



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

NEWSLETTER

September 2020
Volume 8, Issue 1

Message from the Chair

Dear Friends,

Whew! What a year this has been. Somedays it seems time stands still; then, before I know it, another week has gone by. For all the challenges this year has brought, I hope this finds all of you well and safe. It's hard to imagine a time when things will begin to feel somewhat settled and back to "normal." Our annual concert and major fundraising event, which many of you have attended, was canceled due to the COVID-19 virus. Many things in our lives have changed but the work of OVLТ marches forward, and we continue to reach out to landowners and the community to mitigate the pressures of unbridled development. We all have some attachment to this beautiful valley, but I am afraid that the word is out about how incredible it is, and many more are coming to visit and enjoy our little slice of heaven. As visitors literally pour out of the canyon and into our valley to recreate on our lakes, rivers, and trails, the impacts are many.

While most visitors return to their homes on the other side of the mountains, there are a growing number who decide to purchase or build a home to spend more time here. This "building boom" encroaches and severely impacts wildlife habitats, water resources, open space, agricultural lands, and our dark skies and view sheds. The onslaught of construction vehicles and related activities has grown exponentially, threatening the peace, tranquility and safety of our neighborhoods. We can only hope that local governmental entities will take a holistic, responsible approach in dealing with these issues and fully commit to protecting our resources and amenities. The financial value and worth of our valley is directly tied to its rural character and beauty. Once that character has been marginalized, all that will be left is a community that looks and feels like those found up and down the Wasatch Front.

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The threat to our valley as we know it is urgent and dire. Ogden Valley Land Trust is tasked to present an alternative to rampant development through the pursuit of conservation easements. These easements may provide financial incentives and benefits to landowners as they commit to keeping their land in greenbelt and/or open space. It is important now, more than ever, to do all we can to preserve and protect this place we call home.

We are asking all of you to please donate to our giving campaign, "Open Your Hearts to Open Space." Your children, grandchildren, and all the generations to come will thank you for your vision.

All the best,

Gail Meakins, Chair

The eyes of the future are looking back at us and they are praying for us to see beyond our own time. They are kneeling with hands clasped that we might act with restraint that we might leave room for the life that is destined to come. To protect what is wild is to protect what is gentle.

-Terry Tempest Williams

OVLT GIVE 2020

Open Your Hearts to Open Space

Open Lands Now • For Our Children • For Our Future

The Corona Virus Pandemic has changed our world unlike anything we have ever experienced. We hope all of you and your family and friends are safe and healthy.

These trying and challenging times make us realize, even more, how fortunate and blessed we are to live in this wonderful valley and community. For 22 years, since 1998, Ogden Valley Land Trust, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has worked to fulfill its mission “to preserve and protect open space within Ogden Valley and the surrounding areas.”

OVLT currently holds conservation easements – voluntary restrictions private landowners place on their land that eliminate or reduce the development on their land in perpetuity – on nearly 6,000 acres in Ogden Valley and the surrounding area. These preserved open spaces hold significant conservation, cultural, wildlife, and agricultural values.

Open spaces are life-enhancing for current and future generations in so many different ways. Preserved, protected, and well-stewarded open space will give our children, their children, and their children’s children the opportunity to experience our valley’s natural and cultural heritage—a blessing they will be denied if all of the land in Ogden Valley is developed to its maximum entitlement. It will also protect this valley’s vital resources the community relies upon—clean water and air, view sheds, dark skies, and plenty of elbow room!

Preserving open lands isn’t easy; it takes visionary and generous landowner donor families... it takes money—passionate, dedicated donors like you who contribute financially to Ogden Valley Land Trust so we can continue to operate and fulfill our fiduciary responsibilities to hold in trust conservation easements that preserve the land in perpetuity.

We need your help—now, more than ever, especially during this pandemic. Open lands are rapidly being developed and lost forever. Please... make a difference in your community, in your own lives, and that of your families’ by making a generous donation to Ogden Valley Land Trust today so we can assist landowners in protecting and preserving precious, forever valuable open space in this beautiful valley.

Make a difference and become a monthly donor or make an annual contribution to OVLT today to protect and preserve open lands in our community, positively impacting and changing countless lives for the better... now, tomorrow, and forever.

We can also provide you with information on planned giving if you would like to leave a personal or family legacy to Ogden Valley Land Trust.

Please support open lands now and for future generations; support changing lives and our community for the better. Please contribute!

Continued at GIVE on page 3

Give from page 2

Add your support to Ogden Valley Land Trust.

- \$1.00–\$49 Donor
- \$100–249 Sponsor
- \$1,000–2,499 Steward
- \$50 Contributing Member
- \$250–499 Benefactor
- \$2,500–4,999 Signature
- \$51–99 Patron
- \$500–999 Guarantor
- \$5,000+ Philanthropist

As a “thank you” for your support, this year OVLT is offering a promotional item that you can proudly use among family and friends, demonstrating your support for Ogden Valley Land Trust.

- \$50 Contributing Member 1 OVLT Richardson™ Logo Ball Cap
- \$51–99 Patron 1 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Goblet
- \$100–249 Sponsor 2 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Goblets
- \$250–499 Benefactor 4 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Goblets
- \$500–999 Guarantor 6 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Goblets
- \$1,000–2,499 Steward 6 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Goblets
2 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Water Bottles
- \$2,500–4,999 Signature 8 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Goblets
2 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Water Bottles
- \$5,000+ Philanthropist 12 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Goblets
4 OVLT Stainless Steel Chisel Logo Insulated Water Bottles

Please make your secure donation online by visiting our all new OgdenValleyLandTrust.org website or by sending a check along with the Contribution Form found on page 7.

