



Farmland for the Next Generation

By protecting their land, Donna and Albert Marns gained new security for their family farm's future

When a neighboring farm came up for sale, Hudson Falls dairy farmers Albert and Donna Marns knew right away that they needed to try to buy it. They had been renting the farm's land, and it was important for their operation. "There was a developer looking at it, and it was right next door," says Albert.

Good quality farmland is at a premium in this corner of Washington County where the Marns currently milk 200 cows on their 340-acre Deep Roots Farm. Not far from Queensbury, farmland in their area is in demand for housing lots. They had already seen a neighboring farm fall to a developer and didn't want to see it happen again. "When they built a house on that neighboring farm, I cried," says Donna.

But land in their area is expensive, so Albert and Donna started looking into programs that would help them protect the neighboring farm and make it more affordable for

them to purchase. "There's no more land around here to rent. It's started getting more competitive with other farmers and developers. We're young, and if we're going to stay here, we need enough land to farm," Donna says.

Donna and Albert worked with ASA and the Town of Kingsbury to apply for state and federal farmland protection funding that would allow them to purchase the neighboring farm and protect it, as well much of their own farm. They were accepted.

The couple—who come from generations of farm families—had their children in mind as well: sons Trenton, 16, Connor, 14, and Tanner, 12. All three boys have an interest in continuing to farm when they're older, but the farm needs enough land to support them.

"With farmers, it's not all about money," says Donna. "We work on a tight margin with milk production. When it comes to land, we just want to be able to stay here, and raise our family and take care of everybody."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



*Albert & Donna Marns
with sons, Trenton, Tanner & Connor*

"My father always said 'Once you put down concrete, there's no going back.'"

-Donna Marns

Ensuring a Future for Farming and Forestry in our Community

The Agricultural Stewardship Association (ASA) protects our community's working landscape of farms and forests, connects people to the land, and promotes a vibrant future for agriculture in the region. To date, we have assisted landowners with the conservation of 16,500 acres of productive land in Washington and Rensselaer counties.

ASA receives funding from its members and supporters, which include the Castanea Foundation and the New York Conservation Partnership Program (funded by New York's Environmental Protection Fund and administered by the Land Trust Alliance, in coordination with the state Department of Environmental Conservation).

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From the Executive Director & Chair

We've had an exciting and productive six months since our Spring newsletter. It truly feels as if we've had the wind at our backs as we celebrate ASA's 25th Anniversary and the conservation of 16,500 acres of farmland!

We sprang into spring with the good news that after five long years of no state funding for farmland conservation, a record amount was set aside this year including \$20 million for the Hudson Valley. Since then, we've been busy gearing up to submit as many applications as we have time and resources to prepare. After all, farms in Washington and Rensselaer counties produce more food than any other two counties in the Hudson Valley.

We've had much to celebrate and are so thankful to YOU, our supporters, for attending so many of our festive, sold out events. First, there was our 25th Anniversary Celebration at Scotch Hill Farm. After that came our annual Forever Farmland Supper at the recently conserved Hand Melon Farm at which YOU, our wonderful supporters, bid with abandon on hot air balloon trips, chef prepared dinners, tours of the Saratoga track and anything else we had to offer.

Next up, came the Landscapes for Landsakes Art Exhibit and Sale, our biggest and most important annual fundraiser. We had record breaking art sales and attendance. Everyone raved about the fabulous job Gigi and John Begin did curating the show. And for a 14th year, Larry Sconzo's beautiful barn was transformed into a wonderland filled with over 300 pieces of artwork inspired by our unique local landscapes and produced by our super talented local artists.

Just as we were recovering from that bash, John Moore, one of our newer board members, got together with his friend Chef Fitz at Sperry's restaurant in Saratoga Springs to put on a fabulous farm to table dinner. We sold all the tickets in a matter of a few weeks and decided to push our luck with another auction. Again, YOU came through for us as you dined on a fabulous meal and once again bid enthusiastically.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, we conserved another 455 acres on two farms, Deep Roots Holsteins Farm in Kingsbury and the Healey Lake Farm in White Creek.

None of this could have happened without the support from our many volunteers and donors. So this is a great big thank you for all you do. We're proud of the work we've accomplished together. Help us keep up the momentum by giving generously this holiday season. With many thanks for 25 years.

