

Trail Blazer

Vol. 88 No. 12 For information, access www.trailsclub.org. December 2015

Upcoming Events		
Date	**Day**	**Event Description**
		------------------------------ December ------------------------------
2	Wed	Morning hike - Class A/B
6	Sun	**TCO Board Meeting - Rose Villa**
9	Wed	Morning hike - Class A/B
15	Tue	**Blazer Deadline**
16	Wed	Morning hike - Class A/B
17	Thu	Adventures and Travel-Rose Villa
19	Sat	**Second Annual TCO Used Gear Sale**
23	Wed	Morning hike - Class A/B
27	Sun	**Open House – History Center**
30	Wed	Morning hike - Class A/B
30 - Jan 3	Wed - Sun	Tyee Open for New Years
Scheduling is updated on web site www.trailsclub.org		
TRIP FEES: Members $1; Guests $2		

!!!

2016 Dues Reminder

2016 dues are payable by Jan 1, 2016. Please include the Dues Notice Form that is inserted in this Blazer or from the website.

If you have questions contact Joan Miller 503-524-0562 or MembershipChair@trailsclub.org

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Events

Dec 2 (Wed) Healy Heights Loop - 4 miles, 500ft elevation gain - Class A/B

We will hike mostly on hilly city streets through the Hillsdale area on the south side of Council Crest. There is a lovely natural path through Keller Woodland that emerges onto a view of the Keller estate and the city. We continue up the Hessler Hill neighborhood with its attention-grabbing architecture, then walk along Fairmount and up some more hills to Healy Heights. We soon start our descent, going down a flight of city stairs through a ravine to get back down, taking some interesting turns through lovely neighborhoods. We continue on SW 19th until we reach the Hillsdale Library. There are some nice options for eating lunch close by after the hike.

Meet at 9:15 am at SW Dewitt and Cheltenham Streets for a 9:30 AM departure. There is free on-street parking with a 2-hour limit so moving your car before lunch might be necessary..

Leader: Gerda Eck, 503-804-4214.

Dec 6 (Sun) TCO board meeting

This month our board meeting is at a special time and place. This the end of year meeting where we hand off our positions to the incoming board members.

The meeting will be held in the Cascade Room at Rose Villa. There will be a potluck dinner prior to the meeting. Contact Barb Jones to register your dish.

Potluck starts at 5:30 PM. Board meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

Dec 9 (Wed) Morning Hike - Class A/B

We begin our hike at 9:30 am and hike 4 to 6 miles, for 2 to 4 hours, somewhere in the Portland metropolitan area, often in Forest Park. We then have lunch at a nearby cafe. Hike leader: Audrey Perino, 503-522-9911, `audrey53@comcast.net` . Call leader for meeting place or watch this site for updates.

Dec 16 (Wed) Morning Hike - Class A/B

The meeting place for this hike will be New Seasons Market , 14805 SW Barrows Rd., Beaverton 97007.
It will be on the paved Westside Trail which is rather undulating. During the hike we will come to an old holly orchard where those who want to snip a few branches will be able to do so. There are restrooms in New Seasons before the hike and a large deli for lunch afterward. There are also several other restaurants in the shopping center.
Leader: Jane Storey,
`jlsandrew2000@gmail.com` or 503-724-5467

Dec 17 (Thurs) Adventures and Travel, Birds and Flowers of Texas, Arizona, and N. Mexico

Steve Wilson will present a program about his travels last Spring thru the Southwest US. The slideshow contains

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P.O. Box 1243, Portland, Oregon 97207-1243

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 $45 in dues for first household member, $25 for each additional household member or those over 65 years of age and a $15 entrance fee.

Board Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at Mazama Mountaineering Center, 527 SE 43rd Ave. at SE Stark St. Portland, OR

President	George Milne President@trailsclub.org
Vice President	Joel Reitz VicePres@trailsclub.org
Secretary	Merrill Hugo Secretary@trailsclub.org
Treasurer	Cindy Lee Treasurer@trailsclub.org
Trustee-Nesika	Glen Conrad NesikaChair@trailsclub.org
Trustee Tyee	Vacant TyeeChair@trailsclub.org
Trustee-Membership	Joan Miller MembershipChair@trailsclub.org
Trustee-Publications	Randy Dietrich PublicationChair@trailsclub.org
Trustee-Social	Barbara Jones SocialChair@trailsclub.org
Trustee- Trips	Vacant TripsChair@trailsclub.org
Legal Counsel	Art Stangell Legal@trailsclub.org
Conservation	Sydney Herbert Conservation@trailsclub.org
History	Sylvia Milne Historian@trailsclub.org
Editor	Philip S. Crosby Blazer@trailsclub.org

Changes and other club correspondence should be sent to:
Membership@trailsclub.org or
Trails Club of Oregon
P.O. Box 1243
Portland, Oregon 97207-1243

photos of the many parks in and around Tuscon, AZ, Big Bend National Park in Texas and up and across New Mexico. The flowers were at their very best due to the excellent rain fall! Social hour 6:30 p.m, program starts at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a snack to share or $1 donation towards expenses. Guests are very welcome!

