

SKAGITONIAN



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A Message from Allen Rozema, SPF Executive Director

WINTER 2011

SPF Volunteers Recognized!

In December SPF recognized three super volunteers who achieved over 200 hours of volunteer service with us. Jodi Thomas, Alice Collingwood and Dee Raudebaugh were recognized at SPF's annual Volunteer Recognition party held at La Conner Flats Farm. For their outstanding commitment and service to SPF, the Board of Directors presented Jodi, Alice and Dee each with an SPF fleece jacket along with a standing ovation.



Left to right: Jodi Thomas, Alice Collingwood and Dee Raudebaugh

Protecting Skagit agriculture involves broad community support. SPF volunteers who so generously share their time and talents make our events and programs possible, such as the Harvest Dinner & Auction, our largest annual fundraising event, and our popular Crop Identification sign program that inform residents and visitors about crops growing in the Skagit Valley. Volunteers also help with mailings, including this issue of the *Skagitonian*.

SPF's Board of Directors serve in a volunteer capacity, guiding the work of SPF to successfully achieve its mission. The board stewards the commitment and trust placed in SPF by our members and donors. Volunteers truly make the difference for SPF! Our staff appreciates all of you and hope that your contributions of time and energy provide as meaningful an experience for you as it does for SPF. Thank you!

If you are interested in volunteering for SPF please let us know what skills and experience you might like to share. Volunteer opportunities abound! In fact, planning for this year's Harvest Dinner & Auction on Saturday, September 24, has already begun. It's a fun way to get involved in the community and make new friends along the way, with volunteer opportunities ranging from helping to secure auction items and fresh, local foods to planning displays or assisting SPF on the night of the big event. In the coming months you can find more information about SPF volunteer opportunities on our website.

Working together we will continue to make a difference by keeping Skagit Valley farming!

Meet Our Members



Name: Louise Kennedy

Where I Live: Marysville, WA

What I Do: As owner of Copper Sage Academy, I teach "old ways" with food like canning, cheese-making, making jams and jellies, home brewing, wine making and more. I wish to infuse one delightful human being at a time with the hunger to take back the content and preparation of their food.

How Long I Have Been a Member of SPF:
18 months

Why I Support SPF: In the summer of 2009 I accepted an invitation to a wonderful dinner party, which included learning about the mission of Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland.

I found everyone talking about food, cooking, farming and taking care of the earth to continue producing food—I was in heaven. The passion, the love, the caring I felt that evening had me hooked and I joined SPF. Last year I was lucky to volunteer at the SPF Harvest Dinner—such enthusiasm, fun, food and results. WOW!

I Love To Eat. If we do not protect the land that grows our food there could come a day when no matter how much money you have, there is no food. I never want to know that day. I am honored to be part of a group of people who are so dedicated to never allowing that to happen to our Skagit Valley part of the world.



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SPF Honors Dr. Debbie Inglis

The SPF Board of Directors recently celebrated the retirement of Dr. Debbie Inglis from the Board.

Dr. Inglis, an internationally renowned plant pathologist at WSU's Northwest Washington Research & Extension Center near Mount Vernon, joined the SPF Board in 2005.

She brought much expertise and insight to the board in the area of agricultural science and helped guide SPF's support for and commitment to agricultural research.

In 2010 Dr. Inglis was awarded a multi-million dollar, multi-state grant that is pioneering research in the use of high tunnels and biodegradable mulches to extend growing seasons for specialty crops produced in the Skagit River Valley.



SPF Board Secretary John Roozen presents retiring board member Debbie Inglis with a SPF Carhart jacket and a framed print of SPF's iconic logo.

Renew Your Membership Today!

Membership is the backbone and lifeblood of Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland. Your membership helps not only to keep the lights on but enables SPF to advocate for the protection of one of the greatest agricultural valleys in the world.