— Teri Ptacek & Katherine Roome

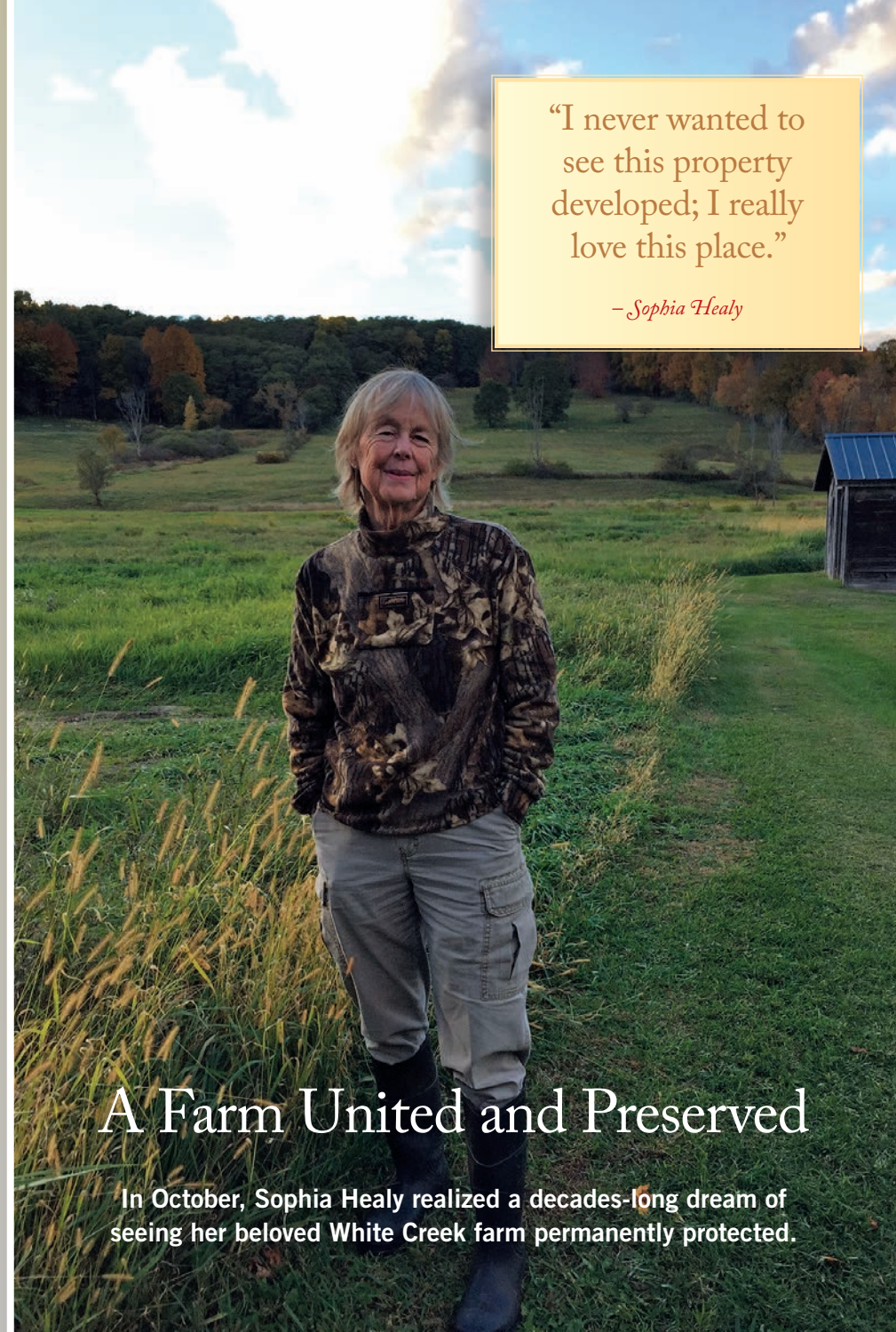


CELEBRATING 25 YEARS



Agricultural Stewardship Association

2531 State Route 40, Greenwich, NY 12834
518-692-7285
asa@agstewardship.org
www.agstewardship.org



"I never wanted to see this property developed; I really love this place."

— Sophia Healy

A Farm United and Preserved

In October, Sophia Healy realized a decades-long dream of seeing her beloved White Creek farm permanently protected.

Sophia Healy, an artist, novelist and native Vermonter, first visited White Creek in the early 1960s. Right away, she fell in love with the town and its people and knew it was a place where she wanted to put down roots. "I went back to North Bennington and told my friends I found this town and I want to live there," she says.

She started renting a 1788 farmhouse from a local farmer for \$50 a month. You reached it by travelling over a charming bridge that crossed Little White Creek, a beautiful trout stream. At the time, only one room of the dilapidated house was habitable, but that didn't diminish her fondness for the place.

