



Trail Blazer

Vol. 98 No. 3

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

March 2025

2025 Membership Dues

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

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

Can't remember if you have paid?

Check the membership directory:

<https://trailsclub.org/resources/directory/>

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

March Events

Check the [Trails Club of Oregon website calendar](#) for up-to-date event listings.
Click on the Details Icon for a link to the event.



Details

Tyee open

Feb 28 - Mar 2, Fri-Sun

Host: Sheryl Wagner



Details

Sierra Club Inspiring Connections Outdoors Youth Group – Tyee Day Use

Mar 8, Sat

Host: Julia Carroll



Details

Board Meeting

Mar 11, Tues



Details

Tyee Open for Members (Northwest Trackers 3/15-16)

Mar 12-17, Sat-Thur

Host: Lori Leach



Details

Leave No Trace Pub Talk

Mar 12, Wed

Host: Dolores Niebergall



Details

Tyee is open along with Outdoor Service Guides

Feb 21-23, Fri-Sun

Host: Paul Cutter



Welcome

Provisional:

Cara Nixon sponsored by Sebastian Powers-Leach and Nancy Schmidt

First Readings:

Patty Toland - Sponsored by Sheryl Wagner and Lori Leach
Rebecca Sexton - Sponsored by Helen Wang and Pete Recksiek

New Full Member:

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

Eric Eisinger - Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach



Leave No Trace Committee Presents its first Community event!

Please Join us for a fun, interactive, and quick 20 minute talk on the 7 Leave No Trace principles—simple tips to help you hike, camp, and explore without wrecking the places we love.

We'll have a time for sharing and Questions and Answers at the end of the talk.

WHEN: Wednesday March 12th

Presentation begins at 7:00 pm

WHERE: Calapooia Brewing Company

140 NE Hill St Albany, OR 97321

COST: No charge. Feel free to arrive early to buy dinner and/or a drink.

Short, engaging, and maybe even a little entertaining—because keeping the wild wild shouldn't be boring.

See you there!

LEAVE NO TRACE PUB TALK

March 12
7 pm
Calapooia Brewing Co.
Albany, Ore.

No charge. Come
early to purchase
food and drinks.

Learn more about
Leave No Trace
principles, skills and
techniques.



*Short, engaging, and maybe even a little entertaining—because
keeping the wild wild shouldn't be boring.*

See you there!





Photo: Craig Gwydir - Cougar Rock



Photo: Paul Williamson - Tyee Icicles



Photo: Paul Williamson - Tyee Dining



Photo: Linda/Glen Conrad - Tyee Sledding



Photo: Linda/Glen Conrad - Tyee Sledding

Board Meeting

Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/11/25 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
Outdoor Ed/Outreach Trustee: Vacant
Committee Chairs: Dolores Niebergall (Leave No Trace),
Jeffrey Churchill (social)
Guest: Chris Monte (financial advisor)

REGULAR BUSINESS

Minutes were approved by email prior to the Blazer publication.

Financial Report, Chris Monti

Chris, a TCO member, has volunteered the last 15 years to manage our investment fund, saving the Club the steep fees we previously paid. He meets with the Board every year to touch base about our Fidelity investment fund. We are in a balanced fund position right now. We want to make sure we have cash enough to cover emergencies and any deficit while maintaining and growing the principal.

Treasurer's Report, Nicole

Beginning Balance, 1/25/25: \$8,681.71

Checks and Payment: 859.50

Deposits and Credits: 3,508.73

Cleared Balance: 11,330.94

Comprehensive reports for January financials can be found at: Monthly Treasurer's Reports - Dropbox

The most current Fidelity statement value is \$452,028.

We received payments and application forms from Ken Potter and Juergen Steinhart for Nesika keys. One new membership application was uploaded on 2/9/25 to: Membership Applications - Dropbox

Membership Report, Lori

The tabling at the Oregon Ocean Paddling Society (OOPS) was well received. Approximately 60 people attended. The winner of the raffle, one night for four people, will schedule for a summer visit to Tyee.

Provisional:

Cara Nixon sponsored by Sebastian Powers-Leach and Nancy Schmidt

First Readings:

Patty Toland - Sponsored by Sheryl Wagner and Lori Leach

Rebecca Sexton - Sponsored by Helen Wang and Pete Recksiek

Second Readings all unanimously approved:

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

Eric Eisinger - Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach

The Board voted 8 in favor and 1 opposed to grant Eric Eisinger a one year membership for his work as a nonmember on the Tyee septic emergency last month.

