



Talkin' Tall

Tall Clubs International News



TCI'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

WWW.TALL.ORG

FEBRUARY 2026

Happy February, Everyone!

If you attended the TCI 2025 Convention in Grand Rapids, your copy of Tall Topix is either on its way to you, or you picked it up during the Paramount Tall Club weekend. A big shoutout to Anna Rowen for putting the book together. she did an amazing job!



Upcoming Event: TCI Convention 2026

The theme for the 2026 TCI Convention in Hollywood, California, is "Hooray for Hollywood," scheduled for August 3-9, 2026. For more details, check out the events tab on tall.org. You'll also find additional information about the convention included in this edition of Talkin' Tall.

We're excited to be heading to Chicago and can't wait to see many of you there!

Expanding the Tall Community

Tall Tours continues to flourish, and it's essential to leverage the "TALL" meetup movement. Numerous meetups for tall individuals are taking place, so keep an eye on social media for announcements and promote your club's events on these platforms. Additionally, focus on creating events that attract younger attendees and help them feel comfortable. Some of our TCI members attended Tall Tours meetups in Miami and Orlando, with the Orlando event reportedly drawing around 3,000 participants.

I hope your club is active and engaging. If it isn't, get involved and make a change!

I look forward to seeing you at a Tall Club event this year.

Highest Regards!

Bob Huggett, TCI President 2022-26

TCIpresBob@gmail.com



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YOUR TCI EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ELECTED OFFICERS



Bob Huggett, President
TCIPresident@tall.org
NY Central Tall Society (TCI Prospect Club)
Sacramento Tall Club



Kristen Carlson Gallagher, Executive VP / Publicity
TCIExecutiveVP@tall.org
Boston Beanstalks Tall Club



Norma Forrest, VP / Membership
TCIMembership@tall.org
Tall Club of Toronto



Barry Umbs, Finance Officer, TCI Archives,
Bylaw Admin
TCIFinanceOfficer@tall.org
Tall Club of Milwaukee



John Waltman, Communications Officer
TCICommunications@tall.org
Baltimore Tall Club



Mary Elemen, Miss TI Coordinator
TCIMissTICoordinator@tall.org
Central Arizona Tall Society



Kelli Lewis, Secretary
TCISecretary@tall.org
Member at Large



David Spencer, Webmaster
webmaster@tall.org
Sacramento Tall Club



Oliver Gruter, Treasurer
TCITreasurer@tall.org
Las Pacific Tall Club



Jim Nelson, Alt. Treasurer
TCIAltTreas@tall.org
Paramount TC of Chicago



Shirleen Murphy, Alt Exec Officer
TCIAEO@tall.org
Orange County Tall Club



Dave Rasmussen, Marfan Liaison
TCIMarfanLiaison@tall.org
Tall Club of Milwaukee



COMMUNICATION OFFICER MESSAGE

Questions, Comments, Concerns, Input or Ideas?????

Please email: TCICommunications@tall.org

The email address used to SEND "Talkin' Tall" is **not** monitored for incoming emails and is only used to send the newsletter out.

A Call to Action for TCI Members

Dear TCI Members,

If there is just one thing you can do this year, please make it count. Focus on the single action that will help TCI thrive. Host a house party, organize a lunch or dinner gathering, or arrange a meetup at a movie theater or sports complex. Even a cozy campfire can provide an excellent opportunity for meaningful conversations.

The key is to ****not wait**** for others to take the initiative while you merely run the bases.

Those who have traveled know how vital these interactions are for building friendships and gathering insights about each destination. You don't need a packed agenda; some of the most memorable weekends and gatherings have had no formal plans at all. Instead, you can explore the area as you wish, choosing what to see or visit. This way, you can connect with different people and learn about various experiences.

This, my friends, is how the bonds within our club grow and flourish. You'll get to know several individuals from diverse regions who can assist you with everything from travel tips to dining recommendations. This information becomes invaluable when weekends full of conventions arise in those areas.

This year, we have exciting events lined up: Chicago next weekend, followed by Phoenix in late April to May, and a convention in Hollywood, CA, this summer. I'm sure other smaller gatherings will emerge in the meantime.

