



Trail Blazer

Vol. 98 No. 9

TrailsClub.org

September 2025

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

Summer Social

Sunday, September 7th

11am - 6pm

Alder Shelter, Milo McIver State Park (Estacada, OR)

September 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

Aug 29 - Sep 1, Fri-Mon

Nesika kids stay free weekend Labor Day Weekend

Leader: Linda Conrad



Details

Tyee Lodge open

Sep 2-5, Tue-Fri

Leader: Gerda Eck



Details

Weds Evening Hikes

Sep 3, Wed

Leader: John Koger & Lori Leach



Details

work weekend at Nesika Lodge

Sep 6-7, Sat-Sun

Leader: Pete Recksiek - Nesika Trustee



Details

September Social – Milo McIver State Park

Sep 7, Sun

Leader: Jeffrey Churchill - Social Chair



Details

Board Meeting

Sep 9, Tue



Details

Weds Evening Hikes

Sep 10, Wed

Leader: Sebastian Powers-Leach & Lori Leach



Details

Carl & Table Lake Backpack

Sep 15-17, Mon-Wed

Leader: Tom Thrall



Details

Weds Evening Hikes

Sep 17, Wed

Leader: Rebecca Knudeson & Lori Leach



Details

Weds Evening Hikes

Sep 24, Wed

Leader: Bruce Seymour & Lori Leach



Details

Litter pick up, Wildcat Mtn Trailhead and surrounding area

Sep 27, Sat

Leader: Paul Cutter



Details

CPR/AED/Wilderness First Aid class

Sep 28, Sun

Leader: Craig Gwydir - Trips Trustee



Welcome

Provisional Members:

Pierre Provost – Sponsored by Joel Reitz and Mark Barham
Kathy Ottsen
Howard Davis

First Readings:

Catherine Romanaggi – Sponsored by Rebecca Knudeson and Sebastian Powers- Leach
Gregory (Greg) Barrell – Sponsored by Rebecca Knudeson and Sebastian Powers- Leach
Brett Taute – Sponsored by Craig Gwydir and Kate Curry
Rebecca (Becky) Brenton – Sponsored by Barbara Jones and Gerta Eck

New Full Members:

Christena Keller – Sponsored by Bill Yandon and Lori Leach
Ember Kauth sponsored by Beverly Drottar and Nina Rohr
Rob Parker sponsored by Pete Recksiek and Jeff Lawton



Leave No Trace 101 Course

This August and September, we're heading Back to Nature. Whether you're hiking local trails, camping under the stars, or just taking a breath outside—every moment in nature matters.

Recommit to caring for the places you love. Start with the free Leave No Trace 101 course and deepen your connection to the outdoors.

<https://zurl.co/mvJzv>



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Nesika Porch



Photo: Trisha Schultz - Bickel Point View



Photo: Trisha Schultz - Nesika Sunset



Photo: Trisha Schultz - Nesika Stove



Photo: Craig Gwydir - Luxurious basin trail



Photo: Craig Gwydir - basin trail step

Board Meeting

Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

Date: August 12, 2025 Time: 7:00-9:00 PM Location: Zoom

Attendees:

President:	Bev Drottar
Treasurer:	Nicole Rogers
Secretary:	Rebecca Knudeson
Publications:	Joel Reitz

Membership: Lori Leach
Tye Trustee: Paul Cutter
Trips Trustee: Craig Gwydir
Outdoor Ed/Outreach Trustee: Vacant
Committee Chairs: Jeff Churchill (Social)

Absent:

Vice President: Eric Zimmerman
Nesika Trustee: Pete Recksiek

REGULAR BUSINESS

July minutes were approved by email on July 15, 2025.

Treasurer's Report, Nicole

Beginning Balance, 7/31/25:	\$9886.23
Checks and Payment:	5780.22
Deposits and Credits:	3696.28
Cleared Balance:	7802.29

The most current Fidelity statement value: \$457,425.
Complete reports can be found by the Board in Dropbox:

Membership Report, Lori

Provisional:

Pierre Provost – Sponsored by Joel Reitz and Mark Barham
Kathy Ottsen
Howard Davis

First Readings:

Catherine Romanaggi – Sponsored by Rebecca Knudeson and Sebastian Powers- Leach
Gregory (Greg) Barrell – Sponsored by Rebecca Knudeson and Sebastian Powers- Leach
Brett Taute – Sponsored by Craig Gwydir and Kate Curry
Rebecca (Becky) Brenton – Sponsored by Barbara Jones and Gerta Eck

Second Readings all unanimously approved:

Christena Keller – Sponsored by Bill Yandon and Lori Leach
Ember Kauth – Sponsored by Beverly Drotter and Nina Rohr
Rob Parker - Sponsored by Pete Recksiek and Jeff Lawton

Membership Summary

Total: 252

9 Golden, 2 Junior, 32 Life, 3 Life/Golden, 25 Provisional, 181 Regular

Publications Report, Joel

Nothing new to report.

