Dear Friends:

Many of you knew my husband Bill Levitt, who was Mayor of Alta for 34 years. In 1981, together with Pat Shea, we founded the Alta Defense Fund, which is now Friends of Alta (FOA) in order to help Alta defend its protective zoning regulations. Bill used to talk about visitors to Alta, who would stand on the deck of the Alta Lodge, looking at High Rustler, Mt. Baldy, Albion Basin, and exclaim to Bill "wow - this is SO beautiful" .... And Bill would count to 10, waiting for the inevitable "why don't you develop it!!" Well, I recently heard someone say "we protect what we fall in love with."

Over the last 31 years Alta has faced various types of pressures. With the help and support of FOA, 19 of the dry, hence undeveloped, lots in Albion Basin have been acquired and we have put conservation easements on all of them. FOA is not an organization against growth in our community, but one for thoughtful planning that cares for our watershed and the stunning surrounding landscape which drives our local economy.

Let’s not allow our special Alta to be ruined. I know that you are all FRIENDS because you have a passion for Alta, and wish, as we do, to preserve one small part of one small canyon - for the many who ski, hike, day dream or simply sit on a hillside or chairlift and refresh themselves in this amazing place. For me, Alta is a constant. Each of us have treasured places where we can go in our minds eye. Alta, like with so many of you, is my special place. Whether it is skiing, hiking, or simply staring at our beautiful place, Alta makes me feel better.

There are going to be many challenges for change in and around Alta in the next few years. Hopefully, when the economy returns, Alta will have more visitors. But with economic pressure, there will come the inevitable development pressures. There are things that we cannot undo – if ordinance regulations are skirted or weakened and houses are built on Patsy Marley in Albion Basin, the damage will be done. Once land is lost to development, it is gone forever. When Alta’s beauty has faded due to unwise development, people will stop coming here. It would be nice if we had a single benefactor who understood the value of the Patsy Marley hillside being in public ownership, who would buy the land and donate it for open space. But we don’t – and so FOA needs your help now to protect and uphold the regulations that maintain Alta as the sanctuary that so many people treasure.

Thank you all for your past, present and future support, which helps keep Alta as a place of inspiration, relaxation and enjoyment, we hope for generations to come.

Cordially,
Mimi Levitt

PS, On March 30th, Friends of Alta held its annual public meeting at The Environmental Center. The outstanding themes, time and time again included partnerships and thoughtful planning. Here are some words from Jeff Niermeyer that we wanted to share with you. We have many challenges before us with respect to our watersheds and water supplies, including supplying water to a growing and prosperous Utah. A piecemeal approach will leave us with a drastically changed Wasatch landscape in the future.

Many of you have successfully real estate transactions in Utah or Idaho. This program will bring forth one at a time, and not in relation to each other. In this manner, we are missing the critically important picture of the cumulative impacts to our watersheds. The proposed Congressional SkiLink legislation, the numerous other ski area expansions plans, and additional ski area expansion plans, would have significant impacts to our environment and our communities. We must work together to protect our Wasatch Mountains and their streams to our public benefit.

Many of you have successfully real estate transactions in Utah or Idaho. This program will bring forth one at a time, and not in relation to each other. In this manner, we are missing the critically important picture of the cumulative impacts to our watersheds. The proposed Congressional SkiLink legislation, the numerous other ski area expansions plans, and additional ski area expansion plans, would have significant impacts to our environment and our communities. We must work together to protect our Wasatch Mountains and their streams to our public benefit.

Looking for Gifts with a Benefit?

This fundraising program is a partnership with local photographer John Blumenkamp of Teton Trail Photography. Invasive Weed Removals and our partners. Here is a collection of stewardship days being organized by FOA to verify dates and for event details. For more information, please visit friendsofalta.org or call Jennifer Clancy at 801-272-7474.

In Memorial

Bill Levitt, 1917 - 2009

Board of Directors
Mimi Levitt, President
Timothy Hogen, Vice President
Skip Silliloway, Treasurer & VP
Bruce Shand, Secretary
Nick Besobrasov
Shannon Gordon
John Holland
Peg Kramer
Chris Mikell
Richard Thomas
Ted Wilson

