



# Trail Blazer

Vol. 98 No. 6

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

June 2025

## **Trails Club Social Picnic**

Sunday, June 1, Noon to 5pm

Sellwood Park, picnic area A by the tennis courts

Grilled burgers, sausages, and a vegan option provided

Potluck sides encouraged!

Lawn games, raffle prizes,  
and a group walk to Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

Group photo at 2:15 PM

“Icebreaker Bingo” to help you meet new friends

Kombucha provided by Brew Dr.

Swag, sunshine, and smiles all around!

[Click for details and to RSVP](#)

## **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](mailto:president@trailsclub.org)

## Nesika Utility Vehicle Fund

The tractor at Nesika has not been running for several months.

We are in the process of purchasing a Kubota utility vehicle.

We have raised ~ \$10,000 already and need ~ \$6,000 more.

This vehicle will be used to transport equipment and supplies from the parking lot to Nesika lodge over the "Monster" trail.

Please consider making a donation to the [utility vehicle fund](#).



## June 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

## Trails Club Social Picnic

June 1, Wed

Leader: Jeff Churchill



Details

## Trails Club Social Picnic Walk

June 1, Wed

Leader: Craig Gwydir



Details

## Weds Evening Conditioning Hike

June 4, Wed

Leader: Rebecca



Details

## Board Meeting

June 10, Tues



Details

## Weds Evening Conditioning Hike

June 11, Wed

Leader: John Koger



Details

## Weds Night Triple Crown

June 18, Wed

Leader: Bruce Seymour



Details

## Tyee work party

June 21, Sat

Leader: Paul Cutter



Details

## Private reservation for Catlin Gabel HS

June 22-28, Sun-Sat

Leader: Paul Cutter



Details

## Weds Evening Conditioning Hike

June 25, Wed

Leader: Bruce Seymour



Details

## Historic Hike at Camp Namanu!

June 28, Sat

Leader: Lori Leach



# Welcome



**First Readings:**

Andrew Gardner sponsored by Craig Gwydir and Linda Conrad

**New Full Members:**

Jonathan Beck sponsored by Helen Wang and Sylvia Ashley



**Photo: Craig Gwydir - Elevator Shaft looking down**





**Photo: Craig Gwydir - Elevator Shaft looking up**





**Photo: Eric Zimmerman - Western Columbine on Elevator Shaft**



**Photo: Eric Zimmerman - Baldhip Rose on Elevator Shaft**



**Photo: Eric Zimmerman - Common Woolly Sunflower on Elevator Shaft**





**Photo: Eric Zimmerman - Shinyleaf Meadowsweet on Elevator Shaft**



**Photo: Eric Zimmerman - Harsh Indian Paintbrush on Elevator Shaft**





Photo: Eric Zimmerman - Columbian Larkspur on Elevator Shaft

## Board Meeting

### Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

Date: May 13, 2025 Time: 7:00-9:00 PM Location: zoom

Location: zoom at [https://zoom.us/j/9061187636?](https://zoom.us/j/9061187636?pwd=QWdNaVBvRFE4NGU0VUZpNUZBb1Z0UT09)

pwd=QWdNaVBvRFE4NGU0VUZpNUZBb1Z0UT09

#### Attendees:

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:	Jeff Churchill (Social)

**Absent:**

President: Bev Drottar

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

Minutes were approved by email prior to the Blazer publication.

Approved via email April 29, 2025: Susan Keller, long term member, wishes to book Tyee 7/19 and 20 for a memorial service for a friend.

**Treasurer's Report, Nicole**

Beginning Balance:	\$12,536.02
Checks and Payment:	2,009.67
Deposits and Credits:	8,420.42
Cleared Balance:	18,946.77

Complete reports can be found by the Board in Dropbox.

Nicole is having issues with emails and getting back to people. She needs 2 or 3 days in order to respond. She's busy with Monday-Thursday heavy workload. Sometimes she doesn't get an email and is happy to have people check with her. Everyone needs to have patience with responses.

We decided that fundraising should be board driven, not through avenues like GoFund Me. Pete will write a check to Trails Club for the monies raised from the GoFund Me for the Nesika tractor.

**Membership Report, Lori**

**First Readings:** Andrew Gardner sponsored by Craig Gwydir and Linda Conrad

**Second Readings,** approved unanimously:

Jonathan Beck sponsored by Helen Wang and Sylvia Ashley

**Membership Summary:** Total: 233

9 Golden, 2 Junior, 31 Life, 3 Life/Golden, 15 Provisional, 173 Regular

Lori will email board members the list of members who didn't pay dues this year so we can double check for any who might have overlooked them.

**Publications Report, Joel**

We had no negative responses from the membership about placing ads in the Blazer. In the past we have had ads. Joel will announce in the Blazer for members who might want to place mutually beneficial ads in the Blazer. If/when a company donates or sponsors an event, we will note it within that event's announcements.



### **Nesika Report, Pete**

The tractor remains out of use, a new head may be required. Bob Walker removed the head and is in the process of replacing the gasket. The part is on order. The GoFundMe site has raised \$2,205 for a desperately needed tractor. Private donors raised another \$8,200 on the TCO website. Pete has looked at Kubota and John Deer quotes. The dealership hasn't gotten back to him with a quote, so the purchase will have to wait until later.

