

Sumner Lake - A Jewel Saved

In the spring of 2007, several individuals came to tell us about a special place that was for sale and slated for development. Once staff visited this spot, we agreed this was indeed a unique and beautiful property and so the Sumner Lake project began.

We are now happy to report that almost three years

Over the years Sumner Lake had been owned by a series of private landowners who kept it in its natural state. Several years ago the property changed hands. The new owners bought the land to develop it as waterfront properties. They submitted preliminary plat maps to the County, drilled wells and put the property on the market.



Through conversations with botanists and wetland specialists, the Trust knew that we had an opportunity to protect something special - a beautiful lake that contains low-elevation bog habitat – an unusual ecosystem. “Once staff visited this unique property, we fell in love with it” says Jane Zillig, land specialist for Skagit Land Trust. Not only is the area surrounding the lake visually beautiful, it is also an important site to conserve given the rarity of these

*Continued on
page 2*

later, with the help of members and supporters, the Trust has acquired 20 acres around Sumner Lake and has a conservation easement on approximately 7 additional acres of wetlands to the north of the lake. The rich diversity of life around Sumner Lake kept staff dedicated to a project that faced many challenges. The Trust will manage all the land within the project area as a natural area. Hundreds of acres of surrounding lands, including the rest of Sumner Lake, are managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.



LEFT: Sumner Lake on the Lake Cavanaugh Road contains unusual low elevation bog habitat. ABOVE: Martha Bray and Jane Zillig do an inventory at Sumner Lake.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rusty Kuntze, President
Bay View

Karen Krub, Vice-President
Bow

Janice Martin, Secretary
Bow

David Hall, Treasurer
Anacortes

Bob Boudinot
Mount Vernon

Brenda Cunningham
Mount Vernon

Ron Feld
Mount Vernon

Oscar Graham
Bow

John Hunt
Anacortes

Steven H. Johnson
Mount Vernon

Mark Linnemann
Guemes Island

Curtis A. Miller
Fir Island

Pat Sneeringer
Mount Vernon

Russ Weiser
Edison

Keith Wiggers
Burlington

Sara Young
Mount Vernon

STAFF

Molly Doran
Executive Director

Martha Bray
Conservation Director

Michael Kirshenbaum
Stewardship Director

Jane Zillig
Land Specialist

Renata Hoyle Maybruck
Development & Communications Director

Diane Bednarz
Administrative Assistant

Regina Wandler
Volunteer Coordinator
Americorp

GENERAL COUNCIL

Bradford E. Furlong, P.S.

Managing Editor: Diane Bednarz
Editor: Molly Doran

Illustrations by Brenda Cunningham

Skagit Land Trust
PO Box 1017, 325 Pine Street
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
voice: 360•428•7878
fax: 360•336•1079

email: dianebed@skagitlandtrust.org
website: www.skagitlandtrust.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.
(African proverb)



As I sit down to write my final column as President, Libby and I are frantically getting ready for a trip to Mexico, which everyone who attends our annual "Have Fun - Save Land" Dinner and Auction on February 26th will not only hear about, but actually get to bid on (e.g. unique culinary knowledge we plan to bring back with us). I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the past two years of work with and for, what I consider to be the most vital and effective conservation organization in the county. During this time there were numerous accomplishments, a few unexpected challenges and one significant loss.

My term as President began as we were successfully completing the Guemes Mountain Campaign, with the valued collaboration of the San Juan Preservation Trust and a fabulous local steering committee. And it will be ending with the long awaited acquisition of Sumner Lake. Two very different but exquisite jewels that are now protected for future generations FOREVER! If these were the only two acquisitions during the past two years I believe we would all have much to celebrate. But they are in fact only the two bookends to a very successful period for the Trust. A period that proved particularly challenging given the uncertain economic times. So let's not forget to also celebrate: the Ochs land along the Samish River; Nichol's Bar on the Skagit River; surpassing our 1600 acre goal on the Anacortes Community Forest Lands; Pressentin Ranch across the Skagit from Hurn Field; a trail easement on Guemes Mt.; the Hegg-Benson Trail at Barr Creek and several miles of salmon habitat on the Skagit and Sauk Rivers to name a few. With your support we will continue adding new threads and weaving new patterns into this tapestry of special places we call the Skagit.

