

AMS Board Members

Jon Pertee

B.A., Evergreen State College

Jon is the owner of his own design and building company called Winter Star Woodworks specializing in small homes. He served as an AMS intern in 1983 and has helped lead field trips for the school. He is the father of Isak and Aije Pertee who are former students of AMS. Jon has done/ is doing volunteer work in the public school system, Appalachian Therapeutic Riding Center, Odyssey of the Mind, Toe River Valley Watch, and AMS workdays.

Ken Jones

Ed. D., University of Louisville

Ken is the Associate Professor of Education and the Director of Teacher Education at the University of Southern Maine. He is the father of Meghan Lundy-Jones, a teacher at AMS. He has volunteered with Pastors for Peace Friendship to Cuba and served on the board for Friends Preschool and also Peace Education-both located in Louisville, KY.

Catherine Peck

B.A., Education/Secondary; M.A. English; M.A, Folklore Studies -UNC Chapel Hill

Catherine is currently the Director of Programs at the YWCA of Asheville. She has served as dorm head for George School in PA, Assistant Dean at Thomas Edison State College, high school and college English teacher. She was also a former staff member at AMS from 1983-1985. She is currently serving on the boards of Rural Southern Voice for Peace, The Education Coalition of Asheville/ Buncombe, and the YWCA of Asheville-staff representation.

Dudley Wilson

Dudley is a licensed general contractor and home inspector. He was also an actor/storyteller and studio tech for Appalshop in Whitesburg, KY. He is the father of two former AMS students. He has volunteered as a building coordinator in Honduras at the Nvestros Poqueuos Hermanos Orphanage, and served on the board for WNC Habitat for Humanity.

Paige Lester-Niles

B.A., English, Salem College

Paige is the summer camp director at Eagle's Nest Camp and has volunteered at Downtown Elementary School in Winston Salem, NC and for various children's groups and organizations. She has also served on the Neighborhood board.

Benjamin Reckendorf

Ben is the owner of his own business called Innovative Technologies Plus. He was the VP for Voyager Electrical Company and served as Senior Security Consultant for Security Solutions Inc. He and his wife have been foster and adoptive parents to more than ten children. He also served as VP of Administration for the Parent Family Association of the Sterling Montessori Academy. Ben is a former student of AMS from 1967-1970, and house parent and intern from 1973-1974.

Rob Pulleyn

B.A., Sociology and Anthropology, Lake Forest College in Illinois, with Masters work in Sociology done at the University of New Mexico.

Rob is a ceramist and shows frequently in the region. He has been a filmmaker and tapestry weaver. He founded and was the publisher of Fiberarts Magazine and Lark Books for thirty years prior to selling his business to Sterling Publishing/Barnes and Noble. He has served on the boards for Professional Parenting and Planned Parenthood, Asheville Art Museum, and Penland School of Crafts. His daughter was involved in Camp Celo which brought him into contact with AMS. Besides his daughter, he is also a single adoptive parent to three other children.

Elley Jordan Schopler

B.A., African Studies UNC Chapel Hill; B.S., Nursing UNC Chapel Hill

Elley is an Obstetric/Maternity nurse and an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant. Elley's family started coming to the family work camps to help build Arthur Morgan School in 1963 and they have been members of the Celo Community since 1972. Her mother was a staff member at AMS, and she and her two sisters are former students. She has volunteered at the Health Department as a lactation consultant, with Carolina Friends School as a substitute teacher, and at the Piedmont Wildlife Center.

Gib Barrus

B.A., Physics, Earlham College

Gib is the current owner/director of Camp Celo. He is a former teacher at Carolina Friends School and did work with Calhoun Design and Construction. His father was a former staff member at AMS during its first twelve years of operation and Gib was a student. He now has two daughters who also attend AMS. He has done community development work with Brethren Voluntary Service in Honduras and has served on the board for Spruce Pine Montessori. Gib is an active member of Celo Community Inc. and Celo Friends Meeting.

Benoit Delcourt

B.A., Ecole Superieure De Commerce De Paris, France

M.B.A., New York University

Benoit was the VP of Sales at Leroy-Somer Inc. in Arlington Heights, IL, the President of Crouzet Controls Inc. in Schanmburg, IL. He is a former AMS staff member, house parent, and financial coordinator, and his three children are former AMS students. He is a former teacher at Asheville School and Carolina Day School. Benoit has done volunteer work with Amnesty International, Unitarian-Universalist Church of Asheville, and math tutoring for middle school students.

Mary Eldridge

B.A., Goddard College; J.D., Northeastern University School of Law

Mary was employed in the NC Department of Health and Human Services developing housing for people with mental illness and serving as section chief of the crisis services section and client rights and advocacy section. She has served on the board of directors of the NC Community Land Trust and currently is a board member of Dependable Alternatives in the Community, which is an organization in Durham, NC that provides services for people with serious mental illness. She is a former English teacher and Dean of Women at Sandy Friends School in MD. Mary is a frequent attendee at Celo Friends Meeting.

Theresa Anderson

B.A. Loreto Heights College Colorado; M.A. Clinical Counseling, University of Northern Colorado. Theresa worked at AMS in 1979 & 1980 and later had three children graduate from the school. Initially trained as a teacher, Theresa has operated a private psychotherapy practice for 15 years. Additionally, she trains and supervises therapists to work with families and children with serious and complicated diagnoses. Theresa has served as an active volunteer in Celo Community and in several other non-profit ventures for many years.

Jeff Goodman

B.A., Biology, Harvard College in 1986; Masters in Educational Media Production from Appalachian State University in 1993. Jeff was on staff at AMS in the 1980's and early 1990's. He currently teaches in the Media Studies and Science Education Programs at Appalachian State. Jeff lives in the Celo Community with his wife, two cats, and forty chickens.

Tim Wells

B.S., Environmental Studies with an Education Concentration from Warren Wilson College. A thirteen year veteran of teaching at Carolina Friends School, Tim taught middle school for eight years and is currently in his fifth year teaching in a three-four-five year-old class room. Jonas, Tim's son, is currently attending AMS. The emphasis on successful community living, Quaker values, and experiential education is what drew Tim to the School, and why he is honored to serve on the distinguished AMS Board.