



Trail Blazer

Vol. 93 No. 7 www.trailsclub.org

July 2020



Backpackers approach Mt. St. Helens. Photo: Nathan Barton

July Events Summary

All Wednesdays		Evening Hikes (see <i>Repeating Hikes</i> , Page 3)
—	—	<i>Next Board Meeting: 4 August</i>
9	Thurs	N. Portland - Kelly Pt. Ride
12	Sun	Canby to Sawtell Hill Ride
16-18	Thu-Sat	Mt. Hood N/NW Side Backpack
18	Sat	Tour de Westside Bike Ride
25-26	Sat-Sun	Tyee Lodge: Work Trop
25	Sat	Cornelius Pass/Germantown Ride
Scheduling, fees, and lodge availability are updated on website www.trailsclub.org		

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

1st Reading: Amber Tilton, sp. Bob Horn, Pete Recksiek
 273 total members; Golden: 12; Junior: 3; Life: 36; Life/
 Golden: 2; Provisional: 6

Re-opening During COVID

Friends and members, we will be opening up our activities slowly by having work trips, backpacks, hikes and bike rides in counties that are open for such activities. If you are concerned about COVID and your exposure outside your home, please do not attend these activities. Feel free to stay home for as long as you see fit. Do not prevent those members and guests from enjoying the outdoors to the extent that the governor has deemed appropriate. We will be following all state and county guidelines during our events. Check the [calendar](#) for upcoming events.

Tyee Lodge Approved for Recreational Use

As of 5/30/2020, the Forest Service has approved recreational use of Tyee Lodge. We must comply with all Covid19 rules and regulations, so this still means 6 feet of distance and inside the lodge masks are required where practical (club rule). It also means that no more than 10 people can be in on area at the same time (like standing around in one spot getting ready to do something). Just as restaurants are not allowed to operate at full capacity, Tyee should also be limited to about 25, with a maximum occupancy of 5 in each dorm (unless a group is all from the same home). Tent camping outside is strongly encouraged. Hosts should coordinate food such that only 1-2 people are using the kitchen at any one time and hosts should assign a periodic disinfectant wipe down. I will provide spray bottles of alcohol to disinfect toilet seats before use. Please remember that in all Trails Club activities you are voluntarily and knowingly assuming the risks at inherent to all social activities at this time.

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THE TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON
P.O. Box 67095, Portland, Oregon 97268-1095

The purpose of the Trails Club is to foster and stimulate interest in hiking, climbing, skiing, camping and other similar outdoor activities and to promote activities of a social nature for the benefit of its members. The Club's interests and concerns are conservation of natural beauty and resources of the country. All Club activities are affected by the voluntary participation of the members. Membership requirements include an approved outdoor activity, a scheduled lodge visit, recommendations by two members within a one-year period, approval by the Board of Trustees, and payment of \$50 in dues and a \$15 entrance fee.

Board Meetings: Usually first Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at Mazamas Mountaineering Center, 527 SE 43rd Ave. at SE Stark St. Portland, OR

President	Sheryl Wagner President@trailsclub.org
Vice President	Beverly Drottar VicePres@trailsclub.org
Secretary	Rebecca Knudeson Secretary@trailsclub.org
Treasurer	Bill Yandon Treasurer@trailsclub.org
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Trustee-Publications	Joel Reitz PublicationChair@trailsclub.org
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Editor	Dave Hays Blazer@trailsclub.org

Changes and other club correspondence should be sent to:
Membership@trailsclub.org or

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EVENT CANCELATIONS

Please note that some events may be canceled at a future date, depending on late-breaking COVID-19 related issues, etc. Check the [website](#) regularly.

Meeting Places

Friendly House NW Thurman and 26th. TriMet bus service on routes 15, 17 and 77 is nearby.

Gateway TCO : From I-205: take the Glisan Street exit, proceed east to 99th Ave, turn north, proceed a couple blocks and park in the Park and Ride garage. Meet at the SE corner of the structure (near the stairs) on the sidewalk (directly inside if it is raining). From I-84: take I-205, take the above exit and instructions

Mazamas Mountaineering Center (MMC): A common meeting place for Board meetings and other administrative functions. It is located at 527 SE 43rd Avenue, one block south of Stark St.

