Seed to Table Dinner - SOLD OUT!

We are excited our Annual Fundraiser, the Seed to Table Dinner, on **Saturday, August 19th at 6 pm at Salant Family Ranch** is sold out!

**Thanks to our Sponsors for making it all possible!**


**Special Thanks to the following:**

Executive Chef [Neil Clooney](#) of Smithfield’s Restaurant, Salant Family Ranch, Apple Outlaw Hard Cider, Cowhorn Vineyard, Wandering Fields Farm, By George Farm and Creamery, Oshala Farm, Case Coffee, Rise Up! Artisan Breads, and Flora!

Welcome to our Newest Business Members!

Thank you Beyond Toxics for becoming an Our Family Farms Business Supporter! Show your support and become a member today!

**Beyond Toxics**

Beyond Toxics is joining with two strong Jackson County organizations - Center for Creative Change and Pollinator Project Rogue Valley - to open a
new office in Phoenix. You’ll find us at 107 W. First Ave. (near the Gypsy Trader).

Beyond Toxics is a statewide environmental justice group serving communities who are disproportionately impacted by exposure to toxics in their communities. We’re excited that this office will be a place to gather to create the change that needs to happen around pesticides and the harm they cause pollinators, water quality, food and people.

In that spirit, everyone is invited to our Phoenix Office Open House on Saturday, September 16 from 4:30-7:30pm! The event is also a fundraising for the Pollinator Buzzway, a project of Pollinator Project Rogue Valley. Please come join us for refreshments, music, pollinator art, games and more.

See all of our businesses supporters in our Business Member Directory!

A New Way to Support Us!

Now you can support us with purchases you make on Amazon. Register [online](https://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html?nodeId=297183805) and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Our Family Farms.

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**NEWS**

**Campbells Soup will leave Grocery Manufacturers Association**

By Dr. Ramon Seidler, PhD

*A recent news headline declared: “Campbell Soup will leave Grocery Manufacturers Association”. Why is this important and why should we take note of this?*

What is the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA)? The GMA is the national lobbying trade organization for the food Manufacturers of America, largely junk food producers that “make” food that contains ingredients derived from GMO crops, including sugar from GMO sugar beets.
They are the lobbying front for Monsanto, Pepsi, Coke, The Hershey Company, J.M. Smuckers, Kellogg’s and other largely processed food companies with products sometimes referred to as “junk food” or sugar coated corn. These are the companies, along with the GMA lobbying group, that spent over $100 million to defeat ballot measures in four western states that would have required these companies to place a label on foods that were derived from or contained GMO ingredients. You remember that they said this label would cost each American family some $500-$600 per year in added food costs despite the same companies already producing such labels for some 64 other countries?

The Attorney General of the State of Washington successfully sued GMA for hiding the names of corporations that had contributed to a “slush” fund that GMA used to help defeat ballot measure 522. In an effort to shield individual companies from required disclosure, the money was listed as coming from GMA, not the actual donors, such as those listed here.

1. PepsiCo: $2.696 million
2. Nestle USA, Inc.: $1.751 million
3. The Coca-Cola Company: $1.742 million
4. General Mills: $996,000
5. ConAgra: $949,000
6. **Campbell Soup: $441,000**
7. The Hershey Company: $413,000
8. J.M. Smucker: $401,000
9. Kellogg: $369,000
10. Land O’Lakes: $332,000

In Nov, 2016 a judge determined that GMA’s violations of election laws in Washington were intentionally violated by not reporting which companies had contributed to the defeat of ballot measure 522, the Washington State GMO food labeling levy. The secrecy and cover-up of companies that the GMA protected in its 11 million dollar donations to defeat the measure were so egregious, the judge tripled the $6 million penalty, for a total of $18 million, including punitive damages. County Superior Court judge today ordered the Grocery Manufacturers Association to pay $18 million in penalties and punitive damages, the LARGEST CAMPAIGN FINANCE PENALTY IN U.S. HISTORY.

Until recently, Campbell Soup Co was included on the list of those fighting such labeling efforts and was a GMA member, too. The culture and business
philosophy of Campbell’s Soup seems to be in the process of evolving in recent times. With a female CEO in charge at Campbell’s, it just seems that the shifting culture within Campbell’s just doesn’t seem to align anymore with that of the GMA. On July 19th of this year, Campbell’s announced it would withdraw from the GMA by years end.

Back in January 2016, Campbell’s announced it would voluntarily start the planning process to place a label that indeed would indicate which of their products contained GMO ingredients. It is highly unlikely that Campbell’s would announce such a move if there was going to be any measurable financial impact on the consumer. For the record, Campbell’s also supports the national GMO food labeling bill and does not support state’s rights to individually pass specific GMO food labeling laws. It has also declared that GMO products are safe. In January 2016, when Campbell’s announced it was going to label their GMO foods, they said that it would take about 12-18 months to bring the program together. Campbell’s Soups and their other products in the Campbell’s line, including Pepperidge Farm, Bolthouse Farms, V8, Swanson, Prego and Royal Dansk, will reveal when its ingredients contain GMOS – and when they don’t.

