



Trail Blazer

Vol. 99 No. 10

TrailsClub.org

October 2026

SAVE THE DATE!



TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON
ANNUAL MEETING



Sunday, November 8, 2026



2:00–4:00 PM



**Scouting America –
Cascade Pacific Council Office**
9700 SW Nimbus Ave
Beaverton, OR 97008



Nesika Road Access Closed

The USFS Regional Bridge Engineer, who is fresh off his bi-annual road bridge inspections, says the bridge that crosses Multnomah Creek within Multnomah Basin (at the bottom of Multnomah Basin Road) is severely compromised and has been CLOSED. It appears that the huge December storms scoured away the foundations of the abutments and they're basically just "floating." In no circumstances should cars be driven across it. The bridge is open for foot traffic which makes it about a 2 mile hike to Nesika from parking at the green gate.

Help Lead the Trails Club: Board Openings for 2027

The Trails Club runs on volunteers, and that includes the board. This fall we have two officer positions opening up that we'd love to talk with members about.

President. Bev Drott is stepping down at the end of the year after leading the club through our transition to 501(c)(3) status. The President chairs the monthly board meetings and the November annual meeting, works with the trustees to keep club programs moving, and is the club's voice to members and partner organizations. You don't need prior board experience. You need to care about the club, be organized, and be willing to help a group of committed volunteers pull in the same direction.

Treasurer. Sydney Jackson is relocating and has stepped down from the board. Sydney has generously offered to help the next Treasurer get up to speed remotely, so whoever steps in won't be starting cold. The job is more manageable than it might sound. The club's books are in QuickBooks, and other board members already handle scanning the mail so the Treasurer can work from anywhere with a laptop. The core work is keeping up with money coming in and going out, giving a short financial summary at the monthly board meeting, and preparing a few annual reports for taxes and our 501(c)(3) status. If you're comfortable with QuickBooks or willing to learn it, and you like keeping things in order, this could be a good fit. This seat is open now, and it is the one we most urgently need to fill.