Remember, ****you are the club****. Get out there and give it a try. There are many individuals ready and willing to support you with your ideas and plans.

Until next time,
John Waltman
Communications Officer

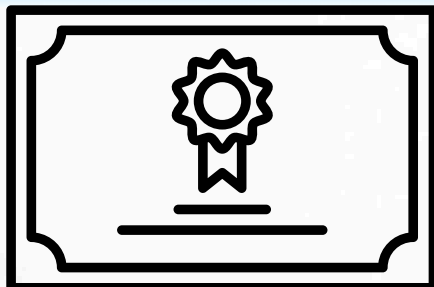


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MERIT AWARDS



MERIT AWARDS

Nominations are now open for TCI Merit Awards for 2025/2026. The purpose of the Merit Award is to acknowledge members from your local club who have gone the extra mile in support your club. Involvement in TCI is not required and should only be a minor consideration for this award.

The TCI Executive Board has approved the 2026 TCI Convention will be held in Hollywood, California beginning August 3, 2026. Therefore, Merit Award Nominations will be **due by July 13, 2026.**

As defined in the TCI Bylaws, Section 8.2 A: Merit Awards – Up to twelve (12) Merit Awards may be presented annually to individuals in TCI. Each Member Club may submit two (2) nominees from its membership, and the Executive Board may nominate two (2) additional candidates from throughout TCI, including MALs. Nomination forms and instructions should be available for download from the Members section of Tall.org at least four (4) months prior to the annual Convention. A Merit Award recipient can receive additional Merit Awards. However, they shall not be given to the same recipient in consecutive years. The Alternate Executive Officer shall be responsible for the purchase of the awards. **Merit awards should be primarily based upon the work and/or actions for Tall Awareness and/or involvement in their club or MAL activities.** TCI involvement may be a contributing minor factor.

Nominations for Members at Large (MAL's) may be nominated from a local club in their area or the Executive Board.

An on-line copy of the nomination form is on the next page. Complete the form, either on-line or by hard copy, and include detailed information about the candidate. In order to give fair assessment to each individual, it is essential to include dates and a description of leadership positions held and events credited to the member. In addition, do not reveal the identity of your nominee on this form—as recipients are selected anonymously! Place the name in a separate, sealed envelope with the name of your club on the outside and staple it to the nomination sheet.

Nominations must be submitted, via e-mail or mailed to the address below, by the date to be established:

Shirleen Murphy

TCI Alternate Executive Officer

8700 Hummingbird Ave.

Fountain Valley, CA 92708

e-mail: smmcnamee@earthlink.net

If you have any questions, please not hesitate to contact me at 714-608-7780.

Thanks

Shirleen Murphy, TCI Alternate Executive Officer



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Please submit this form, either by e-mail or hard copy to
Shirleen Murphy, TCI Alternate Executive Officer. E-Mail:
smmcnamee@earthlink.net or 8700 Hummingbird Ave.,
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Merit Award Nomination Form

Complete and send to **TCI Alternate Executive Officer** by July 13, 2026. Forms are available on tall.org.

Each club may submit two nominees from its membership. (Use separate forms for each nomination.) A previous Merit Award recipient is eligible to receive additional Merit Awards, however, not in consecutive years. Please include detailed information about the candidate. In order to give fair assessment to each individual, it is essential to include dates and a descriptions of contributions/leadership positions held and events credited to the member. This detailed information will help the selection committee better understand and appreciate each individual's contributions to both the local club. Involvement in TCI will only be considered as a minor factor.

Do not reveal the identity of your nominee on this form—recipients are selected anonymously!
Place the name in a separate, sealed envelope with the name of your club on the outside, and staple it to the nomination sheet.