The past two years also saw two very successful Auctions and Conservation Breakfasts, a growing and supportive membership, amazing stewardship work on our properties, and national recognition and accreditation. I would be remiss if I didn't mention one particular Board member whose dedication and love for the Trust and its mission was instrumental in our quest for accreditation – Ralph Heft. I will always feel great pride in having known and worked with Ralph during my time on the Board. Sadly Ralph left us much too early this past year, but as was his wish, he was working on Trust stewardship issues right up to the day before he died.

As the above proverb states - we have gone far together. So thank you all – members, volunteers, donors and partners – without you there would be no Skagit Land Trust and without SLT this amazing watershed we call home would be a very different place.

Rusty Kuntze, Board of Directors, President

plant communities in our county.

The sensitive habitat is home to plants such as Labrador tea, western swamp laurel and bog cranberry. Our local Audubon chapter assisted us with a list of birds at Sumner Lake including the Hooded Merganser, Wood duck, Pygmy and Barred Owls, Western Tanager and many songbirds. Rod Crawford from the Burke Museum, shared a study showing 27 species of spiders that are found in this general area, 7 of which are bog-dependent.

Yet the process of saving the lake got bogged down itself. The landowners were receptive to the Trust's purchase offer but it soon became apparent that it would be a long road to get there due to the parcel's configuration, a county road, subdivision rules, and cost. Finally, late in 2010 Skagit Land Trust and the landowners identified and agreed to a solution. The Trust raised funds to complete the purchase. Sumner Lake was saved.

But perhaps this unusually complex purchase is simply in keeping with its past as Sumner Lake has a colorful history and namesake. Andrea Xaver of Big Lake, and a former board member, writing a column for the Lake Cavanaugh Improvement Association posed the question, "What do an old-time bootlegger, a forgotten cedar mill, a "neighborhood" floating island, and frogs have in common? Why, a lake called Sumner, of course!!"



Christine Kitch



Sumner Lake is surrounded by hundreds of acres of land owned by Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

"Gus Sumner, according to local lore, was both a County Commissioner and a pre-eminent bootlegger— his whiskey being of high quality and readily available. Sumner Lake remains - perhaps looking much like it did in pre-settlement days. Also remaining is the floating island – once a raft of cedar logs that held a mechanism that parbuckled the cedar logs off the railroad cars which came to the mill. Over time, moss, grass and a few trees began to grow on the raft and turned it into an "island." Prevailing winds still take the island from one end of the lake to the other."

The Trust received help from partners, foundations, members, neighbors, and a US Corps of Engineers program that directs funds to protect and restore wetlands after fines have been levied elsewhere in the watershed. Brad Furlong gave many hours of pro bono legal time. Our future plans for this property may include a low impact viewing trail that protects sensitive habitat. Meanwhile, Sumner Lake and its floating island is easily viewed from a vehicle as it lies right on the Lake Cavanaugh Road. As one neighbor said "I just love driving by that lake. I get such a kick out of seeing where that little island is."



Phil Green

178 Acres on Sauk River Conserved Through Partnership

Skagit Land Trust and the Skagit River System Cooperative protected 178 acres of dynamic Sauk riverfront, side channels, forest, wetlands and creeks, conserving vital salmon and elk habitat. The Sauk is the largest tributary to the Skagit River and is part of the Wild and Scenic River System. This is an important project on many levels. The Sauk is one of the most pristine and productive tributaries for salmon and the river runs virtually unconstrained in this area.

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board awarded a grant to acquire this site for Chinook salmon habitat conservation. The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe are now the stewards and owners of this property. The State of Washington holds a deed restriction that ensures that no homes can be built and allows only uses of the property that are consistent with conservation.

This property connects state, federal and tribal lands thus having the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe take ownership was a perfect fit for stewardship of the land. "Conserving land along this river is central to the health

of fish and wildlife. Land protection also helps get people and houses out of harm's way in this extremely active river environment." says Molly Doran, executive director of the Trust.