Partnership Program* and Castanea Foundation. The property is adjacent to Landview Farms, one of the largest dairy operations in the county, which was awarded a state farmland protection grant in October 2014.

As Sophia shows a visitor around her beautiful land and farmstead, which includes a smokehouse, pig shed, horse barn and corn crib—as well as an artist studio where she makes handmade paper from cotton and linen rags—it is clear how thrilled she is that this farm will forever be protected.

*Funded by the Environmental Protection Fund in coordination with the Land Trust Alliance and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

"When I moved here in '61, it was fantastic," Sophia recalls, sitting in the kitchen of that same farmhouse today, which she has since restored. "I just loved this place so much. I was so happy here. I love farming and the people here, and the incredible environment—it's so beautiful."

In 1964, Sophia bought the farmhouse—known originally as the "Lake House" because the Lake family had operated a farm there for several generations—and two-and-a-half acres to go with it. But she yearned to unite the farmhouse with the surrounding acres that had originally been part of Lake Farm as well.

In 1992 she got her wish and was able to mortgage her house to buy the surrounding land. During the school year she taught art at Bennington College, but in the summer she farmed with a neighboring farmer, raising dairy cows, pigs and trotting horses. Farming was in her blood. "When I grew up in Vermont, I worked and played on a dairy farm after school," she says.

This October, Sophia realized another dream: the protection of just over 114 acres of her farm's land including 36 acres of upland woodlands, 2,400 feet of frontage along Little White Creek, and productive fields rented to a local dairy farmer.

She donated the easement on the property to ASA, with costs for the transaction and stewardship covered by the New York State Conservation

The project was finalized this October, bringing Donna and Albert the relief of knowing that the future of the farm is more secure now. Proceeds from the sale of their development rights will help the farm expand and upgrade the operation with a new barn and milking parlor. “It’s going to leave our sons in a better position because they’ll have more efficient facilities,” says Donna.

The project also gave Donna and Albert the deep satisfaction of knowing they were fulfilling the wishes of Donna’s father, who started the farm in 1956 with his father. “He wanted to see it stay a farm when he sold it to us,” Donna says. “He loved the land, and he loved this farm. My father always said, ‘Once you put down concrete, there’s no going back.’”

“I’m not going to work here my entire life to have someone build houses.”

—Albert Marns

And there’s the gratification of knowing that the land they love will stay farmland forever. “I’m not going to work here my entire life to have someone build houses,” says Albert. “When my father passed away, he had the peace of mind of knowing what was going to happen to the farm—and now I know too,” Donna adds.

Funding for this project was provided by the New York State Environmental Protection Fund administered by the Department of Agriculture and Markets and the federal Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program administered by the United States Department of Agriculture.



Getting Grounded

A new urban-rural partnership between ASA and Capital Roots is addressing hunger while connecting area farmers with new market opportunities.

Farmers and local food advocates are natural partners in many ways—both work to feed America. But farms are often rurally based, and may not have connections to urban areas where a larger pool of consumers could benefit from greater access to affordable local food.

A new partnership between ASA and Capital Roots, a Troy-based nonprofit that works to reduce the impact of poor nutrition on public health in the Capital Region, is helping to bridge the gap.

With funding from the New York State Conservation Partnership Program*, ASA and Capital Roots have teamed up on two collaborative projects that seek to find common ground in promoting local food and farms.

One project, called Squash Hunger, identifies local fruit and veg-

etable farmers who are willing to host gleanings or donate excess goods from their farms or gardens. Squash Hunger collects and distributes the donated produce to local pantries, shelters and soup kitchens throughout the Capital Region to provide greater nutrition for those most in need.

Another project is the Virtual Veggie Mobile, an online marketplace where farmers can sell their goods to wholesale buyers in the Capital Region, such as elderly community homes and daycare centers.

Both projects will help underserved communities in the Capital Region gain greater access to healthy farm-fresh foods, while also enhancing the viability of Capital Region farms.

“Local food groups are natural partners for land trusts,” says Ashley Bridge, ASA’s community outreach coordinator. “ASA wants to sustain farmers in the long-run with outlets for their produce and products. Our mission is to save farms, and farmers need to have a place to sell their goods.”

**Funded by the Environmental Protection Fund in coordination with the Land Trust Alliance and the Department of Environmental Conservation.*



A Land Protection Legacy Complete

This fall, George Houser’s original easement that launched farmland conservation in Washington County was transferred to ASA.

