



WAA Newly Elected Board Members



WAA IS PROUD TO WELCOME OUR NEW AND RETURNING BOARD MEMBERS
back, l-r: Bill Miller–Secretary, Ed Bodus–Treasurer, Brian Pelot–Program Chair/Vice President, Josh DePouw–Past President, Mike Michlig–President-Elect, Ernie Pearson–Membership/Fundraising, Eric Petersen–Publicity, Rich Hauer–Educational Advisor
front, l-r: Jeff Treu–Legislative Chair, Cory Gritzmacher–President, Dave Scharfenberger–ISA Director, Brian Cassity–ISA Certification Liason

Brian Pelot – Vice President

I am running for vice president to continue my participation in the WAA at the board of directors level. For the past two years, I have served as the publicity chair for the WAA. During that term I oversaw several projects to increase the public's awareness of the WAA. Along with my service as the publicity chair, I have served on the Program Committee for the last five years. I have a strong understanding of what it takes to be successful as the program chair and intend to bring the best-quality programming to the WAA membership. I have worked in the commercial field for the past twelve years and recently became the assistant city forester of Green Bay.

Bill Miller – Secretary

Bill has been an employee with Buckley Tree Service since 1987, where he started as a tree climber, and quickly worked his way up to general manager. Bill is an ISA certified arborist and certified pesticide applicator.

Over the past 18 years of attending meetings, the WAA has helped me develop my career as an arborist in more ways than I can describe. I would love to the opportunity to serve on the board and give back to the organization that has helped me.

Ernie Pearson – Membership and Fundraising

Currently working as tree care salesman and crew manager for Steven R. Bassett Tree and Landscape in Madison. I have been in the industry since 2003, after graduating from UW–Stevens Point in 2002. I have been a certified arborist for five years, as well. As the fundraising chair for WAA, I have gotten more involved with the organization this year, and would like to continue that involvement by having a board position. I also feel that being in the Madison area would allow me to represent a large population of arborists since there aren't any from this area currently on the board of directors.

Eric Petersen – Publicity

After working with Milwaukee County Parks as a forestry worker, I decided to join my practical day-to-day knowledge of tree care and landscape industries with my insurance and risk management expertise. As a board member of WAA, and because of my varied past experiences, I would be able to provide a different viewpoint on issues within our industry. My individual specialties include helping establish safety and return-to-work programs, as well as overall corporate risk management. Thank you for the opportunity to serve this great organization.