



Fellow TCI TALLs,

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well by now you have heard that our 2024 Tall'phins Convention was a success!

I'd like to give high praise to the convention team who put this event together in short order:

- Patt Miles - She cornered Patty and I in January when we stopped in to visit while on our way to Miami. She had this idea of opening "her town" and bringing the convention to Dunedin.
- Kristen Carlson Gallagher – a veteran of the Providence – Four Winds of TCI convention. For the 2024 convention, she handled advertising and marketing among many other duties.
- Barry Umbs – Treasurer and Money Man – A veteran of many conventions with great success. Keeper of the budget and payer of bills.
- Patty Huggett – Registration – She seemed to frequently be on the phone and computer working with registrants, the hotel, Patt, Kristen and Barry. Sometimes we had to schedule time on our computer between registration and me with the Delegate Meeting and other TCI duties.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU – YOU ARE THE BEST!

Now onto the business of TCI: There are ten things on my mind that I will mention in this letter as I believe they are important to the health of TCI, including members at large. I will expand on some of these items as time goes on and into the next TCI year (it starts in September).

The Delegates at this year's convention have spoken and are looking to me to stay in the President seat for another 2 years. This term, I intend to make sure that all of you are "in the TCI game". I want you to rekindle the spirit and excitement that brought you into the Tall Club game in the first place. You were obviously attracted to Kae's dream, and NOW is the time to re-energize your passion for Tall Clubs. If you have had a bad TCI experience, I want you to give us another try.

We all, as members, need to join forces and kick TCI back into a positive growing organization. TCI was built on the backs of member clubs, so you who are Members-at-Large, some of this will apply, and some will not. To grow and re-invigorate TCI – it will take each one of you. I know that some of your clubs are suffering, and some are doing well. I would like to encourage each of you to find a revitalized life in your club.

Here are 10 items for success and revitalization of YOUR Club and TCI along with some general information on what is going on in TCI as we move into the next year

1. Successful format and the future of TCI Conventions.

If you have attended a convention in the past, GREAT! If it not or it has been a while since you have, maybe it's time to try anew. Most of you know convention as the gathering of Talls getting together in big cities. Convention formats have consisted of tourism as a group, bus rides to great attractions, formal dinners and late-night afterhours. Well, a lot of that changed this year. The days were not formally planned for daytime activities, everything was informal, and the typical after-hours parties changed to going to a commercial establishment or gathering in common area(s) of the hotel. Also, this year, we were on the outskirts of a big metropolitan area instead of a downtown area, and it worked out well.

Also at this convention, I brought back workshops for anyone who was interested in attending to discuss specific topics to help your club grow and expand your TCI experience.

Will we always get great weather, a perfect location or your perfect time? NO, but we will always have each other. We are family.

TCI's annual convention should be fun and a great vacation, but in the future, I would like you to consider coming to a workshop and finding out what is going on in TCI land.

2. TCI the "Next Generation" discussion workshop – convention 2024

We had a discussion group to talk about how the Sacramento Tall Club has developed a 2.0. We have a meet-up membership of over 150. There are about 15 who show up for events that THEY plan and coordinate. Now I hear you say, what about the other 135 in the Meetup group? THEY ARE ALL PROSPECTS. Many people need to be on a list for awhile before they show up. I did! I will get more into the TCI – The Next Generation in future months.



3. The future of the “Miss TI” program workshop – Convention – 2024

Without candidates this year, we will not, for the first time in many years, have a Miss TI.

We had a discussion group at convention that discussed this subject. Everyone was encouraged to attend whether you were for or against the program. It was a consensus, that the program has outlived its lifetime in its current format.

An Ambassador program may be the answer to make something like this work again and to have a spokesperson to represent TCI. What is that reality? how will it work? What will it do? How will it be enacted? These are all questions that I intend to investigate with you over the next few months and building up to our next convention.

4. Communications and information exchange – do we have your proper club information?

- One issue we have is communication with clubs and members of your club. When TCI sends you a message, we aren't even sure that you are getting the message.
- When someone visits tall.org, and wants information on your club, are you getting the message? ARE YOU RESPONDING?
- Also, TCI is sending out a Talkin' Tall message. **TCI wants each of your club members to see this message in its entirety.** We often hear about club members who have never seen this publication. How can the message to TCI members get to its members if it is not sent to them?