Years as a member in local club: _____ Years as a member in TCI: _____

Offices held in local club:

Accomplishments in local club within the last 2 years:

Accomplishments in previous years:

Involvement in TCI:

Please write a detailed explanation of why your club feels this member should receive a TCI Merit Award:



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Over the past several years the TCI Foundation has been working hard to expand our scholarship coverage area so all tall applicants in the U.S. and Canada have an equal opportunity to receive a scholarship. Several of the local clubs have participated in the scholarship program for years, but there have also been large areas with no coverage. To help resolve this issue, we started recruiting MALs a few years ago to help cover the unrepresented areas. Additionally, some clubs have taken on the role of proxy for clubs near them that currently don't formally participate in the scholarship program. For example Boston, in addition to covering its own area of the majority of New England states, also is the proxy for the Southern Connecticut club. There are also multiple instances of individual foundation board members picking up an unrepresented region personally. For example, I personally picked up New Jersey for 2025. At the same time we are aware that non-participating local clubs may be missing out on PR opportunities resulting from the scholarship program.

In an effort to get us all on the same page and working together instead of the Foundation just making arbitrary decisions, we are requesting that clubs without their own scholarship chair, register a proxy club or individual with the Foundation to submit scholarship candidates on their behalf. The plan is that by formalizing this better so everybody knows who is doing what for whom, there will be better communications that allow even those clubs that do NOT have a scholarship chair to be able to get the benefit of students in their area being able to apply for a tall scholarship and perhaps get some good PR as well.

If you need assistance finding an available club, or qualified individual to be your scholarship proxy, please contact Lynda Lowin at tcifscholarship@gmail.com or myself at marie.austin999@gmail.com.

Additionally, we've had some members of the Foundation board hit their term limits. If you would like to help fill some of the holes, let me know and we can discuss where you could be the most help in with your current skill set. The most crucial at the moment is Secretary, to take minutes of the board meetings. Our current secretary is moving up to Vice-Chair.

Marie Austin
TCI Foundation Chair





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EVENTS





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2026

Central Arizona Tall Society Presents...



FLIP FLOPS & TALL TOPS

ARIZONA CHILL FEST

Where the shorts are short
and the legs are long!



April 30, 2026 - May 3, 2026

CATS invites you to a "chill fest" gathering where you can do as little as you want or as much as you can handle.

OUR HOTEL

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Phoenix - Glendale Sports District.
9310 W Cabela Drive, Glendale, Arizona, United States

\$139 for two doubles or a king

\$149 for a king suite (limited number available)

includes breakfast & free parking

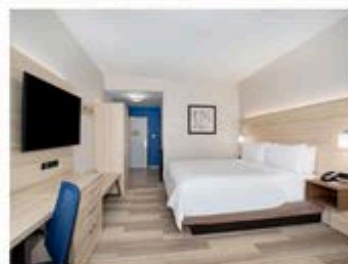
Room rate valid for two days before and two days after!

24-hour cancellation policy

Block held until March 30, 2026.

[CLICK HERE >](#)

[Phoenix Hotel Booking Link](#)



TENTATIVE AGENDA

Friday Group Event @ PopStroke Glendale | Eat. Putt. Drink.

Mini Golf, Full-Service Restaurant, Ice Cream Parlor, Rooftop Bar and more!

Saturday Afternoon we'll head to [Glendale - Chicken N Pickle](#)

An indoor/outdoor entertainment complex that includes a casual, chef-driven restaurant and sports bar that boasts pickleball courts, a variety of yard games (think cornhole, ping pong and more) and enough space to kick back and relax with your favorite peeps.

Saturday Night: BBQ / location TBD

THINGS TO DO

[Desert Diamond Casinos - West Valley](#)

[Westgate Entertainment District - Where Fun Happens](#)

YOUR HOSTS

Ellen Bayer: ebratpack3@gmail.com

Mary Elemen: elemen5555@sbcglobal.com



Please email your hosts if you intend to go.
Headcounts are needed for planning purposes





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70 years of KLM Nuremberg

May 14th to May 16th, 2026



[European Convention Registration Link](#)

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Daytime - Chocolate Tasting

For those arriving early, we offer a chocolate tasting at Läderach at 12 noon. At the chocolate shop, we'll learn how to properly taste chocolate so that the full spectrum of aromas can be experienced.

We will be tasting different types of chocolate, and there will be drinks and a small giveaway.



