



Trail Blazer

Vol. 98 No. 5

TrailsClub.org

May 2025

Trails Club Social Picnic

Save the date: Sunday, June 1

[Click for details](#)

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

May 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

May 1, Thurs

TCO Trip leaders Planning Meeting (online)

Leader: Craig Gwydir



Details

Weds Evening Conditioning Hike

May 7, Wed

Leader: TBD



Details

Board Meeting

May 13, Tues



Details

Weds Evening Conditioning Hike

May 14, Wed

Leader: TBD



Details

Weds Evening Conditioning Hike

May 21, Wed

Leader: TBD



Details

Weds Evening Conditioning Hike

May 28, Wed

Leader: TBD



Details

Trails Club Social Picnic

June 1, Wed

Leader: Jeff Churchill



Welcome

Provisional Member:

Zachary Krahmer

First Readings:

Jonathan Beck - Sponsored by Helen Wang and Sylvia Ashley

New Full Members:

Gabriella Tomei – Sponsored by Ben Levy and Lori Leach

Nicolle Mecha - Sponsored by Glen Conrad and Sylvia Ashley

Bill Sherwin - Sponsored by Glen Conrad and Sylvia Ashley

Jesse Duarte - Sponsored by Pete Recksiek and Jerry Manuel



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Elevator Shaft trail clearing



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Nesika Ceiling



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Planting Trees



Photo: ? - First TCO Cabin on Larch Moutain

Board Meeting

Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/8/25 Time: 7:00-9:00 PM Location: zoom

Attendees:

President: Bev Drottar
Vice President: Eric Zimmerman
Publications: Joel Reitz
Membership: Lori Leach
Tyee Trustee: Paul Cutter
Nesika Trustee: Pete Recksiek
Trips Trustee: Craig Gwydir

Committee Chairs: Jeff Churchill (Social)

Absent:

Secretary: Rebecca Knudeson (excused)
Treasurer: Nicole Rogers (excused)

Outdoor Ed/Outreach Trustee: Vacant

Meeting Started at 7:01pm

REGULAR BUSINESS

Via email in between meetings:

- Minutes for March were approved by email prior to the Blazer publication.
- A request from Gerda Eck to use Tyee on July 15-17 for a former member event was approved.

Treasurer's Report, Nicole (absent)

Beginning Balance : \$12,876.80
Checks and Payment: \$2,385.77
Deposits and Credits: \$2,044.99
Cleared Balance: \$12,536.02
Ending Balance: \$11,182.02

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

We received a \$100 donation towards a new Nesika tractor or repairs.** (see below)

Our 2024 tax return has been submitted.

The most current Fidelity statement value is \$460,383.

One new membership application was uploaded on 3/28/25 to: Membership Applications - Dropbox

Membership Report, Lori

Empty Boots:

Walt Garvin – Passed away on 3/15/25 – Joined 12/1/1983 (Obituary)

Provisional: 1

Zachary Krahmer

First Readings:

Jonathan Beck - Sponsored by Helen Wang and Sylvia Ashley

Second Readings: Unanimous Vote

Gabriella Tomei – Sponsored by Ben Levy and Lori Leach

Nicolle Mecha - Sponsored by Glen Conrad and Sylvia Ashley

Bill Sherwin - Sponsored by Glen Conrad and Sylvia Ashley

Jesse Duarte - Sponsored by Pete Recksiek and Jerry Manuel

Membership Summary

4/8/25

Golden	9
Junior	2
Life	31
Life/Golden	3
Provisional	18
<u>Regular</u>	<u>167</u>
Total	230

Lori spoke with the son of Merrill Hugo, he was asking for honorary membership for his father. We discussed putting up Merrill to a vote for honorary membership at the next club meeting.

Pete Recksiek brought up an anonymous donor that has gone above and beyond for Nesika Lodge and the club. Pete has requested giving some kind of recognition and discussion was had about honorary membership.

Publications Report, Joel

Nothing to report.

Nesika Report, Pete

**Gofundme and general fundraising, discussed pros and cons of using internal stripe links versus gofundme. Decision to table until Nicole is present to deal with multiple systems of receiving money.

Joel created internal donation link: <https://trailsclub.org/product/tractor-donation/>

Pete Recksiek organized a GoFundMe fundraiser to raise funds for a new tractor to replace the aging Yanmar tractor. Donations have totaled \$10,000** so far. The tractor remains out of use, Bob Walker has a part on order for the repair (fuel pump).

Glen and Linda Conrad hosted a volunteer weekend to organize the history documents and prepare for the Easter Egg Hunt the following weekend. They noticed a tree had fallen on the water line to the lower reservoir and damaged the pipe. It was repaired by Glen Conrad and the water system charged successfully.

** There was a member email exchange with Nicole that indicated that there is confusion about the tractor funds and how they are reported to our treasurer. The confusion arises because we currently have 2 separate methods of collecting for this fund. There is a Go Fund Me account, and an account through our website. See the note above, that this will be discussed further, when our treasurer can be present.

Tyee Report, Paul

Paul asked for some discussion about communication with the USFS office when they are not responding. Talked about putting tax related questions into formal writing and sending through the mail. Giving more time for email responses before any more action is required.

Not too much to report. Julia Mace hosted 12 youth from Cadero House sponsored by The Sierra Club.

Two other weekends were hosted by members, a third was cancelled due to lack of participants.

