



ORIENT LAND TRUST NEWSLETTER

November 2025

The season for Gratitude

From infrastructure improvements to unforgettable member gatherings, 2025 has been one of momentum and shared accomplishment.

One of the most significant milestones this year has been the forward movement on OLT's new hydroelectric plant. This project, rooted in OLT's long-standing commitment to sustainability and resource stewardship, will continue to provide Valley View Hot Springs with electricity for generations to come, right on the land we protect.

This year also brought an exciting new addition to the OLT experience: the installation of a new telescope at the astronomy pad. With clearer views and enhanced capabilities, this telescope has already inspired countless moments of awe. Special thanks go to Cosmic Mark, whose passion, guidance, and expertise continue to help our community explore the night sky in unforgettable ways.

This December, we're striving to complete the final phases of our road improvement project at Valley View Hot Springs. This work will ensure smoother travel for guests, safer conditions during weather changes, and long-term durability. These upgrades enhance the overall guest experience and support the sustainability of visitation for years to come. We'd like to thank the Michael and Elaine Moravan Foundation for their generous support of this project.

We here at Orient Land Trust (OLT) reflect with gratitude on a year marked by meaningful progress, strengthened community bonds, and continued dedication to the land, the springs, and the people who make our mission possible.

Volunteers: The Heart of Our Year
Volunteerism has always been a cornerstone of the OLT community, and this year our volunteers shone brighter than ever.

Through numerous volunteer events, our community came together to clean the roadways, remove downed trees, and prepare the gardens. We owe a heartfelt thanks to all volunteers, whose generosity and hands-on service make our work possible every single day. Our thanks go out to the many camp hosts, bat hike guides, plant hike guides, geology tour leaders, and astronomy volunteers who joined us this year. A special thanks to our Board of Directors, who have put in countless hours this year, providing guidance and wisdom to lead us forward.



Thank you all for your contributions to our mission. Your commitment, your time, and your belief in our work keep our community strong year after year.



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*See the Universe Like Never Before
This Year's Cosmic Calendar*

If you're looking for a meaningful, beautiful, and inspiring gift—whether for yourself or someone on your list—our new Cosmic Calendar is the perfect choice. Designed by Cosmic Mark, this calendar is full of photos captured with our recently installed telescope. Each month features a stunning, high-resolution image of the night sky: glowing nebulae and star clusters in breathtaking detail.

Bring the cosmos a little closer this year. Hang it in your home, your office, or wrap it as a thoughtful holiday gift—and enjoy the reminder that there's a whole universe out there waiting to be explored.

Get your calendar today and help us share the stars with the community!

[Order a calendar or make a donation towards our astronomy program](#)



NGC 1977 Running Man Nebula
Orient Land Trust
CDK20 10-19-25
By Mark Cunningham

*Seasons Greetings
from all of us at
Orient Land Trust*

December Schedule

Our office will be closed from December 1st through December 28th, reopening on December 29th. We will have limited phone hours, December 8th - 12th, between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

We look forward to reconnecting with you when we reopen! Find more details on our Latest News Page:

<https://www.olt.org/blog/the-latest-news/>

Submit your design

We're running a design contest in 2026 for our 25th anniversary. Submit your Valley View inspired artwork!

The first-place design will be printed on a T-shirt available on Members Weekend 2026. The 1st and 2nd place winners will be featured on a water bottle. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be printed on stickers.

OLT is also running a kids' drawing contest for our very own coloring book!

Orient Land Trust drawing winners in the age group 10-15 will be featured on the front cover, and the age group 4-9 winner will be featured on the back cover of the OLT coloring book!

25 entrants of each age group will start within the 50 pages! The top 5 of each age group will receive their own copy!

Submissions must be in JPEG format and under 2 MB. Send us an email at contest@olt.org if you need assistance.

Contest will start on July 18th, 2025, and end on January 1st, 2026.

Last date to submit a drawing will be December 31st, 2025.

Winners will be announced on February 1st, 2026.

[Submit your design here!](#)