

Kathleen Wooldridge
District 3 Director
President
Term Expires: 2018

Katie Wooldridge, of 808 Hwy 261, Starbuck, is a teacher and small business owner. She was raised on a cattle ranch/farm. She is a graduate of Whitman College, with a degree in Political Science and a graduate of Washington State University with a degree in Elementary Education and a Masters in Educational Technology. Katie is very active in her community; she serves as a volunteer firefighter with Fire District #1, volunteers as a volleyball coach at Dayton High School and helps with activities in 4-H. Katie is a Credentialed Cooperative Director and knows how important Columbia REA is to this community. Katie and her husband, Tony, have two children at home.

Jay DeWitt
District 3 Director
Term Expires: 2019

Jay DeWitt, of 5517 Middle Waitsburg Rd., Walla Walla, graduated from Walla Walla High School in 1975 and from Washington State University in 1980 with a BS in Agronomy. He worked for Monsanto from 1980-1990. From 1988-2006 he was a partner in DeWitt Ag Associates, a diversified farming company. In 2003 Jay co-founded Dumas Station Wines and presently grows the grapes and is the winemaker. Jay served on the Northwest Grain Growers (formerly Walla Walla Grain Growers) board of directors from 1994-2003. Jay is an independent business owner for more 25 years which provides him knowledge of the issues that are routine to running any business. Jay is a skilled communicator and a team player. Jay is married to Debbie, since 1979, they have two grown children.

Neil Carpenter
District 3 Director
Term Expires: 2020

Neil Carpenter, of 2428 Coppei Rd. Waitsburg, is a lifelong resident of Columbia and Walla Walla Counties. He has 15 years of experience on cooperative boards for Touchet Valley Grain Growers and Northwest Grain Growers, ending his tenure as board president. While on those boards he received extensive Cooperative Board Directors' Training. Neil is a member of the Waitsburg Lions Club and served as president from 2015-2016. He was actively involved in the Waitsburg Days of Real Sport for 20 years, including 3 terms on the board. He graduated from Waitsburg High School in 1972 and attended Yakima Valley College before returning to work on the family farm. Neil is a 4th generation farmer who started farming on his own in 1976 as Carpenter Farms. Neil has been married to Kathy for 33 years and has two sons. Their son Nick has recently returned to become part of the farming operation.