Advisory Committee
Albert Andrews, Jr.; Mpls MN
David Arnold III; Milton MA
Brad Barber; SLC UT
Jayne Belnap, PhD; Moab UT
Gene Bliss, MD; SLC UT
Skip Branch; SLC UT
Laura McIndoe Briefer; SLC UT
Margot & Fred Churchill; Bass River MA
Michael Goldstein, MD; Brookline MA
Jack Hoag; Wayland MA
Barbara Hoffman; NYC, NY
Loren Kroenke; SLC UT
Fay Michener; NYC NY
Don Miller; Carbondale, CO
Jeff Niermeyer; SLC UT
Felix G. Rokatyn; NYC NY
Dick Schatten; Farmington, CT
Elfriede Shane; Alta UT
Pat Shea; SLC UT
Norman C Tanner; SLC UT

Sponsors
Robert E. Anderson; SLC UT
The Byrne Family; Alta UT
Charles Carroll; Rowayton, CT
Fred Crow; Huron OH
Donna J Dean; Darien CT
Dick & Lois Gunther; LA CA
Henry J Heimlich, MD; Cincinnati OH
John Horvitz; NYC NY
Randhir Jham & Aimee Mann; Alta UT
Dr. Steve Martin; Ross CA
John Morrison; Wayzata MN
Donn & Janet Mosser; Minneapolis MN
Jay & Kathy Oggsbury;
Greenwood Village CO
“Uncle Ed” Ohm; Holmdel NJ
Frederick C Paine; Kailua HI
Amb. Nicholas Platt; NYC NY
Bill & Suzy Ryting; SLC UT
Andy Spiegel; Highland Park IL
Naomi Wain; Santa Barbara CA
John Winsor; Boulder CO

Printed on 100% recycled paper
I don’t consider myself a true powder hound, and I’m not really one between Michael and me, but I do find myself spiritually drawn to my mat and exquisitely experienced that first downward dog from this gem of a place for ever changing reasons. This past season my lins, now, waits impatiently for me at the checkout line at Watson’s.

I don’t consider myself a true powder hound, and I’m not really one to fly west on a forecast, the subject of much friendly discourse between Michael and me, but I do find myself spiritually drawn to this gem of a place for ever changing reasons. This past season my favorite Alta moment was walking to Stacy’s Tuesday night yoga class at Goldminer’s in frigid temperatures after a day of zero visibility skiing. Exhilarated by the brutal weather, I took my place on my mat and exquisitely experienced that first downward dog from the depths of my frozen toes.

Who needs the Himalayas when we’ve got it all right in our own backyard—the challenges of high altitude, the fury of Mother Nature, the promise of unbroken tracks in the depths of backcountry deep powder, and the joy of burdening oneself with the weight of skis and boots on one’s back, and climbing high into the mountains in a quest to find one last patch of white, in the carefree summer months.

Some have said that “Alta took their heart, that it’s about renewal and reconnection to nature, that it means family and friends, that it’s a home away from home, that it’s about man and nature as one,” it is definitely not Park City. The Alta Experience is a relationship that shows promise and longevity, “enjoyment of beauty, thrills, permanence, friends, and unpretentiousness; it’s a slice of heaven.” There is something so thrilling in finding enjoyment in “learning to ski when you can’t see.” These are “magnificent mountains with an amazing energy; it is heaven on earth, and fills the soul with joy.” It is here for our pleasure and for our dedicated stewardship.

Please consider the many Friends of Alta opportunities to help perpetuate the Alta Experience - whether it be funding, doing trail maintenance or planting trees. Alta and Albion Basin must be preserved for generations to come.

Thank you—
Peg Kramer
In addition to those listed below as contributors during the 2011 calendar year, we would like to thank all those who wished to remain anonymous. We apologize for any misspellings or omissions; please notify us at info@friendsofalta.org if either has occurred, or if you would like to be added to this list. Thank you!

**COLUMBINE: $1,000+**
- Albion Financial Group
- Alta Shuttle
- George Armantrout
- Sam Bailey
- Fred M. Bering
- Nick & Ellen Besobrasov
- Briggs Family
- David Brinton
- The Byrne Family
- Judith & Murray Danforth
- Chuck & Marna Davis
- Donna Dean
- Roxane Googin
- Bill & Shannon Gordon
- Peg & Mike Kramer
- Janet and Karl Krieger
- Mimi Levitt
- Charley Marshall MD & Rosa Marshall
- Jonathan and Judy Nelson

**NEW MEXICO WINTER STUDY GROUP**
- Frederick Paine
- Nicholas Platt
- Paul V. Profeta
- Susan Remau
- John & Leslie Reynolds
- Elfriede Shane
- Stuart & Molly Silloway
- Bill & Carolyn Stutt
- Jack W. Swenson
- RioTinto