The generator has not worked since March. A faulty circuit in the ignition panel seems to be the cause. It would be good to have a portable generator available. Joel has one that we might use until our generator is operating.

200 Silver Firs were planted over the Easter Weekend, led by David Buchanan. Crews also worked installing window sills in the dorm, splitting and stacking firewood and trail clearing. Forestry Service crews have been working on the access road (Palmer Mill Rd) near the green gate, dropping troublesome firs. If you are going in during the week, please contact the Nesika Chair (Pete, [910] 209-6345) to prevent traffic conflicts on the narrow road. The crews should not be working on the weekends.

### **Tyee Report, Paul**

There's very little to report. The snow is almost gone, unusually early. Our Forest Service permit officer finally replied to the request regarding the 2024 lease fee. The work-in-lieu, one hundred hours, generated \$3,387. After their convoluted formula including the youth participation, our final bill was \$1,769. Therefore the work-in-lieu monies covered this easily. Our final 2024 bill is the minimum \$300 and has been paid. As we have excessive work-in-lieu hours that cannot be carried over, Paul recommends that the club limit the hours to about 50-60 annually, this year and in future years. The Forest Service has agreed that we return to the Wildcat Mtn area in late Sept. This will be one of Tyee's work parties.

The first tasks for this year are to start digging out the drain and move wood from Paul's up to the lodge.

### **Trips Report, Craig**

There were 2 TCO day trips during the month of April. Both trips visited Nesika Lodge. Wednesday night conditioning hikes are posted on the TCO calendar at <https://trailsclub.org/activities/calendar/>.

A TCO Trip Leaders ZOOM online meeting was also convened during the month of April. There was discussion of having an in-person TCO Trip Leaders social event at a local restaurant or tavern on a weeknight.

The TCO "Stormy Trails" committee continued to be very active during the month of April: Craig will work on Elevator Shaft clearing on 5/17 and on the 24th to clear trails.

- The Cougar Rock Trail was cleared of debris.
- The historic user path to Meadow Ridge was restored.
- The Elevator Shaft Trail was cleared of debris.

Healthy spring growth of fireweed and other seasonal plants will require some trimming on these basin trails during May.

The Stormy Trails committee plan for 2025 is to keep the following trails clear:

- Ornament Trail
- Cougar Rock Trail
- Elevator Shaft Trail

- Multnomah Basin Connector Trail
- Nesika/Franklin Ridge Connector Trail
- Meadow Ridge user path

Trail clearing help is always welcome! Please ask the TCO Trip Leader about the location of these trails if you are interested. It is expected more TCO hikes will be hosted on these trails in the near future.

Please email [tripschair@trailsclub.org](mailto: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](mailto:tripschair@trailsclub.org).

Thanks to Eric Zimmerman for clearing the Elevator Shaft.

Craig still has wooden trail signs to install. He has created the signs to help people navigate the Basin. They are Forest Service approved. He will make a sign for the Green Fern Dorm.

### **Outdoor Ed and Outreach, vacant**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **1) Request for honorary membership**

A long time member's son asked about honoring his father with an honorary membership. We discussed how to recognize other members who have made a significant contribution to the club. We will table the issue until the June meeting.

##### **2) June Social, Jeff Churchill**

It will be held on June 1, 12:00-5:00, at Sellwood Park Picnic Area A. He has one sponsorship and perhaps other food sponsorships. He's considering games, walks and other activities. Jeff is planning to provide grilled meats/veggie option with potluck sides and swag. We will send out a separate email about the event to the membership. It is open to members and their family and friends.

##### **3) Policies & Practices document for TCO**

We need to create a document for these that includes all the business items that were left out of the new bylaws, such as dog policy, lodge rentals, etc., before the Annual Meeting.

Adjourned at 8:35

Next meeting, June 10, zoom

Submitted by Rebecca Knudeson, Secretary

## **Board of Directors**





President  
**Beverly  
Drott**

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



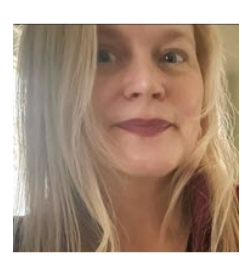
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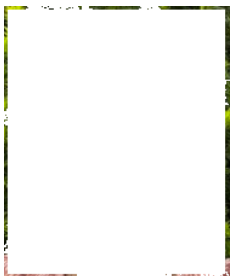
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Outdoor Education  
and Outreach  
**VACANT**



Trips  
**Craig  
Gwydir**

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



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



## Standing Committees



Social

**Jeff Churchill**

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



Leave No Trace

**Dolores  
Niebergall**

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



History

**Linda Conrad**

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



## Your Advertisement Here

Adds from TCO members for mutual benefit can be placed in the Trail Blazer





If you would like to place an add send your input to: [Blazer@TrailsClub.org](mailto:Blazer@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.

# 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](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 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](http://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](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.

Send write-ups to: [Blazer@TrailsClub.org](mailto: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](mailto:webmaster@TrailsClub.org)

