

Join Friends and Neighbors to Conserve Local Farmland at this Critical Time

If ever there was a time, it is *now* that ASA must count on you as never before. Farmland protection cannot wait, especially with the recent announcement that Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) is moving ahead with its nanotech park in nearby Saratoga County. With the support of members like you, ASA is ready to step up to meet the challenges posed by the anticipated development pressures. At the same time, more farmers than ever before are reaching out to ASA, ready and willing to protect their farmland. We *have* to be able to help them and we count on you to help us in whatever way you can. Here are the ways you can help:

Become a member

In addition to your critical financial support, your membership demonstrates that our community supports conservation and helps ASA leverage funds from the government and private foundations.

Volunteer

ASA needs volunteers to help with organizing outreach events, providing expertise and membership mailings.

Conserve your land

You can become a conservation leader by protecting your land and ensuring that it will retain its many benefits for years to come.

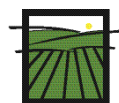
Host a neighborhood gathering

Introduce your friends and neighbors to land conservation by hosting an informational get-together with ASA board and staff.

Make a bequest

Farmland and forestland conservation requires ASA to be the long-term stewards of each conservation easement agreement. Your bequest can help reduce your estate taxes, connect people and children to farms as well as step up the pace to conserve new lands before they are lost to unplanned development. Consider making a lasting impact by leaving a gift of land or property in your will to ASA.

Contact Teri Ptacek at (518) 692-7285 or by e-mail at asa@agstewardship.org for more information on ways you can help.



Agricultural Stewardship Association

14 Main St., Suite 100
Greenwich, NY 12834
ph: (518) 692-7285
fx: (518) 692-7720
asa@agstewardship.org
www.agstewardship.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

This four color newsletter was partially underwritten by a grant from the Howard & Bush Foundation. Photography by Mary Ellen Williams, Jim Schanz, Jennifer Jennings, Rachael Buhler, and Clifford Oliver. Written by Annie Miller and ASA staff.

Three Young Brothers Protect Land for the Future



Tiashoke Farms began a partnership with ASA in 2004. Three years later, owners Frank and Terry Ziehm conserved their 244-acre farm in Buskirk. This year in September, their sons followed suit and protected their 343-acre farm in Easton.

In 2001, after their three sons Brian, Eric, and Stuart graduated from Cornell and returned to farm with their parents in Buskirk, the need to grow their family business became readily apparent. They would need to produce more milk in order to provide the quality of life they sought, which meant more cows and more land to grow feed.

Their nutritionist told the Ziehms about Jack Lundberg, a farmer who was milking 150 cows in Easton and wanted to retire. "The farm had high quality soils," Brian recalls. "It was also located in a strong community with a rich agricultural base that we recognized as having long term potential and an opportunity for us to reach the public."

"I'm a fourth generation farmer. I love agriculture and I want to see farming continue and thrive in the future. To us, this was a win-win situation." - Brian Ziehm

Tiashoke Farms Part Two: A Sequel as Good as the Original

Brian, Eric, and Stuart purchased the farm and its cattle that same

year with the intention of protecting the farmland. "From the start, conserving the land was a key component to our business plan," Stuart said, "and by doing so, it allowed three young brothers with little equity to purchase a farm on our own and realize the dream of farming here in Washington County."

Today, Tiashoke Farms milks 500 cows. Mature dairy cows are housed and milked in Buskirk, while the Easton farm has the young-stock and replacement heifers, as well as a pumpkin stand.

Working with Washington County, ASA successfully applied for a combination of state and federal funding to conserve the Easton farm.

"Land is the backbone of any productive farm," Eric explained. "You can have dreams of growing and expanding, but it can't happen if the land isn't there. We were very fortunate to have been able to purchase this farm when we did and protect its productive soils from development."

"We looked into several organizations but most of them were interested in preserving the land for open space and not productive farm use. That's where ASA is different," said Brian. "ASA has a strong, long-term mission and is dedicated to agriculture in our community, not just the land."

Thanks to the commitment and forward thinking of the Ziehm family, the land they rely on for their family business will also be an asset to the members of their community forever.



