



# Trail Blazer

Vol. 93 No. 10 [www.trailsclub.org](http://www.trailsclub.org)

October 2020



Hiker dwarfed by the scale of the scenery along the Yocum Ridge hike. Photo: Dolores Anderson Niebergall

## October Events Summary

All Wednesdays		Evening Hikes (see <i>Repeating Hikes, Page 3</i> )
5-8	Mon-Thr	Mt. Margaret Backpack
6	Tues	<i>Board Meeting</i>
14-17	Wed-Sat	Golden Lake Loop
17	Sat	Membership Hike, Gov't Camp
17	Sat	Tyee Work Party, Last of 2020!
23-25	Fri-Sun	Nesika Work Trip
24	Saturday	Membership Hike, Nesika
Scheduling, fees, and lodge availability are updated on website <a href="http://www.trailsclub.org">www.trailsclub.org</a>		

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

2nd Readings approved: Deborah Chen, Troy Schubert, Ralph Bloemers, Angel Mazon, Chris Seubert, Charles Barker, C. Margarita Ferrer Vega.

## Tyee Lodge Survey

The Tyee lodge committee desires to improve the lodge experience and so commenced a survey of TCO members to get input. We reached out to all members with emails or Facebook messages if possible. A total of 124 unique responses were recorded.

Some baseline questions looked at attitudes of the club as a whole. Most do not regularly participate with the club but at the same time report that they recommend the club to others which seems like a contradiction. About half the respondents do not feel the club is staying relevant with the times and another half did.

## Annual Meeting: Nov 8

The TCO Annual Meeting is planned for Sunday, November 8th., perhaps from 2-4 pm.

It will have a virtual component and possibly a physical component as well. Logistics are currently being worked out, stay tuned for more info.

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

*Editor's Note: Sorry folks, missed being able to advertise the Mt. Margaret hike, and the big Cascades Lake Loop 4-day hike. Working with very limited capacity.*



**Membership Hike & Work Trip at Tyee Lodge and Mt. Hood**

**October 17**

**Hike: 9 am, at the Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood**  
**Work Party: 11 am - 8:00 pm**

**Hike:** Julia and Shirley will lead a TCO membership hike. \*\*\* Very important \*\*\* Please meet at Timberline lodge at 9am. You do not have to participate in the Tyee work trip to join this hike. Bring your usual backpacking gear, and

*Continued Page 3...*

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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

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Changes and other club correspondence should be sent to:  
[Membership@trailsclub.org](mailto:Membership@trailsclub.org) or

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Portland, OR 97268-1095

## 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](http://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/](http://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](http://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 Continued**

as always be prepared for rain and in this season be prepared for cold. Here is a [link](#) to the trail.

**Work Trip** (Nathan Barton, TyeeWinter@trailsclub.org): Saturday Oct 17 we will have the last Tyee work party of the year. If enough people can help we will rent a log splitter and we will replace some toilets inside the lodge, do some cleaning and winterize the building.

Tyee is one of our two mountain homes and this is a great opportunity to show some love to a building that has been so good to us. We will provide lunch and dinner so please RSVP so we can be prepared.

We can still use the summer route and park right in front of the lodge. If you would like directions that include a map, please message me and I will send you a pdf document.

These are the summer directions to the lodge:

- As you drive up 26, turn left up to Timberline Lodge. In a few hundred feet there is a road to the left.
- Make the turn into the road and pass straight through an intersection, passing a gate on West Leg Road.
- Now you drive about an exact 0.7 miles. You will pass the Mazama lodge pretty quick, and still have 0.3-0.4 miles to go. Drive slowly, you are looking for a driveway to your right with a green gate, and you want that driveway.
- You know you have gone too far if you see a driveway with a brown gate (that is the boy scout lodge), OR if you pass a gate on West Leg Road itself. If you pass either of these, turn around and look for the green gate.



**Membership Hike at Nesika Lodge**

**October 24 8 am, at Lewis and Clark State Park**

We will meet at Lewis and Clark State Park at 8:00 AM and proceed to the gate for the road to Nesika at milepost 10 on Larch Mountain Road. From there, once we unlock the gate, we'll drive to a point three and one half miles from the lodge and park. The hike from there will be along the primitive road to Nesika, mostly downhill going and slightly uphill on the way back. Hike is thru typical Gorge Forrest, with some areas showing burn from the Eagle Creek Fire in 2017.