Location: Rose Villa Rec Hall, Fireside and Art Rooms. See driving directions under "Meeting Places" For more information, please contact Barb Jones, SocialChair@trailsclub.org or call 503-819-8983

Dec 19 (Sat) Used Equipment Sale
See announcement on page 3 .

Dec 23 (Wed) Morning Hike - Class A/B
We begin our hike at 9:30 am and hike 4 to 6 miles, for 2 to 4 hours, somewhere in the Portland metropolitan area, often in Forest Park. We then have lunch at a nearby cafe. Leader: Wayne Schweinfest, 503-253-3073, WSchweinfest@msn.com Call leader for meeting place or watch this site for updates.

Dec 27 (Sun) Archives Open House
See announcement on page 3 .

Dec 30 (Wed) Morning Hike - Class A/B

We begin our hike at 9:30 am and hike 4 to 6 miles, for 2 to 4 hours, somewhere in the Portland metropolitan area, often in Forest Park. We then have lunch at a nearby cafe. Leader: Noreen O'Connor, 503- 957-0601, noreenmoconnor@yahoo.com Call leader for meeting place or watch this site for updates.

Dec 30- Jan 3 Tyee New Year

Come start the New Year with friends and family. Russ and Krin Hunt will host Tyee Lodge from Dec.30-Jan.3. We will cook a turkey dinner on Dec.31st and breakfast Jan. 1st, but the remaining meals are not provided.

Be prepared for family fun - dancing, movie nights, and snowshoe hike to watch fireworks at midnight. Please bring a snack to share for New Years Eve Party. RSVP to krinhunt@gmail.com by Dec 27th.

Meeting Places

Friendly House NW Thurman and 26th. Tri Met bus service on routes 15, 17 and 77 is nearby.

Gateway TC From I-205: take the Glisan Street exit, proceed east to 99th Ave, turn north, proceed a couple blocks and park in the Park and Ride garage. Meet at the SE corner of the structure (near the stairs) on the sidewalk (directly inside if it is raining).

From I-84: take I-205 and follow the above exit and instruction.

Mazamas Mountaineering Center is a common meeting place for Board meetings and other administrative functions. It is located at 527 SE 43rd Avenue, one block south of Stark St.

Rose Villa, 13505 SE River Rd, Milwaukie, OR 97222, is a common place for club meetings.

Adventures and Travels meets in the Rec Hall, Fireside Room. Parking on Shroeder Lane, off of Courtney Rd by River Rd. Park before end of road, walk to multiple garage buildings on right, turn right, walk down ramp to your right. It is a yellow building, with a central arch on top, visible from River Rd. Follow Treasure House signs. Map of Rose Villa, follow route C or B to the Recreation Hall (Treasure House signs)

http://trailsclub.org/events/Images/2014RoseVillaMap.pdf

Target is a common westside meeting place for hikes. Exit US 26 at NW 185th Ave and drive south to Evergreen Pkwy turn east (left) one block to NW Town Center Dr., Park and meet on the west side of Target's parking lot across from Starbucks Coffee. Tri Met bus service on routes 47, 52 and 89 is nearby.

Tryon Creek State Park is sometimes used for Wed. AM (and other) hikes. From I-5 South: Take Terwilliger exit, bear right, heading south past Taylor's Ferry Rd. and bear left at split to Boone's Ferry Rd, right at second roundabout exit, staying on Terwilliger. Park entrance is on the right about one mile past roundabout. Parking is near the Nature Center.

Announcements

Second Annual Trails Club of Oregon Used Gear Sale

Saturday, Dec 19, 2015
10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Tabor Space Dining Room
5441 SE Belmont St., Portland 97215

Do you have gear you no longer need? This is the event to sell or barter away your gear.

Gear includes:
All kinds of outdoor clothing and accessories, shoes and boots, climbing gear, backpacking and camping gear, books, skis, bikes, kayaks, canoes, etc., etc. Space is available along the walls of the dining room for tent setup/ display. If you have a bike or watercraft for sale, bring a picture of it along with its specs. SUPs would be fine, as long as they're clean.

This event is open to the public and other hiking groups.

IMPORTANT INFO:
Setup time is 10:00 AM the day of the sale.

