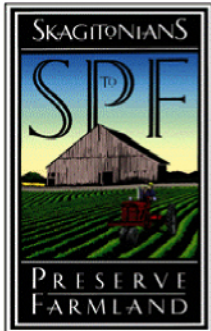


# SKAGITONIAN



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A Message from Executive Director Allen Rozema

FALL 2010

## Protecting the Coming Home View!



© Matt Brown, 2006

We are pleased to announce that another 32 acres of farmland have been protected in SPF's number one priority area: the I-5 corridor south of Mount Vernon.

Thanks to tremendous support and technical assistance from The Nature Conservancy and matching funds provided by the Environmental Protection Agency and SPF, Skagit County's Farmland Legacy program has protected 32 acres of farmland strategically located at the Conway freeway interchange, making this the first protected farmland project in the newly designated *Agricultural Scenic Corridor*.



Continued on the other side

Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland exists to ensure the continued viability of Skagit County agriculture and its required infrastructure.

# Protected Farmland

Continued



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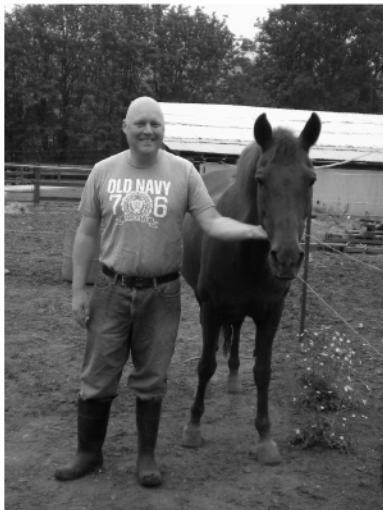
SPF's contribution was made possible by 80 donors who pledged \$32,000 during last year's *Protected Farmland Appeal* at the Harvest Dinner & Auction. These gifts were more than matched by the Osberg Family Trust to provide one third of the total cost of the conservation easement, with the other two-thirds coming from Skagit County's Farmland Legacy Program and the Environmental Protection Agency.

This is just the latest land protection project involving SPF. In 2008 the SPF Board of Directors determined the I-5 corridor between Mount Vernon and Conway to be SPF's number one priority area for farmland protection. Since that time, SPF has helped:

- Protect more than 204 acres of farmland in this corridor - adding to the over 7,000 acres of farmland already protected in Skagit County by the Farmland Legacy Program.
- Support FutureWise and advocate for the passage of HB 1967, which prevents the City of Mount Vernon from expanding onto the floodplain, which in Skagit County is farmland.
- Oversee the passage of SB6211, with the leadership and support of Senator Mary Margaret Haugen, designating nearly all of I-5 through Skagit County as the state's first Agricultural Scenic Corridor.

I want to thank all of our wonderful and generous members and supporters who continue to trust and believe in the work of Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland. You have made and continue to make the difference between urban sprawl and the preservation of our critical farmlands which, in addition to producing over 80 different crops, is home to raptors, water fowl, migratory birds, and all six species of salmon.

With your support the Skagit River Valley will continue to play a vital role in the Puget Sound's delicate balance of beauty, tranquility and fresh, local and safe foods—providing sustainable sustenance for the region and the world. Thank you!



## Meet Our Members

**Name:** Harald Schot (*pictured with Destiny*)

**Where I live:** Mount Vernon, WA

**What I do:** As the owner of LifePlan Financial, Inc., I specialize in group and individual health insurance, retirement planning, money management and life insurance. My goal is to make sure my clients are making educated decisions in planning for the future. The choices they make now can favorably affect conditions in the future.

**Why I support SPF and how long I have been a member:** I have the same philosophy about Skagit Valley farmland that I have with my clients. By raising awareness and efforts to protect it now, SPF is insuring its future. Not only is our farmland integral to this region's unique beauty, but the environmental and health benefits of locally grown food also make this land worth preserving. I joined SPF just one year ago and truly appreciate their dedication to this cause.