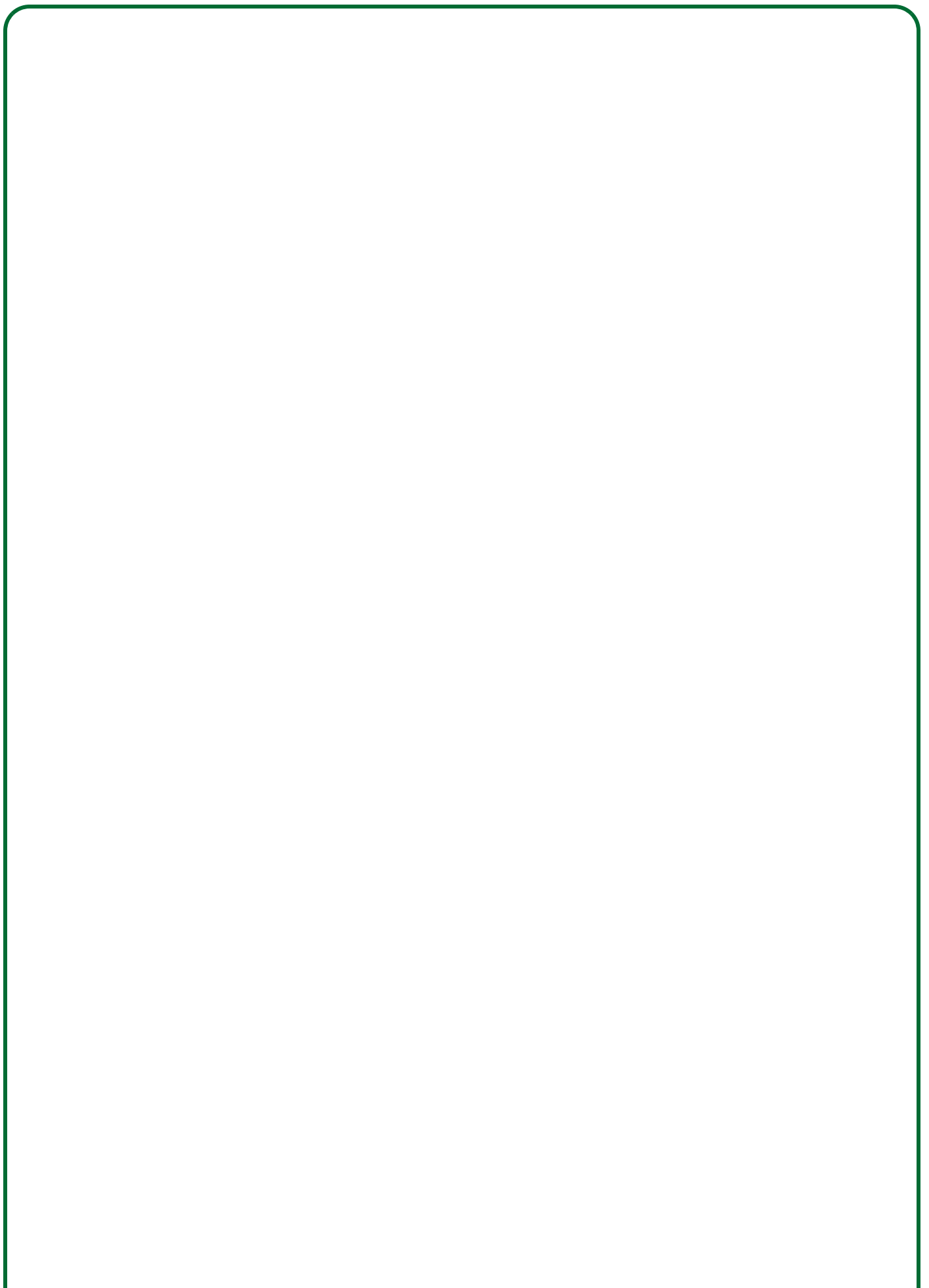
Both seats normally run through 2027. Because these are mid-term openings, the board will appoint replacements, and we want members to have a chance to step forward first.

Trail Blazer Editor. We're also looking for someone to take on editing this newsletter. The editor assembles each monthly issue from trip reports, lodge news, and board announcements, with support from Publications Trustee Joel Reitz. A good fit for anyone who enjoys writing, layout, or just keeping the club connected.

Other seats. Vice President, Secretary, Publications, Trips, and Outdoor Education and Outreach are up for election at the November annual meeting. The current holders have all agreed to serve another term, but nominations from the floor are always welcome.

If any of this sounds interesting, or you'd just like to know more about what a position involves before deciding, please reach out. I'm happy to talk. Contact me at eric.zimmerman@trailsclub.org.

Eric Zimmerman, Vice President





DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

Preserve Our Lodges.

Educate Our Community.

Support Future Generations.



FALL MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE SEPTEMBER 1 – NOVEMBER 30



**EVERY DOLLAR
YOU GIVE**

**WILL BE MATCHED
DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR!**

Thanks to a generous anonymous donor, your tax-deductible gift will be matched up to the challenge maximum — doubling your impact for the Trails Club of Oregon.

CHOOSE WHERE YOUR GIFT GOES:



1. GREATEST NEED

Funds used where the need is greatest — lodge and trail upkeep, insurance, deferred maintenance, emergencies, and other critical priorities.



2. OUTDOOR EDUCATION

AND OUTREACH



AND OUTREACH

Expanding access to the outdoors through education and skills programs, youth and family opportunities, outreach to people who face barriers to outdoor participation, and welcoming new people to the Trails Club.



3. TYEE LODGE – MT. HOOD

Preserving and improving our cherished lodge at the foot of Mt. Hood.



4. NESIKA LODGE – COLUMBIA GORGE

Maintaining and enhancing our historic lodge in the beautiful Columbia Gorge.

EVERY GIFT.
EVERY MEMBER.
EVERY ADVENTURE.