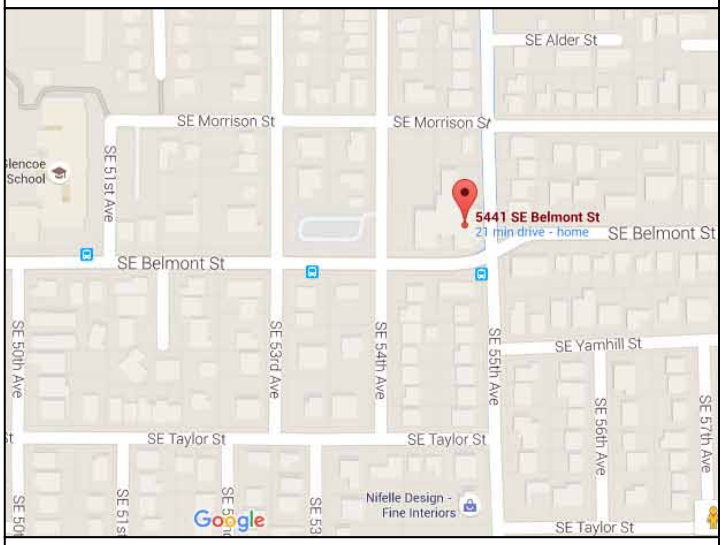
There is a $5 seller's fee, offseting the cost of the room rental. If you're interested in selling your gear, please contact Carlene St. Thomas at: saintthomas@gmail.com or call: 503-281-9476 to be placed on the seller list.

Tabor Space dining room is located in the basement of the Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church and is accessible from the sidewalk on the west side of church.

Please use the parking lot just west of Tabor Space across the street. Be courteous when parking on the neighborhood streets and do not block residents' driveways.

The Tabor Space Café is upstairs in the church and sells coffee, pastries, and other light fare and will be open during the sale.

Hope to see you at the sale!



Come find out more about the "Trails Club Archives"

Be our guest during an OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 27th

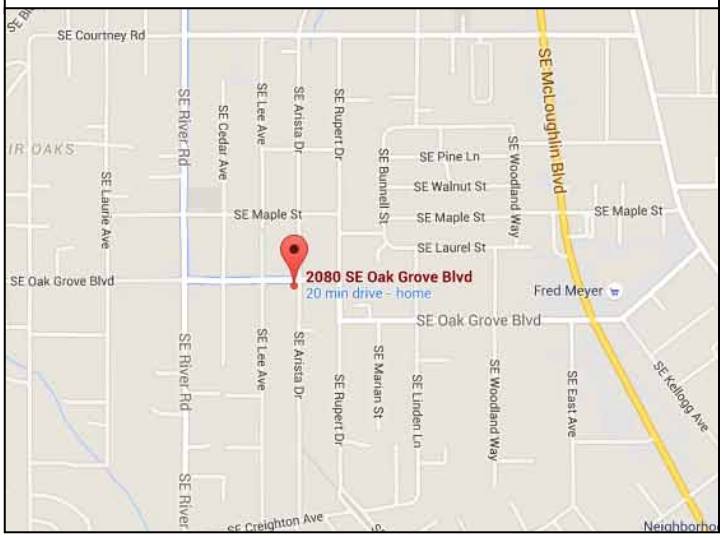
1-4 pm

2080 SE Oak Grove Blvd., Suite #10

Oak Grove, OR 97267

Located on the Trolley Trail

Arista & Oak Grove Blvd.



DING CANNON (As told by his daughter, Anne Cannon Nixon)

Ding's birth name was Garnett Edward Cannon, but only his mother called him Garnett. He grew up in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in a brick house and a common wall with one other home. He had two sisters, Margaret and Isabel, and brother, Herb. As a youth, he was slender, agile and athletic, and grew to six feet tall, with large hands and size 12 shoes. Indoors, cards were his passion, and outdoors he played baseball (catcher), hockey (goalie, because he couldn't skate well, he said), and rugby. Often he was captain of his team.

Pranks were hugely important in his young life. One always backfired, though, which was at dinner time. His sister, Isabel, often helped dish up portions at the table, and gave him plenty of parsnips, knowing he hated them. He always said, "To get those gol-darn parsnips off my plate, I'd eat them first." Then he'd grin, "But Isabel always watched me, and as soon as she saw me finish the the last bite, she'd pipe up with, 'Oh, Ding needs more parsnips,' grab my plate and heap some more of those dang things on before I could get my mouth open to say I'd had enough."

His best friend in college, Reg Blyth, traveled from Toronto often to go on T.C. outings with Gyla and Ding. Reg had a wonderful sense of humor, and as students at U. of Toronto, one joke they liked to pull was at dances. When they were dressed in their dark suits they each took a spool of white thread and hid it in an inner jacket pocket. Then each one threaded an end of that thread through to the lapel or back of his jacket so it looked like an errant piece of lint or thread. At the party or dance they waited for someone to try to remove it, pulling the thread for yards and yards! Even after 30 or more years, whenever they got together and talked about it, they threw their heads back in childish laughter!

