ellwood Committees; Co-Chair, Dinner/Auction and Anniversary Weekend**

Zann was born in Texas and moved with her family to Virginia in 1952. She lives on the family farm in Reva, Culpeper Co. and is the former Executive Director of the Museum of Culpeper History. Prior to the 12 plus years of museum work, she was owner/operator of an equine training facility, published a statewide periodical about the Thoroughbred industry, and was the principal of a company responsible for managing political campaigns. Her professional experience has equipped her with skills in marketing, fundraising, event planning, writing and research. She is trained in museum management and organizational development and holds a graduate certificate in Nonprofit Management from Georgetown University. Currently, Zann is engaged as a freelance historical journalist, writing feature articles and a weekly newspaper column.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTACTS and SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

### Volunteer Service and Unique Opportunities:

Contact Mark Wakeman, [mark.wakeman@comcast.net](mailto:mark.wakeman@comcast.net), Ch., Battlefield Resources Committee:

- Special Projects on the battlefield, TBA
- Regular Trash pickup duty
- Annual Park Day
- Non-Board member of the BRC Committee

Contact Curtis Abel, [curtisabel@comcast.net](mailto:curtisabel@comcast.net), Ch. Membership Committee:

- Genealogical Research
- Non-Board member of the Membership Committee

Contact Zann Nelson, [M16439@aol.com](mailto:M16439@aol.com) if you have interest and skills in any of the following:

- Writing
- Newsletters
- Website management
- Publicity/Promotion
- List management i.e Excel
- Graphic Design

Contact Carolyn Elstner, [Melstner@aol.com](mailto:Melstner@aol.com)

- Ellwood Interpreter
- Ellwood Ground Force
- Construction, carpentry, wood working
- Baking, decorating or party planning

Contact Robin Nimmo,

- Auction Committee
- Auction items: The committee is seeking items for possible inclusion in the 2011 Fundraising Auction, consideration of duplications, uniqueness, condition; rarity and overall interest have provided a wonderful array of items in the past.

### Upcoming Events/Activities

- Saturday, December 11: FoWB Board of Director's meeting, Wilderness Library, 9am
- Saturday, December 18: Christmas at Ellwood, 9am-2 pm

### 2011

- January: Orientation for new board members
- January 25 – Feb. 3: FoWB vs. Orange County BoS Trial, Orange County Courthouse
- February 12 (Tentative): FoWB Board of Directors meeting, Wilderness Library, 9am
- March TBD: Interpreter Training
- April 2: CWPT Annual Park Day
- April 9 (Tentative): FoWB Board of Directors meeting, Wilderness Library, 9am
- April 25 – Daily opening of Ellwood during Easter week
- April 30 – Ellwood opens for the 2011 Ellwood season
- April 30: Civil War Bus Tour Led by Gordon Rhea, commemorating the 147<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wilderness Battle
- May 7: 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner and Auction, Germanna Technology Center, Culpeper, VA
- May 8: Mother's Day at Ellwood Manor, 11am-5 pm
- May 28: Memorial Day activities at Ellwood Manor, 11am-5pm