Lunch will be provided at the the Lodge, but brings water and snacks. Sturdy hiking shoes, 10 essentials, and noncotton clothing encouraged. There will be a work

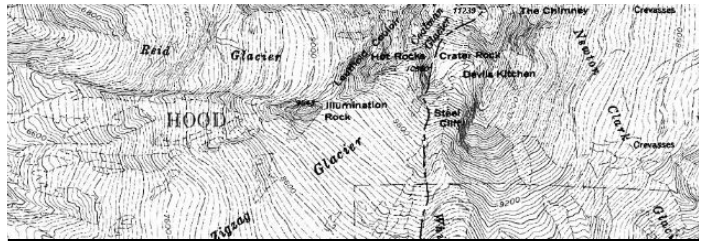
**REPEATING HIKES**

**Evening Hikes - Class B, Wednesdays 6-8 PM**

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



party at the Lodge, hikers are not required to work, but can tour Nesika and visit with Club Members maintaining Nesika and rebuilding the dorm that burnt in the Eagle Creek Fire.

Hike fulfills qualifications for Club membership for those that desire to join.

Fees: One dollar for non members. Lead: Bill Yandon, wkyandon@gmail.com



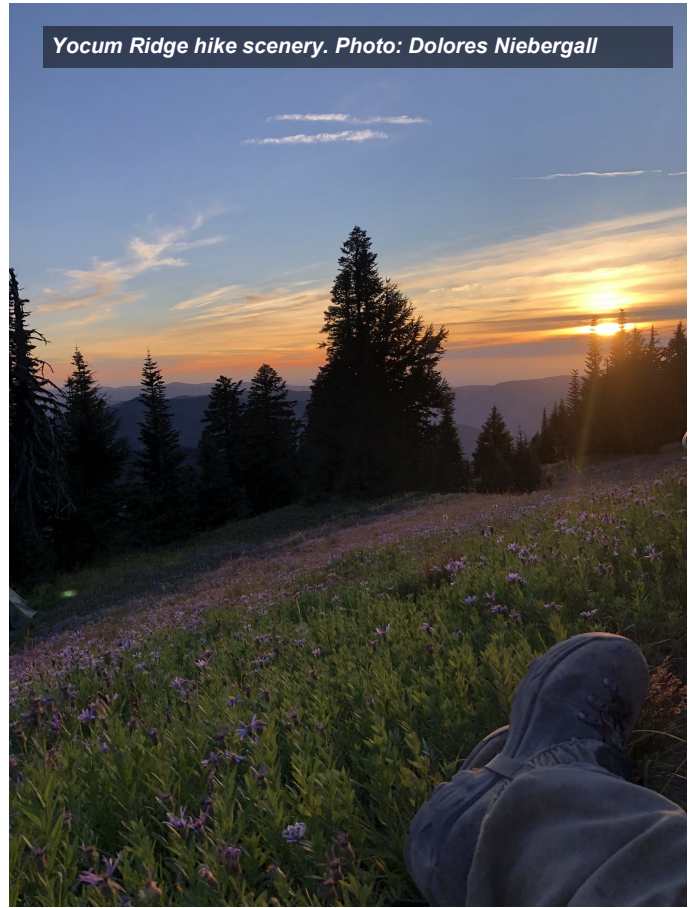
**Nesika Lodge Work Trip**

**October 23, 9 am - Oct. 25 at noon**

Final work trip of the year. We will be getting lodge ready for winter, putting wood in, finish organizing tools in our new dorm basement. Sleeping is still in your tent. COVID restrictions; mask in lodge, wash hands with bleach before entering, masks around food. Gate will be opened Fri., Sat., and Sunday morning at 9:00 AM sharp. People will be leaving daily in PM. Bring tools for weed whacking and clearing trails. If you are interested in leading a day hike on Saturday let me know. Any questions call me at 360-907-5096. If you can open the gate on Sat. or Sun. mornings let me know. Meet just past the 10 mile marker on Larch MTN Road. The gate is just before snow gate on left side of the road. Please let me know how long you are staying so we can provide food. Lead: Linda Conrad, lgconrad@aol.com



*Linda Marie Conrad having at a tree that needs cutting.  
Photo: Dolores Niebergall*



*Yocum Ridge hike scenery. Photo: Dolores Niebergall*



*Yocum Ridge hike scenery. Photo: Dolores Niebergall*



*"Turkey Tails" fungi. Photo: Dolores Niebergall*



*Nesika repair / rebuilding work making great strides! Photo: Glen Conrad*

# Board Meeting

## Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 9/8/20

**Time:** 7-9 pm

**Location:** Conrads' house or Zoom

**Attendees:**

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

**Absent:** Bill Yandon Treasurer

Approved August meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report for August:

Beginning Balance,.....	\$18,565.46
Checks and Payments.....	\$14,623.11
Deposits.....	\$25,145.92
Ending Balance,.....	\$10,522.81

Treasurer's report via email from Bill:

\$25,000 was transferred from the Fidelity Account to our US Bank checking account. The funds will help cover the cost of materials for the Nesika Redwing rebuild. There should be enough to cover supplies needed this year, plus taxes and insurance for both lodges. Parr has been paid for delivered materials. Siding and roofing are yet to be shipped.