Target: A common westside meeting place for hikes. Exit US 26 at NW 185th Ave and drive south to Evergreen Pkwy turn east (left) one block to NW Town Center Dr., Park and meet on the west side of Target's parking lot across from Starbucks Coffee. Tri Met bus service on routes 47, 52 and 89 is nearby.

Tryon Creek State Park: Sometimes used for Wed. AM (and other) hikes. From I-5 South: Take Terwilliger Blvd. exit, bear right, heading south past Taylor's Ferry Rd. and bear left at at Boone's Ferry Rd split, right at second roundabout exit, staying on Terwilliger. Park entrance is a right about one mile past the roundabout. Park near the Nature Center.

Trails Club of Oregon & Meetup Websites

Our website (TrailsClub.org) is the official site for club events and information. There is also a Trails Club Meetup.com site that allows event planners to organize TCO events online, and publicize these events to a wider audience (Meetup.com/Trails-Club-of-Oregon/events/). However, all events posted on the TCO Meetup site should be added to our TCO website as well (and this no longer happens automatically, unfortunately).

While we try to get every event in the Blazer and on the Trails Club website (www.trailsclub.org), some events, especially those planned on short notice, may not appear in the Blazer.

Use the Calendar menu item for a monthly calendar or use the Activities menu to filter events. Registration on the web site is not required to view the events.

Also: All may use the Payment menu item on our web site to use PayPal to pay your dues. You can pay for all members in a household in one transaction.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

North Portland - Kelley Pt. Bike Ride

July 9 (Thu) 9:45 am - 4:00 PM, Class A

Moderately-paced, flat ride with a number of stops through North Portland. We will start at Kenton Park and ride to Kelley Point Park and back. For those interested, we are going to take out lunch at a barbecue restaurant in Kenton after the ride and probably eat in the park. Total mileage around 20 miles. Please email me no later than July 7 if you are interested in this ride, as I may have to limit attendance. Also, I don't ride in the rain or excessive heat, so if either seems possible, check with me on the day of the ride.

Plus be aware that the availability of restrooms has been problematic since the virus, so I can't guarantee that we will find open restrooms on the ride.

Meet: At the corner of N Brandon Ave. and N Willis Blvd on the east side of Kenton Park, 9:45 AM for a 10 AM departure.

Leader: Audrey Perino, 503-522-9911 (cell) or audrey53@comcast.net

Canby to Sawtell Hill Bike Ride

July 12 (Sun) 9:45 am - 4:00 PM, Class C

We will ride mostly on rural roads past farms and countryside, going from Canby to Molalla. Then we will ascend Sawtell Hill Rd, which is a strenuous 1100 ft climb in about 6 miles. As we go up the scenery becomes more forested and there are beautiful views. The rest of the ride is a mix of downhill, flat and rollers. Contact leader to register for the ride and info on start time and location, About 46 miles total. We will be social distancing, wearing masks when within 6 feet of each other, and using hand sanitizer.

Leader: Maureen Covell, charleycvl@aol.com, 503-954-4501

Two Night Backpacking Trip on Mt. Hood's North / Northwest Side

July 16 @ 8:00 am - July 18 @ 2:00 PM

This will be a fun and relaxing trip taking in some of the highlights of the N / NW side of Mt. Hood. Be prepared for fun, positive conversation and beautiful sights!

