

Keeping you updated on all things happening in TCI.



John Waltman—TCI Communications Officer

Please email news of upcoming Tall Club events or other items for Talkin' Tall, to John at jwalswe@myactv.net. Information received by the 14th of each month may be included in the following month's issue.

Post convention roundup

As usual, please distribute Talkin'Tall to your membership.

This was a different convention than we are used to. Most of us who are convention regulars have grown to expect a land-based convention with trips taken as a group, eating together at big banquets and having our afterhours parties. This year, we shared our "Hotel" and experiences with another 3000+ people. The ship provided everyone with many opportunities to keep yourself occupied and entertained just not as a big group.

One of the positives was that we had a "captive" audience of prospects that we ran into all the time. I suspect that some of the non-TCI Talls may have gotten overwhelmed by the number of Talls. Norma has the names of a number of prospects that either have or intend to join our ranks.

Dining as an entire group was not possible on the ship. There were many different opportunities for your meals and scheduling something together was limited to three special events: a welcome aboard cocktail party, the Miss TI coordination, and our awards luncheon.

Due to the number of excursion possibilities, we were spread out in different directions doing different things.

Where we are usually in a private room for after-hours, this year we met in a different bar each night, we could not restrict it to TCI members, but we were able to draw in a few prospects to party with us.

Being at sea, and with the lack of internet or phone service, it was at times difficult for us to find each other and I believe that some people may have felt left out if they were not familiar with other TCI members. Due to times in port, and tours that you may have taken. Getting together as a group was not always possible.

Overall, I believe that people had a good cruise experience. It was not the convention style that we have grown to expect and missed much of our regular tall fellowship experiences.

Delegates Meeting

Our Delegates Meeting went well. The most major decision by the delegates was concerning the Miss TI program. The program has been around for a long time. The days are past when there were a lot of contestants vying to earn the coveted title of Miss Tall International. We are now in a period of time when we are lucky to get more than one candidate running. I believe that there needs to be some discussion amongst TCI members concerning the future of the program. I will facilitate some Zoom workshops (see below) this year to discuss the current/future of the Miss TI program among other workshops.

There were two significant changes in our TCI bylaws.

1. At the Delegates meeting, the delegates voted to not have a Miss TI in a year that we don't get three candidates by March 1. This may be a stopgap program to revitalize or change the program to something that will work better for TCI in the present and into the future.
2. The current deadline for clubs to get their dues and club information is March 1. If that information is not delivered to TCI by the delegates meeting, that club will not be able to vote in the delegates meeting. The delegates voted for the future, if the club is not up to date by **70** days before the Delegates Meeting, they will waive their ability to vote in the delegates meeting. The EB should not have to be contacting clubs 3 months after the deadline to get their information submitted to TCI.

The delegates meeting minutes and a 2023 edition of the bylaws will be distributed to the clubs and on the tall.org members only section as soon as they are made available and reviewed for accuracy.

Convention Awards

Congratulations to the 2023/4 Miss TI – Shelley Sage – Portland Skyliners

Best Website – Paramount Tall Club of Chicago

Best Publicity - Central Arizona Tall Society

Best Newsletter – The Bean pod – Boston Beanstalks

Merit Awards –

Nancy Jacoby - Florida Skyliners of Miami

Annette Chionilos - Florida Skyliners of Miami

Rosie Miller - Rocket City Tall Club

Peggy Cooke - CATS

Dawn Picciuolo - Paramount Tall Club of Chicago

Shirleen Murphy - Tall Club of Orange County

President’s Special Recognition Award –

Megan Lukens – Portland Skyliners – for her work on the TCI Webpage.

Travel award – Boston Beanstalks

Membership Increase – Houston Bay Area Talls

Attendance – Boston Beanstalks

Sports

Cornhole

Denise Garrison

Sue Morrison

Kimberly Berg

Basketball – H O R S E “play”

Bernard Moore

Lifetime Achievement Award – Men – no nominations for 2023

Lifetime Achievement Award – Women – Maggie Anderson – Portland Skyliners

Free Cruise winner – Dave Rasmussen

Congratulations to all the winners and participants!

Tall Topix

This year, Tall Topix will be co-authored by Maggie Anderson and Tina Dixon.

