



Orient Land Trust Newsletter

March 2026

Celebrating 25 years as Orient Land Trust



Meet the yaks!

There's something quietly magical about standing in an open pasture, mountains in the distance, and a small herd of yaks grazing peacefully nearby.

With their long, flowing coats, gentle presence, and quiet strength, they feel almost timeless—perfectly at home on land that has been stewarded for generations.

They thrive in the wide-open spaces, grazing in a way that supports the health of the land, rather than depleting it.

They move slowly. They observe. They tell a story of sustainability, and a return to more thoughtful land stewardship that represents resilience.

In 2001, Neil and Terry Seitz, the owners of Valley View Hot Springs for thirty-five years, founded the Orient Land Trust. Their deep commitment to preserving the Everson Ranch, Valley View Hot Springs, and the Orient Mine, and their belief that these resources are too valuable to be owned by any individual, led to the creation of the Orient Land Trust.

Seitz's selfless donation of these properties laid the groundwork for the continued protection of this land and this community. Their foresight, vision, and continued dedication to preserving this historic and geographically unique piece of the Earth inspire us to preserve this land for all to enjoy for all time. As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of OLT, we honor the selflessness that brought us to this day.



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Members Appreciation
Weekend
July 17th - 20th, 2026

As we prepare to celebrate our 25th Anniversary as Orient Land Trust, we have a unique opportunity to elevate this year's Members Appreciation Weekend into a landmark event. A milestone of this significance calls for a celebration that feels energetic, memorable, and worthy of 25 years of growth and community.

With this in mind, we're extending this year's celebration to include a Sunday night option! All members are invited to stay until 8 pm Sunday, or book the extra night and check out at 11 on Monday.

We've got the bands booked! This year, we focused on local musicians and the music that has carried us through the last 25 years. Friday night, Roadhouse Assembly will take the stage. The six-piece ensemble is inspired by the Grateful Dead, Allman Brothers, and The Band, and is sure to keep us dancing all night. Saturday night, we've got Santa Rios! This Santana tribute band has 9 members and has been touring across the state, garnering rave reviews. Both bands operate out of Salida and have members who have visited and played music for us in the past. Saturday afternoon, we'll add an acoustic poolside offering with Leon Littlebird and Lisa Ann White. With rich vocal harmonies, masterful acoustic guitars, and Native flutes, Leon & Lisa's original music and cover songs have a unique style and sound reminiscent of classic folk duets, with a contemporary twist.

Extending the weekend into Sunday afternoon offers the opportunity for another musical offering. David Gray Scott joins Leon Littlebird and Lisa Ann White to form a trio whose musical styles span blues, jazz, rock, and soul. This final offering will be a special addition to make our 25th anniversary celebration truly memorable.