He was well known for his shortcuts on hikes and was often teased about them. Whether he'd tried a shortcut that didn't work out, I'm not sure, but one afternoon I was at their house when the doorbell rang. I found a policeman on the porch. "We'd like one of your father's dirty socks, for he's lost and we need them for our bloodhounds." Fortunately, he walked out to his car as they prepared to begin the search.

Ding hiked the Pacific Crest Trail from the Canadian to Mexican borders, and was instrumental in developing Forest Park. His second wife, Rose, and granddaughter, Karin Goodell, planted a memorial tree in the park. There is also a rose planted in his name at a park near Camp Rilea, north of Seaside, OR.

When I was too little to walk very far, I went on TC hikes in his knapsack. Alma Nelson always helped take care of me. A few years later when he and I hiked together up the trail to Nesika, we hid sticks in the moss and ferns along the switchbacks to the top of Multnomah Falls and the basin. On the way down we'd unearth them, hidden so carefully. We numbered each switchback and knew them well. One day, though, we couldn't find the stick, and never played that game again.

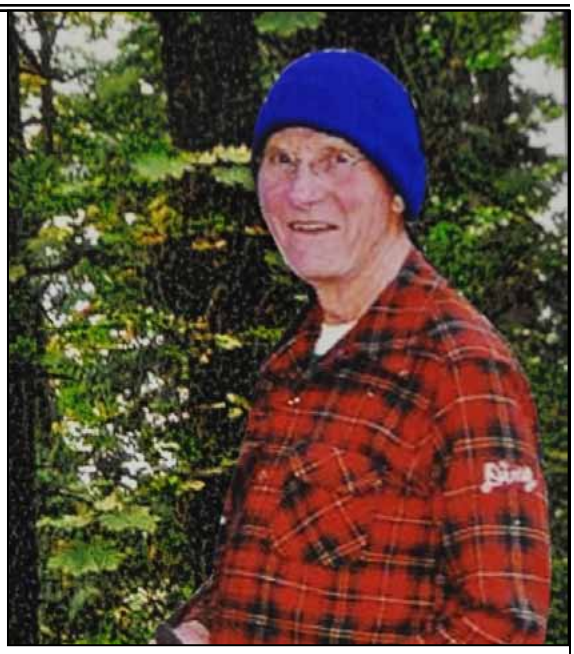
One day a young fellow phoned Ding and said he was interested in becoming a member. He hiked with us forever after, and I knew him as "Uncle Pickle," but his name was Myer Turteltaub. I believe he climbed mountains with the Trails Club for years, too.

In spring, getting ready for summer climbs often meant leaving on Friday nights for a stiff 2 day hike. One middle-of-the-night trip Ding was driving on a gravel road, and coming around a bend he began sliding. The car ended up straddling a log edging a bridge very high over a river. Whoever was in the passenger's seat opened his door in the darkness and realized there was nothing beneath him or her. Somehow they all, front and back seats, got out and with maybe another car and tow line, got the car back solidly on the bridge and drove on.

Staying home to work in the yard, mowing the lawn or trimming the back hedge, had no interest at all to him. If he wasn't hiking, climbing or camping, life was hardly livable! We often hiked up the "back way" to Nesika, carrying in supplies of food for a party. Some of the regulars then were Ed Neubauer, the Beckers and two daughters, the Maces and two daughters, Ann Robel, Sam Jacobson, Connie Smart (who played the harmonica and led group singing) and many more that I can't remember now (2015). Sometimes the singers walked to the Point overlooking the Columbia Gorge and sang for an hour or more.

He loved to read to us at bedtime when we were little. Books were never children's stories, but true mountain mysteries. One favorite was, "The Glacier Mystery," of the Alps and other huge ones. Sometimes he continued to read aloud after we'd fallen asleep, too engrossed to quit. Occasionally he told us funny stories from his childhood, and one we liked to hear over and over was this one: "One day there was a meeting at our grade school—a hot, humid afternoon. The windows were open to give the parents a cross draft," he said. "And because the seats were small the fat ones sat on the windowsill." He stopped to grin at us. "Gord and I found long boards and snuck up under the windows. Pretty soon things got louder inside and we put our boards up behind people who were hanging over the edge. We gave them a good shove," he told us with a kiddish grin. "We ran away as fast as we could," —but of course my sister, Nancy, and I knew the story by heart!

He always worked hard for what he valued, particularly when challenged. His most cherished possession as a young boy was a book he won in a difficult subject. He never jumped into things, but took time to think over situations, encouraging others to do the same. His mantra was: If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.



Ding enjoyed children. As a youngster he broke his right little finger playing rugby and it grew crooked. While tussling with little ones he'd rear back as if in pain, grabbing that finger. "Oh, look what you've done," he'd cry. The surprised child looked from his finger to face, and soon a grin began creeping across Ding's face, his eyes crinkling at the corners. Soon both of them were laughing, and then the kid begged, "Let's play that game again."