*Together, we keep
our community
moving forward.*

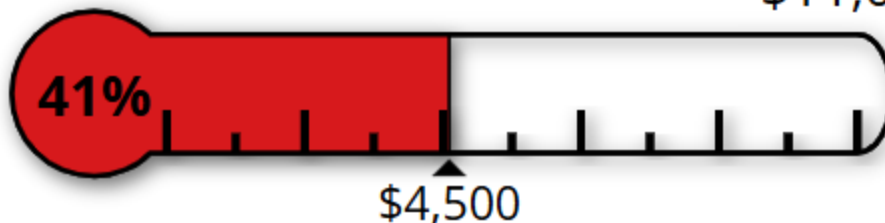


MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!

trailsclub.org/donate

Questions? Contact membership@trailsclub.org

\$11,000



trailsclub.org/donation

Donations can be made by Credit Card,
Zelle bank transfer, or snail-mail check.

Turn Your Bottles & Cans into Support for TCO!

Did you know your empty bottles and cans can help support the **Trails Club of Oregon**? TCO is a registered BottleDrop nonprofit, making it easy for

members and friends to support the Club while recycling their Oregon deposit containers.

Fill a TCO Blue Bag

Pick up a **BottleDrop Blue Bag and TCO bag tag** at **Tyee or Nesika Lodge, TCO social activities, or Club meetings**. Fill the bag with your Oregon 10¢ deposit bottles and cans. Aluminum, plastic, and glass containers can all go in the same bag—**no sorting required!**

When your bag is full, take it to a BottleDrop or participating bag-drop location. **Scan the QR code on the TCO bag tag to open the collection site door**, place your bag inside, and you're done. BottleDrop counts the containers and credits the refund value directly to TCO.

Be sure every Blue Bag has a TCO tag attached so the donation is credited to the Club.

Already Have Your Own BottleDrop Account?

If you already use **Green Bags** and have a personal BottleDrop account, you can support TCO without changing your recycling routine. Simply log in to your BottleDrop account, find **Trails Club of Oregon** in the participating nonprofit directory, and donate all or a portion of your BottleDrop account balance directly to TCO.

Every 10¢ container adds up! Whether you fill a TCO Blue Bag or donate from your personal BottleDrop account, you're turning bottles and cans into financial support for the **Trails Club of Oregon**.

Grab a bag, save those containers, and help support TCO—10¢ at a time!

Questions or need Blue Bags and tags? Contact **Lori Leach** at lori.leach@trailsclub.org.

Camp Namanu Mushroom Camp



Mushroom Camp
November 13th-15th, 2026

Join us this fall for our first-ever Mushroom Camp featuring guest speaker Shelby Lynn on Ethnomycology & Lichenology! !

This November, we are offering our first Mushroom Camp program weekend. Guests will learn the art of mushroom foraging and identification, tips for cooking with mushrooms, play a round of mushroom trivia, and even learn how to make their own mushroom and lichen dyes!

[Tickets *NEW PRICING*](#)

Full Weekend Registration - \$285

Saturday Only - \$150

All tickets include meals. Full weekend includes overnight accommodations.

October 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.

See the [trip reports](#) on the TCO website to see what you have missed!



Details

[Day Hike to Paradise Park](#)

Oct 3, Sat

Leaders: Craig Gwydir



Details

[Wednesday Evening Hike](#)

Oct 7, Wed

Leaders: Jon Koger & Lori Leach



Details

[Board Meeting](#)

Oct 13, Tues

On Zoom



Details

[Wednesday Evening Hike](#)

Oct 14, Wed

Leaders: Greg Barrell & Lori Leach



Details

[Halloween Hat, Day Hike to Open Nesika Lodge](#)

Oct 17, Sat

Leaders: Craig Gwydir



Details

[Work In Lieu Project for Tyee Lodge](#)

Oct 17, Sat

Leaders: Eric Eisinger



Details

[Nesika Work Weekend - CANCELLED](#)

