## 2023 ELECTIONS!

Here are our two approved candidates for Vice President which will be voted on this fall at the Alumni Weekend Sept. 22-24. Also we are seeking nominees for Treasurer and Membership Secretary. If you are interested or know anyone who you would like to suggest please email Jeff Hunt at jeffhuntministries@hotmail.com. Thank you!



Mitch Strong was born to Don and June Strong and grew up in Batavia, New York. Mitch, along with his siblings, attended Union Springs Academy and was a part of the class of 1978. He moved on to Andrews University where he met his lovely wife, Sharon. She moved to Loma Linda, California where Sharon became a physical therapist and Mitch moved to LA & finished up an aviation degree in Los Angeles.

The couple moved to upstate New York where Mitch joined the family manufacturing business, Strong Forge and Fabricating, LLC., which he is currently the President and CEO. Mitch & USA classmate, Gordon Hudak, started a rental property business in 2010 in Apopka, FL where Gordon lives. Mitch and Sharon have a son and daughter, Eric and Allison. Allison is a proud graduate of USA.

Mitch has been a strong advocate for Union Springs Academy for many decades with his support of the Worthy Student Fund and other needs from time to time. He has also served on various committees, including the Academy Finance Committee for many years.

Mitch looks forward to serving the Alumni Association as your future vice-president with your vote! He would like to see more alumni supporting the Academy with their financial support or by volunteering at the school. If elected he will find ways to encourage more alumni to attend the annual reunions and also encourage more chapter reunions around the country. The friendships Mitch developed during his time at Academy have remained strong and are still some of his closest friends today! These friendships compel Mitch to encourage others to rekindle their Academy friendships and also with their Alma Mater as well!



John C. Schumacher-Hardy is from South Lancaster, MA area. He attended Union Springs Academy from 1983 to 1986, when he graduated, and next went on to Atlantic Union College. He graduated from AUC in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in religion and minors in history and psychology. He has written several books on local history in his hometown of Lancaster, MA and served as an elected official on Lancaster's Thaver Memorial Library Trustees from from 2003 until 2018. He is involved with the Pioneer Valley Academy and Atlantic Union College Alumni Associations. He has been an active and strong supporter of the Union Springs Academy Alumni Association too, in which he has served in past as the Vice President, President and Past President and assisted at times with activities such as volunteering for Renovations Weeks, writing Atlantic Union Gleaner articles and Re-Echoes editions for alumni communications, extending generous financial support to both USA and its Alumni Association, attending numerous annual USA Alumni Weekends since his schooldays at USA in the 1980s.

John is an active member of the South Lancaster Village Church of SDAs where he currently serves as Church Historian. He was a member of the USA Alumni Association Executive Committee from 2001 until 2017. He served as USA Alumni Association president from 2013 to 2015. He dabbles in antique paper, vintage photographs, historical research and writing, and collecting early Adventist books, is a freelance writer, genealogist and area tour guide. He owns a thirty-plus year old bed and breakfast business near his home which he purchased in 2019. He has been a consistent, passionate supporter of Union Springs Academy and its Alumni Association for many years.

