



# **Kitsap Community & Agricultural Alliance**

2024 Annual Report

[www.KitsapAg.org](http://www.KitsapAg.org)



# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

## To Our Members & Supporters,



2024 has been a great year of work, challenge, and excitement for us as we emerge from the Covid-caused hiatus of the last 4 years. The pandemic had an outsized impact on the KCAA, since so much of what we do is based on in-person events.

Our re-animation actually started in late 2023, with a gathering of people interested in rebuilding the organization. We selected several new board members, and then began to focus on some modest, but crucial goals. As a result, 2024 brought a number of successes. We were able to, with WSU Extension, obtain a grant from the Russell Family Foundation to provide 6 educational events for our local farmers.

We began a fiscal sponsorship relationship with Roots Farm and will provide financial oversight and guidance for them as they obtain grant funding. We donated to the Livestock Auction at the County Fair. We donated to Kitsap Fresh, and worked with the Kitsap Agritourism Coalition (KAC) to support their wonderful Farm Tour in August, providing substantial funding and some logistical support. We sponsored a Candidate Forum in October – hosting a well-attended 2-hour question and answer event featuring the four candidates for the 2 open County Commissioner seats.

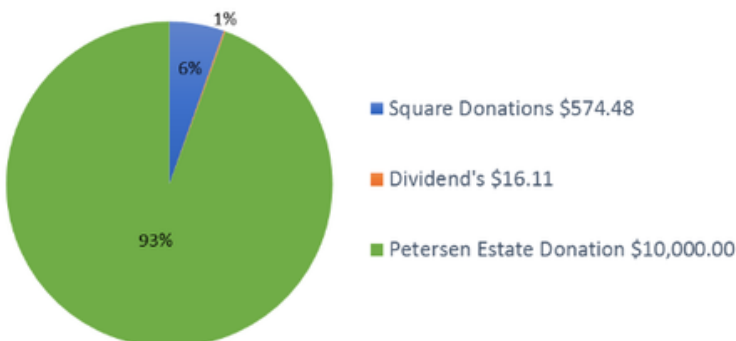
We look forward to an exciting 2025. It is ‘The Year of The Rural’ for our county government, and we will play an active role in helping shape county agricultural policies and codes. We will continue with our education initiatives and will work with the Kitsap Farmland Preservation Coalition to support their efforts.

As a volunteer board and organization, we actively seek your support and membership. Here’s wishing you a verdant and bountiful year!

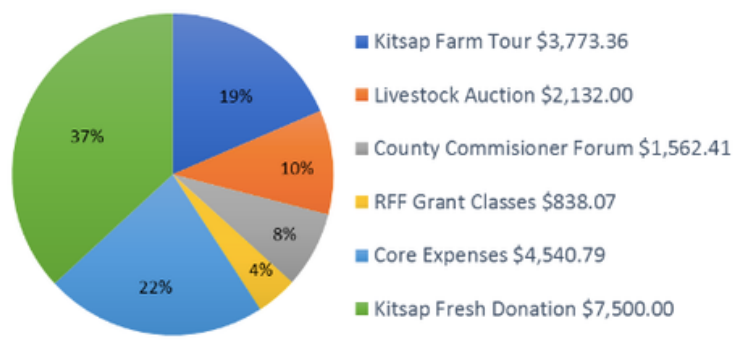
*Bob Geballe*  
KCAA Board President

## 2024 FINANCIALS

### Income - \$10,590.59



### Expenses - \$20,346.63



# 2024 PROGRAMS & EVENTS

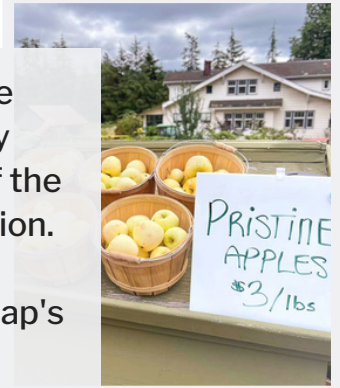
## KITSAP FRESH

We began the year by making a donation to Kitsap Fresh to support their ongoing mission as a local food hub that connects farmers with the community.