Agricultural Stewardship Association

Protecting Tiashoke Farms allows the next generation of the Ziehm family to realize a future of farming in Easton.

Local farms and forests are vital to our future.

The Agricultural Stewardship Association is a nonprofit land trust founded in 1990 by local farmers, agribusiness representatives, and conservationists to protect land for agricultural and forestry uses in Washington and Rensselaer Counties. Our goal is to insure that farms and forests will be part of everyone's lives for generations to come. To date, we have assisted landowners with the conservation of 8,361 acres of farm and forestland.

ASA receives funding from its members and supporters, Castanea Foundation, The Conservation Fund, the New York Conservation Partnership Program (administered by the Land Trust Alliance Northeast Program with support from the State of New York) and the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, among others.

Board of Directors	Glenwood Rowse <i>Cambridge</i>
Seth Jacobs, President <i>Argyle</i>	Jim Ruhl <i>Clifton Park</i>
Sean Quinn, Vice President <i>Easton</i>	Meg Southerland <i>Salem</i>
Tom Jilek, Treasurer <i>Salem</i>	Margaret Stokowski <i>Granville</i>
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Thomas Christenfeld <i>Easton</i>	Renee Bouplon Senior Program Manager
Stephan Deibel <i>White Creek</i>	Janet Britt Easement Steward
Phil Gitlen <i>Easton</i>	Teri Ptacek Executive Director
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14 Main Street, Suite 100, Greenwich, NY 12834
 ph: 518-692-7285
 fx: 518-692-7720
 asa@agstewardship.org
 www.agstewardship.org

WE HAVE MOOOVED

From the Executive Director



When driving through Washington and Rensselaer Counties, I always marvel at the extraordinary number and variety of places to stop for local produce. From coolers with fresh eggs at the end of driveways to full-fledged meat and dairy processors, from card tables of tomatoes to bustling farmers' markets, we are surrounded by fresh, healthy, delicious food, thanks to our farmers.

The "Eat Local" trend of the last decade has led to a boom in farmers' markets and farm-to-chef programs at fancy restaurants. Some of our local farms have been at the forefront of this movement, providing an ever-increasing variety of products. (Ten years ago, could we have imagined having a choice of local goat cheeses?) Everyone has a favorite corn place, apple orchard, or sugar shack. More than a few freezers have half a pig in them. And the milk in our fridges is often from just down the road.

In this newsletter our focus is on young farmers who are keeping up the traditions that have given us this food wealth. They come with their eyes open, having grown up with the hard work and uncertainty of the business. They come prepared with experience, education, and a drive to keep agriculture alive in the region and the country.

Our young farmers are the people who will feed us in the future, but they need good affordable farmland. ASA is here to partner with them and to help them get this one resource they cannot do without.

It may require improvising and thinking outside the box, but that is nothing new to farmers and foresters.

We are surrounded by beautiful, productive land and the traditions that have kept us connected to it. (Although, once again this year, I had to regretfully decline the offer to come to a plucking party and dress my own Thanksgiving turkey, I feel very lucky to live in a place where such an offer is possible.)

We each have a part to play in maintaining and expanding this marvelous abundance. Whether you are growing or buying, conserving your farmland or writing a check to help someone else do it, you are part of a community that, each year, creates this great gift: local farms and local food. It is a gift that will sustain us in good times and bad.

From all of us at ASA, I extend heartfelt thanks for all of your continued support. *—Teri Ptacek*

Farmland Conservation in Rensselaer County

Local Farm Families Feel It's Important

Since 2003, when Ellen and Paul Wiley donated an easement to conserve the 123-acre Sherman Farm in Pittstown, ASA has helped protect 860 acres in Rensselaer County and obtained funding for an additional 2,656 acres. Currently we have twelve projects in progress in the county. All are viable working farms or are used as support land for commercial operations.

It takes a whole community of committed people and organizations to keep local agriculture thriving. In Rensselaer County, that community includes farmers and other landowners, hunters and politicians, charitable foundations, local, county and state government, people who donate their money, and volunteers who give their time.