Easton dairy farmer George Houser Jr. was a founding member of ASA. Along with Pam Cali, Jim Perry and others, George dedicated himself to getting ASA incorporated as New York’s first local agricultural land trust.

George’s commitment to farmland protection went beyond his tireless service to the Easton planning board and countless committees dedicated to developing agriculture in Washington County. George also wanted to serve as a real-life example of how farmland protection could work by donating the development rights on his land. So George set about becoming one of the first farmers in the area to protect his own farmland.

The American Farmland Trust (AFT), a national farmland trust, was just opening its first office in the Northeast when George contacted the group about conserving his land and launching ASA. In 1987, George protected the first part of his farm by donating a conservation easement on 26 acres located at Route 40 and Cheese Factory Road to AFT. It was the start of a 16-year journey that would eventually lead to the protection of the majority of his entire farm through additional easement acquisitions by ASA.

“George really wanted to do this easement with the thought that it would be a model and would serve as the foundation for ASA,” recalls Bob Wagner, AFT’s Senior Policy and Program Advisor. Bob worked with George and ASA to make the project happen.

This fall, AFT transferred the easement to ASA, bringing the total number of acres protected by the Housers and



George Houser Jr.

stewarded by ASA to 1,030. George died in the fall of 2014, but his legacy to conservation lives on.

“For me, working with George was just terrific,” says Wagner. “He was a citizen activist who was part of the pioneering days of farmland protection. He was concerned about these issues long before most people—thinking about how farmland has agricultural value beyond just being scenic land or open space.”

While it was AFT that originally held the easement on the first 26 acres of land, the goal was always to transfer stewardship of that first parcel back to ASA – the land trust that George had established. “That was always the plan,” says Wagner. “On the 25th anniversary of ASA, it makes sense to do it. It brings the whole thing full circle.”



Make a Workplace Gift to ASA Through Earthshare!

ASA is a member of EarthShare New York, a state-wide network of the most respected environmental and conservation charities in New York and across the US. You can make a gift to ASA by payroll contribution through EarthShare New York’s workplace giving program offered by numerous private companies, as well as the Combined Federal Campaign (select 27691 on your CFC pledge form) and

many state and municipal government organizations, including the New York State Employees Federated Appeal (select 999-00648 on your SEFA pledge form).

To find out more about how you and your workplace can support ASA through an EarthShare New York’s charitable giving campaign, please call Katie at ASA. You can also visit EarthShare New York’s website at earthshareny.org. Many thanks to everyone who has made a gift to ASA through EarthShare New York this year!

Recent Events & Programs



Connecting with the Land

Celebrating our 25th Anniversary has included an electrifying whirlwind of events and programs—in fact, more than 25 days of them! We



kicked off the spring season with a **Birding Walk** in Buskirk led by ornithologist Steve Sanford. More than 45 people learned about the local bird populations and the species that call the fields, forest and beaver pond of White

Oak Farm (conserved in 2005) home. Thank you to Steve for taking the time to share your vast knowledge with us and to Connie Kheel for allowing us to traipse through her beautiful farm and forest. In May, we also partnered with Honest Weight Food Co-Op to teach **Can to Preserve the Land**, a workshop for co-op members about preserving food from conserved farms. Participants learned how to make fermented salsa and kombucha.

In June, the ASA Equine Auxiliary Unit gathered at the Chestnut Ridge Farm in Cambridge for a dinner and presentation by special guest and Dres-

sage Foundation Century Club member, Betty Osborne. Betty and her horse have a combined age of 100 and are one of only seven members of the Century Club from New York State. Thank you to Terry Griffin and family for hosting this wonderful evening for our horse enthusiasts. Also in June was our **Woods Walk** with forester Jim Allen. Jim discussed the steps for creating and implementing a forest management plan using the O'Donnell Hill Farm (conserved in 2007 by Noel and Judy Hanf) as an example. This event was co-sponsored by



the Southeastern Adirondack Chapter of the New York Forest Owners Association with the generous support of the Robert H. Wentorf Foundation.

We had a very busy July! The **Troy Family YMCA** day camp program took two trips up to Washington and Northern Rensselaer counties to visit Sunset View-Kernal Acres (SVKA) and the conserved St. Croix farm (conserved in 2008 by the Moore Family). Sandy and Elizabeth at SVKA taught the 5-12 year olds how heifers are raised, including what they eat, drink and need to be healthy cows. They also had a chance to taste locally produced chocolate milk and make butter. At St. Croix Farm, they learned about poultry, rabbits, beef cows and got to eat hard-boiled farm fresh eggs. Thank you to the Quinn and Moore families for opening up your farms to this inquisitive bunch.

