



Trail Blazer

Vol. 96 No. 5 www.trailsclub.org

May 2023

MAY 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

3	Weds	Weds Eve Conditioning Hike
6	Sat	Nesika Road Clearing
10	Weds	Weds Eve Conditioning Hike
10-23	Weds-Tue	Central Virginia Backpack
17	Weds	Weds Eve Conditioning Hike
21	Sun	Easy Hike at Champoeg
21	Sun	Annual Banquet at Champoeg
24	Weds	Weds Eve Conditioning Hike
31	Weds	Weds Eve Conditioning Hike

Get involved at TCO!

Seeking a Treasurer! TCO is seeking a Board Treasurer beginning Jan '24. This position is requires a long transition - so we're looking now! Basic duties include regular bookkeeping, check writing, monthly board meetings and other duties. Interested? Contact Board Pres Bev Drottar

Nesika Lodge and Road Clearing Committees
NesikaChair@trailsclub.org

Conservation Committee
Conservation@trailsclub.org

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
Diversity@trailsclub.org

History Committee
Historian@trailsclub.org

You're Invited!



**Trails Club of Oregon's
Annual Banquet
Sunday, May 21, 2023 | 1:00
Champoeg State Park, St. Paul**

**RSVP by Monday, May 15
TCO Website or QR Code**



**Welcome
New Members!**

Ling Fong
Liz Hall

Kassie Swanson
Emily Swenson

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



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Treasurer@trailsclub.org



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NesikaChair@trailsclub.org



Paul Cutter
Tye Trustee
TyeChair@trailsclub.org



Lori Leach
Membership Trustee
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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 | April 4, 2023 7:00-9:00 | Zoom

Attendees:

Bev Drottar (President); Jennifer Samuels (Vice President); Rachel Eggers (Treasurer); Rebecca Knudeson (Secretary); Lori Leach (Membership); Joel Reitz (Publications); Paul Cutter (Tye Trustee); Craig Gwydir (Trips Trustee); Dave Noyes (Social Trustee); Crisse Milner (Nesika Trustee)

Regular Business:

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

Treasurer's Report, Rachel

Beginning Balance 2/28/23:	\$14,267
Checks and Payment:	\$573
Deposits and Credits:	\$3,153
Cleared Balance:	\$16,847

Taxes will be dropped off at the accountant this week. We will most likely have to file an extension.

Membership Application received in the PO Box Uploaded to Dropbox: https://www.dropbox.com/home/Trustees%20Share/Membership%20Applications?di=left_nav_browse

Treasurer Resignation sent to Beverly on 3/26/23: Complete reports can be found by the Board in Dropbox:

<https://www.dropbox.com/home/Trustees%20Share/Monthly%20Treasurer's%20Reports>

Membership Report, Lori

First Readings:

Nellie Long (Portland) Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Beth Meyers-Shenai

Deeshi Donnelly (Portland) Sponsored by Julia Mace and Paul Cutter

Approved Second Readings:

Liz Hall (McMinnville) Sponsored by Olivia Bakke and Craig Gwydir

Kassie Swanson (Vancouver) Sponsored by Linda Conrad and Dolores Niebergall

Emily Swensen (Portland) Sponsored by Linda Conrad and Craig Gwydir

Ling Fong (Camas) Sponsored by Julia Mace and Jennifer Samuels

Total Membership: 273

10 Golden, 1 Junior, 35 Life, 1 Life/Golden, 6 Provisional, 1 Provisional Jr., 219 Regular

Publications Report, Joel

Nothing to report.

Nesika Report, Crisse

We were notified by Multnomah Co. about road work that would be impacting access to the lodge via Larch Mountain Rd. The previous trustee, Glen Conrad, and the current trustee are working together to develop a plan with the county that will allow access to the lodge. We are currently

awaiting information from the county that the contract has been awarded and then we will coordinate a meeting with the awardee and the county to discuss access. Currently we have notified the county of an upcoming road clearing event scheduled for April 15th and have been approved for this. We anticipate that we will be granted access throughout the summer but that there may be some restrictions in place.

There is still a significant amount of snow on the road to the lodge (recent report of at least 1 foot of snow in some areas) as well as numerous trees down. Pete Recksiek and Crisse are coordinating to schedule road clearing when the snow recedes.

Tyee Report, Paul

Tyee was open most weekends in March. A snowshoe was admirably led by Julia M. with Craig G as sweep. They escorted 20 folks to the lodge. Jennifer S and her teenager, Ruby, provided a fine lunch. The insurance review by our new insurance company will be postponed until early summer due to deep snow on the road. Work parties are scheduled June through October, mainly on the last weekend of the month. We are working on a weekend for a food dehydration course in October.

The Opal Creek organization that has been interested in using Tyee in the past may want to use it in early June.

