



Trail Blazer

Vol. 93 No. 11 www.trailsclub.org

November 2020



West Fork Methow Trail. Photo: Nancy Zhang

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Winter Season Trip Planning & Overnight Backpack – Mt. Saint Helens
Nov. 7, 2 pm - Nov 8
Nathen Barton, TyeeWinter@trailsclub.org

The winter season is nearly on us and I would like to get together with other folks and plan out activities for the next few months. For example I am thinking snowshoeing and hiking/backpacking Forest Park but I want to hear your ideas.

Lets talk about it as we do an overnight at Camp Butte. The hike in is two miles and 1,000 feet of elevation gain. We will be camping at 4,000 feet so it is likely to be frosty at night. I will also have a backup location if the weather is bad.

If all goes to plan, we will meet at Red Rock Pass at 2pm on November 7.

If you are normally just a summer backpacker and you are not sure how to prepare for colder weather, there will be a Facebook chat just for this outing you can join to discuss preparation.

Camp Butte is a large flat area with good water so we can have a number of participants, but just in case of a large turnout, I have to prioritize activity leaders or people who would like to become activity leaders.

The next morning if the weather is good I may hike further up the trail for some good views of St. Helens, but you are free to have your own adventure or return to town.



Lower Deschutes River Backpack
Nov. 13 7:30 am - Nov. 15, 12:30 pm
Linda Conrad, lgconrad@aol.com

We will start at the Macks Canyon Trail Head at 9:00 AM on Friday morning. Hiking distance is: 6 miles day one, 11 miles day 2 and 6 miles day three. We usually get to the mouth of the Deschutes by noon on Sunday. You may see: Fresh water otters, mountain sheep, deer, eagles, raccoons, etc. The trail is hardest day one as we go in and out of 6 old rail road culverts. The first night we have no outhouse. Night 2 we have an outhouse. Bring: good tent, SOL blanket, insulated pad, air pad (optional),

November Events Summary

3	Tues	Board Meeting
7-8	Tues	Trip Planning: Mt. St. Helens
8	Sun	Annual Meeting & Hikes
13-15	Fri-Sun	Lower Deschutes Backpack
27-29	Fri-Sun	Back Pack Planning and Thanksgiving at Nesika
28-29	Sat-Sun	PCT Indian Heaven Wilderness

Scheduling, fees, and lodge availability are updated on website www.trailsclub.org

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

First reading: Derek Nesland, sponsored by Nathen Barton and Sheryl Wagner

Total members: 303 - Golden: 11; Junior: 3; Life: 36; Life/Golden: 2; Provisional: 6; Regular: 245

Continued Page 3...

Organized 1915 TRAIL BLAZER Incorporated 1923
Published monthly by the
Trails Club of Oregon
P.O. Box 67095
Portland, OR 97268

Member of the Federation of Western Outdoors Clubs (FWOC)

Electronic subscription is included with membership. Non-member subscription by request to PO Box is \$25 per year. Send address changes to:

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
- Trustee-Nesika Glen Conrad
NesikaChair@trailsclub.org
- Trustee Tyee Nathen Barton
TyeeChair@trailsclub.org
- Trustee-Membership Lori Leach
MembershipChair@trailsclub.org
- Trustee-Publications Joel Reitz
PublicationChair@trailsclub.org
- Trustee-Social Linda Conrad
SocialChair@trailsclub.org
- Trustee- Trips Susan Ashenfelter
TripsChair@trailsclub.org
- Conservation Candace Bonner
Conservation@trailsclub.org
- Editor Dave Hays
Blazer@trailsclub.org

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

Trails Club of Oregon
P.O. Box 67095
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) 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 Continued

warm sleeping bag, sleeping clothes (down or wool), sleeping hat and socks, extra socks, sun hat, day warm hat, rain coat, down coat or equivalent, layered hiking clothes to include day time wool shirt, cooking stove, utensils, first aid kit, toiletries. Water purifier. Water is plentiful so no need to carry a lot of water. Cost is \$20 for driver and \$125 per car for shuttle to be divided equally between all participants. The less cars the better. If you are planning on driving your own car I will need license plate, make and model of car and color to register with shuttle driver. Trail is for the most part down hill except for day one. Only one creek you might get your feet wet at Harrison Ranch.

 **Back Pack Planning and Thanksgiving at Nesika**

**Fri. the 27th thru the 29th
Linda Conrad, lgconrad@aol.com**

Nesika will host a Pot Luck Thanksgiving dinner on Friday the 27th of Nov. Starting at 2:00 PM. Please wear mask preparing food. We will follow Covid guidelines. Masks in Kitchen, wash hands before entering lodge, family units may sit together, all others maintain a 6 foot distance during meals. All tables and counters cleaned with bleach between meals.

Friday we will provide a pack breakdown for backpackers to assist hikers with lightening their load. People can bring flash drives or discs of this years back packs and outings to share via projector in afternoon. We will have backpack planning meetings throughout the weekend to plan our backpacks for next year. Friday we can do a basin day hike. Saturday we will hike to the top of Larch Mountain on a day hike from the lodge and back to the lodge. Sunday we will have a great pot luck breakfast and plan on leaving lodge by noon.

Gate at 10 mile marker on Larch Road will be open daily at 9:00 AM. If you have a key and can volunteer to open gate let me know. Glen and I will bring a turkey to cook. Please bring side dishes to go with Turkey.

You will need to tent camp. Bring 4 season tent, warm sleeping bag and warm comfortable pads. We will try to provide shuttle in for those who would prefer not to hike. People can leave their cars at the green gate and hike the 2.5 miles into the lodge. Any questions please call Linda Conrad at 360-907-5096 or text. Cost is \$10.00 per night for members and \$25.00 per night for non members.



