



Trail Blazer

Vol. 98 No. 11

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

November 2025

Trails Club of Oregon Annual Meeting & Social *Sunday, November 16, 2025*

2:00 – 4:00 PM



The Scout Center
9700 SW Nimbus Avenue
Beaverton, Oregon 97008



Details: <https://trailsclub.org/agm>

Open Board Positions for 2026

Please consider volunteering

President

1. Preside at the board meeting each month.
2. Prior to the meeting, request agenda items from the board members, committee chairs, and the administrative assistant.
3. Email the completed agenda and any pertinent documents to the board members before the meeting.

Please contact our president at president@trailsclub.org

Treasurer

1. Attend the monthly board meeting.
2. Present monthly reports of all receipts, disbursements, and financial condition of the Club.
3. Have charge of all the current books pertaining to this office.
4. Collect, receive, and deposit all monies due the Club in the bank that the Board shall designate, except such monies as the Bylaws or the Board of Trustees make it the duty of others.
5. Disburse the Club's funds only under the authorization of a Trustee. Bills that are designated by the Board as routine bills shall be paid without additional approval.
6. Preserve proper vouchers for all revenue and disbursements on a calendar-year basis.
7. Be one of the signers, along with the President, Vice President, and Secretary, on the checking account which requires two signatures.

Please contact our president at president@trailsclub.org

Tyee Lodge Trustee

Before I list the tasks and chores of running the lodge and being an active voting member of the TCO board I would like to stress that he/her that volunteers for this position will NOT be left without support from me and other active Tyee attendees. I will be around as an active Tyee committee member to offer advice as needed. Most of the major projects have been completed, so now the lodge is in a maintenance mode.

Tasks and chores:

1. Attend monthly Zoom board meetings, usually 2nd Tuesday of the month.
2. Set the dates for 3-4 work party dates, usually June, July and October.
3. Train potential key holders for winter and summer openings. Sometimes done by other experienced hosts. Train potential hosts to the weekend running of the lodge, including revenue and expense procedures.
4. Deliver receipts to the treasurer for reimbursement with correct budget coding.
5. Create a budget for the following year, using data from the current year.

Feel free to email me at paulcutter1958@gmail.com or 360 977 8381 if you wish to have more information, regarding Tyee operations.

Outdoor Education and Outreach Trustee

Do you have strong feelings about the reversal of DEI initiatives that are happening? Do you have a strong love for the outdoors and want to see this shared with people who have not had the opportunity to be exposed to this amazing resource? This volunteer position might be your cup of tea!

Our club has not had this position filled this past year, but the board is eager and willing to support you in filling this position. We have an active member who may help define what is possible, and many referrals for where to contact people interested in such services. Outreach helps our club grow, and outdoor education is part of our non-profit mission!

Please contact our president at president@trailsclub.org



Empty Boots



Jane Gunn

We are saddened by the sudden passing of Jane near her California home. We remember her warmth, brilliance, and the joy she found in the world around her.

Her family wrote:

She was a compassionate lover of nature and of people—a trailblazing jurist who brought intellect and empathy in equal measure to her work,

and the best wife and mother one could ask for. She was a dynamo in court and on the trail, a woman who could recite case law as easily as she could identify wildflowers. She loved the arts, thought, justice, and, above all, the company of others—friends, family, and anyone lucky enough to share her orbit.

She leaves behind Littleton, her husband and companion of more than fifty years, her son Jonathan, daughter Heather, granddaughter Marni, and grandson Oliver.

After she moved to a second home in Portland, she joined TCO in 2019, was a regular on the Wednesday night hikes and hiked frequently with some of those friends in the Gorge and the mountains. We will miss her laughter, enthusiasm and embrace of adventure.