Numbers were down from last year, as there was only one large group compared to four last year. Various reasons; Trackers NW have cut back on their overnight trips, an adult trip postponed due to the sewer problem and not rescheduled.

Individual numbers are also down.

The FS permit officer has been contacted as to the whereabouts of our 2024 bill.

A litter pickup may be scheduled in late Sept.

The septic tank will be measured as soon as the snow clears and then a recommendation whether to pump or not.

Drainage improvement at the east wall is the priority this year

Trips Report, Craig

Membership hike this Saturday to Nesika: <https://www.meetup.com/trails-club-of-oregon/events/306840359/> Lodge will be open all weekend.

There was a TCO Trips "Leave No Trace" Social event during the month of March.

Will talk to Dolores Niebergall about having a more local event.

The weekly TCO Wednesday evening conditioning hikes have resumed.

The TCO "Stormy Trails" committee was very active during the month of March:

- The TCO "Stormy Trails" committee was very active during the month of March:
- The Nesika/Franklin Connector Trail was cleared of debris.
- The Cougar Rock Trail was cleared of debris.
- The Multnomah Basin Connector Trail has been reopened and cleared. This trail was damaged during the 2017 fire, but is now restored.
- The Elevator Shaft Trail has been completely cleared and reopened. This trail was damaged during the 2017 fire, but is now restored.

The Stormy Trails committee plan for 2024 is to keep the following trails clear:

- The Stormy Trails committee plan for 2024 is to keep the following trails clear:
- Ornament Trail

- Cougar Rock Trail
- Elevator Shaft Trail
- Multnomah Basin Connector Trail
- Nesika/Franklin Ridge Connector Trail

It is expected more TCO hikes will be hosted on these trails in the near future.

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 Ed and Outreach, vacant

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

Leave No Trace Committee, Dolores Niebergall

During the Month of March

- Successful joint effort with Cascade Volunteers to present The 7 Leave No Trace Principles at Calapooia Brewing in Albany, OR. Thanks to the 3 Trails Club of Oregon members who attended. The presentation was well received.

- Focused Trails Club of Oregon's March Facebook postings on seasonal choices trail users can do to Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces (3 posts), Leave what they find in relation to invasive weed seeds(2 posts), Respect Wildlife (1 post) and Dispose of Waste Properly (3 posts).

April Leave No Trace focus is related to Earth Month. Even if we do not leave trash behind, we help our nature when we pick up trash we find along the trail.

Social Committee, Jeff Churchill (Social)

Jeff spoke about the first social event of the year. Possibly 6/1/2025 at Sellwood park Picnic A spot in Portland.

Discussion about events and getting volunteers involved.

Some ideas were tossed out about a dance social too, square dancing and Paul Williamson got mentioned.

OLD BUSINESS

Tyee; Still looking at future costs for septic pumping and clean-out drains. This is on hold until snow melts, and might get a report at the June/July meeting.

Policies & Practices document for TCO

Beverly made a heart felt plea to review and update the Policies. We have started to work through several sections. Thank you all board members involved!

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Mentioned TKO at Camp Numanu, talked about doing a possible hike with them.

Joel brought up possible use of advertising. Beverly spoke about possible advertising in the blazer for like minded companies. Decided that Joel would mock up a dummy ad for the board to review in the draft of this month's Blazer.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40pm

Next meeting: Tuesday May 13, 2025, 7-9pm zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/9061187636?pwd=QWdNaVBvRFE4NGU0VUZpNUZBb1Z0UT09>

Submitted by Eric Zimmerman, Vice President (In absence of Secretary)

Board of Directors



President

**Beverly
Drott**

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



Vice President

**Eric
Zimmerman**

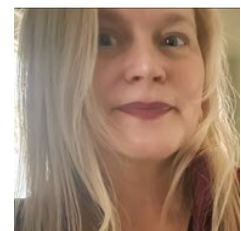
[VicePres
@TrailsClub.org](mailto:VicePres@TrailsClub.org)



Secretary

**Rebecca
Knudson**

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



Treasurer

**Nicole
Rogers**

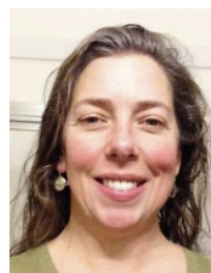
[Treasurer
@TrailsClub.org](mailto:Treasurer@TrailsClub.org)



Nesika



Tyee



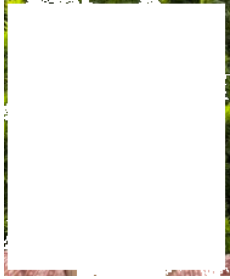
Membership



Publications

**Pete
Reckseik**

NesikaChair@TrailsClub.org



Outdoor Education
and Outreach

VACANT

OEO@TrailsClub.org



**Paul
Cutter**

TyeeChair@TrailsClub.org



Trips

**Craig
Gwydir**

TripsChair@TrailsClub.org



**Lori
Leach**

MembershipChair@TrailsClub.org



**Joel
Reitz**

PublicationChair@TrailsClub.org



Standing Committees



Social

Jeff Churchill

Social@TrailsClub.org



Leave No Trace

**Dolores
Niebergall**

LeaveNoTrace@TrailsClub.org



History

Linda Conrad

History@TrailsClub.org



Your Advertisement Here

Stupendous opportunity for helping yourself and others.



We are testing out a small, member driven advertisement placement in the Trailblazer. If you want to give the board feedback, this is an easy place to do it: <https://tinyurl.com/ymp94khy>

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-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

