



# Trail Blazer

Vol. 96 No. 11 [www.trailsclub.org](http://www.trailsclub.org)

November 2023

## NOVEMBER 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](http://www.meetup.com/Trails-Club-of-Oregon)

3-5	Fri-Sun	Beginner Backpacking Class
4	Sat	Headwaters of Mult Falls Hike
7	Tue	Board Meeting
10-12	Fri-Sun	Tyee Open for Members
17-19	Fri-Sun	Tyee is Open
18	Sat	Pre-Thanksgiving at Tyee

## SAVE THE DATE! TCO Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 12, 2023  
1:00 - 3:00

Cascade Pacific Council Office  
Boy Scouts of America  
2145 SW Naito Parkway  
Portland, OR 97201

Refreshments provided

News flash: Construction on  
Larch Mountain Road is completed!

**Welcome New Member!**

Cherry Stovall

## Volunteer with TCO: Help Offset our USFS Fees for Tyee!

Due to some changes in billing practices at the USFS, we received a larger than expected bill for our Tyee Lodge usage over the last several years. (For example, the bill on \$6,400 of revenue in 2022 is \$1,900.)

BUT – we have an opportunity to both offset some of the expense AND do some good for our forests!

Before the end of 2023, we'll be hosting a forest clean-up party at Wildwood Recreation Area. For each hour of clean-up performed by each TCO volunteer, we'll receive a \$32.50 credit toward our Tyee Lodge Fees!

We need YOU to volunteer! Please contact Tyee Lodge Chair, Paul Cutter, to be on the interest list for this opportunity at [tyeechair@trailsclub.org](mailto:tyeechair@trailsclub.org).



Day Hike to Nesika Lodge. Photo: Nicole Rogers

## 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](mailto: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](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.

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 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



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# Board Meeting

Board Meeting Minutes | October 10, 2023 7:00-9:00 | Zoom

## Attendees:

President: Bev Drottar  
Vice President: Jennifer Samuels  
Treasurer: Rachel Eggers  
Secretary: Rebecca Knudeson  
Publications: Joel Reitz  
Membership: Lori Leach  
Tyee Trustee: Paul Cutter  
Nesika Trustee: Crisse Milner  
Trips Trustee: Craig Gwydir  
Invited Members: Nicole Rogers, Pete Recksiek

## Absent:

Social Trustee: David Noyes (excused)

## Regular Business:

September minutes were approved by email prior to The Blazer publication.

## Treasurer's Report, Rachel

Beginning Balance, Aug:	\$6,356
Checks and Payments:	\$3,354
Deposits and Credits:	\$11,771
Cleared Balance:	\$14,773



Lost Lake Hike. Photo: Nicole Rogers

Documents stored on Dropbox. Fully detailed reports for September can be found at: [Monthly Treasurer's Reports - Dropbox](#). Six new membership applications were added to (uploaded on October 2): [Membership Applications - Dropbox](#).

Transition of Quickbooks and check payments have been made to Nicole. Rachel is now in a consulting role. Full transition of the accounts themselves will not occur until January or February after the extended membership vote.

## Membership Report, Lori

### First Readings:

**Norma Gregor** sponsored by Paul Cutter and Linda Conrad  
**Belkis Davis** sponsored by Paul Cutter and Nicole Rogers  
**Karl Ahlen** Sponsored by Julia Mace and Nicole Rogers  
**Bill Hulley** Sponsored by Nicole Rogers and Linda Conrad  
**Mee Choe** Sponsored by Nicole Rogers and Linda Conrad  
**Tina Hayworth** Sponsored by Nicole Rogers and Linda Conrad

### Second Reading Approved:

**Cherry Stovall** sponsored by Nicole Rogers and Trisha Schultz

Total Membership: 283; 9 Golden, 1 Jr, 35 Life, 1 Life/Golden, 13 Provisional, 1 Provisional Jr, 223 Regular

On the dues notice, Lori has added DEI volunteers. We will include the need for a Nesika Trustee



**Publications Report, Joel**

We had an attack on our website this last week. Joel has added a couple measures to guard against repeated problems.