Skagit Land Trust and the Skagit River System Cooperative partnered to protect this property. The Cooperative provides natural resource management services for the tribe. Other key partners included Seattle City Light and the Skagit Watershed Council. The project took over two years to achieve. The property includes over one-half mile of river and is immediately adjacent to Sauk-Suiattle Indian lands.

The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe homelands covered the entire drainage area of the Sauk, Suiattle and Cascade Rivers. They had an important village at Sauk Prairie near the confluence of the Sauk and Suiattle Rivers. They were canoe people who often traveled downriver to harvest salmon, fish, shellfish and other foods.

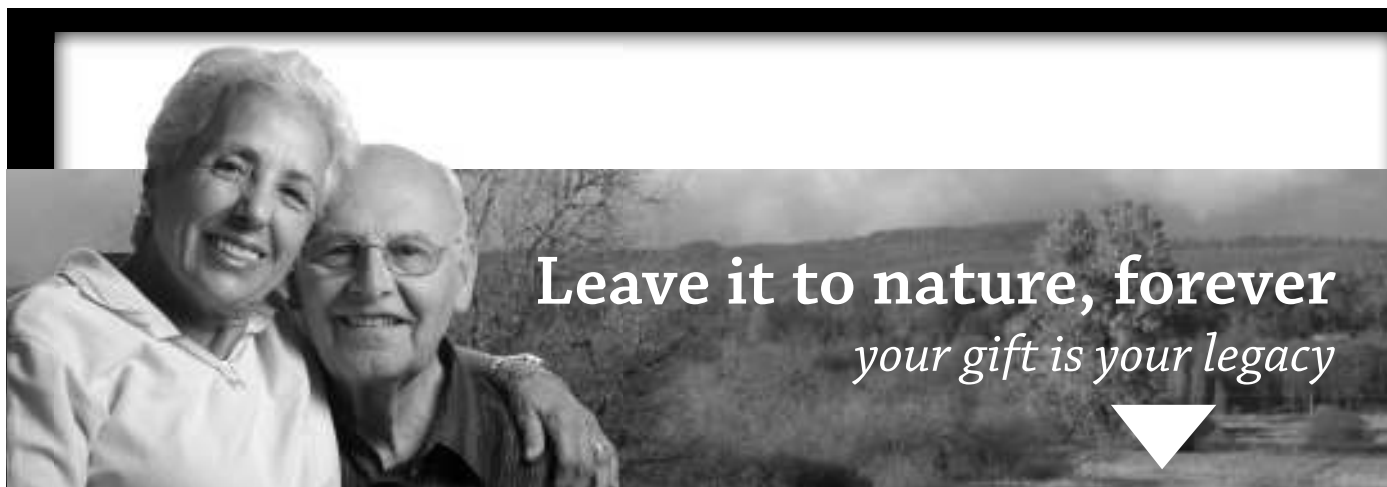
Janice Mabee, chairman of the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe spoke of the importance of this property and the stewarding of lands that the tribe utilized for centuries before European settlement. Chairman Mabee noted, "The Tribe is committed to enhancing and protecting land such as this to benefit the fish and wildlife in this wild and scenic river valley where we live."

Visitors to the Sauk River include anglers from across the country drawn to fishing opportunities. The conservation of Sauk River shoreline is an essential aspect of Chinook Salmon recovery.



John Scurlock

Skagit Land Trust worked with the Skagit River System Cooperative and other partners at the Watershed Council to protect this land. The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe are now the stewards of this important property on the Sauk River.



Leave it to nature, forever *your gift is your legacy*



GIVING WISELY HELPS US REACH INTO THE FUTURE

The future of beautiful Skagit County depends to a large degree on the foresight and generosity of today's visionaries who are willing to consider new ways to make gifts.

PLANNED GIVING is a term that covers all kinds of charitable gifts such as bequests, trusts and gifts of retirement benefits, which allow you to leave a legacy that will continue far beyond your lifetime.

Planned gifts help us reach farther in the future through a dependable base of support to conserve Skagit County's unique habitats, forests, farms, marine areas and open space and steward these lands for future generations. By giving wisely, you can continue to help save land for tomorrow for decades to come.