Funding to support these efforts does not just magically appear. State grants totalling \$3.7 million have led the way, while ASA and local and community leaders have raised both money and awareness (see list below).

Rensselaer County provides significant annual support for ASA to administer county wide farmland protection projects, and the Town of Schaghticoke has allocated its own funding to assist with the transaction costs of protection projects within their Town. Forward-looking farmers and landowners also help by donating toward the protection of their lands, often accepting less than full market value for their development rights. "The Berry Patch" farm in Stephentown even started its own fundraiser to help with transaction costs (see following article).

Supporters of Farmland Conservation in Rensselaer County

Assemblyman Roy McDonald
 Bender Family Foundation
 Castanea Foundation
 Friends of West Hoosick Hills
 Howard and Bush Foundation
 Members and Donors of ASA
 NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
 Rensselaer County
 Rensselaer Land Trust
 Towns of Schaghticoke and Pittstown
 Whipstock Hill Preservation Society

Farms in Rensselaer County Awarded Farmland Protection Grants

"The Berry Patch",
 108 acres, Stephentown
 Cannon/Baum Farms,
 388 acres, Pittstown
 Evergreen Farm,
 403 acres, Petersburg
 Hooskip Farm,
 337 acres, Petersburg
 Maple Lane Farm,
 108 acres, Petersburg
 Moses Farm,
 91 acres, Hoosick
 Robe-Jan Farm,
 115 acres, Schaghticoke
 St. Croix Farm,
 688 acres, Schaghticoke
 Stearns Farm,
 479 acres, Hoosick
 Weir Dairy Farm,
 328 acres, Schaghticoke



Customers help Dale Riggs and Don Miles ensure a future for farming at "The Berry Patch".

Farmstand Customers Help Protect the Farm They Love

"The Berry Patch" (also known as Stone Wall Hill Farm) on Route 22 in Stephentown was selected for a state grant that provides 75 percent of the costs to purchase an agricultural conservation easement on the land (otherwise known as purchasing the development rights).

This spring, owners Dale Riggs and Don Miles kicked off a fundraising campaign. They reached out to their dedicated customers and supporters to help raise some of the required matching funds for this project. To date, their customers and supporters have contributed nearly \$9,000 to help protect the farm that feeds them and the valley they love. (See page 11 for list of contributors.)



The Michel Family Home at Last

Two Generations. One Goal

Meet the Michel family: Bill and Joyce, their older son Scott and his wife Kelly and their younger son, Jeff and his wife Kim. Just looking at this group of hard working, determined people, you know they could do anything they set their minds to.

Not only does this family want to farm, they are prepared to do it. Bill grew up working on the farm his family had owned for 250 years. Joyce was a town girl who quickly adapted and became dedicated to farm life. Their sons are 4H, FFA and Cobleskill grads; Scott in dairy and Jeff in diesel mechanics. Both managed to marry women who not only wanted to farm but have relevant skills. Kelly has applied her math degree from Allegheny College at the state's office of Agricultural Statistics. Kim earned a master's degree from Cornell and is now the agriculture teacher in Argyle.

How Do You Farm without a Farm?

They had experience. They had education. They had cows. They had equipment. But, for a long time, they had no land. Bill and Joyce didn't inherit the family business. They were determined to stay in farming, however, and the family became renters, moving several times; once packing up everything, including 100 cows, in two days. It was a very stressful way to farm, but they hung on because it was the life they loved.

Finding a Farm: A Team Effort

Then Kelly just happened to talk to someone who mentioned that he had land for sale in Easton and did she know anyone who was looking? The family jumped at the opportunity. In 2003 she and Scott moved into their new home on Hoag Road. The house was a disaster, but the land was just what they wanted. Jeff caught the next break when they learned about a conserved farm in Easton that was for sale. Castanea Foundation, one of ASA's conservation partners, had recently purchased the 200-acre Cary farm in Easton and was looking for a qualified farmer to buy it at its agricultural value.