Tax-deductible donations made to Ogden Valley Land Trust may be eligible for matching funds from Community Foundation of Ogden Valley (CFOV)—also a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible nonprofit and an umbrella nonprofit organization serving Ogden Valley.

A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children.

— John James Audubon



In Memoriam – Eric B. Storey



Members of the board of Ogden Valley Land Trust mourn the passing of board member Eric Storey of Eden who passed away unexpectedly at home April 1, 2020, surrounded by family. In addition to the many contributions he made in the broader community and even the world, in his church community, and within his close and extended family, we very much appreciate the time he spent on the board of the land trust and his contributions, including his expertise in land use and property valuations. We also appreciated his positive and even personality and friendship. Like the many who had the privilege of working with Eric, we will surely miss him.

In honor of Eric, and as a legacy, members of the board made donations to the land trust in Eric's name.

Eric is survived by his wife April Griffiths Storey, their five children (Robert, Michelle (Kerry Reynolds), John, Candace, and David), five grandchildren, and his siblings: Kaye (Edgel) Blackham, Craig (Miriam) Storey, Jone (Paul) Wells, and Scott (Andrea) Storey.

Eric's obituary can be found at

<https://www.myers-mortuary.com/obituary/Eric-Storey>

The Dangers of Osprey and Baling Twine

[Note: This article appeared in the Feb 2019 NorthWestern Energy Newsletter. While it mentions a different geographical area, the information is just as pertinent for the Ogden Valley. The article was reprinted with permission.]

During the spring and summer, osprey are a familiar sight in our area as they fly, fish, perch and nest along our lakes, rivers and streams. This is good news. Until 1972, the common use of the pesticide DDT nearly wiped out these majestic raptors. Although their population is recovering, they face another deadly challenge – baling twine. Osprey build stick nests, many times on power poles, and line the cup-shaped interiors with finer material like grass, weeds, moss and baling twine. In examining a large nest that had blown down recently, biologists found baling twine that measured more than a quarter mile in length.

Unfortunately, ospreys – especially chicks – get tangled in baling twine and may even end up dangling below the nest when they try to fly. Several times each summer, our line crews respond to calls to rescue dangling osprey or to remove them if we are too late. Several years ago, NorthWestern Energy supported a graduate student's study along the upper Missouri River and its headwaters by providing bucket trucks to band the chicks in nests. The study showed that more than 30 percent of the nests had at least one chick tangled in twine; for many, it was too late.

At NorthWestern Energy we work actively to protect osprey. Nests built in the wrong location on power poles may cause electric outages or nest fires, which may kill the eggs or chicks. To prevent this,

Continued at OSPREY on page 5

Board Member Changes and Call for Volunteers

Debbie Siegel of Eden left the board in January because of other commitments. She was a valuable member of our team – her organizational skills helped make our 2019 Concert Fundraiser a success and her husband, Bill, was always willing to lend a helping hand whenever OVLT needed him.

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**



Osprey in Ogden Valley (Photo by Ron Gleason)

Osprey from Page 4

we often install safe, alternate platforms near our lines. Crews also install nest deterrents on poles favored by osprey. While this helps protect birds from our energized lines and helps keep the lights on for our customers, it does little to keep baling twine from entangling the birds. Although we can protect osprey by installing separate platforms and deterrents, we need your help to keep baling twine out of their nests.

As we await the migratory return of these raptors in spring, here are some things to do that will protect them:

- Pick up all used baling twine in fields, barnyards or on fence posts.
- Store used twine in buildings, drums or garbage cans with secure lids.
- Dispose of old baling twine safely out of reach of osprey.
- Share this information with friends and neighbors.

**Be sure to visit our all new website
OgdenValleyLandTrust.org**

Ogden Valley Land Trust Thanks Our 2019 Donors

Philanthropist Level \$5000 & Up

The Makowski Trust

Signature Level \$2500 - \$4999

Community Foundation of Ogden Valley (Match Funds)

Steward Level \$1000 - \$2499

Snowbasin Resort

Guarantor Level \$500 - \$999

The American Foundation of Utah, Inc.

Anonymous

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Alan & Ann Miller

Scott Murri

Stephen Noel

Ed & Marguerite Power

Ruby Raccasi

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Debra & William Siegel

Richard Sorensen

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Janet Muir & David Suehsdorf

Laura VanZandt,

Rosemary Waite

Stephen Waldrip

Patron Level \$51 - \$99

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Gary & Jan Fullmer

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Tim Ludlum

Edward Makowski

Cindy Purcell

Peggy Rebolledo

James & Karen Savage

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Richard & Gladys Webb

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Deborah Nicoll

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In-Kind Donors - Benefactor Level

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XMISSION

In Memory of Donations:

Sherilynn (Francis) Green – Jon & Debra Bingham

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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.

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

and using the “**Donate**” 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.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

*– Margaret Mead,
Cultural Anthropologist*



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Ogden Valley Land Trust

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OgdenValleyLandTrust.org

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