



Trail Blazer

Vol. 96 No. 3 www.trailsclub.org

March 2023

MARCH EVENTS

Event information, sign-up and scheduling are available on

TCO Website Calendar

<https://trailsclub.org/activities/calendar>

Meetup

www.meetup.com/Trails-Club-of-Oregon

7	Tues	Board Meeting 7:00pm
10-12	Fri-Sun	Deschutes Backpack
10-12	Fri-Sun	Tyee Lodge is Open
12	Sun	Hike & Dine at Tyee Lodge
17-19	Fri-Sun	Tyee Lodge is Open

Get involved at TCO!

Lodge and Road Clearing Committees

Contact Crisse Milner: Nesika Trustee at NesikaChair@trailsclub.org

Conservation Committee:

Conservation@trailsclub.org

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee:

Diversity@trailsclub.org

History Committee:

Historian@trailsclub.org

Calling All Musicians! TCO is looking for members who have musical talents and might enjoy a chance to play live at the club's Social Gatherings. Solo acts or small ensembles are welcome! If you are a singer, or play a musical instrument and might be interested in joining in the fun, contact Tom at [<tom_thrall@hotmail.com>](mailto:tom_thrall@hotmail.com)

Comments Regarding TCO's Financial Status

Your Board is concerned about the financial state of the Trails Club. After a prolonged discussion, we passed a budget this month with projected expenses that are nearly double the projected income. Two-thirds of the expenses are fixed or necessary expenditures such as insurance, property taxes, tax preparation, state income tax, licenses and permits, internet fees, work trip meals, building and equipment repair/ replacement, fuel, water and electricity. Some of these costs, especially insurance, have increased significantly in recent years. We really do not have too many expenses to cut.

We are currently able to cover the deficit with interest from our investment fund, but we are approaching the limit that is available. We desperately need to increase income and membership by holding more activities and events. Our lodges make TCO unique among our area's outdoor organizations. By completing the fire recovery at Nesika and updating Tyee to make it more comfortable, we should be able to capitalize on their attraction.

Our club is 107 years old. If we want to continue its legacy for those who come after us, each one of us needs to consider what we can do to make TCO more viable by inviting friends to participate in club activities, visiting the lodges when possible, organizing hikes, seminars, or any fun activity, and inviting friends and other family members to join.

Welcome New Member!

Mark Rees



Valley of Fire Camping. Photos: Dolores Niebergall

TRAIL BLAZER

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Organized 1915

Incorporated 1923

*Member of the
Federation of Western Outdoors Clubs (FWOC)*

Electronic subscription is included with membership. Send address changes and club correspondence to: Membership@trailsclub.org or the address above.

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 when the date is at least the 4th, 7:00pm, over Zoom. See the calendar on the TCO website for the link if you wish to attend. Contact the President prior to a meeting if you have an issue to bring to the board.

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.

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 listing of events. Registration on the website is not required to view the events.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Beverly Drottar
President
President@trailsclub.org



Jennifer Samuels
Vice President
Blazer Editor
VicePres@trailsclub.org



Rebecca Knudeson
Secretary
Secretary@trailsclub.org



Rachel Eggers
Treasurer
Treasurer@trailsclub.org



Crisse Milner
Nesika Trustee
NesikaChair@trailsclub.org



Paul Cutter
Tye Trustee
TyeChair@trailsclub.org



Lori Leach
Membership Trustee
Membership@trailsclub.org



Joel Reitz
Publications Trustee
Publication-Chair@trailsclub.org



David Noyes
Social Trustee
SocialChair@trailsclub.org



Craig Gwydir
Trips Trustee
TripsChair@trailsclub.org

Board Meeting

Board Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2023 7:00-9:00
Bev Drottar's home

Attendees:

President	Bev Drottar
Vice President	Jennifer Samuels
Treasurer	Rachel Eggers
Secretary	Rebecca Knudeson
Membership	Lori Leach
Publications	Joel Reitz
Nesika Trustee	Crisse Milner
Tyee Trustee	Paul Cutter
Trips Trustee	Craig Gwydir

Absent:

Social Trustee	Dave Noyes
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Regular Business:

January minutes were approved by email prior to the Blazer publication.