With any child he loved to play cards, games or just adding up numbers. I (Anne) was the only holdout, for I hated anything to do with arithmetic. His daughter Nancy loved the game as did his grandson, David. While Dave was in grade school they added numbers every morning for several years as they rode downtown together.

With his dog, Crunchie, a huge St. Bernard he and Gyla were given just after their marriage, Ding got daily exercise. On his way to work from NE 34th and Davis St, he and the huge dog would walk two blocks south to Burnside St, and west to the Willamette River. At that point he would send Crunchie home and walk on to downtown Portland at SW 11th and Alder St.

When he retired, Ding was president of Standard Insurance Company, previously called Oregon Mutual Life Insurance Company. In the 1920s he began there for money to continue a trip around the world with his friend, Gord Dudgeon. He lived in the boarding house Gyla's family owned in SW Portland and they were married on Sept. 12, 1931. He enlarged the small, local insurance company, expanding it into the mainstream, beginning with a group plan for the Oregon police. He studied to become an actuary, then in 1950, he became president.

He expected a great deal from his employees, and they seldom disappointed him - he believed that people can live up to their expectations. As an example of his approachable attitude, a cleaning lady once asked him for a loan; he felt proud she asked the president for something so personal! The company expanded under his leadership into all western states. He was on the boards of many companies, but always active in the Boy Scouts.

After he retired, he and Gyla traveled on cargo ships around the world.

From early childhood he played cards daily, except on Sunday in Toronto, - his mother forbade that. But for the rest of his life he seldom went a day without playing some game, and bridge became his passion. Gyla often joked, "I hope I don't die on a Thursday so Ding won't have to miss his bridge game!"

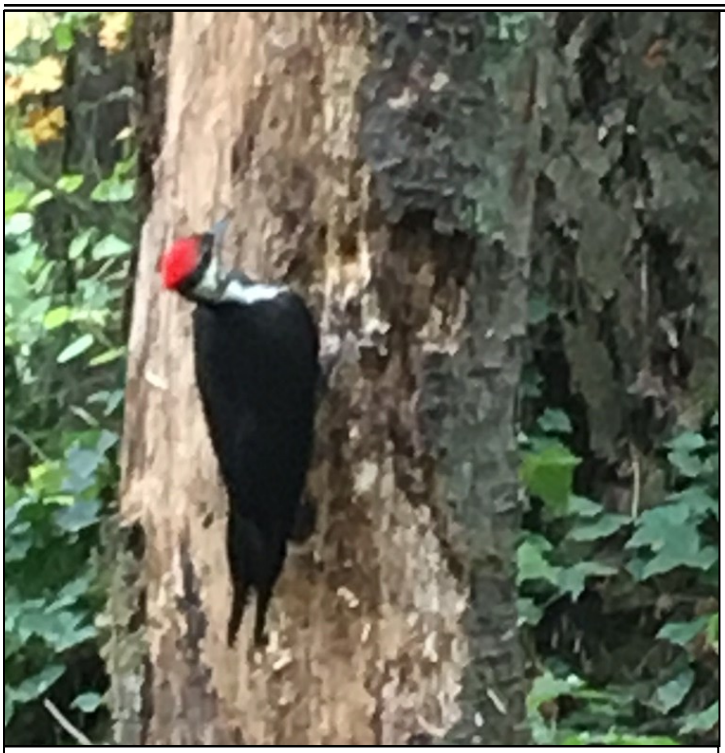
From the Conservation Chair

City Council Chambers overflowed with so many citizens on the afternoon of Nov. 4, 2015 that two additional rooms had to be opened for a public hearing on two resolutions: 1157, Opposing expansion of infrastructure whose primary purpose is transporting or storing fossil fuels in or through Portland or adjacent waterways, and 1156, Adopting a policy opposing all projects that would increase the amount of crude oil being transported by rail through the City of Portland and the City of Vancouver, WA. The resolutions were sponsored by Mayor Hales and Commissioner Amanda Fritz.

The Mayor was extremely pleased to see so large a crowd favoring the resolutions (He described it as the blues plus the greens) so he decided that all who wished to speak would be heard. The hearing began at 2:30 pm and continued until 6:00 pm. I was the last person to speak. I handed copies of the August 24, 2014 Resolution adopted by the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs :Transport of Fossil Fuels through the Columbia River Gorge. I introduced myself as the Conservation Chair of the Trails Club of Oregon, explained the nature of the club and the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, stated that we owned a lodge on Larch Mt in the Gorge, and read the concluding statement of the Resolution:

> The Federation of Western Outdoor clubs is adamantly opposed to the export of fossil fuels. All efforts should be expended to support local communities in their opposition to export terminals while at the same time working to increase safety.