Nesika Report, Pete

Jeff Lawton donated his wood splitter to the TCO, which was delivered on 7/18/25. Wood was split and stacked in the wood room, kitchen and both bays of the wood shed. A new battery and an ignition switch were installed on the generator. 4 solar panels were installed by Jeff Lawton on the cover of the propane bunker to charge phones and run lights. The array can be used to charge the generator/tractor/Kubota batteries. Trees were cleared and watered by the crew. A 55 gallon drum was fitted with a spigot, filled with water, hauled up to the top of the Monster Trail with the Kubota, and a hose was attached to water the newly planted firs on the grounds. Trisha Schultz and Nina Rohrs made excellent meals for the hard-working crews. The tractor

was assembled and did not start. We are debating the next step: haul it into town for professional advice or have another diesel mechanic come to the lodge to look at it. 3 TCO membership applications were received, all supported by Trish Schultz and Pete Recksiek: Paul Neiffer, Jayllen Davis, Akasha Benke

Tyee Report, Paul

July started with a day use activity for a Costa Rican/American partnership. Later in the month, Tyee was used by a men's group, then The Weds morning hiking group, and, finally, a private memorial service weekend. Thanks to all the hosts that hosted these events.

The wood chute has been prepared for sealing in late August when the extension on the French drain has to be dug. A concrete storm run-off wall will be built later in the fall from the north fire escape to the wood chute. Fire extinguishers were re-certified and returned.

Trips Report, Craig

There was 1 paddling trip, 1 scheduled trail clearing day, as well as the weekly Wednesday conditioning hikes during the month of July. Wednesday night conditioning hikes are posted on the TCO calendar at <https://trailsclub.org/activities/calendar/>.

A CPR/AED/Wilderness First Aid custom certification class has been posted for Sept. 28, 2025 at Tyee for Trails Club members. There are still spots available for TCO members to join this event. Adventure Medics Training will be teaching this class. Please see the TCO Meetup site or contact Craig Gwydir at tripschair@trailsclub.org for more information. Paul will host for this event.

The TCO Stormy Trails Committee cleared brush from the Basin road and cleared the following Nesika Lodge trails during the month of July: Elevator Shaft Trail and the Ornament Trail. Thank you volunteers on the committee for this work.

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

Social Committee, Jeff

Jeff has arranged for our September 7 social to be held at Milo McIver State Park.

OLD BUSINESS

Progress on 501(c)(3) Status, Lori

On Tuesday, August 5, Beverly Drotter, Rebecca Knudeson, and Lori Leach had a conference call with StartChurch regarding our IRS 501(c)(3) application. Their representative confirmed our Revised Articles of Incorporation have been acknowledged and filed with the State of Oregon. We were asked a series of questions to aid StartChurch in completing our application for the IRS. On Friday, August 8, 2025, we received the draft of the IRS Application. Once approved by our committee, it will be sent by StartChurch to the IRS.

Policies & Practices document for TCO 501(c)(3) Status, Lori

We read through from the start to the end of Section 2, making needed changes to the

document. Bev requests that each board member read through the section covering his/her position and edit it appropriately. We'll continue with the document at the next meeting.

Insurance for the Kubota, Eric via email

Eric has not made progress yet on Insurance alternatives for the Farm Utility vehicle we have purchased for Nesika and comparisons of comparable plans for insurance across the board. He hopes to have a summary of information for the next board meeting in September.

NEW BUSINESS

None

Adjourned at 9:03

Next meeting, Sept. 9, 2025, zoom

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
Knudeson**

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



Treasurer
**Nicole
Rogers**

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



Nesika



Tyee



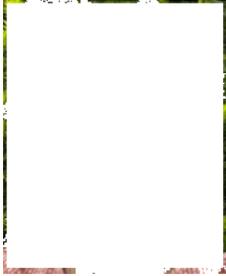
Membership



Publications

**Pete
Reckseik**

NesikaChair@TrailsClub.org



Outdoor Education
and Outreach

VACANT

OEO@TrailsClub.org

g



**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

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

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