A New Tool in Conservation

Near the end of his life, Dick Cary got in contact with ASA to arrange to sell part of his farm to give him some money to live on without selling off any lots. When Mr. Cary died in 2006, ASA called on Castanea Foundation for assistance. Castanea purchased the farm from Mr. Cary's estate, and together with ASA, they decided to try an innovative idea.

In addition to placing an agricultural conservation easement on the land to protect it, ASA and Castanea developed a Preemptive Right to Purchase agreement (see sidebar) which meant that if the farm was ever to be sold to someone other than a family member or farmer, ASA would have the right to repurchase the farm at its agricultural value. This way the land wouldn't be lost to farming by sale to someone who wasn't interested in working it.

Another unusual aspect of the sale was that Castanea Foundation considered buyers not only on their ability to pay, but also what they planned to do. The Michel family's proposal was a winner. They had a good business plan to use the Hoag Road farm for milking and the Cary Farm for heifers, plans for improving the soils and bringing back overgrown fields, and, very importantly, plans to make a home for a young farming family.

Home at Last

Kim and Jeff moved onto the farm in May and by September the progress that had been made on the house, the farm buildings and land was already impressive, especially when you consider that among the six Michel adults they hold down four outside jobs, have three children (Patrick 10, Travis 4 and Alison 2), two farms with old houses, one herd of milking cows and all that goes with it. Oh, and they've started a maple operation, have a milking barn to build and are thinking about aquaculture. Exhausting, but for this family, it is just what they always wanted.

Joyce gets a bit choked up when she says, "Owning the land is so important. We didn't want our kids to have to go through what we did." Because the Michel family has stuck it out and stuck together, her wish is coming true.

Innovative Tool Keeps Farmland Affordable

Agricultural Stewardship Association is one of only two land trusts in New York State with a primary focus on conserving working farm and forest land. From the beginning, the main tool we have used to prevent incompatible development on agricultural land has been the conservation easement (see page 6 for more on easements).

In 2008 ASA collaborated with Castanea Foundation to develop and implement the first-ever Preemptive Right to Purchase (PRP) agreement in New York State. This new strategy will be an important tool for land trusts in New York, making farmland both available and affordable to farmers.



The Michel family was selected as the new owners of the recently protected Cary Farm. Pictured from left to right: Kim, Bill, Jeff, Joyce, Kelly and Scott with children, Travis and Allison, and Joyce's mother, Ruth.

Conservation Secures Support Land for Young Farmers

In June ASA worked with the Castanea Foundation, a conservation partner, to protect a 116-acre parcel on Ives Hill Road in Easton. The property contains open, rolling fields located on a prominent ridge between Beadle Hill and Hoag Roads.

Castanea served as an "interim conservation buyer". The organization purchased the farm and then donated an easement to ASA. Brady Wolff and Jay Wolff of Wolf Brothers Farm rented the land from Castanea Foundation during the conservation process. Once conserved, the land was purchased by these young farmers. The Ives Hill parcel serves as support land for their nearby dairy operation currently milking 250 cows.

The Ives Hill conservation easement allows improvements for agricultural purposes, but does not allow for residential buildings. As Seth Jacobs, ASA President, observes, "this will help the land stay in agricultural production for the long term and keep it affordable for future generations to farm".

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What Is an Agricultural Conservation Easement?

An agricultural conservation easement is a legal agreement between a willing landowner and a qualified organization, such as ASA, that permanently protects a property's agricultural and forestry characteristics by restricting the type of nonagricultural development that can occur on the land. In addition to farming and forestry, home-based businesses and rural enterprises are often permitted, as long as they do not negatively impact the agricultural and forestry uses of the property.

The landowner still owns the property and retains the right to sell, lease, gift or transfer it. Each easement is tailored to achieve the landowner's conservation goals and he/she continues to manage the land. ASA's agricultural easements are designed to provide flexibility for farming and other compatible uses, recognizing that farming will change over time. The right to develop the property outside of those provisions is permanently extinguished. ASA is responsible for ensuring that the purposes of the easement are upheld in perpetuity.

For more information on agricultural conservation easements, visit www.agstewardship.org and download ASA's Landowner's Guide.

