



Trail Blazer

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January 2024

JANUARY 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

26-2	Tue-Tue	New Year's at Tyee (for Members)
28-1	Thu-Mon	Nesika Open
9	Tues	Board Meeting, 7:00, Zoom
12-15	Fri-Mon	Tyee Open, see details
19-21	Fri-Sun	Tyee Open
26-28	Fri-Sun	Tyee Open for Members

TCO's First Forest Clean Up!

A big thank you to all who turned out December 2 to clean the Wildcat Mountain Road area. Somehow, we managed to miss the worst of the weekend weather. Emerson did the math on the way home. We raised almost \$2,000 credit to offset Tyee's user fees for 2023. We cleaned up three hundred pounds of garbage, and there is more waiting to be picked up further towards the trailhead. Special thanks to our cook-of-the day, Julia Mace. The soup was hot, tasty and welcome. We're looking forward to doing Trillium Lake Sno-Park and the road to the Lake in June after the snow disappears. We will make this cleanup into a social event, since Tyee is so close. I think the Salmon River area could be done with 4-5 volunteers, possibly on a weekday (retirees!). Bill also mentioned that the firing ranges sometimes close in the fire season. A closure would be a good time to get back to Wildcat Mountain.

Are YOU TCO's Next Social Trustee?

We're looking for a member to step up and serve as our Social Trustee. Social Trustee responsibilities include attending our monthly board meetings (Zoom) where we hear monthly reports on the different club activities, finances, and plans. We discuss and vote on all matters involving the structure and running of the club. Board meetings are generally two hours long, 7:00-9:00pm, generally on the second Tuesday of each month.

Club bylaws outline the Social Trustee's role as: "The Social Committee shall plan and conduct all entertainment programs and other such social functions sponsored by the club, including the annual banquet, except such events which are authorized by the Board of Trustees to be conducted by other committees." Lately we have had only one event per quarter, and these are often coordinated with lodge or hiking activities, and a picnic or potluck type event. Please contact Bev Drottar at president@trailsclub.org



Nesika & Ornament Trail Hike. Photo: Nicole Rogers

Welcome New Members!

Mary Bourret Amelia Marcum
Sanjana Sachdeva Philip Scott
Nora Tanner

TRAIL BLAZER

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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



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Craig Gwydir
Trips Trustee
TripsChair@trailsclub.org

Board Meeting

Board Meeting Minutes | December 3, 2023 6:15-8:00 | Zoom

Attendees:

President: Bev Drottar
Treasurer: Nicole Rogers
Secretary: Rebecca Knudeson
Membership: Lori Leach
Tyee Trustee: Paul Cutter
Nesika Trustee: Crisse Milner
Trips Trustee: Craig Gwydir

Absent:

Vice President: Jennifer Samuels
Publications: Joel Reitz
Social Trustee: David Noyes

Regular Business: Minutes were approved by email prior to The Blazer publication.

Treasurer's Report, Nicole

Beginning Balance, Aug:	\$9,334
Checks and Payments:	\$4,814
Deposits and Credits:	\$4,204
Cleared Balance:	\$8,723



Nesika Hike. Photo: Nicole Rogers

Our Fidelity investment account value as of 10/31/2023 was \$417,449. We should receive the November statement within the next week or so.

Our Nesika insurance renewal will be paid very soon in the amount of \$7,235. Plus, we will likely have another insurance renewal in the amount of \$4,239 for Tyee due soon.

Detailed reports for November can be found at: Monthly Treasurer's Reports - Dropbox

Four new membership applications were added to (uploaded November 22):

Membership Applications - Dropbox

We received one new Nesika key application that can be found at:

Lodge Key Request Forms - Dropbox

Complete reports can be found by the Board in Dropbox.

We will be short about \$5,000 before the end of this year. Nicole will withdraw those funds from the investment fund.

Membership Report, Lori

First Readings:

Duane Bolland – Sponsored by Nicole Rogers and Linda Conrad

Anton (Tony) Deis – Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach

Molly Deis – Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach

Robin Deis – Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach – Jr Member

Second Readings unanimously approved:

Sanjana Sachdeva - Sponsored by Shirley Hoehne and Joel Reitz

Philip Scott - Sponsored by Nicole Rogers and Eric Zimmerman

Membership Report (continued)

Nora Tanner - Sponsored by Julia Mace and Paul Cutter
Mary Bourret - Sponsored by Dolores Niebergall and Trisha Schultz
Amelia Marcum - Sponsored by Nicole Rogers and Crisse Milner

Reinstated approved unanimously:

Bill Yandon

Total membership: 286
8 Golden, 1 Junior, 35 Life, 1 Life/Golden, 10 Provisional, 2 Provisional Jr, 228 Regular
60 members have paid 2024 dues

Nesika Report, Crisse

We are winding down our season at Nesika, and the Lodge has been prepped for winter. There are still opportunities for access if members would like to hike in from the falls or even drive in off Larch Mtn Road if there is no snow. We had a few events during the month of November including a beginners backpacking weekend hosted by Linda Conrad. There were two hikes open to members and potential members that included stops at Nesika. Thank you to Craig Gwydir and Nicole Rogers for leading those hikes.



Nesika Decorations. Photo: Nicole Rogers

Tyee Report, Paul

A very successful pre-Thanksgiving feast was enjoyed by 30 members followed by an inaugural performance of the TCO band led by Tom Thrall. The Tyee user fees work-in-lieu program was arranged and signed with Mt Hood FS office. We have three areas assigned to us: Wildcat Mtn Rd and surrounding forest roads, Salmon River and Trillium Lake snow park and the road to the lake. This is an ongoing contract between TCO and FS. We choose when and where we volunteer.

Trips Report, Craig

There were 3 TCO day hikes and 1 backpack class (at Nesika) this past month. We will have day trips up to Nesika Lodge over the next month to hang ornaments on the Ornament/Toothbrush Trail in December and to coincide with the "New Year's at Nesika Lodge" event, Dec 28- Jan 1.

Social Report, David

Thanks to everyone who attended and participated in the annual TCO meeting. We are still in search of a Social Trustee for next year.

OLD BUSINESS

501c3 discussion was continued following the approved advisory vote at the annual meeting to pursue the option of converting the club to non-profit status. Lori has a meeting with StartChurch tomorrow. She sent the Club's Articles of Incorporation to him to review.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Nesika Co-chairs/trustees (Bev)

Bev has found people who want to help but not be responsible for the whole Nesika

trusteeship including the monthly board meetings. Bob Walker, Trisha Schultz and Pete Recksiek are willing to be co-trustees. We moved, seconded and unanimously approved these three to be co-trustees of Nesika for the next term. They will have one vote on the board. We will evaluate the arrangement next year.

2. Bev is looking into a possible conservation chair.
3. Moved, seconded and unanimously approved a new Leave No Trace committee with Dolores Niebergall as chair.
4. Youth Lodge Fees (Paul)
We moved, seconded and unanimously approved to adjust the over night lodge fee rates as follows: guest youth aged 12 to under 18, \$18 per night.
5. Stephen Jenson offered to help connect TCO with organizations interested in sponsoring the Club. Bev will contact him with further questions.
6. We addressed a letter of complaint from a member.

Adjourned at 8:05

Next meeting, Jan.9, Zoom

Submitted by Rebecca Knudeson, Secretary



Nesika Hike. Photo: Nicole Rogers



Nesika in November. Photo: Cynthia Lee

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