Oct 17-18, Sat-Sun

Leaders: Pete Recksiek & Bob Walker



Details

[Wednesday Evening Hike](#)

Oct 21, Wed

Leaders: Sebastian Powers-Leach & Lori Leach



Details

[Wednesday Evening Hike](#)

Oct 28, Wed

Leaders: Rebecca Knudeson & Lori Leach



Welcome

New Provisional Members:

K. Jeffery Eriksen, Irene Foster, Jeff Foster, Heather Brunner

New Members:

Atif Zaman, Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach
Doreen Roozee, Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Social @ Blue Lake



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Broken Top Rainbow



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Broken Top backpack view



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Broken Top backpack rest

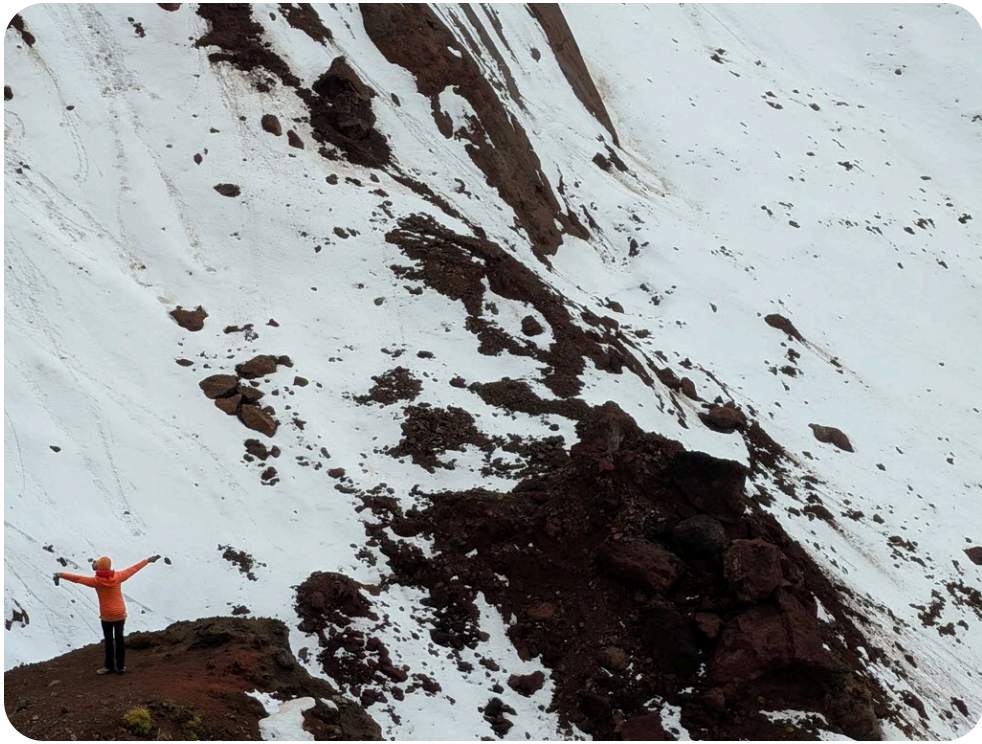


Photo: Craig Gwydir - Broken Top backpack snow



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Nesika work trip



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Nesika work trip food



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Tom Dick Harry view



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Tom Dick Harry hike

Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 8, 2026

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

Location: Zoom

Attendees:

President:	Bev Drottar
Vice President:	Eric Zimmerman
Treasurer:	Sydney Jackson
Secretary:	Rebecca Knudeson
Publications:	Joel Reitz
Membership:	Lori Leach

Tyee Trustee:	Eric "Zinger" Eisinger
Nesika Trustee:	Pete Recksiek
Trips Trustee:	Craig Gwydir
Outdoor Ed/Outreach Trustee:	Sebastian Powers-Leach

Absent: None

REGULAR BUSINESS

Minutes of the July board meeting were unanimously approved by email on July 14, 2026, prior to the Blazer publication. No August meeting was held.