**ALPINE SHOOTING STAR: $500-$999**
- David Arnold III
- Black Diamond Equipment
- Rudy Bunzl
- Reid & Robin Cederlof
- Trish & Bob Cypher
- Marcus and Cassie Dippo
- Nick and Courtney Gibbs
- Anne & Paul Grand
- Whitney & Elizabeth Hatch
- Jack Hoag
- John H. Holland, Jr.
- Austin Hoyt
- Peter & Karen Jakes
- Randhir Jham & Aimee Mann
- John and Bonnie Morgan

**Dr. Donn & Janet Mosser**
- "Uncle Ed" Ohm
- Purjes Foundation
- Robert Scheuer
- Richard & Susan Thomas
- Brinkley Thorne
- Kent & Patty Troup
- Ted Wilson & Holly Mulllen
- Eleanor & Fred Winston
- John and Joan Wories

**INDIAN PAINTBRUSH: $100-$499**
- Albany Home for Unwed Skiers
- Fred & Terri Ayer
- Walter Barrett
- Bruce & Judy Bell
- Mr. & Mrs. Peter Benedict
- Mr. Perry Benson, Jr.
- David & Sandra Berler
- Judy & Dalil Berlfein
- Pete & Ruth Bleyer
- George W. Blossom, III
- Jo Blum
- Skip Branch
- Jackie Brody
- Edward Bursk
- Janet M. Carpenter
- Kurt & Deborah Christiansen
- Percy Chubb
- Ann & Reed Coleman
- Mr. Beverly C. Compton, Jr.
- Connie & Mike Cone
- Bob & Glenda Cottrill
- David & Kitty Crosby
- Cliff Curry
- Gregg & Sheridan Davis
- Sam Dippo
- John & Barbara Dunlea
- Wynnette Erickson
- Kim & Nancy Faulkner
- Jim Giddies
- Pete Gibbs
- Jock Glidden
- Peter & Jane Goeddeck
- Michael Goldstein
- Lawrence B. Goodman
- Rudolf & Dorothy Graf
- David & Jean Granger
- Bill Gratz
- Haig Benefits LLC
- John R. Hays, Jr.
- Frank & Jane Heart
- Libby and Craig Heimark
- Tim Hogen
- John Horvitz
- Jill & Ken Iscol
- Dr. Harry Jacob
- Jonathan Kaufelt & Holly Corn
- Pamela & David Kenney
- Anne Garrels & Vint Lawrence
- Linda Levine
- Victoria Levitt
- Mrs. Robert O. Levitt
- Dale Lindquist
- Tia Welch Maerz
- Steve Malawista
- George Mallis
- John & Megan Martinelli
- Brian R. Matas
- Steve & Corey McGrath
- Chris & Sue Mikell
- Dan B. Miller

**LUPINE: $50-$99**
- David Agler
- Dan & Mim Allison
- Eleanor & Bob Anderson
- Barrett Family
- Tom Berggren
- Hal & Jean Berlfein
- Ed Blaney
- The Blower Family
- Kenyon C. Bolton III
- Margot & Fred Churchill
- Anne E. Cramer
- Marjorie Davidson
- Anne, Margaret, & Michael Davis
- John N. Eldridge
- Michael Grace
- Pamela E. & Richard Hanrahan
- E. Quinn Ives
- Andrea Jacoby
- Betty Johanna
- Bradford S. Lovette
- Robert E. Miller
- Carol B Munro in memory Robyn
- Leary Mancini
- Marie-Claude & Bob Myers
- Tom Nash

**IN kind SUPPORT**
- Albion Financial Group
- Alta Community Enrichment
- The Alta Lodge
- Alta’s Rustler Lodge
- Alta Ski Area & Alta Environmental Center
- Alta Shuttle
- The Alta Store & David Davenport
- Town of Alta
- Ruth Rogers Altmann
- Backcountry.com
- John Blumenkamp
- Cottonwood Canyons Foundation
- The Copper Onion
- Joe Freeman
- Hansen Barnett & Maxwell CPA
- Creighton Hart
- John Holland
- Monarch Mountain
- Mountain Hardware
- Mimi Muray
- ParkParcels & Robin Roller
- Powder Magazine
- Printer’s Inc.
- The Shallow Shaft Restaurant
- Utah Mountain Adventures
- Xmission