5. Where is Convention 2025?

Good Question. And once again this year, I don't have an answer.

We need clubs and committees to create opportunities for TCI to have conventions. We have people who have run conventions and have experience in putting them together. They will be more than happy to bestow their wealth of information on anyone or any group willing to step up.

6. The age of COVID.

If you have been following Facebook, you are likely aware that once again, we had members contract COVID at the 2024 convention. It is interesting that the 2020 convention in Louisville had no reported COVID cases. Yet, in 2022, 2023 and 2024, there were members who contracted it. I will not attempt to make any case for you to attend or not to attend a Convention or any of your local events as it relates to COVID. All I can say is that you should take care of yourself and make up your own mind. If you have pre-existing conditions or other conditions that might be adversely affected by COVID or have had a significant reaction to COVID then you'll want to consider your options and make the best decision for yourself. Unfortunately, COVID is likely here to stay.

7. The Delegate Meeting.

I'm not going to discuss the delegate meeting in this newsletter format. Your club delegate or proxy should have that information by now and it is their responsibility to disseminate that to your club.

8. Tall Topix 2023 (Alaskan Cruise Convention)

I know that Tall Topix 2023 is late. The editor had run into issues and will not be able to complete it. Nancy Jacoby has stepped up to take over the creation of the 2023 Tall Topix. I implore you, if you were on the cruise, to please resend your pictures and information that can be included in the Tall Topix to Nancy at nancyjacoby@comcast.net. Please include times, dates, and the names of those who are in the pictures.

9. How do I get the new contact information for the officers each year?

With upgrades to our website, we will be creating a standardized email system. Whereas the titles and format has not been set yet, every president for every year will have the same email address that gets forwarded to his/her personal email. The same will hold true for all other TCI officers. I look forward to this change in the coming months.

10. Why are you still sitting on the sidelines and not revitalizing your club right now???????

I want each club to have AT LEAST one event a month. How can you be a club with no events?

TCI membership has been dropping for years. LET'S TURN THAT AROUND! I'm excited about the possibilities in the coming year. I strongly encourage all of you to talk to me about your concerns and ideas.

Highest Regards!

Bob Huggett

TCI President 2022-2026

tcipresbob@gmail.com





2024 CONVENTION RECAP

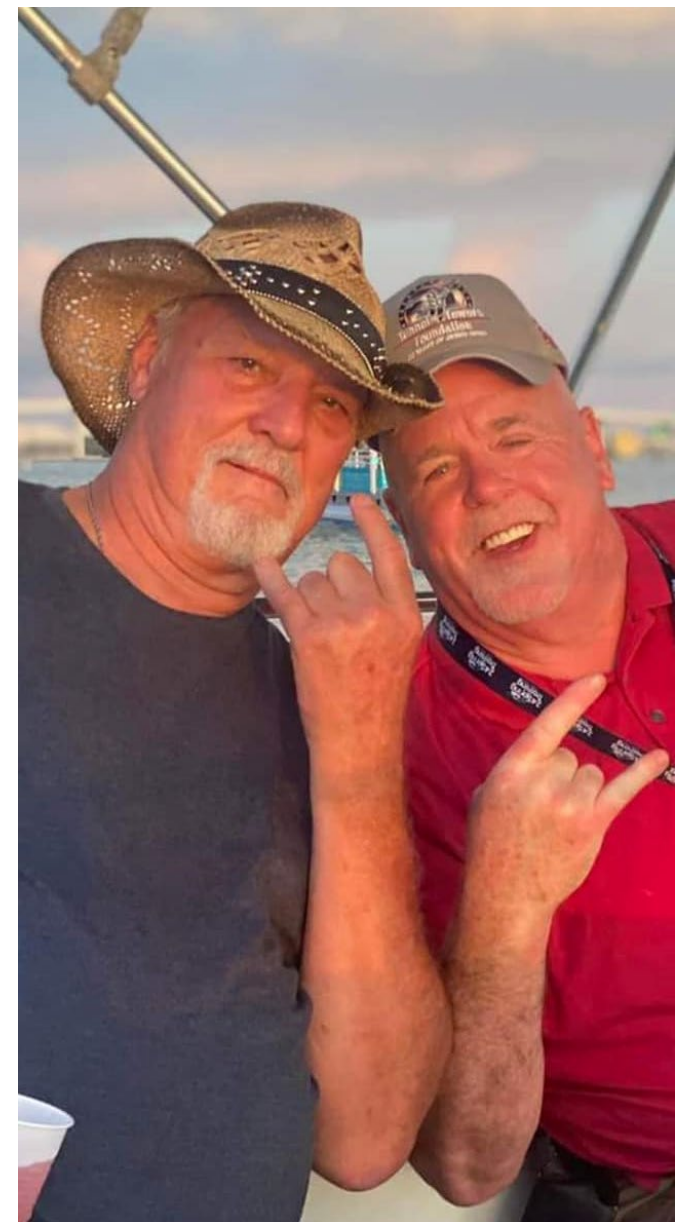
Tall Club International rolls into Dunedin Florida