The use of Tyee by the 22nd Wildwood Outdoor Service Guides on March 5-7, 2027, passed unanimously on Aug 27, 2026 by email vote. There will be about 25 youth and 10 leaders/parents. Paul Cutter or another responsible TCO member will host.

Treasurer Report, Sydney

Beginning Balance:	\$13,557.79
Checks and Payment:	\$1,579.68
Deposits and Credits:	\$444.86
Cleared Balance:	\$12,422.97

Complete reports can be found by the shared folder in Google Drive.

Membership Report, Lori

Provisional: K. Jeffery Eriksen, Irene Foster, Jeff Foster, Heather Brunner

Membership Readings unanimously approved:

Atif Zaman, Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach

Doreen Roozee, Sponsored by Paul Cutter and Lori Leach

Membership Summary: 270 total

9 Golden, 3 Junior, 34 Life, 4 Life/Golden, 16 Provisional, 204 Regular

Publications Report, Joel

We have moved all mail to new accounts. The thermometer for the matching challenge is set up on our website.

Nesika Report, Pete

The spring box cover was delivered 7/13 and installed by 4 men using rope and pulleys to get the heavy cover up the steep slope behind the generator shack. Rob painted the top green to abide by Scenic Area regulations.

Cheryl Rice from Hood River Soil and Water Conservation visited the site to assess the area for our land stewardship efforts. The area around the lower fountain was mapped out to accommodate, identify and remove invasive species and reseed native species.

A volunteer weekend was held on 8/8. Curled siding was removed and replaced with painted wood and screwed down to prevent cupping. The propane bunker cover was repainted, sapling trees were cleared and watered along the pedestrian path, and pollinator species were counted for background data on our conservation program.

Trail signs were posted along the Franklin Ridge connector trail by Rob and Ember Parker, top and bottom, as well as on the pedestrian path from the Monster Trail. Thank you for donating the treated 4 x 4s!

Forestry personnel were seen along the Basin Road conversing with a contractor to get a

bid on fixing the road by straightening the switchbacks, grading the surface, and fixing the water bars. They swore it was NOT for logging trucks! Pete will talk with the Forest Service about moving on the road repair and our interest in being a partner in the repair.

Pete will change the combination on the lock on the back of the lodge.

Tyee Report, Eric E. (Zinger)

We have had a couple exciting events at the lodge over the last few weeks. The Grasshopper Fire had us a little worried. Thankfully, the hard work of more than 1000 firefighters, support crews and pilots contained the blaze. Joel noticed that PGE had relocated the incoming feed directly to the lodge. Eric E. immediately reached out to PGE and had a visit with a PGE Project Manager last Thursday. They are going to install a new power pole by the end of October. Fuel oil will be delivered on 9/18, maybe up to 200 gallons., estimated to cost about \$1200. More good news is that Timberline has dropped the price on season passes if purchased by the end of September! One last bit of exciting news is that we saw a pair of bear cubs on West Leg road in the Summit ski area. Eric E. will be hosting a work party in October and is planning a Thanksgiving feast on November 21.

Trips Report, Craig

In July, there were 2 day hikes, 2 backpacks, as well as the Wednesday night conditioning hikes. Tyee successfully hosted an introductory Backpack class.

In August, there was 1 day hike, as well as the Wednesday night conditioning hikes.