Trips Report, Craig

There were 2 day hikes, 1 backpack and a trips planning meeting this month. Both day hikes were dog friendly. Craig G is

working towards a Saturday date in late April or early May for a backcountry First Aid and CPR course taught by "Oregon Trails Coalition." This is a comprehensive course that requires a 4-6 day online module to be completed before attending the half day in-person skills class. 7-14 people may participate. Participants will receive ASHI Medic First Aid with CPR and AED cards valid for two years upon the successful completion of the skills verification. The retail price of the course is \$160 per person. The board recommended that Craig use an application for trips leaders to apply for the \$160 fee to be reimbursed from TCO's Memorial Fund. The course will have very limited space and is designed for folks who are serious in a deep-knowledge course. For folks interested in a traditional 2 year CPR certification, an American Red Cross online course is recommended.

We're expecting the first batch of TCO branded items in late April. Craig met with 3 clothing vendors this past month. This first batch will be given out randomly to TCO that attend and lead hikes. Future TCO branded items will need a business plan (online store?, batch ordering? etc). No progress has been made on the Bull Run Tour this month. It's still pending.



Tracy Hill Hike. Photo: Craig Gwydir

Social Report, David

We held our second social of the year on March 12th with a Hike And Dine at Tyee. 22 attended with a delicious meal prepared by Jennifer and Ruby. Our next social will be on 4/29 at Cape Horn. A hike to Nancy Russell Overlook will be led by Craig G. Hot Beverages and snacks will be provided by David N and Paul C at the Overlook at noon. The Cape Horn Conservancy will be present to talk about their organization, the Cape Horn area, and answer any questions. The Annual Banquet is planned for 5/21 at Oak Grove Picnic Area, Champoeg State Park. It will include a hike and appetizers. Music can be provided by Six Pack Possum. However, a small group of TCO members led by Tom Thrall will be getting together in the near future to discuss rehearsals and might be in a position to provide music that day instead. MG Smokehouse And Elegant Catering once again can cater a nice BBQ meal for a cost of \$15/member, \$18/nonmember. They require a 50 paid person minimum. Registration should come on line the 1st full week of April.

Update on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Outreach Activities

TCO continues to collaborate with the Sierra Club’s Inspiring Connections Outdoors program and its partners to provide outdoor activities for youth. Monthly hikes are planned through December this year on the weekends. Chris Seubert is assisting with the ICO youth hikes and accompanies them as a co-leader. The next two hikes are to Silver Falls (April 9) and Salmon River (May 13). Unfortunately,



Nesika Lodge Hike. Photo: Craig Gwydir

the March snowshoe with Cordero House did not take place due to COVID at the house. We are waiting to hear back from them to possibly reschedule for April. Either Chris Seubert or Julia Mace plan to travel to Port Townsend, Washington, to check on the possibility of holding a TCO-sponsored hike on the Chetzemoka Trail in and near Port Townsend (northeast of Olympic National Park).

The DEI Committee is exploring connections with other groups in Portland that focus on diversity and inclusion outdoors. Planning is still in process for 2023 at this time with People of Color Outdoors Portland.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Nonprofit Status Discussion

Jennifer and Lori have looked into obtaining a non profit tax status. They developed a document which outlines issues, concerns, and pros and cons. It will be found in the Club’s dropbox. Jennifer suggests we need to be clear on why we are considering nonprofit status. The club needs to clearly understand who we are, what we want to be and have strategic planning in place before we pursue nonprofit status. This visioning would include setting annual and long term goals. We need to establish partners

and determine how the focus will be sustaining. Currently, we are doing youth outdoor education and exposure at Tyee. The Forest Service expects, as part of our lease on Tyee's land, that we include youth, marginalized groups and racial diversity at the lodge. The newly formed Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Outreach committee is planning similar work. In order to provide such services at Tyee, we need finances to maintain the lodge. If we decide to pursue nonprofit status, we would start out small which would make the formation process a little simpler. After we figure out who we are and what we want to be, we would form a committee to continue the investigation and process. There are workshops online and pdfs about forming a nonprofit. Rebecca will check with the other clubs about how their nonprofits work.

2. Follow up on closed discussion from last month

NEW BUSINESS

1. We confirmed that Hike and Dines can charge more than the typical fee for food as long as the event is publicized as such. We also clarified that nonmembers who apply for provisional membership at a lodge event can receive the membership lodge rate.
2. Discussion of the Treasurer Position: Rachel has notified our President that she will not continue to serve as treasurer once her term ends at the end of the year. The work load is much more than she can handle with her demanding job and family commitments. She deals with all the mail that comes into the PO Box which includes much more than just treasurer concerns. She suggests having a different person deal with the PO box and file everything that's not related to the finances. She also suggests the possibility of hiring a bookkeeper to do the day to day books. She is willing to work with a new person who transitions into the position. We talked about ways we could relieve the treasurer of some of the workload and will post a notice in the Blazer seeking interested individuals.

Adjourned at 9:06 | Next meeting May 9, zoom | Submitted by Rebecca Knudeson, Secretary

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 conditions may increase the exertion and skill required; be prepared. Contact the trip leader if you have any questions and to let him or her know that you will be attending. Bring the 10 Essentials and please, no alcohol. 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.

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

Blazer Editor: Jennifer Samuels