Sydney Herbert
Conservation Chair



Pileated Woodpecker on Wildwood Trail. Wed AM hike Oct. 21 . Photo by Nancy Panich.

The woodpecker stopped us in our tracks for several minutes, apparently concentrating on its morning meal. About the same time it flew off, a smaller woodpecker (downy?) began hanging around. - Ed.

Historic Willamette Hike

Ken Kane led us on another of his informative hikes, this time to the town of Willamette, south of West Linn.

There were 53 hikers in attendance, many of them by way of MeetUp.



A replica of the Willamette Stone meteorite.

Situated at the confluence of the Willamette and Tualatin rivers, Willamette has many well-kept historic homes and interesting local eateries.



Many homes display architecture from the turn of the last century and are kept in good repair. That's a banana tree near the corner of that gray house with white trim. Many





other banana trees were apparent in the town and we also saw what is said to be the northernmost Oregon Myrtle tree.

Here are some of the many hikers nearing the grade school. The old one was destroyed by fire and this one displays a number of tiles, mostly created by the students. (Below and top of next column.)







Below is what is purported to be tracks left by cows belonging to one of the founders, however your skeptical editor thinks that the concrete looks way too new for that explanation to be believed.



And finally the meeting of the rivers with the Tualatin on the right.



Photos by Beverley Drottar

Draft
Trails Club Of Oregon
Board Of Trustees Meeting
November 3, 2005

Minutes

George Milne called the meeting to order at 7 P.M. Barbara Jones did not attend. Chaz Shaw attended as the new Tyee Trustee. Linda Conrad. Phil Crosby, Jeff Lawton, Christine Olsen, Jane Olsen, and Art Stangell attended.
The minutes of the October meeting were approved as distributed.

President's Report

George looked at the Hoyt Street post office and liked the location for our mail box. Some general discussion followed and it developed that the office on SE 7th Ave. might be better. Merrill moved and Joel seconded that we obtain a post office box at the SE 7th Ave. office and have our mail forwarded there for one year. Motion passed

George reminded us that we still need to transfer our material out of our current safety deposit box and into the new one.

Treasurer's Report

Cash Balance	10/31/2015	$2,335.37	
Beginning Balance		10/1/2015	$7,218.49
Deposits		2,811.93	
checks/withdrawals			- 7,695.05
Ending Balance		10/31/2015	$2,335.37

Cindy reported we have about $ 17,000 in anticipated expenses through November. She has asked Chris Monte for a $25,000 transfer from our investment account. Chris Monte plans to meet with the board in January.

Vice President's Report

Joel wondered how we should reflect activities posted on meetup in our calendar. Generally, members who post

activities on meetup which involve one of the lodges should let Joel know.

Nesika Trustee's Report

Glen said we had about 25 people at the last work trip. Most of the maple trees within our perimeter have been cut.

The crew removed the moss from the roofs and applied Mossout. We will need to renew the roofs on the dorm buildings.

Bob Horn has volunteered to tune up our Diesel engines over the winter at Nesika.

Ron Kinder got the counterweight bolts on the tractor loosened.

Tyee Trustee's Report

Chaz Shaw in his first report to the board said he believed the costs from the suspected heating oil theft would be covered by insurance. There is now enough oil in the tank to carry us through the winter. Chaz has installed a game camera to provide surveillance of the oil tank.

Tyee has also been rekeyed with a new series of keys.

Publications Trustee's Report

The mailed Blazers were late this month. They were printed in time but the mailer slowed the distribution. Randy would like to institute cloud storage for the club's records. He will be looking for vendors.

Membership Trustee's Report

Joan read Vladimir Garmaev, Molly A. McGuire, and Amy R. Richter for the first time.

Candace Bonner, Michelle E. Bright, Kai S. DeRousie, Aril A. Martinez, Donna D. Newcomb, and Scott B. Sheldon

were elected to membership.

Special committee

The special committee on Nesika Access met on 10/2/2015 and decided to work on developing a recordable easement for our road and trail to Nesika. The first step will be to get an appropriate survey of the road. Art will be contacting surveyors to determine costs. We will be submitting our engineers' studies on the bridges to the Forest Service. We will be sharing our thoughts on road usage with them and asking for further meetings. Merrill and Art complimented Pam Moore for her contributions to the Committee.

Annual Meeting Planning

We generally approved the agenda for the annual meeting. George would like each trustee and relevant committee chairs to present their report. A projector will be available to those who want one. The form of the ballots for the elections was approved.

Unfinished Business - none

New Business

Christine Olsen presented a thoughtful statement asking the board to think about making a financial analysis of the club's situation and to examine its treatment of volunteers. She then described her experience in trying to take on the social committee position and withdrew her candidacy.