The Basin Trails were cleared and brushed by the TCO Stormy Trails Committee. As of Saturday Sept 5, the Multnomah Basin trail conditions were as follows:

- Ornament Trail - clear and brushed as of Sept 5
- Cougar Rock trail - clear and brushed as of Sept 5
- Elevator Shaft user path - top half of trail cleared and brushed Sept 5. Rock field path looks good.
- High Water trail - clear
- Basin Cutoff trail - cleared and brushed Sept 5
- Nesika/Franklin Connector trail - clear

Outdoor Ed and Outreach, Sebastian

The OEO Committee met virtually August 27 to discuss our Tyee Open House event in July and to begin planning future events. This first outreach event went well and will set the groundwork for successful future events. The committee also began compiling a list of lodge hosts who would be interested in hosting for outside youth groups. This should make serving these organizations easier going forward. We have a tentative committee meeting set for October 1st.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Fundraising, Lori **Bottle Drop**

TCO now has a BottleDrop account. Blue bags are available for the lodges, socials and any members wanting to collect returnable bottles and cans for our account. The blue bags are deposited at the same sites that collect green bags. Use the QR code on the bag to open the collection site door. No key fob or card is needed. Lori will write up something for the Blazer about the bottle drop.

TCO Matching Funds Campaign

The fundraising campaign is underway. A notice was placed in the September Blazer.

Facebook posts will begin this month. A notice will be sent by post along with the 2027 dues notice and annual meeting notice. Donations can be made on our website and directions will be added about how to send a check. Joel will explore Zelle for a fee-free bank transfers.

So far, we've reached \$1,700, or 15% of the goal of \$11,000!

2) President Report, Bev

The annual state report was filed 2 months late. The treasurer used to do it and in the future will continue to file it. Bev is assembling all the docs & signatures to file our nonprofit status with the state.

Threadneedle account:

Bev needs to talk with Chris Monti about moving this account to Fidelity.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Meeting

Lori will check with Trackers about the availability of one of their locations and the Boy Scout office that we used last year for Nov 8, if possible, 2-4 PM.

Board elections: President, Vice President, and Treasurer need to be filled this year. (Our president is resigning midterm after serving several successful consecutive terms. Our Treasurer is moving to Canada and will not be able to continue her position internationally.) Eric Z will draft an email to the membership to solicit qualified candidates. Trips, OEO, Publications and Secretary are willing to continue for another term. We are also looking for a Blazer editor who would be supported by the Publications Trustee.

Budget

The annual budget process begins in October. Sydney will prepare the budget framework and send it to Bev for review. Board members are expected to review previous spending and prepare estimates for their departments.

Tyee Use

Trackers would like to use the lodge for days only on Dec 21, 22 and 23. It was unanimously approved.

Reciprocal relationship

The Bowline Climbing Club in the Snowdon area of Wales may be interested in a reciprocal use of our mountain lodges. Joel and Lori are contacts for them.

Adjourned at 8:52

Next meeting, Oct. 13, 2026, Zoom

Please submit all monthly reports by Sunday 10/11/26 for the agenda.

Submitted by Rebecca Knudeson, 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
**Sydney
Jackson**

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



Nesika
**Pete
Recksiek**

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



Tyee
**Eric
Eisinger**

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



Membership
**Lori
Leach**

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

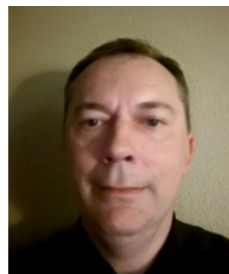


Publications
**Joel
Reitz**

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



Outdoor Education
and Outreach



Trips
**Craig
Gwydir**

**Sebastian
Powers-
Leach**

[OEChair](#)
[@TrailsClub.org](#)

[TripsChair](#)
[@TrailsClub.org](#)



Standing Committees



Social

Jeff Churchill

[Social](#)
[@TrailsClub.org](#)



Leave No Trace

**Dolores
Niebergall**

[LeaveNoTrace](#)
[@TrailsClub.org](#)



History

Linda Conrad

[History](#)
[@TrailsClub.org](#)



Conservation

Dave Letcher

[Conservation](#)
[@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 for day activities. 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 19891

Portland, OR 97208-0891

Organized 1915

Incorporated 1923

Trails Club of Oregon is a tax-exempt public charity under IRC Section 501(c)(3), effective March 2, 2026 (EIN: 93-6026721).

Donor contributions are fully tax-deductible,
and the organization is eligible to receive tax-deductible bequests and gifts.

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