SKAGITLANDTRUST.ORG (360) 428-7878 | mdoran@skagitlandtrust.org
(Molly Doran) • renatahm@skagitlandtrust.org (Renata Hoyle-Maybruck)

WAYS OF GIVING

There are many planned giving options to ensure that your financial assets are used for land conservation.

Your gift can take multiple forms and can help you address a variety of personal financial goals.

Call us for examples of Planned Giving strategies that you can discuss with your accountant or attorney.



Guemes Mountain Stewardship and Trail Update

The incredible, and successful, campaign to save Guemes Mountain has resulted in a wonderful challenge: how does Skagit Land Trust take care of the mountain and ensure that people can enjoy it? First, we recruited a team of experienced volunteer land stewards to take the lead in monitoring the mountain. Former Hurn Field stewards Carolyn and Ed Gastellum, along with key Save the Mountain leaders Marianne Kooimen and Joost Businger, will serve as our Guemes Mountain Conservation Area land stewards. By regularly checking on the mountain, recruiting even more volunteers to help monitor conditions, and working closely with land trust staff, these stewards will be on the forefront of preserving the mountain's special character.

To improve public access to the mountain's extraordinary views, Skagit Land Trust has teamed-up with the Washington Trails Association (WTA) to build a new trail from South Shore Rd. to the top. WTA's years of trail-building experience and managing volunteer work crews has already paid off – as of the end of the year, we are over half-way towards completing the 1.5 mile trail to the top. More than 150 volunteer days and over 700 volunteer hours have been donated by enthusiastic citizens willing to get dirty to help build a trail. It's hard work, but incredibly satisfying. Come join us! We'll have trail building events on weekends throughout the winter and into the spring. Check our web page www.skagitlandtrust.org for the latest information.



PRESSENTIN RANCH - A HOME FOR SALMON, ELK & EAGLES

The Trust recently acquired forty acres of salmon and elk habitat along the Skagit River off of the South Skagit Highway. The Pressentin Ranch property has almost a half mile of river frontage in addition to side channels and a beautiful riparian forest where eagles perch waiting for their fish dinner. There is even a nail tree marking Skagit floods over the last few decades.

This important property is across the river from the Trust's Hurn Field elk preserve. Elk are often seen swimming across the river from Hurn Field to this area and this former homestead has abundant signs of elk. This acquisition, which abuts State land, now provides a larger protected corridor for elk to roam. Our



Phil Green

stewardship team is finalizing a management plan that will incorporate salmon and other wildlife habitat needs as well as ways to manage the pasture.

Thank you to the Skagit Watershed Council and the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board for their support and grant funding for this project. Thanks also to Seattle City Light for their partnership.

PROTECTING WORKING FORESTS – STAY TUNED

Like its prized farmland, Skagit County has some of the most productive irreplaceable forestland in the world. However, more than 60% of Skagit's forestland is in private ownership and many key forests are vulnerable to development. These forestlands produce important commercial products and provide public benefits including fish and wildlife habitat, maintaining water quality, moderating floods, and recharging water supplies. Our local forests also sequester carbon which is critical for moderation of climate change. Well managed "working forests" can continue to provide these benefits while producing commercial



products, but only if they are not converted to residential development. Skagit Land Trust is working with a local landowner and the Washington Department of Natural Resources to submit the first ever proposal from Skagit County to the Forest Legacy Program. This is a federal program that pays landowners to permanently extinguish development rights on working forests, much like our local farmland preservation program. The program is very competitive but our proposal was one of three selected in Washington to be submitted for review at the national level. If funded, a beautiful 1140-acre family-owned tree farm will be permanently protected. We are hopeful that this is the beginning of an important new tool for the land trust and our local forests – stay tuned!

Please Join Us for Skagit Land Trust's 20th Annual Meeting

Friday, March 25th, 2011 from 6-9 pm at the **Depot Arts Center, Anacortes**

6 - 7 pm - Social hour, appetizers and refreshments

7 - 8 pm Business meeting, board elections and awards

8 pm - **Guest speaker Lee Mann**



Sitting stormbound in a tent on Denali (Mount McKinley), Lee Mann made a momentous decision; He decided he would give up his first career, teaching, and spend the rest of his days photographing those things that excited him most. Thirty years, thousands of photographs and many travels later, he's convinced he made the right choice. Lee stated "it is still what I want to do with the rest of my life."