November 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

Tyee is open

Oct 31 - Nov 2, Fri-Sun

Leader: Paul Cutter



Details

Board Meeting

Nov 4, Tue



Details

Namanu Give Service

Nov 7-9, Fri-Sun

Leader: Lori Leach (Registration will end on 10/30/2025)



Details

Nesika Ramble to Test Winter Gear

Nov 7-9, Fri-Sun

Leader: Linda Conrad & Dolores Niebergall



Details

Troop 396 - Tyee

Nov 8-9, Sat-Sun

Leader: Paul Cutter



Details

Annual Meeting

Nov 16, Sun



Details

Pre-Thanksgiving Turkey Day, Saturday 11/22

Nov 21-23, Fri-Sun

Leader: Eric Zimmerman



Details

Tyee is Open

Dec 5-7, Fri-Sun

Leader: Sebastian Powers-Leach



Welcome

First Readings:

Gregory Bishop – Sponsored by Rebecca Knudeson and John Koger

New Full Members:

Cara Nixon – Sponsored by Lori Leach and Nancy Schmidt



Photo: Jeff Churchill - Fall Social



Photo: Eric Zimmerman - Nesika Builders Day



Photo: Juergen Steinhart - One of many trees ON road to Nesika



Photo: Juergen Steinhart - Tree OFF road to Nesika



Photo: Juergen Steinhart - Tree IN road to Nesika

Board Meeting

Trails Club of Oregon Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 14, 2023 Time: 7:00-9:00 PM Location: zoom

Attendees:

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

Tyee Trustee: Paul Cutter
Trips Trustee: Craig Gwydir
Outdoor Ed/Outreach Trustee: Vacant
Committee Chairs: Jeff Churchill (Social),
Dolores Niebergall (Leave No Trace)

Absent:

Nesika Trustee: Pete Recksiek

REGULAR BUSINESS

Minutes were approved on September 15, 2025 by email prior to the Blazer publication. On October 9, 2025, via email, the board approved Tyee usage by Catlin Gabel for June 21-27, 2026. Paul will host.

Treasurer's Report, Nicole Rogers

Nicole has had to resign her position as Club treasurer effective October 8, 2025. The Board appreciates the professional skill, time and concern she brought to the position.

Beginning Balance, 9 /30/25 :	\$8,058.68
Checks and Payment:	458.39
Deposits and Credits:	2,536.96
Cleared Balance:	10,137.25

The most current Fidelity statement value: \$466,629.

Complete reports can be found by the Board in Dropbox.

Membership Report, Lori

Empty Boots: Jane Gunn

First Readings: Gregory Bishop – Sponsored by Rebecca Knudeson and John Koger

Second Reading approved unanimously: Cara Nixon – Sponsored by Lori Leach and Nancy Schmidt

Membership Summary Total: 252

9 Golden, 2 Junior, 32 Life, 3 Life/Golden, 19 Provisional, 187 Regular

Publications Report, Joel

Nothing to report.

Nesika Report, Pete

A letter was sent on 9/15/25 to the parents of Lucas Bernabe, the wayward hiker who forced his entry into the lodge, suggesting a donation to the TCO. We have not heard back. Rob Parker repaired the kitchen floor and replaced the window molding on the door which was broken by the lost hiker. The molding had to be custom made (no charge to the club, thanks Rob!). Replacement glass was ordered and received, to be installed the next work trip. Another wayward hiker had stumbled to the lodge and was met by Rob, who guided him back out with directions to Multnomah Falls. Rachel Sigman (plus one) stayed at the lodge for 4 days (9/23 - 9/26), paying \$42 per night. Work on the Basin Road by the Forestry Department (clearing, water bars, etc) that was planned for "late October" has been cancelled due to the government shutdown as of 10/10/2025.

Tyee Report, Paul

September started with a three night stay hosted by Gerda Eck and company. The lodge was open the last weekend for the Wilderness First Aid training on the Sunday. Thirteen attended. On the last Saturday of the month 12 volunteers, for four hours each, picked up 250 lbs of litter, resulting in approximately \$1200 earned for the work-in-lieu program. Paul's second two year term expires on December 31, 2025. He has chosen not to extend his position. It has been a very good, productive, four years despite the furnace issue, frozen and burst pipes, flooding in the basement due to the heavy rain runoff outside, flooding in the games room (Paul's fault!) and, then to cap it off, a major sewer blockage in mid-January. There are too many names to mention in the "Thanks" list, but you know who you are and should be very proud of your accomplishments. Going forward, if the board and new lodge trustee wishes, Paul is more than willing to coordinate with any outside groups and host when he's available. He also will be available to continue to coordinate with The Forest Service regarding the litter pickup towards the work-in-lieu program. He will also continue hosting at the lodge and has already signed up for the weekend following New Year's Day. Volunteers are needed for the week beforehand.