We are all looking forward to your creative efforts and the memories.

The 2023-2024 Officers

Our new slate of officers for the 2023-2024 year (effective in 9/1/2023) is:

Executive Board

Bob Huggett, President

Kristen Gallagher, Executive VP/Publicity * new to the Executive Board

Mary Eleman, VP/Membership * new to the Executive Board

Secretary, Kelli Lewis

Finance Officer, Barry Umbs

Miss TI Coordination, Sheryl Lutz

Communications, John Waltman

Other Elected Officers

Treasurer, Oliver Gruter

Alternate Executive Officer, Shirleen Murphy

Alternate Treasurer, Sue Simms.

Thank you for your dedication to the business of TCI

Zoom Workshops

I want to facilitate different Zoom workshops in the coming year where we can discuss helpful topics. The range of topics can be the Future of the Miss TI program, helping clubs with social activity ideas, what clubs are doing to attract new members, the status and building of a 2.0 program for younger Talls, and any other topic that comes up. These meetings will be open to all TCI members.

What workshops would you like to see? Email me with your suggestions.

TCI Foundation Scholarship Recipients for 2023

(Top four received the named scholarships as indicated in column four)

Sophie Jacqmotte Parks	Merit	Portland Skyliners	Kae Sumner Einfeldt Scholarship
Spence Cox	Merit	Tall Club of Greater Washington DC	Virginia Winker Scholarship
Lillian Buchanan	Merit	Houston Bay Area Tall Texans	Carolyn Goldstein Scholarship

Kirkland Ross	Merit	Alabama - Florida (West Florida Only) - Georgia - MAL - Nancy Jacoby	Robert Rader Scholarship
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Julia Case	Merit	Arkansas - Louisiana - Mississippi - New Mexico - MAL - Leta Johnson
Nellie Rushton	Merit	Boston Beanstalks Tall Club
Bruce Callen	Merit	OKC Tall Club
Brooke Misner	Merit	Timberline Tall Club of Denver
Jessica Chappelle	Merit	Central Arizona Tall Society
Kaela Guidry	Merit	California Tip Toppers
Leah Finkelman	Merit	Miami Skyliners (Eastern Florida only)
Johanna Andreae	Merit	Tall Club of Milwaukee
Adela Cucu	Merit	Canada: MAL - Norma Forrest
Ella Walker	Merit	Tall Club of Orange County
William Lunne	Merit	High Cincinnatians
Joe Giambrone	Merit	Paramount Tall Club
Kelsey McLennan	Merit	Tip Toppers Club of Detroit
Rycklon (RJ) Stephens	Merit	Sacramento Tall Club
Sawyer Wolf	Legacy	Portland Skyliners
Jordan Lambert	Legacy	Sacramento Tall Club

Convention Feedback

TCI and future event planners are interested in your experiences and feedback from this year's 2023 Convention At Sea. Please take some time to reply to the survey that came to convention goers from Claudette and comment to the following email address with your thoughts, ideas and suggestions concerning this convention. This email will not provide responses to your email. Someone may contact you concerning your comments if more information is needed.

Keep your comments brief. If we want you to expand, you will be contacted.

TCI2023ConventionFeedback@gmail.com This email if reviewed by Bob Huggett

Convention 2024

Unfortunately, there were no proposals brought before the Delegates at the meeting.

Sense then, there is the beginning of a plan for another possible cruise for 2024 convention. This would be leaving San Juan, Puerto Rico for the Southern Caribbean. This is still in the early stages of planning.

I have also been informed that another group is considering a proposal. That group is researching several options and is not prepared to announce anything at this time.

If you have a plan, I need to know about it by the end of August. It will be the EB's decision on when to come to the Delegates with convention plans for 2024 for any approval and final decision. I hope to bring before the Delegates all the options by late September 2023.

TCI publicity?

I was on the plane waiting to go to Seattle for Convention. I checked my email messages one last time. I have a message from Joseph De Avila with the Wall Street Journal who is doing a story on leg room in commercial aircraft.

I asked Kristen Gallagher if she would take the lead on this and after the cruise she provided the names of some of us Taller Talls. Five of us were interviewed including Tina Dixon, Barry Umbs, Dave Rasmussen, Ellen Bayer and myself. The story was published on July 14. Tina and Barry were quoted in the article, but unfortunately, TCI did not get a mention.