*Here is more about Cambell’s decisions:*

Campbell’s has an organic product line consisting of 6 items. Campbell Soup Co. also said it has plans to buy Oregon’s organic-soup maker Pacific Foods for $700 million, in order to financially benefit from the latest efforts to meet demand for fresher, more natural foods. Pacific Foods will provide more access to the “fast-growing health and well-being categories” of the Campbell current promotion.

They have declared that printing a clear and simple statement on the label is the best solution for consumers and for Campbell. Here is a mockup of the coming Campbell soup label:
It is so important to mention that these changes are not and did not happen all by themselves. Such changes are a direct outcome of the accelerating national (and international) sales of high quality organic foods as demanded by the consumer. You and I therefore through our food choices and spending priorities have influenced these changes. Pat yourselves on the back!

Campbell’s or course has financial motives in mind since they are well aware of these tremendous increase in organic sales. Campbell’s has also stated it is wanting to set the industry standard for transparency and admits knowing that over 92% of American consumers demand the Right to Know what is in their foods.

Dr Ramon Seidler, PhD, is a retired senior research scientist and Team Leader of the Genetically Engineered Organism biosafety program within the US EPA and former Professor of Microbiology at Oregon State University.

For further reading, see Campbell's Decision to Label GMOs Destroys Monsanto's Main Argument Against Labeling and Campbell Labels Will Disclose G.M.O. Ingredients.

Buy SEED: The Untold Story on DVD
Celebrate seeds with 10% off the award-winning SEED: The Untold Story!

Use code OFFSEED at seedthemovie.com and 30% of proceeds will be donated to Our Family Farms!

In the last century, 94% of our seed varieties have disappeared. As biotech chemical companies control the majority of our seeds, farmers, scientists, lawyers, and indigenous seed keepers fight a David and Goliath battle to defend the future of our food. In a harrowing and heartening story, these reluctant heroes rekindle a lost connection to our most treasured resource and revive a culture connected to seeds.
SEED comes from the filmmakers behind Queen of the Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us? It features Dr. Jane Goodall, Vandana Shiva, Winona LaDuke, and Andrew Kimbrell.

Stay up to date on all the latest news on our Website and Facebook page!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dry Farm Field Day
Tuesday, August 15 from 3 to 8 pm in Applegate, Oregon
The Field Day will begin at the OSU Extension Teaching Farm at 3 pm and continue to Ridgeline Meadows Farm in the Applegate. See crops grown without any supplemental irrigation and taste the results! For more information and to RSVP, email Paula Burkhalter.

Our Family Farms Seed to Table Dinner
Saturday, August 19 at 6 pm at the Salant Family Ranch
We are looking forward to our Annual Seed to Table Dinner Fundraiser at the Salant Family Ranch in the Applegate Valley. Executive Chef Neil Clooney is preparing a four-course dinner with local foods and flavors gathered from the Rogue Valley.

Seed Saving in a Dryland Farming System
Sunday, August 27 from 5 to 7 pm at Ridgeline Meadows Farm
This unique farm in the Applegate Valley grows a variety of squash, potato, dry bean, melon, tomato and perennial tree crops of apple, pear, peach and persimmon on Central Point Sandy Loam. The farm tour will start in the dry farmed orchard with a discussion on planting and pruning techniques. In the dry farmed annual area we will discuss site prep, planting techniques and the long term goals of savings seeds from dry farmed systems. The tour will end in the melon patch for samples and questions. For more information and to RSVP, email Paula Burkhalter.

The Profitable Farm Workshop
Wednesday, Sept 2 in St. Paul, Oregon
During this half-day workshop, Joel Salatin will be presenting, as well as Farm-to-Consumer Legal Defense Fund (FTCLDF) attorney and President Elizabeth Rich, and Charlotte Smith will present a session on attracting your dream customers. All farmers are welcome--whether you're brand new to
farming or are a veteran in the field--and the workshop is specifically designed to help you grow your profitable farm. All the proceeds will go to support the FTCLDF group of attorneys that work tirelessly to protect our rights and expand our freedoms for farm fresh food. Learn more and get your tickets here.

**Open House and Rogue Buzzway Fundraiser**  
**Saturday, September 16 from 4:00 to 7:30 pm in Phoenix**  
Pollinator Project Rogue Valley and Center for Creative Change will welcome Beyond Toxics with live music, refreshments, Pollinator Art, kids games, and more. The office will be a place to gather to create the change that needs to happen around pesticides and the harm they cause pollinators and people alike, coalesce organizations and businesses working to create a sustainable Valley, offer community events and educational sessions, and support creative thought, environmental justice, and community actions and solutions. For more information, go here or call 541-465-8860.

Please support Our Family Farms as we work to create thriving communities by promoting and protecting family farms and traditional seeds from the threats of genetically engineered (GE) crops.