

Meet the Friends of the Eric Sloane Museum Board of Directors

Each member of the Board of Directors of the Eric Sloane Museum is a volunteer—board members receive no salary or compensation of any kind. We are a welcoming and inclusive group and would appreciate hearing from you if you have an interest in learning more about board membership. Please call Jim Mauch at 570-204-2906 if you would like to talk about ways in which you can help the Eric Sloane Museum.



James W. Mauch, President. Jim is the founder of the Friends of the Eric Sloane Museum and has worked closely with the museum for over a decade. Jim is the author of *Aware: A Retrospective of the Life and Work of Eric Sloane* (Garrigues House, Publishers, 2001) and is the owner of Weather Hill Farm, a gallery that specializes only in the works of Eric Sloane. Jim has held positions as diverse as a professor of graduate education to skidding logs with the team of Belgian horses pictured. Jim earned a BA from Moravian College

in 1991, an M. Ed. from Kutztown University in 1998, and a Ph.D. from the Pennsylvania State University in 2005. He retired from the college teaching profession in 2009 to operate four family businesses and to home school his seven year old daughter Edith.

Jeffrey Bischoff, Vice President. Jeff is the owner of Old Greenwich Consultants, a financial services recruiting firm. A graduate of Villanova University (BA, English) and of Duke University (MA, Art History), Jeff was head of recruiting for the UBS Private Bank after serving as the National Recruiting Officer for Citigroup's private wealth management division, Smith Barney.

A published author himself, Jeff was moved by the works of Eric Sloane when he was given Eric Sloane's *Diary of An Early American Boy* on a trip to Old Sturbridge Village in 1972. Sloane's stories of early American settlers and their "Yankee ingenuity" inspired him to take up many hobbies that are still drivers in his pursuit of happiness: organic gardening, reading about and exploring stone walls, barns, farms, and American history. Jeff resides in Old Greenwich with his wife and two children.



Barbara S. Russ, Museum Liaison. Barbara is one of five children born to Roger and Cornelia Straiton from Bridgewater, CT. She graduated from Shepaug Valley Regional High School in 1975 and Americo Academy of Beauty Culture in 1977. When Barbara entered the museum world, she had been a licensed beautician, Dental Assistant, Teacher's Assistant for Special Ed, and an EMT for an inner city camp for children. In 1995 Barbara was hired by the State of CT to be a Museum Guide at the Sloane-Stanley Museum and became the Museum Assistant in 1998, a position she holds today at the

renamed Eric Sloane Museum.