**Nesika Report, Crisse**

Our most recent work party was a productive one! We completed the replacement of the broken lodge windows. Doors to the basement area under the dorm were built and painted. The baby trees around the lodge and Monster Trail were cared for. Many trees are thriving. Kindling was chopped and stacked for the winter. Thanks to Paul Cutter, Pete Recksiek, Jeff Lawton and Candance Bonner for all their assistance this weekend! Nicole Rogers led a large membership hike to the lodge and we had a chance to answer questions and share about our beautiful space.

We had some difficulties with the tractor and will need to have someone look at it for needed repairs. Bob Walker has helped in the past, and we will reach out to him to see if he may be able to assist again. Linda and Glen Conrad are hosting another event this month. There are plans to complete the work on the stairs to the attic in the Lodge.

Crisse has restocked the expired items in the first aid kit. Smaller vials of medications were purchased so as to minimize waste. We will need to keep an eye on quantities and make sure to replace as needed. We still need a volunteer to step into the role of lodge trustee for next year.



**Food Dehydration Seminar. Photo: Dolores Niebergall**

**Tyee Report, Paul**

The \$1,900 user fees for 2019, 2021, and 2022 were paid to the Forest Service. During a second in-person meeting with Catherine Dillion, the user fee facilitator at the Mt. Hood, Sandy, office, Paul was informed that only volunteer hours performed by an organized work party involving TCO members could be counted towards Tyee credit hours. She suggested litter pick up in the Mt. Hood forest. Paul asked that TCO do the length of West Leg Rd or the Salmon River area. His request is awaiting approval by the Ranger at the Sandy office. The Forest Service credits \$32.50/hour, so 10 people working for 4 hours would earn \$1,300 for the club. If we get approval in time and have the enthusiasm to work this year, it would reduce our 2023 user fee considerably. Paul has asked the USFS to backdate the 2022 fee also.

On a lighter note, the Open House was huge success. 50 people attended with at least 30 new to the lodge. Ten to twelve new member applications were completed that day. Many thanks to Julia Mace for dreaming up the idea, Olivia Bakke in the advertising and messaging, Rebecca Knudeson, Nicole Rogers, Julia Mace and Nina Rhors for food prep and cooking. Good connections with the Oregon Nordic Club and Cascade Prime Timers were made. All weekends in January and February have volunteers. The two long weekends will be combined with ONC, CPT and TCO members.

**Trips Report, Craig**

We have had two backpacks, two hikes and weekly Wednesday conditioning hikes this past month. We are looking into day hikes under 10 miles that are close to Portland, not crowded and dog friendly. We are also looking into hosting lesser-known larch tree hikes this fall. There is discussion among TCO leaders about organizing a TCO Navigation class around the

holiday season but have no firm plans yet. Craig doesn't expect a Trips budget for 2024. TCO had a successful First Aid/WFA class this past year which he hopes to continue every two years.

**Social Report, David**, via email

The upcoming social is this Saturday at Stub Stewart State Park, Hilltop Shelter, noon to 3. Drinks and snacks are provided.

David has reserved the Boy Scout office board room on the afternoon of November 12 for the annual meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. 501c3 Status**

Lori, Nicole and Rebecca haven't been able to meet. Lori will present the topic at the annual meeting, and we will hold an advisory vote.

**2. Fundraising**

Linda will do fundraising during her Backpacking Class.

We discussed having less free food and give aways and including more potluck or member provided food at events.

**3. New Member Outreach**

Lori has edited the provisional letter for clearer communication. She's working through a process to follow up with new member applications.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2024 Budget**

We went through budget line by line. The deficit is a little over \$15,000, but we expect the fund growth to cover most of the deficit this year; we are working towards a balanced budget in the future.

A motion to approve the 2024 budget was made by Jennifer and seconded by Joel. It passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 9:00 | Next meeting, November 7, Zoom

**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](mailto: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](mailto:webmaster@trailsclub.org)

**Blazer Editor:** Jennifer Samuels