Total membership: 283

9 Golden, 2 Junior, 32 Life, 3 Life/Golden, 21 Provisional, 216 Regular

There are 55 members who have not paid this year's dues. Lori will contact them.

Publications Report, Joel

Jeff Churchill (social chair) is using a new email: Jeffrey Churchill, jeffrey.t.churchill@gmail.com
Joel is doing regular maintenance on our website.

Nesika Report, Pete

The access road has been clear of snow and trees through late January. Bob Walker replaced the battery of the generator on January 28th. He looked at the tractor, which didn't start, and we agreed there is a fuel problem to be addressed in the spring. Dave Lechter hauled and stacked rounds in the parking lot. He was unable to get out on January 30th, so his rig is stuck in the lodge parking lot for the season. He covered it with a tarp and hiked out. \$432 in dues and lodge fees were collected during New Years' Eve weekend.

Pete is getting the extinguishers certified. It will be \$20 each. He ordered some more, a carbon dioxide detector and some exit signs.

Tyee Report, Paul

The lodge was open every weekend in January but had to close abruptly on Sat 1/25 when Sheryl Wagner reported to Paul that the toilets had completely backed up. Sheryl and her friend, Eric, spent 5-6 hours attempting to clear the problem with no success. As the underground system has no convenient clean-outs, the only option was to work in the confinement of a 4ft crawl space. The lodge closed and twelve people were sent home. Lori Leach and Paul rented a rod pusher the following Monday, sledged the equipment to the lodge and fought the system for six hours and another four Tuesday. Amazingly, a Gresham sewer contractor answered their call, met them in Government Camp and bid the project at \$600. The following Tuesday, Cory, Chris and Paul sledged up a pressure washer and a camera and locator. Three hours later, the blockage was located, all pipes cleared, photographed, flushed and located. Paul now has an extensive map of the pipe layout. He asked Chris, the contractor, for an estimate to have two, two-directional clean-outs installed. Two are needed as the men's and women's bathroom pipes join under six feet of snow this time of year. Therefore they would need to be located nearer the lodge. Paul asked several long time members whether they recall if and when the septic was ever pumped. Richard Gaunt had no knowledge of it. Randy Dietrich has not replied. Cost is \$700 for 1000 gallons and 65¢ for each gallon over 1000 gallons.

Paul gave NW Trackers date options as their weekend was cancelled in early February. Apart from all this, things are good at the lodge. Paul sent the lodge numbers for 2024 to the Forest Service recently. We had five youth groups with a total 250 nights. Total revenue was \$10,500 offset by the work-in-lieu of \$3,457 earned. He heard from Catherine Dillion, the FS Organization Camp Coordinator, that they received our numbers and are going to work on the billing at the end of the month.

NEW Tyee Business:

Paul received an estimate of \$2200 from the septic contractors to install 2 clean-outs at Tyee. A septic tank pump-out will cost \$700. He is asking the Board to consider these expenses. The clean-outs could have prevented the need to bring in professional help. The discussion was tabled until no later than May's meeting since the work would be done in the summer.

Trips Report, Craig

In January, there was 1 snowshoe and 1 day hike.

The TCO Stormy Trails Committee did not evaluate the Multnomah Basin trails in January. We hope to examine the condition of the basin trails (Franklin Connector trail, Cougar Rock trail,

High Water trail) in mid-late February. It is expected there will be obstacles to remove from those trails.

Other trails news:

Bonneville Hot Springs (BHS) reopened under new leadership Jan 31, 2025. It costs \$10/car to park within the BHS west lot. A USFS pass is not accepted as the trailhead is located on private land. The trail formerly known as the Dick Thomas trail is reopened and clear of debris. The BHS ownership is considering a rename of the Dick Thomas trail to Carpenters Meadow trail. There is currently (Feb 2025) clear access to Aldrich Butte, the PCT, Two Chiefs trail and Greenleaf Falls from Bonneville Hot Springs.

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" this month, or send questions to tripschair@trailsclub.org.

