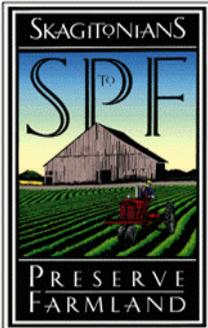


SKAGITONIAN

Spring 2015



www.skagitonians.org

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A Message from the Director



2014 continued to be a year of growth and accomplishments for our organization. We welcomed new Board members John Anderson and Amy Wilcox; we completed the first phase of one of the most in-depth looks at what makes up Skagit's agricultural industrial cluster; and we secured a commitment from a landowner to work with us and Skagit County's Farmland Legacy Program to protect nearly 400 acres of farmland at the Cook Road / I-5 Interchange that will forever protect the "coming home view" from the north.

As winter fades into memory and we roll into spring, we are looking forward to seeing many of you on our upcoming farm tours, dinners and at our first annual breakfast. We are excited to introduce our breakfast event, where we will have the opportunity to honor the individuals who have helped make our valley what it is today and celebrate those individuals working to shape our valley's future. This is our valley and our future. **Come join us to celebrate both!**



"Our Valley, Our Future" Breakfast: June 3, 2015

SPF is excited to announce a new event designed to share our mission with the business community, and to celebrate and recognize innovation in the agricultural industry.

"Our Valley, Our Future" Breakfast, presented by Skagit Bank, will be held **Wednesday, June 3rd** and will include a dynamic keynote speaker and awards to honor those who have helped shape the agricultural industry in our great valley in the past, present and future.

This event will introduce new people to the great work of SPF and build our support throughout the community. The breakfast is free to attend, but financial support will be requested during the program. This new fundraising event will increase our capacity as we undertake some very large projects in the coming years, as well as provide an opportunity to visit, network and meet other people excited to keep agriculture in the Skagit Valley for generations to come.

Reservations are required. For more information about this new event, please visit our website at www.skagitonians.org or call the office at 360-336-3974.



FARM TOUR

YOU'RE INVITED on the SPF Spring Farm Tour!

*Join us for a behind-the-scenes tour
of Skagit agriculture.*

Theme: Diversity of Skagit Agriculture

Date: **Friday, May 8, 2015**

Time: 8:00am—3:00pm

Cost: \$20 for SPF members
\$30 for all other guests

Lunch & Transportation provided!

Reserve your spot today. Space is very limited.

www.skagitonians.org



Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland
PO Box 2405
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

2015 Events - Save These Dates

Mark your calendar and join us for these fun events:

Spring Farm Tour	May 8
"Our Valley, Our Future" Breakfast	June 3
Summer Farm Tour	July 10
Harvest Dinner & Auction	Sept 26
Celebrate Skagit in Seattle	Nov 5

Watch our website for information on reservations, ticket prices, sponsorships for these events and more!

www.skagitonians.org

"Passing the Shovel"

A big THANK YOU to **Lisa and Tom Derrer** of Eddyline Kayaks for all their time and efforts in managing our Crop ID Sign program over the years. Not only did they keep track of what's growing where with a group of trusty volunteers, but they also completed a redesign of the signs and hardware years ago to make the signs easy to read and maintain. They are now "retiring" from the program and we can't thank them enough!! Be on the lookout for new crop signs coming soon!

EVERY NICKEL COUNTS!

For the past seven years, a quiet but steadfast fundraising campaign has been going on at **The Markets** in Anacortes.

Through their nickel bag rebate program, The Markets (and their customers) have donated **\$16,573.75** to Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland.

That's 331,475 nickels!

Every time a shopper brings in a reusable shopping bag, or bags, the store either rebates a nickel to the shopper or the shopper can choose to donate the coin to SPF.

A huge THANK YOU to The Markets and their CUSTOMERS for their ongoing support of Skagit agriculture!

Talking Fields is GROWING!

Be on the lookout in the Bow-Edison area for new **Talking Field** signs coming soon. Due to the popularity of this program, we are expanding to the Samish Delta! Thanks for all of our supporters and all of our "visitors" who have made this program so successful.

Would you like to receive our News Bulletins and other communications via EMAIL?

Sign up for our E-Mailing List on our website at
www.skagitonians.org

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