Trips Report, Craig

There were 2 day hikes, one backpack, a TCO Hike Leaders Online meeting, as well as the weekly Wednesday evening hikes during the month of September. The TCO CPR/AED/WFA course at Tyee Lodge was well attended with 13 members. The TCO Stormy Trails committee examined the following trails and found them clear of obstacles during the weekend of Oct 4: High Water Trail, Basin Cutoff Trail, Ornament Trail and Nesika/Franklin Ridge Connector trail. There is a 10 inch diameter log laying on the ground on the Nesika/Franklin Ridge Connector Trail, but it is easy to step over. Trail work will be performed during the Oct 18 work weekend at Nesika Lodge. The trail work should be fun and relatively easy, focusing on Cougar Rock trail and upper Elevator Shaft trail. We may look at scouting historic trails around Cougar Rock during that time. Thank you, volunteers of 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

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

OLD BUSINESS

Policies & Practices document for TCO

We went through sections of this document that needed work and made changes. One main area of change was the procedures for membership. We decided to simplify the requirements and steps. The new member application process will be online with a simple form that includes

the place and date of the single TCO activity, hike or visit, the printed names of the two member sponsors and, then, online payment. Sponsors will be contacted to vouch for the person they sponsor. After that, there will only be a first reading and vote by the board. New members' names will be published in the Blazer. This process eliminates the delay, confusion and frustrations over provisional member status. We moved, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the Policies and Practices document. It can be easily amended in the future. Members can view the completed copy on TCO's website.

501(c)3, Lori

We have run into significant issues with our IRS application. We found out we have to submit a more lengthy application because we have more than \$250,000 in assets. Lori, Bev and Eric will work on it.

Insurance, Eric

Eric has embarked down an exploratory path with a very old and reputable insurance agent in Portland, WWW.JDFULWILER.COM. He's working with Commercial agent Kim Hutchinson. We have some options on how to proceed and Kim is trying to help us through them. Being a non-profit opens up more paths for us on insurance, so after we apply for it, we can follow that path. We have a couple different carriers Eric is working on paper work with to see if they would work. (He might need some help on details from people who have been on the board longer.) Kim said our current carrier, Nautilus, is pretty reputable, so we might not find anything better.

Hopefully, before the November meeting, we will have more concrete numbers to discuss. Our current insurance premium renews on 12/12 so we could possibly transition seamlessly. Eric is always looking for input as he is not an insurance guy and many hands make lighter work.

NEW BUSINESS

PO Box

We moved, seconded and unanimously approved to change the Post Office box to a more central location with decent parking. We will discuss the location via email.

Annual Meeting Plans

The meeting will be offered on zoom, so more members can participate and vote. Jeff will coordinate the technology. All board members need to submit their reports to Bev. Lori will put together a slide show. We discussed awards.

To Do:

Joel will find the document from last year for preparing the budget so that we can work on next year's budget.

Craig will locate the Garmin.

Rebecca will get the PO box key from Bev, check with Vicki Wood to see if she has a key and take responsibility to make sure the mail is regularly collected.

Eric will look for Waespe award plaque at Nesika this weekend.

Lori, Bev and Eric will work on the 501(c)3 application.

Joel will send out Bev's letter via email to the membership.

Bev can write a check to Adventure Medics when we receive the invoice for the class.

Adjourned at 9:48

Next meeting, Nov. 4, 2025, zoom

Submitted by Rebecca Knudeson, Secretary

Board of Directors



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**Beverly
Drottar**

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



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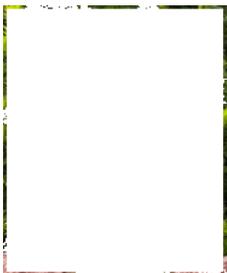
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Outdoor Education
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Standing Committees



Social

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Social@TrailsClub.org

org



Leave No Trace

**Dolores
Niebergall**

LeaveNoTrace@TrailsClub.org



History

Linda Conrad

History@TrailsClub.org

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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.

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/](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