Board Member Elections

The following people are up for election or re-election to the Skagit Land Trust Board.



Karen Krub - Board member since 2008. Currently serving as vice president and sits on the land committee. Grew up in Mount Vernon in a fishing family and now residing outside La Conner. B.S. in Resource Development from Michigan State University. J.D. from Yale Law School. Currently senior staff attorney with Farmers Legal Action Group.

Bob Boudinot - Board member since 2005. Land committee chair. Civil Engineer with a focus on hydraulic engineering. Partner of Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje, Inc. Current chair of Skagit's Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee.

Russ Weiser - Sustainable design coordinator/project manager for Henry Klein Partnership Architects. Masters of Architecture, University of Oregon, Ph.D. in Horticulture. Joined board in 2008. Serves on stewardship committee.

Oscar Graham - Co-Principal of Graham-Bunting Associates. Has worked for 35 years as an environmental planner in both the public & private sectors in the Northwest and SE Alaska. Serves on the public policy committee, Joined board in 2010.

Mark Linnemann - Proprietor of Guemes Island Resort, on Guemes Island where he has maintained his residence for the past 10 years. Formally trained as a Fine Art Photographer with a focus on landscape and environmentally sensitive photography. Served on the steering committee for the Save Guemes Mountain campaign. Joined Board at the end of 2010.



Thank you Pat Sneeringer & Mark Hitchcock for your dedicated service to the Trust. We will miss you!

Pat Sneeringer has served on the board since 2003. Pat has been instrumental in bringing strong partnerships to the Trust and helped with multiple land conservation projects during her eight years on the land committee. She assisted in many Trust events, helping people to see and understand the properties we protect.

Mark Hitchcock served on the board from 2006 until the middle of 2010. Serving on the stewardship committee he brought his extensive background as a forester to the Trust's land management. He also inspired the Trust to broaden our vision of what is possible in conserving Skagit lands.

Hats Off to the Skagit Parks Foundation

The Skagit Parks Foundation recently ended its non-profit status after eight years of raising funds and sponsoring events that improve and support our county's parks and trails.

We are extremely sad to see the Foundation dissolve and hope that at an opportune time in the future, a similar organization will be created. The many trails this group helped to build; interpretive displays, shelters and parks they helped to establish and maintain; as well as the huge effort they put forth to connect the County with nature is very appreciated.

Skagit Land Trust is honored that the Foundation selected our group to receive \$41,921 in remaining contributions they had raised. We have created the Skagit Parks Fund for this money and other donations we receive dedicated to establishing and managing natural parks and non-motorized trails in Skagit County. Anyone wishing to support our parks and trails can do so by contributing to this Skagit Land Trust fund.

Thank you Skagit Parks Foundation for the vision and leadership you gave our community and the terrific work you did.



An example of a project done with the assistance of the Skagit Parks Foundation: In 2007 "The History Team" of Leadership Skagit worked with the Clearlake Community Historical Association and Skagit Land Trust to build and install an interpretive sign at Mud Lake. The "Welcome to Clearlake" sign was upgraded by Skagit County Parks. As a result of this project, the Clearlake Community Historical Association opened the grass area as a public park for all citizens to enjoy. This park is a valuable piece of the Centennial Trail, right next to the Trust's Mud Lake Conservation Area.

5th Annual Auction and Dinner – "Have Fun – Save Land" New Place - New Catering

5th Annual "Have Fun - Save Land" Auction and Dinner on February 26, 2011 at Saint Joseph Center in Mount Vernon, starting at 5:30pm. Catering by Max Dale's.



The beautiful beach at La Cusinga Eco Lodge in Costa Rica.

