



P.O. Box 412, Huntsville, UT 84317  
OgdenValleyLandTrust.org 801-891-5179

# NEWSLETTER

February 2017  
Volume 5, Issue 1

## Message from the Chair

By Gail Meakins

First of all, a sincere thank you for your interest in and support of Ogden Valley Land Trust. Non-profit organizations like ours are completely dependent on community support and individual activism. We rely on a volunteer group of board members who are tasked with the stewardship of existing conservation easements along with the acquisition of new easement properties. The commitment of these board members is unwavering and the hours spent fulfilling the mission and goals of OVLT are many. A long standing member and Chairperson, Jody Smith has retired from

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## Ogden Valley Land Trust Honors Former Board Chair

### Jody Smith: Says “Thank You” for a Job Well Done

By Shanna Francis

Members of Ogden Valley Land Trust (OVLT) would like to recognize the efforts and contributions of former board chair Jody Smith, formerly of Eden. She was released from the position of chairperson in June 2016 after announcing that she and her husband Robert (“Bob”)—who has also been a generous supporter of the land trust—were moving from the valley.

Jody came to Ogden Valley Land Trust May 14, 2008, first serving as the board’s secretary. She was voted in as chair in 2011 at a board meeting held September 8, bringing to the position her signature drive, discipline, and leadership skills, which served the board well. Under her watch as chair, permanent conservation easements were placed on over 550 acres of land within the Middle Fork and Huntsville areas of the valley, a public wildlife trail was established in Eden, and she was also part of many successful fundraisers, raising money used to accomplish OVLT conservation goals.



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Jody and Bob Smith – September 7, 2013

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Those who have served with Jody as board members—both past and present— include Dan Harris, Shanna Francis, Kirk Langford, Cole Schlack, Brandi Hammond, John Kimball, Kristen Yeager, Gary Jensen, Jon D. Bingham, Carolyn Sukan, Dave Holmstrom, Ruby Fuller Raccasi, Janet Muir, Zane Froerer, Alexiss Owen, Meg King–McFarland, Greg Booth, Doug Taggart, Mike Malmborg, Gail Meakins, Marlin Jensen, and Eric Storey.

Former board member Janet Muir stated, “Jody approached the task of chair of Ogden Valley Land Trust with energy, imagination, leadership and kindness. She got things done and inspired others to do the same. The years of baking a birthday cake for each monk at the monastery in Huntsville—almost all aged and quite frail—made her a legend at the monastery. And that kind of personal–touch generosity extended to the community and OVLTL board members. I miss serving with her.”

OVLTL Board Treasurer Ruby Raccasi added, “Jody's leadership style was punctuated with her delicious homemade desserts and candy—her passion for the organization and her peanut brittle are legendary.”

OVLTL was established in April 1998 by a group of Valley residents interested in preserving Ogden Valley’s character and valuable assets composed of pristine natural resources and unique scenic beauty. Concerned about the possibility of unchecked development in this historically agricultural community, founding board members felt that the most effective way to protect these vital assets was through the formation of a legally organized non–profit land trust—Ogden Valley Trust—which now provides stewardship of easements that have voluntarily been placed on nearly 6,000 acres of now permanently dedicated open space in this unique mountain valley.

As Jody once wrote in an OVLTL newsletter, regarding why someone might desire to place a conservation

easement on their property, she stated, “How much do you like driving into the valley and seeing scenery instead of a zillion homes? How much do you like living in a place that doesn’t have massive amounts of traffic? How much do you like breathing wonderful, clean air? How much do you like the rural and friendly community found in Ogden Valley? How much do you enjoy not having gridlock traffic? Ogden Valley Land Trust has something to offer—land protected in perpetuity.”

Board members of Ogden Valley Land Trust recognize, with great appreciation, the tremendous amount of time and effort expended by Jody on behalf of this valuable non–profit organization, and extend a heartfelt “thank you” for the heroic contributions delivered to the community through, in large part, her efforts.

Jody, we wish you all the best in your future endeavors!



## More OVLTL Board News

Ogden Valley Land Trust has welcomed four new members to its board of trustees since our last newsletter. Scott Murri, Debra Siegel, Eric Storey and Steve Waldrip, all of Eden, joined the board in 2016.

Each member of our all–volunteer board gives generously of his/her time and talents which is so important to the success of OVLTL

If you’d like to know more about our board members, you can find their brief bios on our website at [OgdenValleyLandTrust.org](http://OgdenValleyLandTrust.org).



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the OVLT board after nearly a decade of service. We have all greatly benefited from her leadership of OVLT driven by her love of the Ogden Valley and her unbridled passion for land conservation. Thank you Jody, you will be greatly missed.

