



Trail Blazer

Vol. 98 No. 2

[TrailsClub.org](https://trailsclub.org)

February 2025

2025 Membership Dues

Please pay your 2025 membership dues **today**.

<< A late fee of \$5 is charged after the end of January. >>

<https://trailsclub.org/product/regular-member-dues/>

Outdoor Education and Outreach Trustee Needed

There is an opening for the board position of Outdoor Education and Outreach Trustee for the 2025-2026 term.

Please contact our president at president@trailsclub.org

February Events

Check the [Trails Club of Oregon website calendar](#) for up-to-date event listings.



Details

Tyee open with NW Trackers

Feb 1-2, Sat-Sun

Host: Paul Cutter



Details

Tyee Open Feb 7-9

Feb 7-9, Fri-Sun

Host: Sheryl Wagner



Details

Tyee Open Extra Days Feb 5,6, & 10

Feb 5-10, Wed-Mon

Host: Lori Leach



Details

Board Meeting

Feb 11, Tues



Details

Kids Stay Free Weekend at Tyee

Feb 14-16, Fri-Sun

Host: Linda Conrad



Details

Nesika Open

Feb 15-17, Sat-Mon

Host: Pete Recksiek



Details

Tyee is open along with Outdoor Service Guides

Feb 21-23, Fri-Sun

Host: Paul Cutter



Details

Tyee open

Feb 28 - Mar 2, Fri-Sun

Host: Sheryl Wagner



Empty Boots

Julie Davies

Passed away on November 13, 2024, in Portland, Ore. Born on August 22, 1931, in Bellefonte, Pa., Julie lived a full life characterized by her adventurous spirit and curious nature.

Julie dedicated many years to serving her community volunteering for the WashCo Democrats, Women's Health Initiative and Portland Center Stage. Her love for the outdoors and her active lifestyle led her to join the Trails Club of Oregon in 1980. Memories were created with new and old friends while hiking, cross-country skiing, and traveling abroad.

[Full obituary here.](#)



Welcome

Provisional:

Elizabeth Madsen - Sponsored by Nancy Schmidt and Lori Leach

Molly Pool – Sponsored by Olivia Bakke and Lori Leach

Julie Norrande

First Readings:

Abraham Chung - Sponsored by Tom Thrall and Lori Leach

Emiko Chung - Sponsored by Tom Thrall and Lori Leach

Bob Sauer – Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Nicole Rogers

New Full Member:

Marie Van Patten - Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach

New Golden Members:

Gerda Eck

Michael Stupek



Film credit to TCO

The film *Elemental: Reimagine Wildfire (2022)* recently aired on OPB.

Top wildfire experts and survivors discuss how homes and communities ignite in fast moving wildfires and what steps we can take to prevent these disasters. Learn about the harrowing

escape from Paradise, California; research why some homes burn and others don't; and Native American practices that have long used fire to restore landscapes and increase safety.

The film includes a credit for TCO because Ralph Bloemers, Executive Producer, included shots from around Nesika.

Streaming on [PBS Passport](https://www.pbs.org/shows/pbs-passport/) and other services listed at <https://www.elementalfilm.com/>



Photo: Juergen Steinhart - Nesika fireplace



Photo: Juergen Steinhart - Nesika New Years



Photo: Juergen Steinhart - Bickel point flares



Photo: Pete Recksiek - Nesika Snow



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Winter Creek

Board Meeting

Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

Date: January 14, 2025 Time: 7:00-9:00 PM Location: zoom

Attendees:

President:	Bev Drottar
Vice President:	Eric Zimmerman
Treasurer:	Nicole Rogers
Secretary:	Rebecca Knudeson

Publications: Joel Reitz
Membership: Lori Leach
Tyee Trustee: Paul Cutter
Nesika Trustee: Pete Recksiek
Trips Trustee: Craig Gwydir
Education and Outreach Committee: Vacant
Absent: None

REGULAR BUSINESS

Minutes were approved by email prior to the Blazer publication.