We have amazing items for both the live and silent auction this year. Highlights include: A 5 night/6 day trip for two at La Cusinga Eco Lodge, Costa Rica; Eddyline Kayak; Fall retreat for 2 nights/3 days in Whistler, B.C.; Staycations to Lopez Island, Orcas Island, Friday Harbor, Samish Island, The Channel Lodge in La Conner, the Majestic Inn in Anacortes and a beautiful cabin retreat in the North Cascades; Adventures hiking, wine tasting, sunset cruising, drift boat riding and two tickets for the North Cascades Institute Sourdough Speaker Series overnight stay; Numerous gourmet dinners and cooking lessons, original art paintings by local artists Alfred Currier, Anne Schreivogl, Thais Armstrong, Mary Froderberg and Janet Hamilton; Beautiful plants, pots, garden art and much more. Go to our website for a complete list of live auction items, including photographs: www.skagitlandtrust.org

Thank you to our event sponsors: Foothills Toyota Scion, Puget Sound Energy, Hexcel Corporation, Windermere Real Estate - Skagit Valley & Anacortes, Skagit Law Group, Daniel Rasmussen, DDS, Oliver-Hammer Clothes Shop, Premier Graphics, Consumer Rentals, Washington Bulb, Sierra Pacific Foundation, Skagit River Brewery and Odom Corporation.

Tickets are on sale now and seats are limited. \$55 per person or \$400 for a table of 8. To reserve your tickets, please call Diane at: (360) 428-7878.

In Memory of Ralph Heft

Our dedicated board member and long time chair of our stewardship committee, dear friend and supporter, Ralph Heft, passed away in October after his battle with cancer.

Ralph understood we were in one long natural process. A few years ago he wrote an essay putting our conservation work at the Trust in the context of Skagit's life support system. Ralph's influence in helping the Trust grasp and prepare for managing land that current and future generations depend on, in perpetuity, was a huge gift to us all. In recognition of this, the board named our fund to care for conserved lands, the Ralph Heft Stewardship Reserve Fund.

We all loved spending time with Ralph in nature as he was so at home there. Every land trust property has his signature on it, whether it be a management plan he wrote, a fence he helped put up or a forest he helped to restore, Ralph was an owner of Big Lake Trees with his wife Ruth and other family members. He also managed his own native forest. His love of place was strong and infectious. Many stewards events were held at this beautiful place overlooking Big Lake.

We will all miss Ralph dearly, but have some solace in knowing that he leaves us with so much. Ralph was a person who never had to wrestle over what his legacy would be, as he lived it every single day.



We all loved spending time with Ralph in nature as he was so at home there.

Molly Doran Appointed to Serve on National Commission for Accreditation



Molly Doran, executive director of Skagit Land Trust, has been elected to serve on the national Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program the Land Trust Alliance created to ensure the quality of work and accountability of land conservation organizations. The Commission was established in 2006 and has awarded accreditation to more than 100 land trusts with dozens more applying for accreditation each year. Accreditation recognizes organizations for meeting national standards for excellence, upholding the public trust and ensuring that conservation efforts are permanent.

Fifteen representatives distributed throughout the United States serve on the Commission. The Commission has two principal roles: to set policy and procedures for the accreditation process, and to participate with the Commission's staff in the review of applicants for accreditation. More information is available at www.landtrustaccreditation.org.

Skagit Land Trust was accredited in 2009. Molly says, "The Trust underwent the rigorous accreditation process because we owe it to our constituents to be the best land trust we can be. It is an honor now to also help advance land conservation as a member of the Accreditation Commission."