While you are familiar with Ogden Valley Land Trust, there are a number of organizations across the state and the country that are also diligently working to preserve and conserve irreplaceable open space, historical landscapes, agricultural land, wildlife habitat, streams, lakes and rivers. Last May, Summit Land Conservancy serving Summit County hosted an event for the land trusts in Utah. Utah Open Lands, Bear River Land Conservancy, Friends of Alta, The Nature Conservancy, Virgin River Land Trust and Ogden Valley Land Trust spent an evening in Park City getting to know one another and learning about the exciting conservation projects taking place across the state. A second gathering in October was hosted by Ogden Valley Land Trust. The featured speaker was our own State Representative Gage Froerer who addressed the issues of state funding and possible partnerships among state agencies to help acquire conservation easements. A representative from the national organization the Land Trust Alliance also spoke on a number of issues concerning new regulations and standards in conservation easements and provided ideas for future collaborations within our state. In November, four members of our board attended the Gaining Ground – Utah Open Lands Seminar hosted by Utah Open Lands and the Stegner Center at the University of Utah. This seminar focused on a wide spectrum of legal issues and strategies associated with conservation easements. These are valuable educational opportunities for our board as we strive to serve the valley with expertise as we develop a network of conservation minded professionals across the state.

As we begin a new year, please keep us in mind if you are interested in learning more about conservation easements and the benefits they may provide in Estate Planning and conserving your land for perpetuity. We look forward to a productive year and thank you once again for your generous support.

**INTERESTED IN OBTAINING  
INFORMATION  
ABOUT APPLYING A  
CONSERVATION EASEMENT  
TO YOUR PROPERTY?**

Please contact  
**Shanna Francis at  
801-745-2688**  
or  
**Gail Meakins at  
801-891-5179**

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## Land Conservation in the News

*By Brian Maffly*

Park City officials announced a \$38 million deal to buy and preserve Bonanza Flats, a 1,350-acre parcel rich in scenery, wildlife and wildflowers under Guardsman Pass that has long been eyed for a destination ski and golf development.

The land, located in Wasatch County along its borders with Summit and Salt Lake counties, would be the largest private inholdings ever acquired for preservation in the Central Wasatch, according to UOL (Utah Open Lands) executive director Wendy Fisher.

The acquisition, unanimously approved Thursday night by the Park City Council, would be financed in part by a \$25 million bond Park City voters approved

*Please see News page 4*

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in November. Some of the balance would come from donations raised by UOL and other conservation groups that have joined forces to help conserve Bonanza Flats. The city has until March 15 to close the funding gap.

*Note: The above article was printed in the Salt Lake Tribune Jan. 12, 2017 and is being reprinted by permission.*

## News P.S.: The Coalition Effort – Save Bonanza Flats

Local recreational, environmental and conservation non-profits have formed a coalition for this fundraising campaign. Utah Open Lands, Save Our Canyons, Mountain Trails Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Summit Land Conservancy, Sierra Club, Wasatch Backcountry Alliance, Friends of Alta and Winter Wildlands Alliance are ready to help save this space.

For more information and/or to donate visit <https://www.savebonanzaflats.org/>.

NOTE: This effort has only until March 15, 2017, to close the funding gap.

## Ogden Valley Land Trust Thanks Our Marketing Partners

By Kirk Langford

It takes a lot of volunteer work, expertise, and togetherness to plan, execute and conduct the valuable work done at Ogden Valley Land Trust. We would like to thank three important businesses who generously contribute their valuable resources to help OVLT successfully execute our mission of preserving open space within Ogden Valley.

OVLT would like to thank Whitney Advertising and Design for the great volunteer work they do designing, programming and supporting our website as part of our online outreach. For the last ten years, Jim and Robyn Whitney have graciously given their expertise, time and resources to support the Ogden Valley Land Trust mission of preserving open space in Ogden Valley. Whitney offers full spectrum service in every aspect of advertising, design and marketing. We appreciate their commitment and contribution to making open space available for all of us today and in perpetuity for future generations.

Bob Rock, owner of Lone Peak Productions, brought his award-winning video expertise to Ogden Valley to shoot some of the most beautiful and iconic open

space in the world as part of an exploratory image video piece for OVLT. It is a powerful, emotional experience for land owners who voluntarily place a conservation easement on their property, preserving it from development forever. Watching the short OVLT video about the positive benefits of conservations easements helps put a visual and personally deep perspective on the importance of open space in our community and society in general. Lone Peak is Salt Lake City's award-winning video production company, providing full service video solutions.

Xmission has graciously hosted Ogden Valley Land Trust's website since its inception as part of their non-profit outreach across Utah. Their generous support allows OVLT to maintain and project an online presence that supports our mission of preserving open space through voluntary conservation easements. Xmission – Utah's first ISP – is now a leading local provider of business service, and is the largest diverse-carrier network in Utah.

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Visit: <http://ogdenvalleylandtrust.org/>

# Ogden Valley Land Trust Expresses Thanks to CFOV and Community

By Ruby Raccasi

Ogden Valley Land Trust extends a sincere thank-you to the Community Foundation of Ogden Valley (CFOV) and to those of you who contributed and participated in another successful annual CFOV fundraising campaign.

CFOV went into **OverDrive** again in 2016 for its annual fundraising campaign, a philanthropic event to support participating non-profits during a Giving Period from May 1 to September 30. This year a Summer Scramble Golf Tournament & Community Event was held on Saturday, August 6, 2016, at Wolf Creek Resort in Eden, Utah. In the morning there was a golf tournament and in the late afternoon a community gala with music, booths, food, fun, and the very popular "Chopper Drop." The non-profits provided information about their organizations on the course and on the plaza. The weather was beautiful, and the golf tournament and ball drop were again a tremendous success.