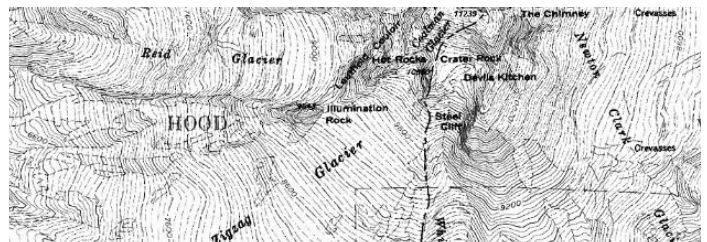
Info: • Mileage over three days: 17 – 24 • Average pace: 1.5 – 2 mph • Group Size: 6 – 7 • As always: Leave no Trace and 10+ Essentials are required • Be prepared for a creek/river crossing or two • Fees: \$6 for non-members / free for TCO members • We'll either meet at the trailhead or somewhere close to town to carpool – depending on public health recommendations. This is TBD and travel and exact meeting time/location will be

REPEATING HIKES

Evening Hikes - Class B, Wednesdays 6-8 PM

Start at 6 PM sharp and hike until 8 PM-ish in Forest Park and the West Hills. Arrive early to find parking, sign in and pay the \$2 hike fee (if not a TCO member) before 6:00. Carry water, a light source, and dress for variable weather. We hike about 6 miles in 2 hours, often with significant elevation gain. Please check each week on the TCO website or Meetup to make sure we have a hike. We may need to cancel when we lack a leader.

July. 8, 15, 22, 29: Meet at Wallace Park between NW 25th and 26th on Raleigh. Leader: Rebecca Knudeson rknudeson@gmail.com 503-639-2234



announced closer to the trip date (but will be Thursday morning either way).

Day 1 (Thursday): Hike Vista Ridge TH to Eden Park (3.5 miles, 1200 gain). We'll set up a base camp, lunch and relax. Then we'll hike up to McNeil Point Shelter (4 miles RT, 900 gain)

Day 2 (Friday): Hike East to Elk Cove and Dollar Lake (6 miles RT, 850 gain) and / or Hike up to Barrett Spur (7 miles, 2200 gain)

Day 3 (Saturday):
Pack up, hike out (3.5 miles), home early afternoon!

Tour de Westside Ride

July 18 10:00 am - 5:00 PM, Class B

We will ride a 22 mile loop with about 1200ft CEG. through the westside bergs of Beaverton, Tigard, Tuallatin and Sherwood. Some of the ride will be on multi-use paths and some on roads. Driving distance from Pioneer Square to the starting point is about 12 miles/25 mins. Bring plenty of water and snacks. We could stop for lunch or sweets in Sherwood. Due to COVID 19 I am limiting this ride to 8 riders. **Please text me to reserve your spot.**

Meet at: Big Al's, 14950 SW Barrows Rd, Beaverton, OR 97007

Leader: Chaz Shaw 503-729-7560, chaznw@gmail.com

Ride with GPS route: <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/7500513>



Post-fire recovery at Nesika. Photo: Ralph Bloemers



Stormy times at Nesika. Photo: Rachel Eggers

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES Continued...

Tye Work Trip July 25– 26

We may need to specify outdoor camping as the primary lodging and dispersed work assignments so folks stay out of other people's areas.

Old Cornelius Pass/Old Germantown Roads Bike Ride July 25 (Sat) 9:00 am - 5:00 PM, Class C

This hilly ride explores the farmland and hills on roads north of Bethany including old Germantown Rd., Skyline Blvd., Old Cornelius Pass Rd., and Phillips Rd. Total distance is approximately 25 miles, with cumulative elevation gain about 1,800 feet. Depending on consensus of the group and any COVID-19 restrictions at the time, we may stop for lunch at the Rock Creek Tavern on Old Cornelius Pass Rd. (<https://www.mcmenamins.com/rock-creek-tavern>).

Note: Following the Trails Club COVID-19 policies, participation is limited to 10 participants. Please bring a cloth face covering and hand sanitizer. Carpooling is discouraged for people not members of the same household. In addition, participants will be asked to sign a COVID-19 acknowledgement. See the policies here: <https://trailsclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/COVID-Policies.pdf>.

Meet: 9 AM. Contact leader by 7:00 p.m. Friday, July 24:

Leader: Dave Crout 503-460-9782,
dave_sandy@comcast.net.