Tall Clubs from all over the United States, representing Tall Clubs international, as well as members from the European Tall Organizations rolled into Dunedin Florida over the 4th of July week for their 2024 Convention. Nearly 100 members came to celebrate the 4th and rekindle friendships from all over the world.

Local site seeing outings, Dolphin dinner cruise, night clubs, Irish Pubs, warm sand and clear beaches along with very warm weather made for an awesome combination for all the attendees.

The Holiday Inn Express North was an exceptional venue pouring out its hospitality to the max for the TCI Organization. From the office, house-keeping, hospitality, and their breakfast selections for the week were beyond what one could ask for.

Just another week with our other families !!!





2024 AWARD WINNERS

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Jim Mitchell, Portland Skyliners
Mary Elemen, CATS

Executive Board

President: Bob Huggett
Exec VP/Publicity: Kristen Carlson Gallagher
VP / membership: Mary Elementary
Secretary: Kelli Lewis
Communications Officer: John Waltman
Finance Officer: Barry Umbs
Miss TI Coordinator: Sheryl Lutz
Alt Exec Officer: Shirleen Murphy
Treasurer: Oliver Gruter
Alt Treasurer: Mareda Sue Simms



Convention Awards

Membership increase by %: Seattle
Membership Increase by numbers: a tie with Seattle & Orange County
Best Internet Home Page: Paramount TC
Best Newsletter: Boston Beanstalks
Travel Award: Sacramento 19,698 miles
Attendance: Boston Beanstalk with 9 full time members
Pinball Wizards: Bonnie McMullen & Gary Roberts

Merit Awards:

Chicago: Jim Nelson & Dawn Picciuolo
Sacramento: Patty Reid-Huggett
Phoenix: Renee Ewing
Boston: Kristen Carlson Gallagher





COMMUNICATIONS URGENT REQUEST

TO: Presidents of all the local clubs

FROM: John Waltman, Communications Officer

SUBJECT: Club emails needed!

Please send your email address to jwalswe@myactv.net and be sure to include which club you are from. I will email "Talkin Tall" to you each month. You can then, and are expected to, email it out to all of your club members. This way we can be sure that all club members are getting Talkin Tall and staying "in the know". I can't stress this enough that without all TCI club's cooperation, participation and sharing communications, TCI will suffer.

Thank You,
John Waltman
Communications Officer

EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

The heart of TCI is its members and the opportunities to get together. To keep TCI alive, we need more clubs and members to plan events, weekends and even the annual convention. In-person gatherings are essential to moving TCI forward and building our membership. Even the smallest of ideas can bloom into a successful event! The Executive Board is here for you and the support of its clubs and members. Don't hesitate to reach out for help, with questions or suggestions.





2024 WEEKENDS

Tall Club Reunion (9th Annual)

August 3, 2024



Location:
Sunset Beach, CA 90742

This is my family's beach cottage built in 1907 and one of the early Tip Topper's stomping grounds including Kae Sumner Einfeldt. My Mother, Lucile Poor, one of the original 9 Tip Toppers, met my father, John Q. Long, in the tall club at a Sunset Beach house party and honeymooned here too.