**PHOTOGRAPH CONTRIBUTIONS**
- David Arnold
- John M Barstow
- John Blumenkamp
- Jay Beyer
- Adam Clark
- Lee Cohen
- Dina Freedman
- Howie Garber
- Stephen Gelb
- Richard Grossen
- Bruce Huclo
- James Kay
- Jeremy Koons
- Annie & Sam Kramer
- Alan Levit
- Mimi Muray Levit
- Maura Olivos
- Fred Paine
- Dobber Price
- Nick Rice
- Mike Schirf
- Tara Thomas
- Tom Till
- Steven Trumble
- Noah Wetzel
- Julie Willis
- Matt Wolfe
On March 30th, Friends of Alta held its annual public meeting - many thanks to all who attended. Presentations by Friends of Alta President, Mimi Levitt and Executive Director, Jen Clancy focused on fulfilling FOA’s mission of protecting our open spaces and watershed. Many FOA partners were also invited to attend and present their efforts: Town of Alta, U.S. Forest Service, SLC Dept. of Public Utilities, Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, and Alta Ski Area and it’s Environmental Center. The outstanding themes, time and time again included partnerships and thoughtful planning. Here are some words from Jeff Niermeyer that we wanted to share with you addressing the current pressures on Alta and the entire Wasatch.

During the last few years, the pressures for development and additional use of our Wasatch watersheds have increased significantly. Cumulatively, all of these new developments, including at least nine additional ski area expansion plans, would have significant impacts to the watersheds, resulting in degradation of the main source of water for a half-million residents and visitors in the Salt Lake Valley.

Salt Lake City has great concern that the development plans promulgated by various commercial interests in the Wasatch are being brought forth one at a time, and not in relation to each other. In this manner, we are missing the critically important picture of the cumulative impacts to our watersheds. The proposed Congressional SkiLink legislation, the numerous other ski area expansions plans, and other proposals together will cause large-scale disruption of watershed conditions in the headwaters of Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons.

For decades, Salt Lake City, the US Forest Service, and others, including Friends of Alta, have recognized the extraordinary importance of the Wasatch Mountains and their streams to our public water supplies and our community’s well-being. The water emanating from the Wasatch constitutes the majority of the drinking water supply for residents of the Salt Lake Valley and is therefore vital to the health and economic prosperity of our communities. We appreciate that Friends of Alta has devoted more than 30 years of stewardship of this critical natural resource.

We have many challenges before us with respect to our watersheds and water supplies, including supplying water to a growing and prosperous Salt Lake Valley and adapting to climate change impacts. It is imperative that our watersheds continue to maintain a high level of ecological integrity to meet these challenges. A piecemeal approach to development, and the scale associated with what we know at this point about various development efforts in the Wasatch watersheds, will leave us with a drastically changed Wasatch landscape in the future - one that threatens the lifeblood of our community. It is our hope that our collective community, including government, non-profit, and private sectors, can come together to plan the future of our watersheds in a holistic manner before we make irreparable, piecemeal, and bad precedent-setting decisions.

~Jeff Niermeyer, Director of Salt Lake City Dept. of Public Utilities

Save these Dates: Summer Volunteer Opportunities
Here is a collection of stewardship days being organized by FOA and our partners. Please visit friendsofalta.org/support/volunteer to verify dates and for event details.

Invasive Weed Removals
July 10th & 19th, August 9th
September 6th

Clean Up Days
Little Cottonwood: June 20th
Alta Ski Area: July 21st

Trail Work & Restoration
July 7th

Wasatch Wildflower Festival
Alta: July 28 (Festival 27th – 29th)

Alta Nursery Addition
August 29th

Memorial Tree Planting
September 14th

In 2011 Memorial Trees were planted for the following individuals. Please let Jen Clancy know if you have a loved one that you would like to plant a tree for.

Michael Linville
Denis Lucas
Tucker Taffe
Sam Williams
Jim Wallie

Friends of Alta Real Estate Advantage Program
Mention this program to broker Jim Williams and he will donate $1,000 to FOA from his commission with the successful closure of any successful real estate transaction in Utah or Idaho. This program will not affect the closing price of the buyer or seller. Please help spread the word about this unique program and its benefits to FOA. A special thank you to everyone who has supported FOA through this program over the past few years!

Looking for Gifts with a Benefit?
This fundraising program is a partnership with local photographer John Blumenkamp of Teton Trail Photography

50% of the net proceeds from the online Albion Basin Gallery will be donated to FOA at:

John Blumenkamp.artistwebsites.com/art/all/albion+basin/all

ALTA SHUTTLE
For All Your Transportation Needs
1-866-274-0225
www.alta shuttle.com

This past ski season Alta Shuttle continued its tradition of donating 2% of all shuttle services to/from the town of Alta to FOA. This program is just one example of how Alta Shuttle has contributed to the local community. Special thanks to Alta Shuttle, Tom, and all of the shuttle drivers for supporting Friends of Alta.