Trip Report: Two-Creeks Ride

On June 19th nine TCO members enjoyed a beautiful sunny day on the Two-Creeks ride in Vancouver, WA. It was the first official TCO ride of the Covid shortened season. All riders were equipped with face masks and maintained proper social distancing during the ride. It was a Friday so the multi-use trails were relatively free of walkers. We started at the east end of Burnt Bridge Creek Trail and cycled about 8 miles to the west end of the trail at Lakeshore Blvd. Then we cycled up the biggest hill of the ride on Lakeshore on to the Felida plateau. A few miles on the Plateau then wheeeeeeeeeee, down to Salmon Creek Trail. About 4 miles on Salmon Creek trail and we arrived at Kline Pond for our short break. Then we rode about a mile up highway 99, turned left and stair stepped our way through neighborhoods back to the start. Before the end of the ride stopped at Dutch Bros for an iced coffee. Good fun with good people on a beautiful day for riding. If you would like to join the fun, check out bicycling events in the calendar. You can also contact Dave Crout to put you on his list for event reminders. - Charles Shaw



Bikers pause for a group shot: Charles Shaw

CONSERVATION NOTE

As This month your Conservation Committee would again like to present you with an article by Mazama Conservation Committee member Kate Evans, previously published in the Mazama Bulletin. It is a bit less timely now, as we are already escaping back into the great outdoors. It is still good, however, to note that our local conservation non-profits continued to be hard at work during their covid confinement, and to take notice of some of the excellent webinars which they produced.

Conservation Webinars in the Time of Corona

By Kate Evans, Mazama Conservation Committee

What can we who love the outdoors do as we slowly begin to emerge from COVID lockdown? You can check out the many hour-long, educational and entertaining webinars conservation organizations have been featuring on their websites.

Friends of the Columbia Gorge (gorgefriends.org) has three Gorgeous Wildlife Webinars, starring American Pikas, native bees, and Western pond turtles. Has anyone ever see a pika in the Gorge? Probably not, but you may have heard their distinctive whistle from scree slopes, and it is fascinating to learn why this alpine critter is doing so well in the Gorge. And who knew that Western pond turtles can live to be 50 or 60 years old? The webinars are available on the Friends You Tube channel, which also has Oregon Field Guide episodes, waterfalls, wildflowers, Kim Stafford's Gorge haiku, videos of the Eagle Creek fire and many other treasures.

Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center (kswild.org) has a three part Fire and Climate Summit on Reducing Fire Hazards in the Wildland Urban Interface, Aboriginal Fire Stewardship in the Klamath Siskiyou, and Climate Smart Conservation. Columbia Riverkeeper (columbiariverkeepers.org) features two webinars: Removing Lower Snake River Dams to Protect Salmon and Or-

cas and the High Risks at Hanford.

Oregon Wild (oregonwild.org) has a number of webcasts, including Volcanoes of the Cascades (a fantastic and beautiful one-hour geology lesson), The Mysterious World of the Marbled Murrelet, Staying Connected to Nature, Northwest Forests and Carbon: Science and Solutions, The Return of the Condor, The Lost Sea Otters of Oregon, Hiking the Wonders of Mt. Hood, and Knowing Oregon's Bees. It's inspiring to see their films about restoration efforts for the Marbled Murrelets, Condors, and Sea Otters. These are all available under the Oregon Wild Wildblog; they are also continuing to add more webinars.

The Oregon Natural Desert Association (onda.org) has completed their High Desert Academy, their digital event series playing from March through May, but the program is available on their site under Get Involved and Previous Events. Here are the titles: Desert Hiking Tips and Trips; Steen Mt.: Wilderness Haven; Multi-Sport Adventures on the Oregon Desert Trail; Hart, Sheldon, and the Land Between; The Wild Owyhee; Boots, Bikes, and Boats in Eastern Oregon; How to Protect Desert Rivers; How to Build a Beaver Dam; and How to Use your Voice for Public Lands. Currently ONDA is featuring discussions about their conservation vision, environmental policy, and the value of wild rivers in the desert. They are also slowly adding stewardship projects to their schedule, including fence building, trail work, and building beaver dam analogs.