The next meeting of the board will be on Sunday, December 6 at 5 P.M. at Rose Villa.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Merrill Hugo

Trails Club of Oregon

Explanation of Board of Trustees Action

October 13, 2015

At the October 2015 board meeting the board made a decision to discontinue the lease on one of the three office spaces we have been leasing in the Oak Grove office complex. This decision has caused some strong reactions and a lot of discussion between club members, so we felt a statement about this decision was in order. This statement outlines the information and actions leading up to this decision.

At the September board meeting members of the History committee came to the board with a request to renew the lease on all of the office space for an additional three years. The committee members showed the level of interest and activity by the History committee, who is the primary user of the office space. They estimated that they would need another three years to get the collection organized.

There were questions from the board about the volume of the material stored, and the overall plan for the history project. The discussion did not proceed smoothly and there was frustration on both sides of the argument. Several board members thought we had requested an estimate of the volume of storage and an overall plan for the project from the History committee.

At the October board meeting the History committee was present again. They once again expressed the need for a continued lease of all the office space. As part of the discussion a broad brush review of the Trails Club cash flow for the past 5 years was presented. There was also a discussion about the impact of losing the third office space, which is currently mostly used for storage of History materials.

The actual board action was to continue the lease on the two adjacent office spaces for an additional year, and discontinue the lease on the third, separate space, mostly used for storage at this time.

The board's decision is based on the following:

1) The History committee has demonstrated the value of the history project, and shown significant engagement by the membership to continue the project. The project requires office space to continue. This is why we voted to continue the lease for the two adjacent office spaces.
2) Over the past few years the club has been relying heavily on the investment fund to continue club operations. About one half of our income has been taken from our investments. This is manageable when the spending is for special expenses, or short term projects, but is not sustainable over the long term. We are probably consuming about twice what we can afford long term to keep our investment fund providing our needs over the long term.
3) The lease of the office space is a significant cost to the Trails Club, accounting for about one quarter of our annual expenses. The bulk of this is office space lease. This, like all major expenses needs to be reined in to fit our income. Releasing the storage room is the best way to reduce the expenses in a significant way, and there seem to be some viable alternative options for storage of the history materials.

It should be noted that there is also a significant voice inside the club that feels that the expense of the history project is wasted money, and the project should be terminated. The board listened to these voices as well as those engaged in the project and decided that the history project is valuable, and that a few more years to get our materials in order is a reasonable expense. We did not, however, feel that we should commit to a long term (3 year) lease, as this would limit the options of future Trails Club boards from reevaluating the project each year to improve it and adjust expenses as needed.

Randy Dietrich - for the TCO Board of Trustees



President's Message

During the 2015 Annual Meeting, last month, the members present approved modifications in our dues structure to help finance our basic operations. The cost of doing business has risen considerably while our dues remained the same for many years. The Board appreciates the overwhelming support the membership gave to this proposal.

Several people were elected into office for the term. President: Pam Moore, Secretary: Merrill Hugo, Membership Trustee: Jeff Lawton, Trips Trustee: Eric Berg (One Year Term), Nesika Trustee: Linda Conrad and Tyee Trustee: Charles (Chas) Shaw. The Board will appoint an interim Social Trustee for the next year and that position will be voted on for a one year term in 2016.

Those who volunteer their time and talents to provide leadership for this organization are a special group. They guide a multi-faceted organization and work to satisfy the needs of members with many interests. In addition to the Board members, we have Committee Chairs that also devote hours of their time to the benefit of the club. Please be sure to acknowledge their efforts with a kind word when the opportunity is provided. One of the most time demanding positions in the club is that of Blazer Editor. Phil Crosby spends hours every month assembling the Blazer and has modified it to include schedules and events well into the following month so we don't miss an event because the mailed copies are delayed. However, the Blazer does get posted on our web-site well before the end of the month.

My term as president expires December 31, 2015. I want to thank everyone for all the support provided me over the years. Of all the goals I had for the Trails Club, some have been met and some not yet been met. However, I have confidence that the new board members will blend in with existing members and continue to provide successful leadership in all aspects of club activities. We have had 100 years of such leadership and I look forward to the Trails Club continuing to successfully meet the ever changing needs of active members and prospective members for years to come. The need to recognize and adapt to changes in our recreational environment will always be there and we must continually adapt.

On a very special note, I would also like to thank Chas Shaw, and those who have helped him, for the extensive work dealing with the loss of heating oil at Tyee this last month. As the interim Tyee Trustee, he has dealt with all the parties involved and insured that Tyee will be able to open this winter.

I am moving on as the newly elected President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs. My responsibility is to work on coordinating the member clubs efforts to insure that protected lands and animal species remain protected. Those individuals that worked so hard to get the Wilderness Act, passed 50 years ago, and the Endangered Species Act, remind us that nothing is guaranteed to last through the years unless we continue to remain vigilant. The Trails Club was one of the founding organizations of FWOC in 1932 and I have remained proud of our continuing participation in supporting their programs.