## FARM TOUR

We proudly supported the 2nd Annual Kitsap County Farm Tour, an initiative of the Kitsap Agritourism Coalition. The event was a great success, highlighting Kitsap's rich agricultural heritage.



## RUSSELL FAMILY FOUNDATION FOOD FOR CLIMATE SOLUTIONS GRANT



In 2024, the KCAA was one of the beneficiaries of a *Food For Climate Solutions* Grant from the Russell Family Foundation. With the support of WSU Regional Small Farms, we were able to provide educational opportunities for new and beginning farmers, growers, and producers in Kitsap County. Our classes covered topics such as Weed Management on Small Farms, Season Extension Techniques, Pollination and Pollinator Basics, and Soil Health and Amending.

## FISCAL SPONSORSHIP

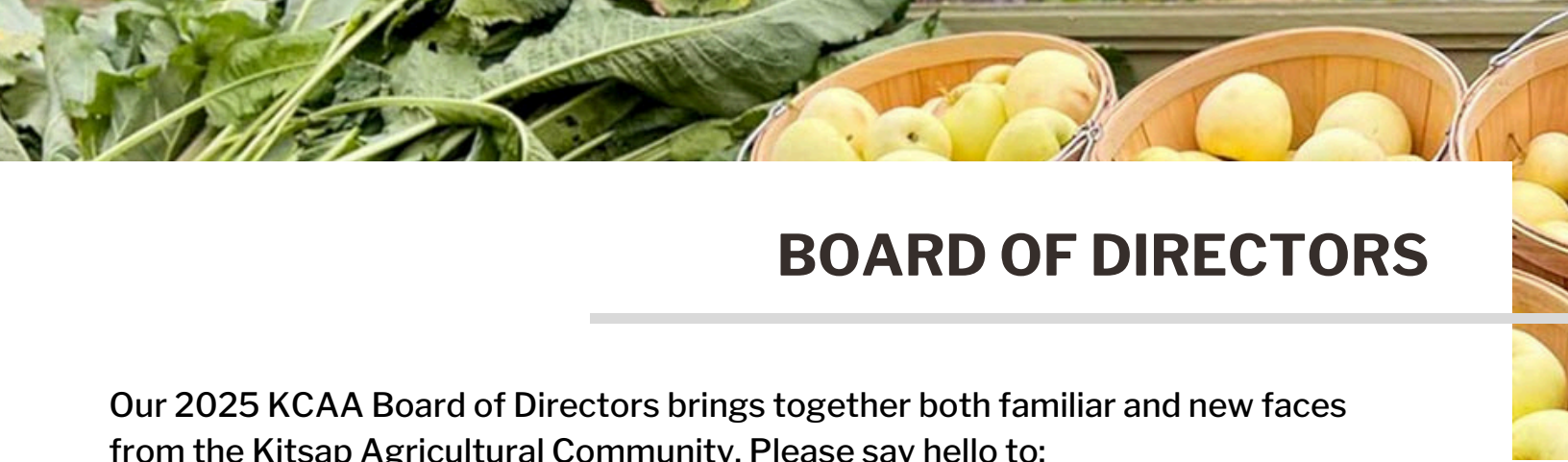
The KCAA became a fiscal sponsor to Roots Farm in Poulsbo. Through this sponsorship, we are proud to support Roots Farm's mission of education and community outreach.



## COMMISSIONERS FORUM

In October, the KCAA hosted a Candidate Forum for the two open County Commissioner positions in Kitsap. Candidates answered questions from the agricultural community about their views on local agriculture.





# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our 2025 KCAA Board of Directors brings together both familiar and new faces from the Kitsap Agricultural Community. Please say hello to:

**President:** Bob Geballe  
**Treasurer:** Geno Holcombe

**Vice President:** Karissa Holcombe  
**Secretary:** Melody Shipman

Scott Hall  
Jeremy Anunson  
Broox Daniel

Eric Daniel  
Elaine Krogfoss  
Nikki Johanson - *Board Advisor*

## WHAT'S NEXT?

The upcoming year offers exciting opportunities for the KCAA. We look forward to continuing our support of the Kitsap community and its agricultural sector. Our plans include:

