

## John Tole – Brief Bio

John Tole is an engineer, historian, (Christmas) tree farmer, and musician. He holds a BSEE degree from Drexel Institute of Technology and a masters and doctorate in engineering from MIT.

His maternal roots in the Shenandoah Valley date to German immigrants in the 1750s. His father's family immigrated to New York in the early 1800s.

John has been connected to the Rappahannock County for his entire life and has lived here for the past 38 years. He was a member of the County School Board for 10 years and is currently president of the Rappahannock Historical Society, manager of the County's 33 Civil War Trails Markers, and a teacher of local history for Rapp U.

John has performed a wide variety of acoustic music most of his life. For twenty years he was the managing partner of the duo *Evergreen Shade* specializing in songs from Colonial days through the Civil War. He now frequently performs solo at various local venues including Sky Meadows State Park.



John at Belle Grove in Middletown