We hope you have a chance to enjoy some of these webinars. You can also learn about opportunities for action, such as the Cascade Forest Conservancy's No Mine on St. Helens, Oregon Wild's campaign for endangered species status for the Marbled Murrelet, plans to improve the Oregon Forest Practices Act, and the latest 350PDX actions. You can also consult the calendars of these organizations for upcoming stewardship projects.

Beyond conservation efforts, these websites are useful as you plan your post-lockdown adventures. For example, if you are planning a hiking, climbing, biking, camping or backpacking trip to the Oregon High Desert, start with ONDA. For hikes in the Gorge see Friends of the Gorge, www.readyssetgorge.com for Public Lands Recreation Site Status, or Oregon Hikers at www.oregonhikers.org.

Stay safe, be well, and enjoy our beautiful Pacific Northwest!



Trip Report: Nesika Lodge June Work Trip

Nesika Lodge work trip report for June: Nesika had a very productive work trip ran i accordance with Civid 19 rules. Masks were worn, 6 feet social distancing was maintained, hands washed before entering building, no one sleeping in building. Work was done on out house. Steps were placed, skirting finished. Baby trees were Cleared. The road and trail were brushed from lodge to far end of ornament trail. We were blessed with a fabulous lightening storm on Saturday night which left hail on the ground Sunday morning. We would like to extend a special thanks to Tim Kutscha for donating a washing machine and trailer/material hauler. We would like to extend special thanks to Lloyd Luther for bringing in the washing machine to assist with maintaining Covid cleanliness. We would like to thank Bob Horn for donating two slabs for benches. We would like to give special thanks to Amber Tilton and Dolores Neibergall for donating over 30 hand made masks for prevention of the spread of Covid. Also special thanks to Tom Neibergall for working the entire day Saturday sorting and preserving old pictures and writing an index for the pictures after copying them. What a great work trip and to top it off we attained 4 new members and nearly \$2000 in donations.

Tips for Preserving Nature While Hiking

Some helpful tips submitted by Mark Steele from [this site](#):

STAY ON THE TRAIL

When going off a trail, you will likely damage the vegetation that will be stepped on as well as contribute to erosion.



AVOID WILDLIFE

If you encounter a wild animal on your hike, stay a safe distance away. Do not try to feed the animal. This will not only increase your safety, but the animal's as well.



LEAVE NO TRACE

Follow the Leave No Trace principles. If you bring food or drinks with you, hold on to the trash until you find the proper receptacle to dispose of it.



CLEAN YOUR SHOES

After you're done with your hike, the bottom of your shoes may be covered in mud or seeds. Wipe them down to help prevent spreading invasive species to new areas.



DO NOT TAKE ANYTHING

Do not take plants, rocks, etc. while hiking. Removing these items can disrupt the ecosystem. Some plants may even be protected so you are not allowed to take them.



CLEAN UP THE TRAIL

While hiking, you may come across trash left behind by other hikers. Though it's not yours, clean up any trash you find, such as water bottles or wrappers.



Board Meeting

June 2, 2020, 7-9 PM

Locations: Zoom

Attendees:

- Sheryl Wagner President
- Beverly Drotter Vice President
- Bill Yandon Treasurer
- Rebecca Knudeson Secretary
- Glen Conrad Nesika Trustee
- Nathen Barton Tyee Trustee
- Lori Leach Membership Trustee
- Joel Reitz Publications Trustee
- Linda Conrad Social Trustee
- Susan Ashenfelter Trips trustee

1. Approved meeting minutes from May

2. Treasurer's Report, Bill reported

New Acct:

Beginning Balance	\$18,008.30
Payments	\$3632.13
Deposits	\$515.87
Ending Balance	\$14,892.04

Old Acct:

Balance	\$3370.43
Total checking accounts	\$18,262.47

3. Committee Reports

- a. *Nesika*, Glen reported.
We have the permit from Gresham to rebuild Redwing. We have a finalized 5 year permit from the USFS to enter. We still need to contact them whenever we enter. They want a copy of the permit in each vehicle. During COVID we need to make sure our trips are essential (maintenance). We're working on a list of needed supplies. Work trip in June.
- b. *Tyee Lodge*, Nathen reported. Last weekend Bill, Richard and Nathen went in to check on lodge. It looked good. We're looking for a source of firewood. June 20 is first work trip of the year. Discussed COVID plans : wear masks inside or when a 6 foot distance is difficult, 25 limit, 10 people in small area, only 1 household group sleeping in each dorm, 1 at a time in bathroom, disinfect toilet seats and handles each time, only cooks in the kitchen with masks, after dinner 2 more with masks to do dishes and clean up, disinfect tables and counters with bleach, eat outside, have a sign in release of responsibility.
- c. *Membership*, Lori reported.

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273 total members; Golden: 12; Junior: 3; Life: 36; Life/Golden: 2; Provisional: 6

d. *Publications*, Joel reported. 7 requests for print versions of the directory. Will work on getting a pdf of the directory on the website so members can print if desired. Payments for lodge fees can now be paid by PayPal with host watching to see that they actually paid with a phone. We are still in need of a new person to edit the Blazer.

e. *Trips*, Susan reported.
We can start planning hikes in opened areas. Small groups (10) with masks and social distance. Multnomah County has not yet opened, but hike can begin there when they open. Susan has a first aid book available for \$5.

f. *Social*, Linda reported.
June 27 scheduled for a first aid class but still waiting for specific information. Picnic in Clark County in August. Will need to limit the group.

4. New Business

- a. We can put events on the calendar for groups of 25 in Oregon except a limit in Multnomah County of 10.
- b. A wilderness medicine course asked for a link on our resource page. It has been added to our site.
- c. Nathen will look into an electronic key entry to Tyee.

Next meeting Aug. 4 on Zoom.



Sunrise over the Gorge near Nesika. Photo: Rachel Eggers

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July 2020

Gentle Reminders

For activities such as bicycle, snowshoe, and x-c skiing check with the leaders for the difficulty level. Good equipment for the specific activity is required for all events. For hikes, snowshoe:

Class A—Shorter, less strenuous activity, typically 4 to 8 miles, less than 1500 feet elevation gain.

Class B—Moderate to difficult, typically 6 to 12 miles, up to 3000 feet of elevation gain.

Class C—Long and difficult, strong experienced participants only, typically over 8 miles, and over 3000 feet of elevation gain. Boots are recommended for B/C hikes.

Harsh or unusual conditions may greatly increase the exertion and skill required. Be prepared for the level of activity you are planning to take. Contact the trip leader if you have any questions and to let him or her know that you will be attending. Bring plenty of water and a sack lunch. Please, no alcohol. Remember to bring your Ten Essentials. Pets allowed on designated trips only.

Stay with the group and follow the leader. The leader is responsible for the group's safety. The leader determines which route is taken. The leader has authority to determine if a participant is prepared for the activity. Group safety must come first.

Fees

There is no charge to Trails Club members for day activities; non-members pay \$2. Please contribute to any carpooling expenses at the rate of \$.15 per mile. With multiple riders the driver can collect up to \$.30 per mile shared by all the riders. Other fees may apply.

If you have RSVP'd for an activity at a lodge involving food expense and are unable to participate, you are obligated to do one of the following: Cancel before the food is purchased, find someone to take your place, or pay for your share of the food.

All activities must be approved by the appropriate activity Coordinator or the Trips Trustee.

Newsletters

Send write-ups to: blazer@trailsclub.org

Submissions are due by the fifteenth of the month prior to publication.

Please use the following format:

Month Day (Day of week) Event Title - Class A, B, C

Description Text - Please include distance, elevation change, and round trip driving distance.

Do not capitalize full words, lines or sentences for emphasis
Day trip descriptions should be under 100 words.

Depart: Meeting place, with address if possible, and departure time

Leader: Name, Phone, and/or email.

Editor: Dave Hays

Send pictures, new events, corrections and anything else for the Trails Club of Oregon website to:

webmaster@trailsclub.org