Outdoor Education & Outreach Committee

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

Leave No Trace Committee, Dolores

Dolores had a one hour phone meeting with Elise Robinson, Manager of Training and Programs at Int.org, to make sure her messaging is inline with the copyright and shareable information from Leave No Trace. Elise reviewed Dolores' presentation notes and made a few recommendations for changes to better accommodate those with color blindness. Dolores has developed two versions of Leave No Trace Trailhead talks (one minute or less). She plans to work with the Trips Chair to incorporate the 7 Principles of Leave No Trace into training of new trips leaders.

She completed a three day solo planning retreat to develop an approximately 20 minute interactive presentation using Key Note (Apple Version of Power Point) to teach Leave No Trace. The presentation is to be done in person, it is **not** to be recorded for later viewing.

Int.org has many high quality videos for the public to access for free. She believes it will be helpful to have some links for Int.org on our web page.

Dolores plans to offer the presentation at pub talks, community centers, libraries, at specific pre arranged Trails Club Lodges Membership events (with permission of, and coordination with, the lodge hosts and trip leaders) and any place that we can gather an audience. She's working with Social Committee Chair, Jeff Churchill, to locate venues available for free and to get some talks on the calendar as soon as possible.

She has made handouts (attached for board members to view) to advertise the talks and is willing to give a blitz of these talks if it can be arranged.

A member, Sanjana Sachdeva, has created a bingo/scavenger game for children. The committee would like to locate a relatively remote north coast beach for a hike/cleaning event. SOLV of Oregon will provide tools. The committee hopes to lead a couple of Leave No Trace Meetup hikes this year. Dolores is volunteering with Cascade Volunteers to train trailhead hosts in the Willamette National Forest. She has written the role for the Leave No Trace Committee for Club use. She plans to check with the Mazamas about their Leave No Trace messaging and possibly collaborating. She and Joel will add a Leave No Trace section on the TCO web page.

OLD BUSINESS

501(c)3 Status, Lori

Lori sent an email to StartChurch regarding our progress. Our member language has been a

challenge, but they are working with the State to get us into compliance. We should know more soon.

NEW BUSINESS

Cordora House requested to use Tyee 1 day of the March 8 or 9 weekend. The Board unanimously approved.

Social Chair, Jeff Churchill

Jeff is looking for anyone interested in the Social Committee to contact him. He's looking at dates for the Annual Banquet, summer picnic and Annual Meeting.

TCO's Policies & Practices Document, Bev and Lori

Lori has worked on the creation of a document for the more changeable topics that were left out of the new bylaws. Our discussion focused mostly on how to approach the document, division of labor and technical difficulties. Each of us will focus at least on areas related to our specific role in the Club. Our goal is to get the document on our website by summer. Lori, Eric and Jeff will work on technical issues related to the document.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:16

Next meeting: Tuesday Mar 11, 2025, 7-9pm zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/9061187636?pwd=QWdNaVBvRFE4NGU0VUZpNUZBb1Z0UT09>

Submitted by Rebecca Knudeson, Secretary

Board of Directors



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Drott**

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Vice President

**Eric
Zimmerman**

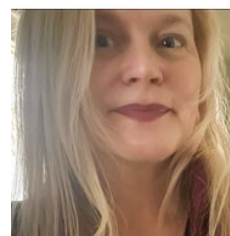
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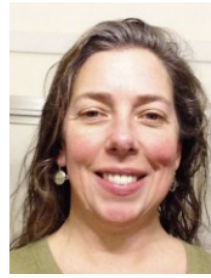
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Tyee
**Paul
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TyeeChair@TrailsClub.org



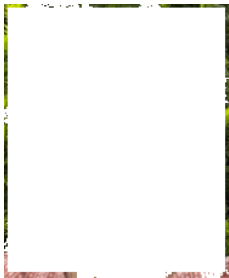
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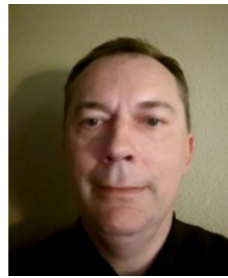
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Outdoor Education
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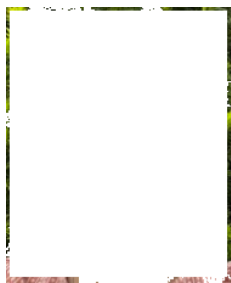


Trips
**Craig
Gwydir**

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

Published monthly by the

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-of-Oregon/events/](https://www.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 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



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