Paul requested via email for Trackers NW use of Tyee on 2/1/25. He will host our members that weekend and said the lodge could be shared between the outside group and our members. The request was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report, Nicole

12/31/24

Beginning Balance:	\$13,434.90
Checks and Payments:	-8,321.49
Deposits and Credits:	3,568.30
Cleared Balance:	8,681.71

Complete reports can be found by the Board in Dropbox

Vice President Report, Eric

Eric attempted to follow up on bank access. He asked Joel for access to the dropbox for these bank records.

He drafted a Dog Policy that matches our discussion at the December meeting and sent it to the board. See the record below under Old Business.

He received an email from a member about Lodge safety inspections, stating that an extinguisher was expired at Nesika. He volunteered to do lodge safety inspections on a regular basis.

No change in inventory.

Membership Report, Lori

Resignations:

Chris Seubert, Paul Fusch

Empty Boots:

Julia Davies

Provisional:

Elizabeth Madsen - Sponsored by Nancy Schmidt and Lori Leach

Molly Pool – Sponsored by Olivia Bakke and Lori Leach

Julie Norrande

First Readings:

Abraham Chung - Sponsored by Tom Thrall and Lori Leach

Emiko Chung - Sponsored by Tom Thrall and Lori Leach

Bob Sauer – Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Nicole Rogers

Second Readings:

Marie Van Patten - Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach

New Golden Members:

Gerda Eck and Michael Stupek

275 Total: 9 Golden, 3 Junior, 32 Life, 3 Life/Golden, 18 Provisional, 210 Regular

Publications Report, Joel

Nothing to report

Nesika Report, Pete

Pete Recksiek hosted New Year's weekend for 12 people plus day hikers. Lodge was accessible by road. Cougar Rock Trail was cleared, as well as the lower Franklin Ridge Trail. The tractor started blowing smoke while picking up supplies from the parking lot. The engine lost compression and was put away in the basement until spring when we will look at it. Supplies needed to be carried out by hand. The generator seemed to run fine over the weekend, although it needed a jump from a portable battery Ken Potter had in his car. Dave Lechter collected and stacked wood from the road to be processed in the spring. Pete and Dave did a lot of hard work on the trails. We discussed having the fire extinguishers inspected AED batteries need to be checked and a carbon monoxide detector put in the dorm. It would be good to have fire blankets in both lodges. Bev will ask Carl Buchanan, the member who made some safety suggestions, if he'd like to develop a safety checklist for the lodges.

Tyee Report, Paul

In mid December a youth group used Tyee sponsored by Sheryl Wagner. Immediately after Christmas Day the lodge was open for ten nights. Thanks to Sheryl, Lori and Joel who spread their host duties over this period. All weekends through early March have host volunteers with some extra Wednesday and Thursday nights added thanks to Lori and Nancy. Paul will tally the youth numbers for 2024 for The Forest Service and will include the gross revenue and the 100 hours x \$34.57/hr we earned for the two litter pickups. Numbers will be reported to the FS, and then we will wait for the 2024 permit bill. Numbers will be reported to the board next month.

Trips Report, Craig

In the month of December, there were 3 day hikes and 1 well attended hosted tour of the Hopkins Demonstration Forest. The TCO Stormy Trails Restoration Committee continued maintenance on the Cougar Rock trail, the High Water trail, the Ornament Trail, as well as the Nesika trail connector to Franklin Ridge. Recent scouting reports have shown these trails to be passable. The Cougar Rock trail had many trees across it as of Dec 30, 2024, but most of these obstacles were removed (thank you!).

Other trails news:

Bonneville Hot Springs is reopening under new leadership on Feb 1, 2025. The trail formerly known as the Dick Thomas trail will be reopened at that time. Details are provided on the Bonneville Hot Springs website. The Dick Thomas trail provides easier access to Table Mtn (Washington).

Please email Tripschair@TrailsClub.org if you are interested in assisting with trail work, including trail scouting, restoration and maintenance.

Call for help: If you are interested in learning about adventures on the Multnomah Plateau and willing to help co-lead hikes and/or join a TCO trips planning committee, please join our "TCO Hike Leaders Meeting" on Zoom this month, or send questions to Tripschair@TrailsClub.org.

