



Salmon Valley Stewardship

Working for Sustainable Opportunity in Lemhi County, Idaho

August 2007

Salmon Valley Stewardship Board of Directors

Anita Andrus, Chair
Small Business Owner

Toni Ruth, Secretary
Wildlife Biologist

Jerry Myers
Guest Ranch Operator
and Outfitter

Shannon Williams
U of I Agricultural
Extension Agent

Russ Chinske
Public School Teacher

SVS Calendar

Wed, Sept. 5

Sacajawea Center
Master Plan
Recommendation
Presented to City Council
6 pm

Tues, Sept. 11

Community Planning
Roundtable
City Center
Noon

Tues & Wed, Oct 2 & 3

Resolving Land Use
Disputes Workshop by
Consensus Building
Institute
**Salmon Valley Business
& Innovation Center**
Cost: \$100/person
(scholarships available).
Register now!

For more events go to
www.salmonvalley.org

Dear Friends and Neighbors of Salmon Valley Stewardship,

I'm writing this during Fair Week, Lemhi County's most obvious celebration of our agricultural roots. While nationally everyone from chefs to politicians are extolling the myriad benefits of local food sources, Lemhi County kids are shampooing sheep and serving steers breakfast, while talented neighbors blur the line between food and art with gorgeous preserves and latticed pies.

Many people in our area are intimately connected to the land and the food it produces. This spring, I joined my family in crawling on our bellies to hunt camouflaged morel mushrooms. This summer, we crouched on rocky hillsides to pick delicate huckleberries. Most of us know the taste of wild game and freshly caught fish not as a delicacy available in upscale markets, but as an ancient and economical way to feed our families.

Last year, SVS Board Member Jerry Myers introduced me to the term "locavore" to describe this trend, and Barbara Kingsolver's new book *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* documenting her family's efforts to feed themselves locally is a delightfully in-depth look at what might now be called a movement.

Get your hands on a copy of this book (I'll be circulating mine shortly), try getting your mitts on some of Jerry Myers' homemade locavore sausage, and consider a few of these ways to support local agriculture, your neighbors, and your own taste buds. And no, I can't divulge my morel or huckleberry hidey-holes. Don't even ask.

A - Z Pet Supply. Jim and Celeste carry fresh eggs and know just about everyone in Lemhi County who raises cattle, lamb, chicken or goats.

Nature's Pantry. The fact that a community this small can support a natural foods store is a good sign. Helen stocks local eggs, sells local produce when she can get it, and will special order just about any organic product you want including Alderspring Beef from the Elzinga's Pahsimeroi Valley ranch.

Tower Creek Gardens. For several weeks, master gardener Dave Williams shares his bounty on Tuesdays and Saturdays in the Alco parking lot.

Volcanic Farms. These folks come to Salmon on Thursdays from Emmett, so the concept of local is stretched a bit, but for those of you who have tried growing watermelon this close to the Continental Divide, you'll appreciate slicing into an orb picked the same day from the southern part of the State.



Sacajawea Center Community Garden. This is a remarkable community asset thanks to volunteers over the years like Candace Burns, Anna Dahle, Shanda Fitte, Tawna Skinner and others. If you haven't been, bring a knife and a bag for your produce and a donation for the ceramic honey pot. And a camera ... the garden is as beautiful as it is productive.



Lakota and Pete's Custom Meats. Butchers Dallas and Pete can connect you with local ranchers who would be willing to sell their livestock direct and they'll do the processing.

Salmon Valley Honey. I've considered making the honeybee the official mascot of Salmon Valley Stewardship. Dan and Lisa Mudd run possibly the most sustainable business in the County. I like to buy their product from Nature's Pantry because I can re-fill my jar from the bulk bucket.

Now you'll have to excuse me, I'm off to the Fair. But you'll be hearing from us again soon because we have a lot to report about programs, terrific grant news, and important ways you can make a difference in the community.

Gina Knudson, Director

Salmon Valley Stewardship
513 Main Street
Salmon, ID 83467