In late July, Lynn Caponera of Scotch Hill Farm in Jackson hosted our founding members and major supporters at our **Champions Brunch**. The delicious brunch of local, seasonal foods was prepared by Chef Dan Spitz. Attendees at the event were treated to the very first

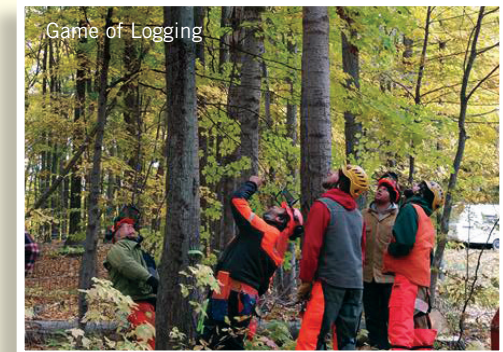


viewing of our new ASA film by David deVries and John Oakley. Thank you, Lynn & Dan for making this such a special day!

Close to 300 people came out to the Hand Melon farm in Easton for the **Forever Farmland Supper**. The night's delicious, locally sourced food was prepared by the Chef's Consortium. We are grateful to John Hand for hosting this year's event and providing the beautiful (and conserved!) landscape for the

evening. We would also like to thank the Hubbard Hall Tune Jam Band for providing the music and Brown's Brewing Company for the beer tasting. This year's event also featured a live auction by Kyle McPhail. The auction raised over \$6,000 for farmland conservation. Many thanks to those who donated items and to the lucky people who took them home.

Many thanks to Sperry's Restaurant and Chef Fitz for hosting an **Evening of Good Taste Dinner** in Saratoga Springs in October. Chef Fitz prepared a dinner for over 175 people sourced from ASA conserved farms, including the Alleged



Farm, Denison Farm, Hand Melon Farm, Moses Farm, R'Eisen Shine Farm, RuBen Hill Farm and St. Croix Farm. Fresh greens from Slack Hollow Farm were also served. Kyle McPhail auctioned eight donated items for over \$10,000. We would also like to thank the Moore family for organizing this fun evening. Also in October, we offered four levels of the **Game of Logging**. The nationally recognized chain saw skills and safety course was offered in collaboration with the Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District. Thank you to Juniper Farm and Corrina



Aldrich & Paul Campbell for hosting. That same weekend, over 90 people attended **Celebrating the Apple** with author Marcia Reiss. The event included a talk by Marcia about her new book *The Apple: More than Something to Eat* and a tasting of heirloom apples, local cheeses and ciders. The event was co-sponsored by Battenkill Books and took place at the Historic Barns of Nipmoose owned by the Persistence Foundation.

Other events that took place throughout the spring and summer months included two week-long Farms, Food and Photography Camps in collaboration with The Arts Center of the Capital Region, visits to Denison Farm and Sunset View-Kernal Acres by the **Academy for Lifelong Learning, Farm Photography for Kids**, a tour of **Homestead Farm** for the members of Honest Weight Food Co-Op, displays at the **Washington County and Schaghticoke fairs** and an **Estate Planning Workshop**. Thank you to everyone who opened their doors and allowed us to visit their farms. Thanks also to those who attended these events and helped us celebrate a quarter century of stewarding agriculture in our community.

Many thanks to the following businesses that helped make these programs possible:

Salem Farm Supply, Archdale Agricultural Products, Battenkill Veterinary Bovine, PC, Capital Tractor, Inc., CaroVail, Currin Compliance Services, LLC, Farm Credit East, Fronhofer Tool Company, Glens Falls National Bank, Kelly + Sellar Ryan, PLLC, Attorneys at Law, Main Care Energy, Nolan Certified Public Accounting Services, O'Brien Insurance Agency, Stewart's Shops, TCT Federal Credit Union, WEL-DUN, Inc., and Wiley Brothers.

14th Annual Landscapes for Landsake Art Sale & Exhibition

A colorful and energetic depiction of local farm life



A sun-drenched, blustery fall weekend greeted large crowds for this year's Landscapes for Landsake Art Sale & Exhibition held on Columbus Day weekend. Approximately \$55,000 in net proceeds was raised for farmland protection, thanks to admission fees, merchandise sales, donations, business sponsorships and most important, the artists who generously donated 50% of the art sale proceeds to ASA.