Outdoor Education and Outreach Committee, Vacant

Board level trustee needed!! If you want to know more about this position, please contact President@TrailsClub.org

Leave No Trace Committee, Dolores via email

Dolores met with one LNT committee member. We are thinking of hosting a day section hike with cleanup of the beach as we go in the next couple months. We can't plan too far in advance due to weather, maybe a week to 10 days at a time. We don't want to be out in a storm. Location TBD. She plans to write to SOLV to ask if there is a recommended section of beach.

OLD BUSINESS

Trails Club of Oregon: Dog Access Policy

After a long discussion, the below policy was moved, seconded and unanimously passed.

The Trails Club of Oregon (TCO) welcomes members and guests who wish to bring their dogs to lodge outings while maintaining a safe and respectful environment for all visitors. The following updated points outline dog access and responsibilities at Nesika and Tyee Lodges:

General Guidelines

1. Leash Policy:

- Leashes are not required on lodge grounds. However, owners are expected to use good judgment and leash dogs when necessary to ensure the safety and comfort of all guests and animals.

2. Owner Responsibilities:

- Owners must clean up after their dogs. Waste should be buried at least 6 inches deep and 100 feet away from lodges, trails, or water sources.
- Dog food must not be left unattended overnight to prevent attracting wildlife or rodents.
- Owners are fully responsible for the behavior of their dogs and any damages or incidents caused by them.

3. Troublesome Dogs:

- The TCO board reserves the right to bar dogs that exhibit problematic behavior from future events. Any such activity should be reported to Board@TrailsClub.org Examples of such behavior include excessive barking, aggression, persistent bad odor, or lack of control.

NEW BUSINESS

Policies & Practices document for TCO

Lori will put out a draft document of Policies and Practices for topics that are not covered in our bylaws. Each board member will address the sections that cover their responsibilities and report at February's meeting.

Adjourned at 8:41PM

Next meeting: Feb. 11, 2025, 7 PM, zoom

Submitted by Rebecca Knudeson, Secretary

Board of Directors



President
**Beverly
Drottar**

[President
@TrailsClub.org](mailto:President@TrailsClub.org)



Vice President
**Eric
Zimmerman**

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Tyee
**Paul
Cutter**

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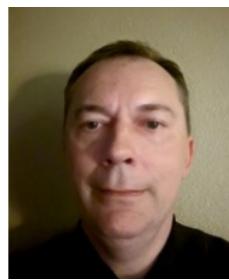
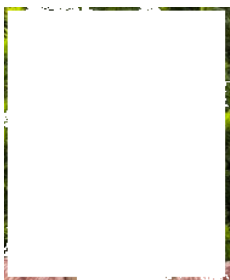
Membership
**Lori
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TrailsClub.org](mailto:MembershipChair@TrailsClub.org)



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Reitz**

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Outdoor Education
and Outreach

VACANT

OEO@TrailsClub.org

g



Trips

**Craig
Gwydir**

[TripsChair
@TrailsClub.org](mailto:TripsChair@TrailsClub.org)



Standing Committees



Social

Jeff Churchill

Social@TrailsClub.org

rg



Leave No Trace

**Dolores
Niebergall**

LeaveNoTrace@TrailsClub.org



History

Linda Conrad

History@TrailsClub.org



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 \$.20 per mile. With multiple riders the driver can collect up to \$.50 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.

TRAIL BLAZER

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Trails Club of Oregon

P.O. Box 67095

Portland, OR 97268-1095

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 second Tuesday of the month, 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 site](#) that allows event planners to organize TCO events online, and publicize these events to a wider audience (Meetup.com/Trails-Club-ofOregon/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 Trail 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.

Send write-ups to: Blazer@TrailsClub.org

Submissions are due by the fifteenth of the month prior to publication.

Trail Blazer Editor: Joel Reitz

Send pictures, new events, corrections and anything else for the

Trails Club of Oregon website to: webmaster@TrailsClub.org