At the OVLT booth, we worked on one of the community murals we started at the 2014 CFOV community event. Local artist and Eden resident Diane Browning designed the mural scenes featuring views in Ogden Valley representing the four seasons. Unfortunately, again, we ran out of time to finish -- even with the help of a number of fantastic artistic supporters. We'll continue to work to finish the murals so that they can be displayed around the valley for all to admire and enjoy.

The Ogden Valley community is unique in its generosity, truly embracing the spirit of philanthropy. Thanks to the special group of Match Donors that contributed directly into a fund used to match other funds each of the participating non-profits raise on their own, the CFOV was able to match up to \$5000 in 2016.



**Valley Elementary students painting on the Summer Mural at the OVLT Booth on August 6 , 2016**

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Ogden Valley Land trust could not operate without such support for our all-volunteer organization.



*"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."*

*— Mother Teresa*

## Ogden Valley Land Trust Thanks Our 2016 Donors

### Philanthropist Level \$5000 & Up

Community Foundation of Ogden Valley (Match Funds)

### Guarantor Level \$500 - \$999

Barry Gomberg

David Holmstrom

Mountain Luxury Real Estate

Kristen Hinckley Whitaker

### Benefactor Level \$250 - \$499

Gregory Booth

Shanna Francis

Marlin & Kathleen Jensen

Quentin & Margot Smelzer

Janet Muir & David Suehsdorf

### Sponsor Level \$100 - \$249

Abbey of the Holy Trinity

Alpine Sports

Kirk Langford & Beje Bohanan

Jon & Debra Bingham

Gage Froerer

Gary & Jan Fullmer

Gary Goucher

Marion & Marty Mayo Horna

Gary & Diane Jensen

John and Donna Kimball

David & Carolyn Lane

Michael & Victoria Malmborg

Patricia Painter

Ruby Raccasi

Mark & Marsha Rasmussen

Stephen & Sherry Shadday

William & Debra Siegel

Karen Bossler & Brian Smith

Jody & Bob Smith

Eric & April Storey

### Patron Level \$51 - \$99

Dennis & Elodie Craig

Andrew Davison

Douglas & Nicole Larsen

John & Joann Loomis

### Contributing Member Level - \$50

Ken Beck

Brian & Vicki Bennion

Frank & Patty Ewing

Lisa Karam & Walter Fuller

Dominick & Catherine Guida

Jody & Morey Haymond

Vickie McKenney

James McHugh

Gail Meakins

Lyle & Gladys Mundelius

Colleen & Allan Netzer

Edward & Susan Teter

Rick Torley

Richard Webb

Eric Zenger

### Donor Level Up to \$49

Tena Breski

June Fuller

Sam Bellarosa

Nan Jensen

Maria Nightengale

Julie Sawyer

Judith Stewart

John Richards

James Scopac

John Lusk

### In-Kind Donors

Lon Child

Haynie & Company/Mike Jachim

### Special Contributors



Whitney Advertising and Design, Inc.



Lone Peak Productions  
HD video production company

### Make a Difference – Make a Donation

*OVLT is a 501(c)(3) organization so your donation is tax deductible.*

*Please send donations to:*

**OGDEN VALLEY LAND TRUST**

**PO BOX 412**

**HUNTSVILLE UT 84317**

Select the Level of your contribution:

- \$1 - \$49 Donor
- \$50 Contributing Member
- \$51 - \$99 Patron
- \$100 - \$249 Sponsor
- \$250 - \$499 Benefactor
- \$500 - \$999 Guarantor
- \$1000 - \$2,499 Steward
- \$2500 - \$4999 Signature
- \$5000+ Philanthropist

Donate by check payable to:

**Ogden Valley Land Trust**

and mail to the address above with this form

**OR**

Donate by debit or credit card by visiting our website:

[\*\*OgdenValleyLandTrust.org\*\*](http://OgdenValleyLandTrust.org)

and use the **“Make a Donation”** button.

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street/PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- Check if you are interested in obtaining information about applying a conservation easement to your property.

We do not inherit the earth  
 from our ancestors;  
 we borrow it  
 from our children.

*--Native American Proverb*



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[OgdenValleyLandTrust.org](http://OgdenValleyLandTrust.org)

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## Board of Trustees

*Chair, Gail Meakins, Eden, Utah*

*Vice Chair, Gregory Booth, Huntsville, Utah*

*Secretary, Gary Jensen, Eden, Utah*

*Treasurer, Ruby Raccasi, Eden, Utah*

*Jon Bingham, Eden, Utah*

*Shanna Francis, Eden, Utah*

*David Holmstrom, Eden, Utah*

*Marlin Jensen, Huntsville, Utah*

*Kirk Langford, Eden, Utah*

*Mike Malmborg, Huntsville, Utah*

*Scott H. Murri, Eden, Utah*

*Debbie Siegel, Eden, Utah*

*Eric Storey, Eden, Utah*

*Steve Waldrip, Eden, Utah*