Arrivals begin at 11 a.m. You should bring the normal beach accoutrements, swimsuit, sunblock, hat, sunglasses, boogie board, towels, beach chair, ice chest & change of clothes. There is a 7-11 store and a liquor store 1/2 block away. **BBQ will begin approximately at 1 p.m.**

Please RSVP AFTER May 15th – as we will be travelling. We are providing the hamburgers and all the fixins. We are asking you to bring:

- A side dish to share.
- Whatever beverages you want to drink.
- **Cost: \$5.00** for the cost of hamburgers and fixins.

Parking: Don't worry about parking. We will be parking near Peter's Landing. A volunteer shuttle driver will take you from Peter's Landing to the Beach house (and vice versa). More details after May 15, 2024.

It's time to get together again, don't you think!!!!

RSVP required 'directly' to Gail & Levi Swift
Cell or Text 415-847-4775
Email: gail@swifthomes.com

Sunset Beach Tall Club

← **Reunion
Day Event**
Sunset Beach, California

Sacramento Tall Club Weekend Event

September 6, 7, & 8, 2024



Friday we will attend **The International Camel & Ostrich Races in Historic Virginia City NV.** The camels, ostriches, zebras and good old-fashioned family fun returns this year. This hilarious and family-favorite tradition started as a prank between two newspaper editors more than 60 years ago and remains as silly and fun as its origin.

The Races bring the laughs for all as jockeys, both professional and amateur, race their camels, ostrich, and zebras around the horseshoe track to the roars of the crowd. You never know what might happen! It's a comical racing spectacle guaranteed to leave the entire group laughing.

We will be attending Friday Night, while the actual events last all weekend. Friday night, Sept. 8, enjoy Hot Camel Nights, an evening show with discounted rates. Go up early and enjoy site seeing in this historic mining town.

Here is the link for more information.
<https://visitvirginiacitynv.com/events/international-camel-ostrich-races-virginia-city/>

Saturday & Sunday we will be participating in **The Great Reno Balloon Races.** The Great Reno Balloon Race is **FREE** to spectators thanks to the support of event sponsors. **STC is requesting a \$75.00 pp package fee to cover costs.** (Includes Camel Race entry, Pasta Dinner Saturday Evening, Sunday Brunch & Transportation/ parking for Saturday & Sunday). Partial Packages can be arranged, Contact Patty Huggett.

Be prepared for early mornings and bring your picnic blanket & basket, lawn chairs, and warm clothing, etc. Food vendors are available. For more information, check out their website - <https://renoballoon.com>

Look for us on the edge of the balloon launch area in front of the Peppermill tent.

Saturday, & Sunday Schedule of events 3:30 a.m. – Gates open to Rancho San Rafael Regional Park
5:00 a.m. – Super Glow Show
5:30 a.m. – Dawn Patrol
6:50 a.m. National Anthem
7:00 a.m. – Mass Ascension Launch
4:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.- Shopping along Balloon Boulevard

EVENT LOCATION
Rancho San Rafael Regional Park
1595 N. Sierra St.
Reno, Nevada



Our Home Base will be The J Resort, 345 N Arlington Ave, Reno, NV, 89501

Please check with your favorite travel booking site or The J Resort directly for the lowest rates. This weekend will sell out. Please book your rooms as early as possible for the best possible rate.



**PLAN YOUR GETAWAY'S NOW!
DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A
WEEKEND / GATHERING?
LET'S FILL THE CALENDAR!**





2024 WEEKENDS



Hi Tall Friends!

Hope everyone is doing well and is staying cool somewhere.

Rebecca and I are putting our heads together to plan our third TToH + Other Talls' reunion. Since we have so many tall friends wanting to come in from out of town and an overwhelming interest from all for more time to catch up with our tall friends, we're expanding to include some plans for the entire weekend.

SAVE THE DATE - 2024 TToH + Other Talls' Reunion - October 18-20, 2024

We've had someone volunteer their home in the Humble/Atascocita area (northeast of Houston itself, close to IAH airport) for the Saturday afternoon/evening event. She's quite the party host with a great party house too so that will be the highlight of the weekend! We are working on getting plans in place and specifically for Friday night and Sunday brunch and will provide all of those details as soon as we know more. (If anyone local has any suggestions for venues or activities that would appeal to our tall family, please respond back to this email with your thoughts.)