Treasurer's Report, Rachel

Beginning Balance 1/31/22:	\$9,148
Checks and Payment:	\$814
Deposits and Credits:	\$6,966
Cleared Balance:	\$15,300

Complete reports can be found by the Board in Dropbox: <https://www.dropbox.com/home/Trustees%20Share/Monthly%20Treasurer's%20Reports>

2. The accountant we used for our taxes has died. It looks like he has passed on his files and business to Blue Chip Accounting. Rachel will contact them to set up arrangements for our 2023 tax filings.

3. Insurance Inspections - Tyee needs an insurance inspection. Rachel has forwarded the contact information to Paul.

4. Documents received in the PO Box:
 a. FWOC Yearly dues - \$25 paid.
 b. Trip log - scanned and uploaded to dropbox.
 c. Membership Apps - Forwarded to Lori through the US Mail.

5. 2023 Budget

- a. Rachel has entered the History Budget for Linda.
- b. She has added a budget item to both Expenses and Income for Nesika's \$2000 donation check that we received. This should be considered as outside of the budget as long as the Expense and Income accounts match each other for that particular set of accounts. (6204 for Expense/5004 for Income)

Membership Report, Lori

Provisional: **Meiling Andersen** (Portland)

First Readings:

Jordana Sardo (Portland) Sponsored by Chris Anderson and Brooke Winter

Mary Beth Sadlouskos (Beaverton)

Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Jim Hawley

Marcy Delage (Salem) Sponsored by Julia Mace and Linda Conrad

Approved Second Readings:

Mark Rees (Vancouver) Sponsored by Beverly Drottar and Glen Conrad

Total membership: 262. 10 Golden; 2 Junior; 35 Life; 1 Life/Golden; Provisional, 8; Provisional Jr 1; Regular 205

The following members have not yet paid dues for 2023: Mohamed Alyajouri, Linda Anderson, Tamera Anderson, Debi Baker, Dave Barlow, Diana Bartolme, Nicole Beatty, Kathleen Berry, Vicki Borden, Mary Bremen, Alexandria Burkleaux, Lesia Carlock, Brigitte Conrad, David Conrad, Elizabeth Copeland, Suzanne Davis, Henry Day, Delores Day, Brenda Gaither, Gail Georgenson, Joely Helgesen, Susanne Holmes, Jeffrey Hopp, Tony Jones, Joy Joseph, Ronald Kinder, Robin Kinnaird, JoAnn Klassen., Ute Kongsbak, Pavlina Kovarik, Rose Lavoie, Barbara Lawson, Terry Lawson, Adonica Marshall, Shawn Moran, Donald Neff, Francis Pham, Sue Pickgrobe, Betty Powell, Agnes Prescott, Joyce Rasmussen, Liz Schilling, Trisha Schultz, Sharon Selvaggio, James Spencer, Duncan Stenzel, Eric Strehlow, Molly Swisher, Nancy Taylor, Jacques Thibodeaux, Nicholas Wilkerson, Jiao Ye, Miaochang Zadnik

Publications Report, Joel

We discussed the need for a liability form for lodge registrants and decided to use the same form for lodge attendees that is used for other activities.

Nesika Report, Crisse

The lodge has not been utilized during the month of January. At last report, there are a large number of trees down on the road. Work party dates have been tentatively set and are in the TCO calendar. We hope to have a road clearing work party in the beginning of April and will assess the needs at that time. If anyone hikes in before then, it would be great to hear how the road looks and how things are at the lodge. A donation provided funds for the purchase of flooring for the dorm. Tentative dates have been set for installation. We are actively seeking members who would be interested in assisting with the road clearing crew and lodge work parties. If you are interested, please reach out to Crisse Milner, Nesika Lodge Trustee.