<p><b>EDUCATION &amp; OUTREACH</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing to offer classes and learning opportunities to the public and agricultural community.</li> <li>• Assisting the Kitsap Department of Community Development with their 'Year of the Rural' initiative.</li> <li>• The return of the Kitsap Grown Harvest Dinner.</li> <li>• Publishing regular articles on historical barns and local farms to raise public awareness of Kitsap's agricultural heritage.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PARTNERSHIPS &amp; SUPPORT</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding our role as fiscal sponsors to include the Kitsap Agritourism Coalition's 2025 Farm Tour, and our continued partnership with Roots Farm.</li> <li>• Strengthening partnerships with the Kitsap Farmlands Preservation Group, local public education institutions, and agriculture-oriented youth groups.</li> <li>• Building our membership, community connections, and funding base.</li> </ul>

# WITH GRATITUDE



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 DONORS:

The Petersen Estate  
Anne O'Rourke  
William Looney

**A big thank you to everyone who has dedicated their time and effort to making this year a success!**

### **Roni Lynn Ryan - Sage and Willow Farm**

Roni's many years of service on the KCAA board have been a true testament to her passion, creativity, and dedication to Kitsap's agricultural community. Thank you for your exceptional service as our Board Secretary in 2024!

### **Jess Sappington - WSU Regional Small Farms**

Jess has dedicated many years of service to the KCAA's mission and to Kitsap's agricultural community as a whole. We were fortunate to have her serve as an Advisor to our board in 2023 and 2024. Thank you, Jess, for your time and dedication. We wouldn't be where we are today without your invaluable guidance.

### **Nikki Johanson - Pheasant Fields Farm**

Nikki's lifetime of dedication to agriculture in Kitsap County and specifically, to the formation and success of the KCAA, has been invaluable to us as a Board. Thank you, Nikki, for being a trusted source of guidance and support. We are incredibly grateful to have you as an Advisor!

### **Eric Daniel - EB Daniels Farm and Garden**

Eric stepped into the role of both Board Member and Interim Treasurer in 2024. Thank you, Eric, for taking on this responsibility and guiding us with care and attention to detail!

### **Russell Family Foundation / WSU Grant Class Presenters:**

- Broox and Eric Daniel - EB Daniels Farm and Garden
- Diane Fish and Teddy Krause - Kitsap Conservation District
- Sandy Fanara - Washington State Beekeepers Association
- Bryan Custer - Fat Turnip Farm

### **Kitsap Community Foundation**

**WSU Regional Small Farms - Jess Sappington & Clare Menard**

**2024 Kitsap County Commissioner Candidates**

**Mason-Kitsap County Farm Bureau**

**Kitsap Conservation District**

# IN REMEMBRANCE

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**JERRY DARNALL**

**Jerry Darnall** was a dedicated farmer who played a key role in supporting local farms and promoting sustainable agricultural practices in Kitsap County. He served as the first president of the Kitsap Poultry Growers Cooperative (KPGC) from 2009 to 2011.

Jerry was actively involved in community discussions about agricultural regulations and, in 2014, championed the Agricultural Signage Pilot Program, encouraging participation to increase the visibility of farms in the county.

Jerry made significant contributions to the advancement of sustainable farming and the support of local farmers in Kitsap County. His expertise and guidance are deeply missed. Jerry passed away on January 22, 2020.



**DOUG MILLARD**

We would like to note the recent passing of a dear friend and former member of our Board of Directors, **Doug Millard**. Doug passed away on November 26, 2024.

Doug served on the KCAA board for many years, bringing a wealth of talents to our team. He excelled in several areas, particularly with his no-nonsense approach to staying on track with projects. Doug's extensive network of contacts allowed him to find the right person for nearly any situation.

In addition to his work with the KCAA Board, Doug was deeply involved in local agriculture. He was a Master Gardener and owned and operated Harlow Gardens, where he grew a variety of produce sold directly to the community. Doug was active at several local Farmers Markets and served as board president for one of them for many years. He was passionate about supporting other producers in the local farm-to-table community.

Doug wasn't shy about offering advice when he thought it was needed and always acted as a mentor to those with less experience. He will be deeply missed.

## Our Mission

The Kitsap Community and Agricultural Alliance is a 501(c)3 non-profit membership organization that provides education, resources, and advocacy for local agriculture on the Kitsap Peninsula.