There is a link to the article on Tall.org.

https://www.wsj.com/articles/airline-seat-size-complaints-legroom-faa-f065e76e?st=mhwtjzf5nsbuhil&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink

Weekends, gatherings and/or events

There are some TCI related events coming up.

September 8-10, 2023 – STC goes to the Virginia City International Camel and Ostrich Races AND the Great Reno Balloon Race. See the flyer.

September 16, 2023 – Tall Club Reunion Anniversary Picnic in Sunset Beach, CA

The California Tip Toppers are inviting us to participate in their 8th Annual Anniversary Reunion Weekend, Saturday September 16, 2023

Gail S has a family beach cottage in the heart of Sunset Beach. Built in 1907, this was this was one of the early Tip Toppers favorite stomping grounds, including Kae Sumner Einfeldt. Gail's Mother, Lucile Poor, one of the original 9 Tip Toppers, met her father, John Q. Long, in the tall club at a Sunset Beach house party and honeymooned here too. For those of you that attended the 2019 Convention in Anaheim you will remember this place.

The party begins at 11 a.m. Since the reunion is a little later in the year, it might be cooler, but you can bring the normal beach accoutrements, swimsuit, sunblock, hat, sunglasses, boogie board, towels, beach chair, ice chest & change of clothes. There is a 7-11 and a liquor store ½ block away.

This is an RSVP event since we will provide hamburgers with the fixins. We are asking you to bring a dish to share and whatever it is you want to drink. BBQ will be approximately 1 PM

Please RSVP to Gail S. Directly at 415-847-4775 or via e-mail gail@swifthomes.com.

Sorry, no flyer for this.

October 08-15, 2023 – STC Cheeseburger in Paradise trip to Cancun. See the flyer.

Final thoughts

TCI and your local club need you! The official membership number in TCI is down from 893 last year to 829 this year.

Kae inspired this wonderful group of clubs for us to enjoy and thrive in. For many years we have been in a decline in membership. It is important for us to re-kindle the fire that once swept the nation in creating lots of Tall Clubs.

In Sacramento, we are developing a younger side of the club for the 20, 30 & 40 age segment of our club. We will be sharing our methods and processes via Zoom workshops for getting this group going.

But don't forget that older people need a tall friend too. Don't stop recruiting for your club.

IMPORTANT – Your club needs to be active. Plan events and get out in the community and stand tall for Tall Clubs International. Be creative to get activities, listen to new ideas. If you have not been involved in the business of the club, get involved. The most wanted words a club President wants to hear is “How can I help?”

We need to preserve this wonderful group of clubs and Members at large.

Remember that for 85 years, Kae's family has been for all of us.

Let me hear from you.

tcipresbob@gmail.com

Stand Tall and let's grow back TCI together!

Bob Huggett

President TCI 2022-2024

Talkin' Tall — July 10, 2023

President Bob Huggett's post-Convention report

2023 TCI Convention at Sea awards, notifications and 2023-24 officers.

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Basketball – H O R S E "play"

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Lifetime Achievement Award – Women – Maggie Anderson – Portland Skyliners

Free Cruise winner – Dave Rasmussen

Your 2023-24 TCI Executive Board and Elected Officers (effective 9/1/23)

Executive Board

President – Bob Huggett – Sacramento Tall Club

Executive Vice President/Publicity – Kristen Gallagher – Boston Beanstalks

Vice President/Membership – Mary Eleman – Central Arizona Tall Society

Secretary – Kelli Lewis – MAL

Finance Officer – Barry Umbs – Tall Club of Milwaukee

Miss TI Coordinator – Sheryl Lutz – Portland Skyliners

Communications – John Waltman – Baltimore Tall Club

Elected Officers

Treasurer – Oliver Gruter – Pacific Tall Club

Alternate Treasurer – Sue Simms – High Cincinnatians

Alternative Executive Officer – Shirleen Murphy – Tall Club of Orange County

Bits and pieces

There were no submissions for TCI Convention 2024

Tall Topix editors 2023 – Maggie Anderson and Tina Dixon

36 clubs – 55 Members at Large – total 829 TCI members

My apologies for any misspellings. Let me know and I will correct.