Additional Federal Tax Incentives for Conservation Easements Extended

This summer Congress extended, through 2009, a Federal tax incentive for conservation easement donations that can help many landowners conserve their land.

Section 1206 of the pensions bill (HR 4) passed by Congress will help farmers and landowners get a significant tax benefit for donating a conservation easement, restricting future development of their land, and conserving important forestlands, farmlands, and wildlife habitat.

Conservation easements that qualify for this program, and are donated between now and the end of 2009, will:

- Raise the deduction a donor can take for donating a conservation easement from 30 percent of their adjusted gross income (AGI) in any year to 50 percent;
- Allow qualifying farmers and ranchers to deduct up to 100 percent of their AGI;
- Extend the carry-forward period for a donor to take tax deductions for a voluntary conservation agreement from 5 to 15 years.

Landowners should contact ASA prior to May 2009 to ensure they have adequate time to complete the conservation easement process necessary to meet the IRS guidelines.



"Orange Field Near Hudson River I" by Joanne Murphy

Landscapes Show Generates Support for Farmland Conservation

The seventh annual Landscapes for Landsake art event was a great success. Nearly 900 people came to the opening receptions over the course of Columbus Day weekend. More than 40 works were sold with ASA receiving 50 percent of the proceeds to support its farmland conservation programs.



Teri Ptacek, ASA's Executive Director said, "The success of the show is a result of the tremendous support provided by our artists, sponsors, volunteers, as well as hosts Larry Sconzo and Laurie Simon. Donna Orlyk did a magnificent job in her role as curator."

Thank You Everyone Who Made Landscapes a Great Success!

Hosts: Larry Sconzo and Laurie Simon. Artists: Deborah Bayly, Richie Bittner, Joan Duff Bohrer, Alan Brown, Valerie Craig, Clarence King, Lynne Knobel, Karen Koziol, Leah McCloskey, Pat McEvoy, Susan Harding Merancy, Greg Miner, Joanne K. Murphy, Clifford Oliver, Harry V. Orlyk, Leslie Parke, Leslie Peck, Renjie Song, Arleen Targan, Mark

Tougias, Regina Wickham, George Van Hook. Curator: Donna Orlyk. Coordinator: Jennifer Jennings. Major Sponsorship by: The Chazen Companies, Agard and LaPan Land Surveying, The Fort Miller Group, Owl Pen Books, Whiteman Osterman & Hanna, LLP, John Stokowski & Sons. Additional Sponsors include: Alan Brown Realty, Bertram Freed & Caroline Eastman of The Kinderhook Group, Inc., Lewis Waite Farm, Stewart's Shops, Wiley Brothers, Premier Dairy Service, LLC, First Pioneer Farm Credit, Dickinson & Company, CPAs, Wilbur Avenue Garage, Monks of New Skete, Walker's Farm Home and Tack,

Throop Integrity Builders, Vesta Preservation, Inc., Judith Klingebiel, CPA, Schutze Family Dentistry, The Black Dog Wine and Spirits, Ltd., Battenkill Veterinary, PC, Caffry & Flower, Attorneys at Law, Glens Falls National Bank & Trust Co., Granville Veterinary Service, Greenwich Local Market, Booth's Blend Compost, Ackley & Ross Funeral Home, Borador Animal Hospital, PC, Phil & Heather Norman, Castle Agency. Volunteers: Alane Ball Chinian, Betsy Brander, Ashley Bridge, Nancy Brown, Bob Cheney and members of VOSCA, Thomas, Sam and Will Christenfeld, Clem and Mary Dee Crowe, Jessica Chittenden, Stephan Deibel, Meegan

Finnegan, Cathy Firman, Betsy Foote and Greenwich FFA, Phil Gitlen, Liz Gordon, Rick Gottesman, M.L. Healy, Don and Kathy Idleman, Seth and Kalon Jacobs, Darlene King, Jana King, Ed and Millie Lawrence, Aaron Mann, Colleen Mason, Bliss McIntosh, Annie Miller, Kim Michel and Argyle FFA, John Mooney, Remus Preda, Jim Ruhl, Jim Schanz, John Shoemaker, David Trabka, Ben Zipperer, Mary Ellen Williams. Thanks to the following businesses for in-kind services and supplies: Capital Tractor, Forget-Me-Knots, Gardenworks, Peckham Industries, Tiashoke Farms.