Thanks everyone. Have a great holiday season and an enjoyable year ahead.

Sincerely,

George Milne

From the Editor

It has become apparent that there are some issues within the Trails Club that may be in need of a forum. Examples that come to mind are the fate of the Archives function, the trail biking issue, and the recent FWOC position on transportation of fossil fuels. Perhaps the Blazer is an appropriate place for such a discussion. Physical constraints result in a need for the Blazer to occupy an integer multiple of four pages, so the possibility of having a "comments" section comes to mind as a means to fill space, if for no other reason.

Several years ago my wife, Irene, initiated a comments section in a newsletter that she edited and it was quite a success.

In order for such a section to succeed, the editor must be able to fairly publish dissenting views. I believe that I am up to the task, but welcome any inputs to the contrary. I would edit comments as needed to enhance readability.

I have received encouragement on this topic from some other Club members, but I don't want to initiate such an activity without more buy-in from other members.

So, what do you think, readers?

Blazer@TrailsClub.org

Empty Boots

Ruth Bentley, born Nov. 23, 1922, passed away on Oct. 14, 2015 at Holladay Park Plaza, with her family by her side. Ruth loved the outdoors from the time of early family trips to Yellowstone, the Tetons and the Oregon coast, and later through her active membership in the Trails Club of Oregon, the Mazamas, and through providing tours with Portland Urban Tour Group.

Ruth met the love of her life, James R. Bentley, in Pocatello, and was married at her parent's home in 1946. They were married for 55 years prior to Jim's passing in 2001.

Those who had the privilege of knowing Ruth will remember that she was always quick with a kind word, loving smile, and wonderful laugh. Ruth, with her endless optimism and enthusiasm for life, will be missed by those who knew her.

Ruth is survived by her children, Stephen (Suzie), Carole (Michael) and Susan (Jeff); and grandchildren, Amy, Alexa, Cody and Cameron. "Always see the good in people. Don't gossip, and make lots of friends"

- Ruth Bentley.



Membership Notes - November 2015

If you have any feedback, positive or negative, about the following individuals who have received their first readings, PLEASE contact one of the board members before the next board meeting (2nd Tuesday of the month). We wish to hear your input before the final vote into membership. Club member input is very important in this process.

Do you know a prospective new member? Send his/her name and address to membership@trailsclub.org for him/her to receive a couple of free Blazers. This is the best way to report guest information from hikes, lodge visits, and other trips.

First Readings:

Vladimir Garmaev
14630 NW Benny Dr.
Portland, OR 97229
913-302-9128
VGARMA@YAHOO.COM
Sponsors: Sylvia Ashley, Jeff Lawton

Molly A. McGuire
17418 Kelok Rd.
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
503-675-4566
mmcguire55@msn.com
Sponsors: Barbara Oaks, Gerda Eck

Amy R. Richter
2027 NW Irving St.
Portland, OR 97209
503-274-0646
amy888pdx@gmail.com
Sponsors: Audrey Perino, Ann McKinney

Second Readings:

Candace Bonner

Michelle E. Bright

Kai S. DeRousie

April A. Martinez

Donna D. Newcomb

Scott B. Sheldon

Changes:

Betty Powell

powellpdx@gmail.com

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December 2015

Gentle Reminders

For activities such as bicycle, kayak, and x-c skiing check with the leaders for the difficulty level of the activity. Good equipment for the specific activity is required for all events. For hikes and snowshoe activities:

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.

Note: Harsh or unusual conditions may greatly increase the exertion and skill required. Be prepared for the level of activity you are planning to take. Contact the leader if you have any questions about the trip and to let him or her know that you will be attending. Bring plenty of water and a sack lunch. Please, no alcohol. Remember to bring your Ten Essentials. Pets allowed on designated trips only.

Everybody should 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.

Be prepared to pay a small fee of $2 for Guests, $1 for Members for day activities.
Please contribute to any carpooling expenses at the rate of $.15 per mile. With multiple riders the driver can collect up to $.30 per mile shared by all the riders.

If you have reserved 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.

Newsletters

Send write-ups to: **blazer@trailsclub.org**

Submissions are due by the fifteenth of the month prior to publication.

Please use the following format:

Month Day (Day of week) Event Title - Class A, B, C

Description Text - Please include distance, elevation change, and round trip driving distance.
Do not capitalize full words, lines or sentences for emphasis
Day trip descriptions should be under 100 words.

Depart: Meeting place, with address if possible, and departure time

Leader: Name Phone and/or email.

Editor: Philip S. Crosby
12401 SW Terwilliger Blvd.
Portland, Or 97219

Send pictures, new events, corrections and anything else for the Trails Club of Oregon website to
webmaster@trailsclub.org