Tyee Report, Paul

Compared to last year, winter came early, then stopped. The snow depth is about four feet at the Lodge. The frozen and burst shower pipe problem has been completed, including painting. The lodge was open every weekend in January except one and is scheduled to be open every weekend in February, including a nine day stretch over President's weekend. Paul gives a big thanks to the winter hosts: Nathan, Sheryl, Olivia and Loriann and Linda. The lodge openings would not have happened without them. There is quite a camaraderie among this group, constantly throwing ideas out for debate and decision making. The "Kids are Free Weekend" was fun. Children and adults enjoyed indoor and outdoor activities. Thank you Linda and Beverly. Glen and Paul even tubed the full length of the sled run. Insurance inspection which include pictures of the roof may well have to be postponed until after the snow clears.

Trips Report, Craig

There were 2 snowshoe events, 1 day hike event, 1 camp camping event and 1 online trips

planning meeting in the month of January. Topics to discuss at next the Trip Leaders Planning Meeting the third week of Feb:

- 1) First Aid Class for TCO members, perhaps coordinated with a lodge event and/or online. It will probably have to wait until the weather gets warm enough to hold at a lodge.
- 2) A contest next month to award a prize for the person who leads the most TCO trips in a month. The prize will likely be a gift card.
- 3) Investigating hikes for dogs off leash and a hosted trip into the Bull Run area.

Social Report, David via email

Goals from the Social Chair:

- Build our TCO community by providing opportunities for members and interested individuals to connect and socialize in 2023
- Provide inclusive events to TCO members, their guests and families and interested individuals. Be welcoming of individuals of diverse backgrounds and abilities. Offer outdoor events that allow for social distancing and require masks, unless people are eating. — Follow State COVID mandates at events.
- Include as many volunteers as possible in the planning and execution of the events by reaching out in the planning phase one to three months prior.

Update on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Outreach Activities, Julia Mace via email

TCO continues to collaborate with the Sierra Club's Inspiring Connections Outdoors program and its partners to expand outdoor activities for youth. Chris Seubert has been a co-leader on three of the monthly hikes for youth in the Janus Youth Program. Monthly hikes are planned through December this year. It is possible that this may expand to include some additional monthly hikes later in the year. We have made efforts to offer other youth groups access to the TCO lodges. Several Boy Scout troops are scheduled to stay overnight at the Tyee in the coming months, and Sheryl Wagner hosted a youth group at the lodge in December.

Chris is working to set up day use events at our lodges for 2 Portland youth homes. Also, the

organization, People of Color Outdoors, is interested in using the lodges.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget

We looked at the budget line by line. The budget was approved with 8 in favor and 1 abstention. Our projected budget is nearly \$20,000 more than our projected income. After a prolonged discussion, we decided to post a statement in the Blazer about the Board's concern.

501c Status

This topic was tabled until the March meeting.

Adjourned at 9:12

Next meeting, March 7, Zoom

Submitted by Rebecca Knudson, Secretary



Hike & Dine at Tye Lodge. Photo: Nicole R



Trails club Winter Games 2023

Winter Games at Tye Lodge. Photo: Sheryl Wagner



Valley of Fire. Photo: Dolores Niebergall

Donations Sought for Tye Lodge Improvements

The next priority for improvements to Tye Lodge is the ceiling in the dining room. Currently outdated and unattractive acoustic tiles, we are planning to update and beautify with tongue and groove cedar planking. While installing the new ceiling, we will also replace the harsh fluorescent lighting with more pleasant and energy efficient LED lighting.

The estimated cost of this project is \$3,500 and we're asking for donations to help cover the cost – any amount is appreciated, big or small. To contribute, please send a check to the treasurer at TCO (memo: Tye ceiling) or online at the TCO website (note: Tye ceiling). Any questions are welcomed.

- Paul Cutter, Tye Lodge Chair



Kids Stay Free at Tye Lodge. Photo: Glen Conrad

TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON
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March 2023

Reminders

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

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.

Blazer Editor: Jennifer Samuels

Send pictures, new events, corrections and anything else for the Trails Club of Oregon website to: webmaster@trailsclub.org