The exhibit was curated by John and Gigi Begin, artists and residents of Cambridge who donated countless hours of their time and expertise for the event. John and Gigi have participated in the show for many years as artists, as well as volunteering to hang the show so they came with some new ideas. "We really strived to include as many new artists as possible and to incorporate a fresh look to the show," Gigi said. John and Gigi referred to their distinctive style as "A Study in Contrast." The goal was to illustrate how to incorporate different styles of art in your home and still make it cohesive and beautiful. John and Gigi also created new ways to display the art

in the barn with the installation of four new walls and three pedestals.

This year's featured art, *Clouds and Corn*, was painted by Clarence King. Life in rural Washington County and the surrounding area continue to be a source of inspiration for Clarence. "I live on a farm in South Cambridge. For many years the agricultural terrain has been a primary subject of my painting. I am particularly intrigued by the way farming designs the landscape, and how cloud formations can be used to augment that design," he says.

We are grateful to host, Larry Sconzo of Maple Ridge, who generously opens his beautiful property each year for the Art Sale and Exhibition. It is the perfect setting for our most important fundraiser. Many thanks to the artists and volunteers who helped make this event possible and everyone who supported the event by purchasing what added up to a record amount of art!

Thank you!

Artists: Sabina Alcorn, Stephen Alcorn, Gigi Begin, John Begin, Matt Chinian, Carol Law Conklin, Valerie Craig, Ian Creitz, Joan Duff-Bohrer, Alexandra Eckhardt, Kate Edwards, Stella Ehrich, Leslie Ferst, Ann Fitzgibbons, Jerry Freedner, Dominick Guida, Sharon Hanehan, Carolyn Justice, Tom Kerr, Clarence King, Rose Klebes, Serena Kovalosky, Karen Koziol, Matthew Lerman, Elana Mark, Leah McCloskey, Annie McNeice, Virginia McNeice, Robert Moylan, Harry Orlyk, Leslie Parke, Leslie Peck, Christopher Pierce, Tom Ptacek, Steven Jay Sanford, Melissa Schlobohm, Laura Shore, Lori Simon, Robert Skinner, Seline Skoug, Tina Sotis, Janine Thomas, Mark Tougias, George Van Hook, Gyula Varosy, Regina Wickham, Martha Winsten

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Volunteers: Gigi, John, Gabe and Olivia Begin, Leslie Bender, Judy and Jay Bridge, Nancy Brown, Leila Bruske, Devin Bulger, Abby Campbell, Melissa Carll, Alane, Emma and Matt Chinian, Thomas Christenfeld, Anna Courtney-Jilek, Ian Creitz, Minnette and John Cummings, Sirell Fiel, Angela Ford, Luke Goldreyer, Lane Green, Marlene Hayes, Delaney and Marleigh Hill, Dave and Margaret Horn, Annelise Kelly, Tom Kerr, Carole Lewis, Nina Lockwood, Carly Lynn, Amy Maxwell, Naomi Meyer, John Mooney, Dana Moseley, Randy O'Dell, Ron Renoni, Jim Schanz, Larry Sconzo, Ruth Stone, Tim Whitman, Stuart, Jessica, Franklin and Phoebe Ziehm, Ben Zipperer

A huge thank you to the students in Salem FFA and VOSCA for helping with parking throughout the weekend.



Farm Matchmaking

Last fall, ASA joined with the American Farmland Trust and 13 other organizations up and down the entire Hudson River Valley to form the Hudson Valley



Farmland Network. The goal of the organization is to serve as a resource for beginning farmers and those looking to transfer their land to the next generation. Each partner works to provide programs and outreach to the farming community. All of the partners contribute to the Farmland Finder website www.farmlandfinder.org

where farmers can look for land to purchase, lease or manage, and land owners can list farms that they want to sell or lease. Currently the website lists 45 farms for sale or

lease and has approximately 50 profiles of farmers looking for land. To date, 32 farmers have been matched with landowners to lease or purchase land.

During the past year ASA held a Farm Transfer and Estate Planning workshop, organized several gatherings and farm tours for young and beginning farmers in our region, helped five

landowners post their properties on the Farmland Finder website and talked to farmers inquiring about properties listed in our area. This winter we will be reaching out to non-farming landowners who may be interested in leasing their land for farming. We plan to engage experienced farmers and agricultural professionals to help assess the best use of the land. If you have land you are interested in leasing or selling to a new farmer, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Janet at ASA.

ASA has Land for Sale to Benefit Farmland Conservation

As part of the Gift of Real Estate Program, ASA accepts land donations, as well as buildings and other types of real estate, for resale with the proceeds benefitting local farmland conservation. Donors may receive charitable tax deductions for their gifts of land.