Evening - Welcome evening at BOB'S Rock & Bowl

Welcome! We welcome you to BOB's Rock & Bowl Fürth. If you like, you can play bowling or enjoy delicious wood-fired pizzas, juicy burgers or pasta, and crisp salads. Of course, there's also plenty of time to chat and connect with each other.

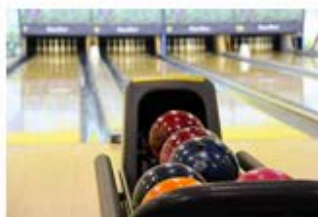


Image credits: Courtesy of Läderach, or self-taken, or via canva.com under the Free Content license

Friday, May 15, 2026

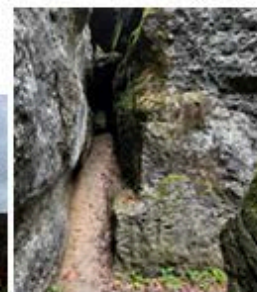
Full day - Day trip to Pottenstein

On Friday, we'll take the bus to Pottenstein in Franconian Switzerland. There, we'll visit the Devil's Cave and discover majestically large or delicate and intricate stalactite formations. We'll also see a complete cave bear skeleton. The tour through the cave has 400 steps, and the temperature inside is a constant 9°C.

Before or after, depending on the tour, we'll visit the Pottenstein Adventure Rock. There, we'll walk along the spectacular Skywalk and admire the Franconian Switzerland region from above. Those who wish can also ride the summer toboggan run (at their own expense). We'll also take a short 1.5 km hike.

In the evening we'll go to a brewery restaurant and enjoy the buffet. Drinks are at your own expense.

The bus will then take us back to Nuremberg.





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70 years of KLM Nuremberg May 14th to May 16th, 2025

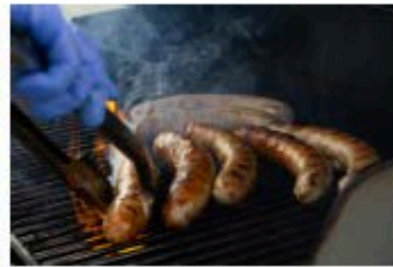
Registration soon at: <https://www.klub-langer-menschen.de/bg/nuernberg/70-jahrfeier.php>



Saturday, May 16, 2026

Daytime guided tours

We offer various guided tours, whether at the Bratwurst Museum, "History and Stories from Nuremberg," or a "City Walk: Nuremberg with and without the Castle and Gingerbread." There's something for everyone.



Evening - Party by the lake with DJ

To properly celebrate KLM Nuremberg's 70th anniversary, we're meeting for a party at Gutmann am Dutzendteich. You can choose your food there, and everyone pays for their own drinks. The DJ will be playing great party music, and there will also be a surprise.





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2026 TCI CONVENTION

August 3rd - 9th 2026
Hooray for Hollywood
Shoot for the Stars



Contacts

Michele Cripps
William Wiseman
Barry Umbs
Jim Nelson

<http://tall.org/events>

Planned Outings

TMZ Celebrity Bus Tour
Jimmy Kimmel Live Taping (TBD)
Concert at Hollywood Bowl
Universal City Walk
Griffith Observatory
Petersen Auto Museum
Academy Museum Motion Pic

Planned Food

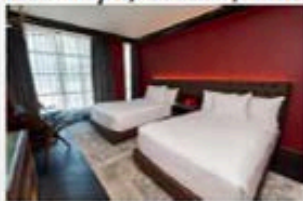
Continental Sunrise Breakfast
Dinner Under the Stars
Hard Rock Café
Buca di Beppo
Picnic At Hollywood Bowl
Rooftop Banquet Dinner
3 After Hours w/Snacks

Plans at the Hotel

Dancing and Casino Night
TCI & Marfan Fund Raiser
Two Semi/Formal Nights
Sunsets Over the City
Star Lit After Hours
Awards Dinner
Delegates Meeting

Package Price

Payment Received
Postmarked by:
Feb 28, 2026... \$600.00
Apr 30, 2026... \$625.00
After May 1, 2026... \$650.00