Thank You for Your Help Protecting Sumner Lake

Anonymous (3)	David Fredericks &	Holiday & Robert Matchett	Douglas Risedorf
Judy Baker	Patricia Anderson	Geoffrey Matthews &	Gerry & Doris Robbins
Al & Sue Berger	Barbara French	Mary Valentine	Betty Rockwell
Richard Bergner	Brad Furlong	Thomas Mayes	Craig & Heather Romano
Hazel Blakeslee	Tim & Susan Gilmore	Mary Anne McClaire	Allen & Debra Rossman
Gary & Heidi Bletsch	Dana & Linda Golden	Michael McGinley & Jean Wu	Midori & Joseph Sacotte
John & Gail Boggs	Maxine Gow	Paul McFarland –	Brian Scheuch
Anne Braaten	David & Judy Granstrom	Department of Natural	Luther & Maryam Schutz
Dennis Brown	Robert Green	Resources	Robert E. Scott
Joost A. Businger &	Guardian Northwest Title Co.	Jeff McGowan Family	Skagit Valley Herald
Marianne Kooiman	Roger Hanson	Dick & Bettie McNeely	Robert & Joan Skeelee
James & Neta Cahill	Karen A. Lewis-Hart &	Anita Meyer &	Marlies & John Slostad
Cavanaugh LLC, Mike Spink	Derek Hart	Josh Greenberg	Jay Smith & Susan Wood
& Gary Lohman	William Hayton	Maggie Miller & Larry Stiles	Tamara Stevens &
Ann Childs & Stephen	Jean & William Heflin	Steve & Betty Miller	Todd Rubano
Thornton	Jerry & Linda Henry	Susan & Fred F. Miller	Betsy Stevenson
Brenda Cunningham &	Jack & Grace Hubbard	Jeff & Anna Montgomery	Kate Stewart &
Tim Manns	Lloyd Johannessen	Gene & Ginny Murphy	Deborah DeWolfe
Frank Daly	Paul Johnson	Native Plant Society	Ann & William Tanner
Joyce Dillard	Leah Keefer & Owen Ward	Northwest Real Estate	The Norcliffe Foundation
Molly Doran & Andrew Cline	Pat Karlberg & Bob Keller	Valuation	Tamara Thomas
Ron & Fonda Downs	Christine Kitch &	Nysether Family Foundation	John Tursi
Ronald & Elaine Eaton	David Farrow	Judy & David Olson	Linda & Reider Tynes
James Eberhardt	Barbara & Gene Kiver	Joshua Parrot	Georgia Van Amerongen
David & Patricia Edenfield	Jan Kramer	Mark Pearson	Lee & Ann Vincent
Harold & Diane Eiesland	Lake Cavanaugh	William & Sally Pfeifer	Ryan Walters
Jerry & Marilyn Eisner	Improvement Association	Elaine Powlesland	Winnifred & Allan Wenzel
Phyllis L. Ennes	Lucky Seven Foundation	Lynn & Norman Prewitt	W.K. & Sharon Williams
Nick Fahey & Deborah Martin	Patsy Botsford-Martin &	Gary & Candace Richards	Stedem Wood
Thomas Farris	Daniel Martin	Susan Richardson	Andrea Xaver
Don J. Finsen	Robert & Marie Martinez	Douglas & Carol Richter	



Welcome New Americorp Volunteer - Regina Wandler



My name is Regina Wandler, and I am very happy to introduce myself to you all as the Skagit Land Trust's AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator. I am lucky enough to be a Cascadia native. Growing up in Everett, I spent most of my time exploring Snohomish County, looking for big trees to climb, and being generally surprised that everyone didn't want to keep amazing open spaces around. Since graduating from the University of Washington in 2008 with a double B.A. in Community, Environment and Planning and Comparative History of Ideas (I know, it's a mouthful), I taught at a small Montessori preschool, traveled to India and Sri Lanka, volunteered with People for Puget Sound and PAWS, and worked on my family's tree farm in Kitsap County. Before that, I had interned for Snohomish County Surface Water Management and written signage design recommendations for the city of Arlington. I am excited to learn more by being in such a beautiful, wildlife filled area, and working with such a fantastic and dedicated group. This is where land conservation happens, and it's wonderful to be involved! If you ever feel the urge to teach someone about birds, history of the Skagit, or just want to talk about what I could do to get more people involved and outside, please feel free to stop by my desk, give me a call or send me an email to say hello.



Thanks to the volunteers who have already been outside with me: Jim Johnson, Lester Bradford, Pete Haase, Patrick Hurley, Stephen Farmer, Brenda Cunningham and Tim Manns. I'd also like to thank the rest of the dedicated land stewards, most of whom I have already gone out and seen their property with! Everyone has been very warm and welcoming, making me feel right at home.