In September, an anonymous couple transferred a 24-acre vacant property with spectacular views in the town of Wright, Schoharie County to ASA. "We don't have kids, so our hope is this gift will help everyone's kids," according to the donors. The Dugan Hill Road property is comprised of four hay fields and a picturesque view of Rundycup Mountain and surrounding hills. The property will be sold subject to a conservation easement allowing for one residence. The asking price is \$42,900. Contact Renee at ASA for more information.



You are a Part of History!

Your Support Makes Farmland Protection Possible. ASA would like to express heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful community of supporters. The following contributions were made between April 16, 2015 and October 31, 2015. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information. Please contact us to note any changes that should be made for the next issue of our newsletter.

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Jo Ann Lancaster
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Main Street Pediatrics, PC
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Gretchen and James Ruhl
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Kerry Woods and Catharine Lewis
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Randall Adams
Deborah and Herb Anderson
Michael Anderson
Brian Banker
Frank Barrie
Nancy and Bob Battis
Trent Beckwith
Robert Bevis
Evelyn Braymer
Curtis Breneman and Miriam Pye
Bill Briggs
Brotherhood Farm, Ruth and George Houser
Brotherhood Farm, Earline Houser
Anne E. Burton
Mary Jo and David Burton
Janet and Peter Calabrese
Beth and Jim Clark
Richard Cochran
Stephanie and John Copeland
Nancy and Ken Crosby
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Charles Dewey
Judy DeWitt
Deborah Esrick
Mary and Joe Finan
Cathy Firman
Gary Gala
Joshua Gala
Elizabeth and Alan Gee
Carol and George Green
Joyce Hall
Christina and Richard Hernandez
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Michelle Kimball
Dorothy and Robert Kuba
Holly and Mark Lawton
Catherine and Kim Littell
Long Days Farm, Deborah Jaffe and Edwin Schiele
Joyce and David Lukas
Ed Mager
Stephanie and David Mahoney
Martinez Family Realty, LLC
Laura and John McDermott

* Funding provided by New York's Environmental Protection Fund and administered by the Land Trust Alliance, in coordination with the state Department of Environmental Conservation

Adele and John Miller
Samuel W Miller
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Eileen and Frank Musso
Jane and John Pattison
Miriam Peters
Peggy and William Piche
Sally Proudfit
Tom Rees
Carol and Burton Richmond
River Brook Junction, LLC,
JoAnne and R. Harry Booth
Cheryl Roberts
Robert Ryan
Anne Savage and Michael Myers
Paula Sawyer
Helen Schwartz-Layton
Christine and Edward Smyth
Louise and J.B. Sobing
Harold Spiezio, Jr.
Michael Squires
Bill Tomkins and Kathy Nichols-Tomkins
Ann and David Townsend
Martin Wasserman
Cathy and Jeff Wilde
Mary Withington

Friends

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Gretchen Browne
Lorraine and Carl Brownell
Patricia B. Coon
Marjorie Geiger
Tanya and Michael Goldstein
Ellen and Edmund Green
Anna Maria and Walter Grom
Travis Hamilton
William Hamilton
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Marjorie Herrington
Tim Holmes and Sue Quillio
Joint Venture Farm, Maryann and Gary Brownell
Mary Laedlein and Dale Hall
Darcy May
Carolyn Paine
Jody Porter
Joan and Karl Ruger
Sally and Joe Brillion
Barbara Zimmer

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Diane Kennedy
Long Days Farm, Deborah Jaffe and Edwin Schiele
Ronald McLean
Tara Nolan
Anne Savage and Michael Myers
Edith Schiele
Louise and J.B. Sobing
Erin Tobin and Roger Bearden

In Honor Of

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Anonymous
Jody Porter
Martin Wasserman
Teri Ptacek
Deb Balliet
Peter Quinn
Joan and Karl Ruger
Katherine Roome
Deb Balliet

In Memory Of

Gertrude D. Allen
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Margery Robertiello, E.A.
Jane and David Suttle
Mary Ann and Terry Mitchell
Walter & Ella Taylor
Robert Taylor