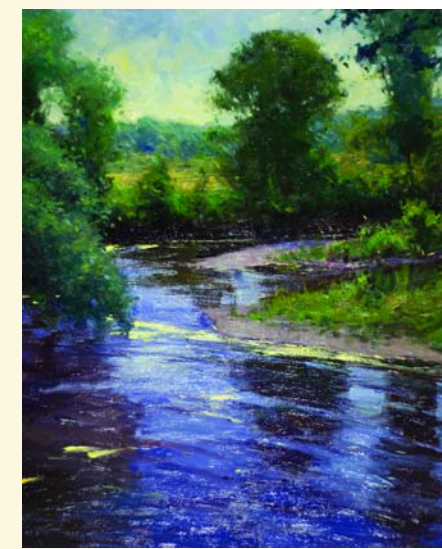


Top Right: "February Light" by Harry Orlyk

Center Right: "Through the Fields" by Mark Tougias

Bottom Right: "River" by George Van Hook

Bottom Left: "Silver Spangled Pair" by Leah McCloskey



Creating a New Partnership for Forested Property on Battenkill Tributary

ASA, the Battenkill Conservancy, and Local Family Team Up

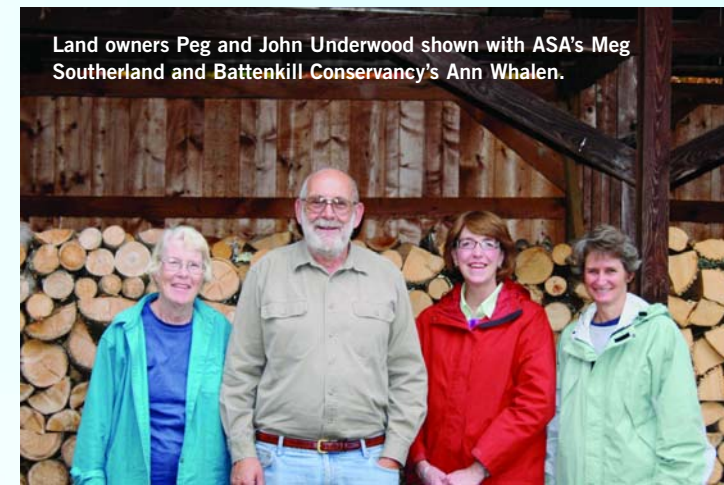
John and Peg Underwood plan ahead and they get things done. Twenty-five years of work on their 40 wooded acres has produced a house, pond, forestry management plan, sugar shack, and saw mill. Their land is productive and they'd like to see it stay that way.

The biggest obstacle to conservation was the size of their property. Most land trusts in the region give priority to parcels of 100 acres or more due to the cost of establishing and maintaining easements. This was discouraging, but the Underwoods are not ones to "take no for an answer." Being the parents, and occasional unpaid helpers, of a hydro-geologist, they knew about watershed protection and they brought the idea to the Battenkill Conservancy.

The Battenkill Conservancy holds no easements of its own, but reached out to ASA and a new partnership was born. The Conservancy agreed to help ASA cover some of the costs

associated with establishing an easement and the Underwoods, in addition to donating an easement, also made a contribution to help with its long-term stewardship and defense.

The Underwoods, working together with ASA and the Battenkill Conservancy, achieved their goal of conserving their working land for generations to come. In addition, John has run the numbers and sees this project as a financially sound investment. Planning and determination really can pay off.



Land owners Peg and John Underwood shown with ASA's Meg Southerland and Battenkill Conservancy's Ann Whalen.

Connecting People to Local Farms

All around the world on market day, farmers leave the countryside and bring their produce to town. This September the tables were turned as five farms in the Town of Schaghticoke and the Knickerbocker Mansion, a historic farmstead, opened their doors, fields and barnyards to visitors.