Whisky Hotel

1717 Wilcox Ave,
Los Angeles, CA 90028
(323) 432-8282
Reserve [Room Link](#)
Contact [Maria Rodriguez](#)
\$189.00 plus tax (\$218.64 per night)



Amenities

King and Double Queen Beds
Luxurious Bathrooms, WiFi,
Large HD LED TV's, Streaming,
Nightly Turndown, Nespresso
Machine, Bottled Water



Registration Chair: Jim Nelson - inelson1225@cs.com (847) 421-2049 Registration Details: Non-refundable deposit of \$175 (US Funds) is due with each registration to save your package rate. Send this form and the deposit to Jim Nelson at 6959 W. Hobart, Chicago, IL 60631. Make checks payable to **2026 TCI Convention**. Final payment due July 15, 2026. Whisky Hotel has a reserved block of 50 rooms. **BOOK SOON!**

Name(s): _____ Bringing Vehicle YES NO
O Full Package Deposit: \$175.00

Address: _____ Cell #: _____

Email: _____ Club Name: _____ Title: _____

Check-in Date _____ Check-out Date _____





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2026 TCI CONVENTION



Daily Itinerary for 2026 TCI International Convention

Monday

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM
10:00 PM – 12:00 AM

TCI Convention Registration
Appetizers and non-alcoholic drinks
DJ and Dance
Afterhours with snacks

Tuesday

7:00 AM – 10:30 AM
8:30 am – 4:00 PM
10:30 AM – 5:00 PM
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM
10:00 PM – 12:00 AM

Breakfast
Delegates Meeting
Free Day
Buffet Dinner
Casino Night with DJ and Fundraisers
Afterhours



Wednesday

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
2:00 PM – 7:30 PM (?)
7:30 PM – 10:00 PM
10:00 PM – 12:00 AM

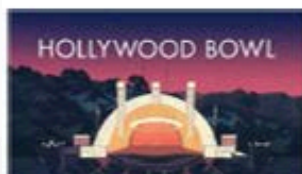
Breakfast
TMZ Tour
Lunch at Hard Rock Cafe
Taping of Jimmy Kimmel Live (TBD)
Dinner on your own
Afterhours with snacks



Thursday

7:00 AM – 10:30 AM
10:30 AM – 5:00 PM
5:00 PM or 5:30 PM
5:30 PM – 7:15 PM
8:00 PM – 10:15 PM
10:15 PM or 10:45 PM
10:30 PM – 12:00 AM

Breakfast
Free Day
Pick up Dinner, Get on bus
Picnic at Hollywood Bowl
Hollywood Bowl Concert
Bus back to Whisky Hotel
Afterhours with snacks



Friday

7:00 AM – 10:30 AM
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
12:00 PM – 12:30 PM
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
2:30 PM – 4:30 PM
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM
5:00 PM – 8:30 PM
8:30 PM – 9:00 PM
9:00 PM – 11:00 PM
10:00 PM – 12:00 AM

Breakfast
Free Morning
Bus ride
Universal City Walk
Lunch at Buca di Beppo
Bus ride
Griffith Observatory
Bus Ride
Appetizers and non-alcoholic drinks
Afterhours



Saturday

7:00 AM – 9:30 AM
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
12:00 PM – 2:30 PM
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
4:00 PM – ?
5:00 PM – 11:00 PM
11:00 PM – 12:00 AM

Breakfast
Bus Ride
Petersen Auto Museum
Academy Museum of Motion Pictures
Bus Ride
Cash bar Cocktail Hour
Club Photos
Awards Banquet, DJ and Dance
Afterhours



Sunday

7:00 AM – 10:30 AM
No later than 12:00 PM

Breakfast
Check-out of Hotel





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OTHER EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

BOSTON BEANSTALKS TALL CLUB (BBTC)

When: First Friday of every month 6 pm to 8 pm

Where: Boston Newton Marriott's Riverbend Lounge.

Join fellow Talls to kick off your weekend! This is the perfect place to meet new friends and reconnect with old friends.

Details can be found on the BBTC Facebook Page under events.

Promote your event here!