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Abbott Farm
The Alleged Farm
Argyle Cheese Farmer
Birch Hollow Farm
Brown's Brewing Company
Lynn Caponera, Scotch Hill Farm
Sean Clancey
Consider Bardwell Farm
Dancing Ewe Farm
Denison Farm
Easton Dairy
Fat and Happy Catering Co.
Nan Fitzpatrick
Chef Philip "Fitzy" Fitzpatrick
Flying Pigs Farm
Gardenworks Farm
Goldreyer Carpentry
Hand Melon Farm
Kane Jilek
Joint Venture Farm
K.A. Sunset View Farm
Kings Bakery
Lewis Waite Farm
Catherine Littell
Scott Mann
Leah McCloskey
Kyle McPhail
Moses Farm
Glenn Nesbitt
Nolan CPA Services
Rich Norman
Peckham Industries
Liza and David Porter
R'Eisen Shine Farm
Round House Bakery at Pompanuck Farm
RuBen Hill Farm
Larry Sconzo
Slack Hollow Farm
Slyboro Cider
Sperry's Restaurant
Chef Dan Spitz
St. Croix Farm
SunKiss Ballooning
T-D-J Farm - Tom and Diane Jilek
Tiashoke Farms
Victory View Vineyard
Lawrence White
Mary Ellen Williams
Alexander and Marine Zagoreos

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John and Gigi Begin
Gabe and Livie Begin
Leslie Bender
Jay and Judy Bridge
Nancy Brown
Leila Bruske
Devin Bulger
Cindy Bulger
Abby Campbell
Lynn Caponera
Melissa Carll
Matt and Alane Chinian
Emma Chinian
Thomas Christenfeld
Todd Collins

Mary Collins
Anna Courtney-Jilek
John and Minnette Cummings
David deVries
Kate Farley
Sirell Fiel
Kort Firman
Angela Ford
Luke Goldreyer
Diana Gradus
Lane Green
Marlene Hayes
Delaney and Marleigh Hill
Dave and Margaret Horn
Kurt Jilek
Annelise Kelly
Ian Kelly
Tom Kerr
Connie Kheel
Carole Lewis
Nina Lockwood
Carly Lynn
Quimby Mahoney
Amy Maxwell
Naomi Meyer
John Mooney
Dana Moseley
Caroline Murray
Kathy Nicholls-Tomkins
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Ron Renoni
Annie Roome
Salem FFA
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Lawrence Sconzo
Maddie Skellie
Dan Spitz
Sandy Stein
Ruth Stone
Bill Thomas
VOSCA
Lawrence White
Tim Whitman
Stuart, Jessica, Franklin and Phoebe Ziehm
Ben Zipperer

Thank you, Interns!

This summer, ASA was fortunate to have the help of two outstanding summer interns, Kate Farley and Caroline Murray.



Kate is a graduate student at the Yale School of Forestry and a graduate of Harvard University. Kate worked on the Washington County Foodshed Analysis, gathered information for the Washington County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan, wrote grant proposals and interviewed farmers as part of her research project.

Caroline is a Greenwich native who currently studies at Iowa State University. An avid outdoorswoman, Caroline is active on her family farm and enjoys working on her truck. This summer Caroline provided outreach assistance as well as support for the Washington County Agricultural and Farmland Protection plan.

ASA has an Internship Fund that was established at the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region. Contributions can be made to this fund to help support our internship program.

Thank you, Kate and Caroline!



Special Thanks

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the people who opened up their homes, farms and restaurants to us. A special thank you to all of our event hosts and everyone who donated and purchased auction items. See pages 6 & 7 for more.

Harvest Hero: \$5,000 +
Champion: \$2,500 – \$4,999
Cream of the Crop:
\$1,000 – \$2,499
Benefactor: \$500 – 999
Steward: \$250 – 499
Sustaining: \$100 – 249
Supporting: \$50 – 99
Friends: \$1 – 49



Agricultural Stewardship Association

2531 State Route 40
Greenwich, NY 12834

518-692-7285
asa@agstewardship.org
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PHOTOGRAPHY: Photography: Kirsten Ferguson,
Ann Fitzgibbons, Ellie Markovitch, Lawrence White
DESIGN: Ruth Sadinsky PAINTING, PG 8: Rose Klebes

Award winning film maker documents ASA's mission and work!

David deVries, an award winning documentary film maker, spent a year filming local farms and interviewing farmers, conservationists and local landowners to bring the story of the Agricultural Stewardship Association to life in this short form documentary. Assisted by videographer and editor John Oakley, deVries brings home, in vivid images and compelling interviews, the importance of conserving our local working landscapes to our local economy, our historic rural communities and our quality of life in this region. ASA is honored to have its story told by a director, producer, and writer whose many critically acclaimed films have appeared on PBS and The History Channel. Take a look at agstewardship.org!



'Tis the Season for Giving

If the stories you've read about people in our community who've protected their land inspire you, please show your support by making local farmland conservation a priority with a gift this season. For \$250 in honor of our 25th anniversary, we will send you a matted print from our Photo of the Day. Happy Holidays!