



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

NEWSLETTER

2019 Issue
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Message from the Chair

By Gail Meakins

As I sit to write this the week before Thanksgiving I find it difficult to account for where the year has gone and how my time was spent. Each season has its chores and distractions to occupy our time and it all marches forward with certainty and determination. Earlier this fall, as the sandhill cranes gathered overhead to begin their winter migration, it seemed like only yesterday that they had just arrived in their annual spring pilgrimage to our Valley. Today I realized I cannot pinpoint the day the birds filled my mornings with the hopeful sounds of spring and the skies were graced with the magical choreography of the geese and the cranes. Nor do I remember the exact day the mornings fell silent as they left. As fall came to our Valley, the hills were ablaze in an indescribable glow of reds, oranges, and yellows. Nature has a powerful way of pulling us in close to her heart. As always, I am constantly reminded how grateful I am for the sounds, sights, open landscapes and vistas of our most beautiful Valley. The Ogden Valley Land Trust is working diligently to ensure that these natural wonders will always have a home here.



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Words for thought:

"Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance."
— Theodore Roosevelt

On the business side of things, our spring newsletter was put on hold in the hopes of announcing a new recorded conservation easement. Unfortunately, we have learned firsthand the virtue of patience and the realization that all good things take time... sometimes lots of time. Conservation easements are complicated legal encumbrances that exist in perpetuity and therefore must be meticulously researched, documented, and written; each specific to the landowners' wishes and their vision, while retaining conservation values that benefit the greater community. There is no way to expedite the process. That being said, we

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Message from page 1

look forward to a new year with the anticipation that we will be solidly on our way to securing additional conservation easements in the Valley.

We would like to thank our loyal and generous donors (page 6), and encourage everyone to reach out to friends and neighbors to help us increase our visibility and outreach in the community. If you know of someone who is contemplating selling their land, or has an interest in conserving its natural values, please tell them about our organization and the potential financial benefits of a conservation easement. We are an all-volunteer nonprofit organization dependent on your generosity to help us in our conservation efforts. As 2019 comes to a close, please consider Ogden Valley Land Trust as a part of your philanthropic portfolio.

Ogden Valley is a very beautiful and special place that requires all of us to remain diligent and proactive to preserve and protect all that we hold dear. Once open space and agricultural land is developed, it is gone forever; there is no going back.

Highlights of 2019**April: Monastery Documentary Preview**

Ogden Valley Land Trust partnered with Mountain Arts and Music to sponsor preview screenings of John Slattery's documentary film *Present Time: Journal of a Country Monastery* on April 19 and 20 at the Compass Rose Lodge in Huntsville, Utah.

Mountain Arts and Music had two goals for the event: first, to point to the unusual historical legacy of the monastery—a longtime Catholic organization in the midst of a mainly Latter-day Saint farming community, where it was embraced and integrated as a community icon; and second, to highlight the common values of working and loving the land that allowed that integration and how those values will be swept aside with unfettered development in the Valley.

Continued at Highlights on page 3

New Board Members and Call for Volunteers

In 2019, Ogden Valley Land Trust welcomed two new members to its board of trustees: Lisa Ferch and Steve Noel, both of Eden. The two formally joined the board in February, putting the number of Trustees at the maximum level authorized by our By-Laws.

Each member of our all-volunteer board gives generously of their time and talents, which is so important to the success of OVLT and the preservation, protection, and stewardship of open space in Ogden Valley.

We also have a need for volunteers throughout the year to help with easement monitoring, maintenance of our Patio Springs trail, and fundraising events. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact OVLT Chair Gail Meakins at 801-891-8179, and let her know about your interests, expertise, and availability.

**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**

Highlights from page 2

The event gave Ogden Valley Land Trust board members an opportunity to greet those who attended the screening and to provide information about our mission: To protect the natural diversity and beauty of Ogden Valley for present and future generations by 1) preserving significant open land areas having scenic, wildlife, recreational, watershed and agricultural uses; 2) fostering appreciation and understanding of the local environment, and 3) educating the Valley’s citizens as to the importance of cooperatively avoiding over development.



August: Fundraising Concert at Kelley Creek Farm



Our summer fundraising concert (see more at “Thank You” on page 4) featured the amazing music of **Mr Sister** (above) and **Joyful Strings** (below),



accompanied by great supporters and community members.

July: Mountain Arts & Music Festival

On July 4, 2019 OVLN had the opportunity to set up one of our community murals at the Mountain Arts & Music Festival at Huntsville Square. It was great sharing information about OVLN with those at the event and we had quite a few folks find their inner-artist.



We would like to extend a formal and sincere thanks to Mountain Arts and Music for the opportunities at their events to showcase our mission.



The Makowski Conservation Trust

Ogden Valley Land Trust started receiving generous donations in 2018 from The Makowski Trust. In April 2019, we had the opportunity meet with representatives of the Trust—Ed and Heidi Makowski, to give them an overview of our organization, mission, accomplishments (including a tour of some of our easements), and plans for the future. The meeting also gave us a chance to find out more about them and Ed and Heidi provided the following information so that we could feature them in this, our current newsletter.

The Makowski Conservation Trust was founded by Edward Makowski's late brother, Kenneth Makowski, in 2016 and continues on in his legacy following his untimely death from pancreatic cancer at the age of sixty-one.