ASA and the Town launched its first Farms in Your Neighborhood tour to promote local farms and farmland conservation. Visitors could tour farms on their own or take a chartered bus that left from the Troy Waterfront Farmers' Market.

"The bus was a great chance for families to get out of the city and onto farms," said ASA Executive Director Teri Ptacek. "Denisons, one of the farms we visited, sells at the Troy market so people were able to make the connection between the food they eat and where and how it's grown."

The tour also stopped at Weir Dairy Farm and St. Croix Farm to learn about the benefits of farmland conservation. When the St. Croix project closes in the coming months, ASA will have protected over 1,000 acres in Schaghticoke. Both farms were conserved with grants.

Thank you to everyone for making the "Farms in Your Neighborhood" tour a success.

Hosts: Denison Farm, Weir Dairy Farm, St. Croix Farm, Unc Brock Farm, Daigle's Honey, LA-Z-ACE Farm, and the Knickerbocker Mansion. **Co-organizers:** Town of Schaghticoke, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County, Rensselaer County Economic Development Office and Rensselaer County Farm Bureau. **Sponsors:** Howard and Bush Foundation, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Families Enjoy Conserved Farm Firsthand

In June ASA teamed up with the Batten Kill Watershed Alliance, Trout Unlimited, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for a fishing clinic on the Batten Kill.

The free clinic was held on Hi-Brow Dairy Farm in Jackson.



ASA assisted owners Jay and Kim Skellie and Tom Jilek with the conservation of the 665-acre farm in 2007. It has 1.5 miles of river frontage on the Batten Kill and 1 mile of river frontage on the Black Creek.

A fly rod and reel that was donated by The Orvis Company was raffled off and won by Greg Cuda.

Tour De Farm Bike Ride Celebrates Farmland



In July a group of intrepid bikers joined ASA for its second Tour de Farm, a supported 21.5-mile bike ride through southern Washington County. Starting at the Cambridge Farmer's Market, bikers rode by protected farms. Slowing to bike speed created a special opportunity to appreciate our beautiful working landscapes.

The tour was sponsored by an ASA partnership with Cambridge Valley Cycling and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Washington County.

Currently, ASA is working on a bi-county ride in the Hudson River basin that will showcase conserved farms in the Saratoga Battlefield watershed.

Mark your calendars for Sept. 27, 2009 for a (hopefully) sunny ride by corn and hay fields plus stops at vegetable, dairy and calf operations.

Kids enjoyed recent events held by ASA on conserved farms.

Making it Happen: The Phantom Laboratory Donates \$10,000 to Protect Farmland

The Phantom Laboratory in Greenwich is a local company manufacturing specialized test tools for a worldwide market. Each year, the company generously donates a portion of their profits to philanthropic causes.

When they give, they give locally. All 15 employees sit down together to talk about issues that are close to their hearts and together they come to a consensus on how to distribute the funds. We are thankful to once again receive a significant portion of their funds.

visit
us online
> agstewardship.org

It Takes Your Support to Make Farmland Protection Happen: Thank You

In these economically challenging times, your contributions are vital to ASA's ability to protect the productive soils and working landscapes of our rural towns. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has made a contribution since our last newsletter. The conservation work we do depends on your generosity. With many new projects in the works, each contribution will go a long way toward protecting our area's treasured farms and forests.

Contributions made between April 15 and October 15, 2008 are listed below. Every effort has been made to ensure this list is accurate. Please contact us at (518) 692-7285 to note any changes that should be made for the next issue of our newsletter.

Foundations

Anonymous (3)
Bender Family Foundation
Castanea Foundation
Howard and Bush Foundation
Land Trust Alliance*
Nordlys Foundation
The Troy Savings Bank
Charitable Foundation Inc.