16 mile PCT backpack through Indian Heaven Wilderness

**Nov. 28 @ 9:00 am - Nov.29 @ 5:00 pm
Nathen Barton, TyeeWinter@trailsclub.org**

I am leading a one night backpack on the Washington

PCT through the Indian Heaven Wilderness. It is +2200/-2400 feet of elevation spread over about 16 miles and we will pass through an area loved by many.

We will be joining up Saturday morning at the end point of the hike, leave half the cars, and then go to the start of the hike.

Note, this is not an area we want to get snowed in at, so bad weather will cancel the trip.

*** The couple pictures above are just for fun, this is an Indian Haven hike ***

Bring: Your usual backpacking list. Always be prepared for rain, but also for cold.

If you are normally just a summer backpacker and you are not sure how to prepare for colder weather, there will be a Facebook chat just for this outing you can join to discuss preparation.

Want to go? Join the waitlist, I will ask you a few questions about your winter backpacking comfort level.

If interest exceeds spots, I do have to give preference to other activity leaders.



Scenery up the West Fork Methow Trail. Photo: Nancy Zhang



A stormy view of the Gorge near Nesika Lodge. Photo: Rachel Eggers



A nice warming fire at Nesika Lodge. Photo: Rachel Eggers



A bolete (probably) near Nesika Lodge. Photo: Rachel Eggers



Golden Lakes Loop backpacking trip. Photos: Nancy Zhang



Zig-Zag Canyon membership hike. Photos: Julie Mace

Board Meeting

Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 10/6/20 7-9 pm Location:

Zoom Attendees:

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

Absent:

Nathen Barton..... Tyee Trustee

1. Approved minutes of the September meeting.

2. Treasurer’s Report by Bill

Beginning balance \$29,088.27
 Total deposits... \$435.90
 Total payments... \$1943.36
 Ending balance \$27,580.81

Columbia Threadneedle has received the necessary forms to designate Bill as the Control Person, and Sheryl and he as authorized representatives of the Club. Changes have been confirmed via phone conversation, but waiting for a confirmation letter.

Bill reported that we set a “floor” for the investment account in 2013 at \$400,000.00. Apparently, a rate was not officially set, but the intention was that the account should grow at 3% or 3.5%. The purpose of a protected amount in the investment account was to generate the necessary income to cover our expenses. In 2019, the board moved to set the rate at 2% retroactive to two years prior, which would have been the five year review time frame as set in the bylaws. Using a 2% growth rate, our protected amount is

around \$450,000. At the annual meeting in 2017, the club voted to use funds as needed to rebuild Nesika. Should we establish a minimum for the investment account above the \$400,000.00 in the bylaws and, if so, how it should be determined?

A discussion ensued. The intent was NOT that the account would grow at a rate of 3.5%. The intent was to protect the \$400,000 as an equivalent amount in the future, considering inflation. In doing so, we would protect enough money for future years' needs. The hope is that the account will grow much faster than the inflation rate, and we will use the amount ABOVE \$400,000 plus inflation.

The board changed the rate from 3% to 2% when we did our research and realized that the inflation rate in the NW was only 2% for the last 10 years.

We decided to discuss the issue again to develop a clear plan to present at the annual meeting.

Upcoming expenses:

- Siding for Redwing \$4500
- Roofing for Redwing
- Taxes for Tyee; last year \$1911.00
- Taxes for Nesika; last year \$2605
- Liability insurance; last year \$8655.00
- D and O insurance; last year \$ 752.00

Budget committee will meet by the end of the year to present to December board meeting.

3. Committee Reports

a. *Nesika* – Glen reported.

Forest closure canceled the planned work weekend. 10 days later, a crew cut through the downed trees to reach the lodge. The tractor had a flat tire. After the replacement, they hauled the flooring in. Volunteers and the contractors worked for 4 day and finished the floor. It is covered with tarp to protect it for the winter. They finished benches and painted the out-house. Next we will get more wood and move tools to the basement.

b. Tyee Lodge

Nathen sent a report via email about the survey results. He also sent a brainstormed list of possible projects suggested by the Tye Lodge committee. The budget committee needs to consider the list with estimated costs of specific projects.

c. Membership—Lori reported First reading:

Derek Nesland, sponsored by Nathen Barton and Sheryl Wagner Total members: 303

Golden: 11; Junior: 3; Life: 36; Life/Golden: 2; Provisional: 6; Regular: 245

d. Publications –Joel reported

We still need to find an editor to replace ours who moved to southern Oregon. We have 6 paid subscriptions for paper copies.

e. Trips—Susan reported

Fires canceled the Nesika membership hike.

f. Social—Linda reported

Annual meeting will be at Willamette Park near John's Landing on Nov. 8 from 2:00-4:00. Picnic area is at the south end. We hope to have a hike and yard-type games before the meeting.

A membership hike is planned from the green gate during work weekend at Nesika on 10/24. Nesika will be open Friday-Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend with day hikes each day.

4. New Business

a. Joel will send out a notice of annual meeting. It is highlighted on the calendar. Lori will also add it with the dues notice. We will notify members about a virtual option.

Next meeting Nov. 3 on zoom at 7:00

Submitted by Rebecca Knudson, Secretary



Relaxing one-today hike at Marquam . Photo: Tom KcKenzie



Hats need drying tool! Photo: Nancy Zhang



A visitor on the Cougar Rock Trail. Photo: Ralph Bloemers

TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON
P.O. BOX 67095
Portland, OR 97268

www.trailsclub.org

November 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