Ken had a strong love of nature, from the mountains to the beach, and he always planned to leave his estate to conservation organizations and to fund conservation work. He never expected it would happen so soon.

Ken was from New York and lived there most recently so the Trust is based in New York State. However, Ken loved the west, having lived for several years in the Seattle area at the beginning of his career with Microsoft, and he enjoyed skiing at many Utah resorts.

Ed & Heidi Makowski, Ken's brother and sister-in-law work to identify worthy conservation organizations in the west that fall within the Trust's mission and goals.

The mission of the Makowski Conservation Trust is to support conservation work and conservation organizations. The Trust has researched and identified many organizations in New York and across the country and in Utah worthy of support consistent with Ken's mission.

We are delighted to develop relationships with the Utah organizations that have received funding so far and work to identify new organizations in the surrounding states.

Ogden Valley Land Trust Board of Trustees Says "Thank You"

The Ogden Valley Land Trust (OVLT) board would like to sincerely thank all who have supported the land trust throughout the 2019 year. Organizations like ours are completely dependent on community support and activism.

Our annual fundraising concert held August 10 was a tremendous success. Sincerest of thanks to our generous hosts, the Cardon Family, who graciously donated their venue, Kelley Creek Farm, for the community event allowing us to open the event to the public. We are so appreciative of their generosity. The weather was perfect, the venue was amazing, the food was great, the music was awesome, and the company of our friends and supporters made it a memorable evening.

OVLT is run by a volunteer group of board members who are tasked with the stewardship of existing conservation easements located in the Valley—about 6,000 acres of land protected as open space in perpetuity—along with the acquisition of new easement properties, fundraising, and community education and outreach.

In America, 4,000 acres of land are lost to development every day (Land Trust Alliance) and we lose nearly 40 acres of farmland every hour (American Farmland Trust). Once this land is developed it is gone forever. The projected rate of growth and new development potential in our valley, according to state statistics, is staggering and will have a profound effect on our community. Placing land in a conservation easement is a voluntary alternative way to benefit financially from land ownership while leaving a lasting legacy—preserving the agricultural resources, lifestyle, watersheds, wildlife habitat and natural landscapes and vistas we so dearly love here in the Valley.

*Continued at **Thanks** on page 5*

THANKS from page 4

What we all have in common is a love of place and the shared responsibility to protect and preserve this valley that we call home. As partners, helping in the effort to conserve open space in the valley, we would like to especially thank **Snowbasin Resort** as this year's annual event Presenting Sponsor; **Community Foundation of Ogden Valley (CFOV)**, which matches funds raised by each nonprofit to the maximum extent possible at the end of their annual OVerDrive campaign, allowing donations to be leveraged for an even greater influence for good by each nonprofit; and **Ferch Consulting**, also a generous sponsor.

In addition to the many who supported our annual fundraiser through attendance and participation in our silent auction and opportunity drawing tickets, we would also like to acknowledge the generosity of business donors and artists who donated services and unique art pieces that were part of the event auction and drawing. We also encourage all to patronize the businesses and artists who so generously supported the land trust. By doing so, you recognize their support of protecting valuable open space in Ogden Valley.

This year's supporting businesses included Blue Coyote, Bailey's Sleigh Rides, Booth Dental, Carlos & Harley's, Carver's Cove Petting Farm, Club Rec, Compass Rose Lodge, Coldwater Animal Hospital (Dave Shupe, DVM), CPCneutak, Descente, Farr Camera, FedEx Supply Chain Services/The Hershey Co., Good Life Cafe, New World Distillery, Pig & a Jelly Jar, Powder Mountain, Red Bicycle, Roosters Brewing Co., Shooting Star Saloon, Sills at Red Rock, Simply Eden, Valley Hair, Valley Veterinary Clinic (Etta Baker, DVM), Wolf Creek Resort, Janise Loveridge Yoga, and Zupas.

Supporting artists included Sheryl Brown, Saddleback Studio; CD Cross, Retro Ranger; Curt Fuller, Curt's Woodturning; Gary Fullmer, Red Hawk Turning; Mary Hardy, Sheep Creek Metal Art; Sandra Jenkins; Reed Loveland; Gail Meakins; Lynette Nichols, Blended With Nature; Trish Painter, Raven Spirit Productions; Anna Siciliano; Jennifer Sorensen, Black Kitty Studio; and Rosemary Waite.

As Dr. Seuss so wisely surmised, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

Thank you Ogden Valley, for caring a whole awful lot!



Ogden Valley Land Trust Thanks Our **2018** Donors

Philanthropist Level \$5000 & Up

Community Foundation of Ogden Valley (Match Funds)
The Makowski Trust

Signature Level \$2500 - \$4999

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Patron Level: Gregory & Rita Booth

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Whitney Advertising and Design, Inc.



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Make a Difference – Make a Donation

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

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
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Donate by check payable to:

Ogden Valley Land Trust

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OR

Donate by debit or credit card by visiting our website:

OgdenValleyLandTrust.org

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Amount: \$ _____

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Street/PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

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

*I can no other answer
make but thanks,
and thanks;
and ever thanks.*

—William Shakespeare
(Twelfth Night, Act 3, scene 3)



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Ogden Valley Land Trust

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OgdenValleyLandTrust.org

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