If you're contemplating coming in and will need hotel accommodations, ttohreunion@yahoo.com to let us know. If there's enough interest, we'll work on locating some reasonable options for you close to the Saturday event location.

There's no need, at this point, to respond whether you're attending or not, only if you'll need accommodations or you have ideas for activities or venues. We'll be looking for a headcount closer to the actual date.

Stay tuned for more information! We look forward to seeing you all in the fall!!!

Carol Hudson & Rebecca McMahan





2025 WEEKENDS

Europatreffen: May 2025

European Meeting in Duisburg/Germany from 25th of Mai to 1st of June 2025

As part of the European Meeting 2025, we invite you to "experience" Duisburg and the Ruhr area on foot, by bike, by bus and, of course, the largest inland port in the world from a ship. Get an insight with us into past times, into the lifestyle of the upper bourgeoisie and into structural change. Enjoy the many green sides of the "Pott".



Former slag heaps have become artificial mountains, which today offer a view not only of the Rhine, but also of the entire Ruhr area with interesting works of art. Despite the big city flair, a week together with short distances, many joint leisure activities with a wide variety of gastronomy and hotels within walking distance in the centre await you. The daily get-together in the evening will not be neglected either.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

European meeting Duisburg from 25th of Mai to 1st of June 2025

In addition to the traditional welcome evenings on Sunday and Thursday as well as the ball evening on Saturday, we have put together an extensive and varied sightseeing and action programme for you. On Thursday, there will be a family day in the countryside with an all-day program. On Friday, we will travel by bus along the Route of Industrial Heritage and offer you several different exploration tours.

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25-05-2024

Planned programme

The following programme items are currently planned (changes are of course still possible):

Duisburg

- Port of Duisburg (largest inland port in the world)
- North landscape park Duisburg (natural and cultural landscape)
- Downtown Duisburg - Old Town monuments from the 10th-16th centuries

Coal, iron and steel

- Steel production plant
- Former ironworks with blast furnace
- Mining Museum
- Former coal mine Zeche Zollverein (UNESCO World heritage)

Art, architecture and culture

- Küppersmühle museum (Exhibitions of art)
- Landmark Tiger & Turtle (Magic Mountain)
- Gasometer, city of Oberhausen (Exhibitions)
- Margarethenhöhe, city of Essen (Working-class district and Garden city)
- Villa Hügel, city of Essen (Industrial culture and history)

Nature and animals

- Botanical Garden
- The Six lake district
- Duisburg zoological garden

Leisure, sports and food

- Leisure and sports facility Töppersee
- Bike tour
- Brewery (Pilsener beer)
- Sports centre Wedau





2025 WEEKENDS

Paramount Tall Club of Chicago
 79th Anniversary
 February 20-23, 2025
 Weekend
Save the Date
1960's Sitcoms





Kae Sumner Einfeldt

Raising social standards since 1938



Calling all potential TCI SCHOLARSHIP COORDINATORS (TCI Club Members and Members-At-Large):

As most of you know, the TCI Foundation gives out multiple ANNUAL scholarships of \$1000 each to very bright high school seniors - so that they can continue their education in a college/university.

Currently, we have all clubs and states covered in the United States - and all 3 clubs covered in Canada. But this year - sitewide - we got **303 applications** for all the various locations (excluding Paramount Tall Club of Chicago)! We expect that number to GROW next year. With that being said, WE NEED YOUR HELP NEXT YEAR! Are there any existing TCI Tall Club Members - or - TCI Members-At-Large who would be interested in reviewing scholarship in 2025?

The scholarship process is well documented. In addition, in November or December of 2024 - we will hold scholarship process training classes for those interested.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Be an active member or member-at-large in TCI.
2. Have access to an email account.
3. Be willing to learn the 3 steps of the Scholarship Process. (For Initial Scholarship Requirements - please feel free to go to the this URL: <https://tallclubfoundation.org/scholarship/scholarship/>).
4. Be able to review multiple scholarships and references between January 1st and April 1st, 2025.
5. Be able to choose a 'finalist' to submit to TCI Foundation for consideration!
6. Have FUN helping some really brilliant seniors move their education forward.

If you have any interest in helping us - or - if you have questions prior to signing up - then email us at tcifoundationsscholarships@gmail.com.