Bill has the forms to allow the Club to access the Columbia Threadneedle account. He should be able to get a Medallion Guarantee Signature from US Bank that will allow the Club to authorize individuals on the account.

He is working to set up a direct deposit/electronic transfer from our Fidelity account into our checking account.

## Committee Reports

*Nesika* – Glen.

There were 15-20 at the last work trip. We got framing lumber supply from Parr. We still need to figure out a way to get the long lumber that is in the parking lot at the end of the road to the lodge. After the wind-storm early this month, we expect lots of downed trees next time we go in. We hope to get the floor done and cover and tarp it for winter if we get enough volunteer labor. We will start framing walls and do the roof in the spring.

*Tyee Lodge* —Nathen

Because of fire danger, the Forest Service has just directed us to stay out of Tyee until 9/30 at the earliest. We plan to have a work party on October 17. We haven't purchased wood but have had some donated. We need enough people to split some rounds.

*Membership* — Lori

2nd Readings approved:

Deborah Chen, Troy Schubert, Ralph Bloemers, Angel Mazon, Chris Seubert, Charles Barker, C. Margarita Ferrer Vega

Publications –Joel

The Adidas Employee Store coupon has come in. Joel is working on the Wiki to store information for things like lodge procedures and state of affairs.

*Trips* — Susan (no info)

*Social* — Linda

The picnic went well. The annual meeting is the dilemma right now because of COVID restrictions. We can't use Fulton Community Center. We'll need a covered outdoor area for 50 with a zoom component. Vancouver Lake and a Vancouver church were suggested as possibilities. We hope to set up a voting capability on the website. We'll need a mobile hotspot for the zoom participation.

## New Business

a. Nathen moved and Bev seconded to send out this proposed change to bylaws:

Article VI, Section 5: "Bonding Treasurer: Before the Club's funds, books of accounts and other records are surrendered to him by his predecessor, the Treasurer shall execute and keep in force during his term, a corporate surety bond in favor of the club for the protection of its funds in his possession and under his control. The amount of such bond shall be not less than \$10,000.00 and the premium for such bond shall be paid by the Club."

The board proposes striking this section from our bylaws for the following reasons:

- The bond suggested is woefully inadequate for the amount of funds our treasurer regularly handles. The cost of an appropriate bond would be a significant expense in a time of reduced income and elevated expenses for the club.
- Our current practices require consistent oversight by co-signers of the treasurer's every withdrawal and disbursement of funds, as well as monthly scrutiny of all our accounts by the entire board, so we feel this is a redundant layer of protection.
- Treasurers are selected from long-term members who have demonstrated years of active participation and dedication to TCO interests and activities.
- This section has been inadvertently overlooked for the past 10 years without any impact to club operations.

b. Linda moved to offer one free nontransferable night at a lodge for anyone working 2 days on the Nesika rebuild. Every 2 days work equals one free night lodge stay. Bev seconded. Passed.

d. Susan will lead the hike to Nesika for the work weekend on Sept 19th.

e. Need to improve Tyee lodge experience in order to increase lodge use.

Nathen opened the discussion on changes that would make Tyee more user friendly. He discussed polling the members about possible improvements via paper and electronic responses at the annual meeting and asking for donations. He wants some

hard numbers on the suggestions. Nathen moved to investigate heating/insulating the dorm rooms. Bev seconded. Passed.

f. Nathen discussed revisiting our membership requirements in order to remove barriers for new members, especially the lodge requirement at this time when lodge events are reduced due to the pandemic.

Moved, seconded and passed to suspend the lodge visit requirement because of COVID until Sept. 1, 2021.

g. Offices for election this year: Vice president, Secretary, Publications, Trips, and Social. The secretary and publications trustee have agreed to serve another term. Vice president, trips trustee and social trustee will need nominations.

### **Oct. 6 next meeting by Zoom**

Submitted by Rebecca Knudson, Secretary



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Portland, OR 97268

[www.trailsclub.org](http://www.trailsclub.org)

## October 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](mailto: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](mailto:webmaster@trailsclub.org)