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Ralph Heft

Diane Bednarz & Peter Jepson
 Glenn & Teddie Bordner
 Bob & Nina Boudinot
 Martha Bray & John Day
 Connie & Tim Buckley
 Brenda Cunningham & Tim Manns
 Molly Doran & Andrew Cline
 Jeanne Glick
 Ruth Heft
 D.F. & R. Higley
 Rod & Anne Higley
 John & Linda Hunt
 Paul Johnson
 Bob Keieger
 Janice Martin & Doug Robinson
 Patsy Botsford-Martin & Dan Martin
 Rusty Kuntze & Libby Mills
 Harold & Hella Lee
 Maria Mamnani
 James May
 Deborah & Geoffrey Middaugh
 Marlene & Jim Moore
 Gene & Ginny Murphy
 North Cascade Family Physicians
 Marion & Douglas Oldenburg
 Ken Osborn
 Puget Sound Christmas Tree Assoc.
 Kate Ramsey & John Smallman
 Dick Ramsey
 Patricia Ramsey
 John & Teresa Schmoie
 Tomiko Schmoie
 Carolyn Sutton & Cort Liddell
 The Bowen Family
 Keith & Jan Wiggers
 Sharon & Gerald Yuen
 Jane Zillig & Paul Ingalls

In Memory of Harry Adamitz

Keith & Jan Wiggers

In Memory of

Lynnett Trucco-Baier

Doug Baier

In Memory of Glenn Bartlett

Michael Mast
 Helen Roozen
 Lisette Roozen
 Stu & Sally Stern
 Linda Talman

In Memory of Doris Bjorling

Linda Speck & Ken Willis

In Memory of John Brada

June Brada

In Memory of Elizabeth Brown

Mary Anne McClaire

In Memory of Elizabeth Burdock

Joseph Burdock

In Memory of

Harold Christenson

Karen & Doug Radcliffe

In Memory of Lorry D'Arienzo

Larry & Friends at Skagit
 Behavioral Health
 Martha Bray & John Day
 Celeste Rivers
 NEP Supershooters L.P.
 Hannah Sullivan & Gerry Cook
 Jane Zillig & Paul Ingalls

In Memory of Ben &

Lois Engelbright

Larry & Alba Stevens
 Tamara Stevens & Todd Rubano
 Annette Woolsey & Jim Shiflett

In Memory of Donald B. Fisher

Rita Fisher
 Gene & Bette Huff

In Memory of Harry French

Barbara French

In Memory of Mary Lou Hanson

Roger Hanson

In Memory of

Carol M. Hodgkin

Cathy Nixon Cowan

In Memory of Donald Joseph

Aubre Adams & Raymond Maichen

In Memory of William Larson

Barbara Larson

In Memory of Lucy

Anne Braaten

In Memory of Victoria Miceli

Jonathan Granger

In Memory of John H. Munn

Judy Munn

In Memory of Marie Smith

J. Allen Smith

In Memory of Margaret Todd

Allane Onkst
 Meredith & Rick Machin
 Janice Martin & Doug Robinson
 Patsy Botsford-Martin & Dan Martin
 Daniel J. Smith

In Memory of

Patricia Youngman

Harold Mitchell

In Memory of Matt Zillig

Gloria Zillig
 Marisue Zillig

1014

Family & business memberships

28

Total miles of river & marine shoreline protect-
 ed by Skagit Land Trust

6020

Total acres protected

5000

Volunteer hours this past year





PO Box 1017
325 Pine Street, Suite B
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
www.skagitlandtrust.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Mount Vernon, WA
Permit No. 195

MISSION STATEMENT:

*Skagit Land Trust conserves wildlife habitat,
wetlands, agricultural and forest lands,
scenic open space and shorelines
for the benefit of our community and as a
legacy for future generations.*



SAVING LAND FOR TOMORROW

Upcoming Events

February 5th

Heronry count, tour and Ivy pull on Samish Island

February 12 & 13th, 26th & 27th,

March 26th & 27th

Trail building on Guemes Mountain,
Guemes Island, with Washington Trails Association

February 26th

5th Annual Auction & Dinner
HAVE FUN ~ SAVE LAND

March 25th

Annual Meeting at Depot Arts Center,



Russ Weiser (board), Michael Kirshenbaum (stewardship director), Mark Hitchcock (former board) and Ralph Heft (former board) discuss lunch plans... and hydrology.