Government

Senators Joe Bruno and Betty Little
Assemblyman Roy McDonald
NYS Conservation Partnership Program*
NYS Agriculture & Markets

Cream of the Crop

Anonymous (4)
The Phantom Laboratory
John and Peg Underwood
Battenkill Conservancy
Kathy and Hugh Roome
Alexander and Marine Zagoreos

Benefactor

Anonymous
James Alcott
Douglas and Linda Bischoff,
Lemoncello Alpaca Farm
Liz Gordon and Thomas Christenfeld
Hank Howard
John Stokowski & Sons Inc.
Melanie and Bob Mason,
Longlesson Farm
Mary Obering
Teri Ptacek
James R. and Gretchen D. Ruhl
Bob and Carolee Webster

Steward

Randall Adams
Norman and Gertrude Allen
Grace Campbell
First Pioneer Farm Credit
Terry Griffin and Peter Deming
Vincent Kelleher and Richard Bump
Maryann McGeorge
Robbie and Bliss McIntosh
Scotch Hill Farm, Maurice Sendak
and Lynn Caponera
Jane and David Suttle
Toolite Farm LLC
Wiley Brothers, Inc.
Mary Ellen Williams

Sustaining

Anonymous (3)
Agard & Lapan Land Surveying
Judy Anderson
Andrew Beers and Elizabeth Meer
June Bell
Katherine Betzinger
Michael and Wendy Bittel
Black Creek Valley Farms, Inc.
Renee Bouplon
Garrett and Kelly Brown
Capital Tractor, Inc.
Gene and Jean Ceglowski
Jessica and Ralph Corey
Eleanor S. Darcy
Gina, Stephan and Ajanta Deibel
James E. and Carole J. Dilley
Jon Feidner
Holly Fulton, Shire Creek Farm
Edith Gamber
Bruce and Kathleen Goff
George and Carol Green
Jamie Greenberg and
Mary Ann Chiariello
Frederic C. Guile
John and Jennifer Hand
Wes Haynes and Anne Van Ingen
Judy and Edward Hughes
Seth Jacobs and Martha Johnson
Kenneth and D. Nancy Johnson
Judith Kleinberg and Ivan Kazen
Carol and Ron Kuhr
LaVelle & Finn, LLP
Ralph Lee and Casey Compton
Roy and Shirley Lerman
Colleen Hart Mason
John F. Meagher, Thistle Ridge Farm
Monks of New Skete
Richard and Kathy Moses,
Moses Farm
Shirley M. Mulligan
Melissa Murray, Battenkill
Veterinary Bovine PC
Patire Cheverolet-Buick Inc.
Miriam W. Peters
William Ralston and Joan Bleikamp
Charles and Marcia Reiss
Glenwood Rowse and Vicki Webberly
Barney Rubenstein and
Sandra Scroggins
Mary Sautter and Peter Genier
Paula and Thor Schafer
Lee Shapiro and Patrick Gill
St. Croix Farm, Inc.
Rolf Sternberg
Justin Stevens, Betterbee, Inc.

John and Margaret Stokowski
Greg Hanson, Stone Hill Farm
William and Angela Sturgis
The Chronicle, Mark Frost
Mia Westerlund
Ann and Tim Whalen
Rob and Meg Woolmington
Sharon Zankel

Supporting

Anonymous (2)
Neil and Brian Adams,
Up and Over Farm
Carlo and Kathy Agneta
Don Armstrong
James A. Ballard and
Lorraine J. Merghart Ballard
Jay and Heather Bellanca
Paul Borghard and Karen Weinberg,
3-Corner Field Farm
Allan Brock
Clinton Brock
Mary Jo and David Burton
Pam and Joe Cali
Donald and Betty Lou Campbell
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(See page 7 for Landscapes for Landsake volunteers).



A Barn-raiser for Farmland Conservation

In July ASA held a gathering to celebrate three historic barns that have been lovingly restored as a testament to the generations of farm families who have come before us. Fully restored by the Persistence Foundation, the barns accentuate the breathtaking views of the West Hoosick Hills.

At the time when these barns were built, families would come together to harvest crops and to help build each others' barns. Today agriculture is still the dominant land use and farmers are the major force in shaping our landscape. Today we still come together to make sure that this farmland is protected for future generations.

Protecting farmland takes a community effort in the same way that it did to raise barns in the past.

