



Talkin' Tall

Tall Clubs International News



TCI'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

WWW.TALL.ORG

August 2026

The Prez Sez....one last time



It's hard to believe that it has been four years since I assumed the role of President for Tall Clubs International. As we prepare for the upcoming convention, I hope I have made a positive impact in your eyes, but now it's time to conclude my term.

During this convention, much like the past ones, delegates will dedicate their vacation time to tackle the business affairs of TCI. They will vote on bylaw and resolution changes, Lifetime Achievement Awards, the best newsletters and websites, as well as a new slate of officers. These dedicated individuals ensure that our organization continues to thrive.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Executive Board and all the officers who have contributed to keeping TCI organized and functioning smoothly over these past four years.

Special Thanks to:

- Sharon Speer
- Norma Forrest
- Barry Umbs
- John Waltman
- Cheryl Lutz
- Kelli Lewis
- Shirleen Murphy
- Sue Simms
- Kristen Carlson-Gallagher
- Mary Elemen
- Oliver Gruter
- Jim Nelson
- Dave Spencer
- Dave Rasumessen





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The Prez Sez....continued

We have had some great conventions from Coast to Coast:

- 2022 – Providence, Rhode Island, with the Committee of the Four Winds: Kristen Carlson-Gallagher, Annette Chionilos, Mary Elemen, and Norma Forrest.
- 2023 – Alaska Cruise, led by Sharon Speer and Ken Johnson.
- 2024 – Dunedin, Florida, organized by Patt Miles, Barry Umbs, Patty Huggett, and Kristen Carlson-Gallagher.
- 2025 – Grand Rapids, Michigan, thanks to Pat Radloff, Sue Morrison, Coral Rose, and Barry Umbs.
- 2026 – Hollywood, California, coordinated by Will Wiseman, Michelle Cripps, Jim Nelson, and Barry Umbs.

Additionally, I would like to acknowledge the many behind-the-scenes contributors: the editors of Tall Topix, convention helpers, social media advocates, and everyone promoting their own clubs and Tall Clubs International. Your willingness to step in and fill necessary roles is truly commendable.

If you are ever asked to help, please consider saying, "What can I do?"

As I wrap up my correspondence, I have taken to closing with "Highest Regards," a phrase I learned from someone whose name I can't recall, but I hope it honors the memory of Kae.

So to honor Kae's memory I will close by saying:

Let us all STAND TALL, KEEP LOOKING UP, and extend HIGHEST REGARDS to one another.

Highest Regards,

Bob Huggett
TCI President 2022-2026
TCIpresBob@gmail.com

STAND TALL



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EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT MESSAGE

As my tenure as Executive Vice President concludes at the end of August, I have decided not to pursue another position on the Tall Clubs International Executive Board



This decision was not taken lightly. Over the past year, I have faced several personal matters that demanded more of my time and attention than I anticipated. While I endeavored to remain dedicated to my responsibilities, I recognize that I could not provide the level of time and energy to the role that I had intended. Anyone who knows me understands that I strive to give 100% to everything I undertake, and this past year made that increasingly challenging.

Serving on the Executive Board has been both an honor and a valuable learning experience. I have had the privilege of collaborating with dedicated volunteers who genuinely care about this organization and invest countless hours to ensure TCI's progress. For that, I am truly grateful.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our members. Your support, ideas, and enthusiasm for Tall Clubs International are what make this organization exceptional. It has been a privilege to serve you.

While my time on the Board is ending, my involvement with TCI is far from over. I have no intention of stepping back! I look forward to continuing to support Tall Clubs International as an active member, contributing to projects when possible, attending conventions and regional events, promoting our organization, and remaining engaged in any way I can. Sometimes, the best way to contribute is from a different perspective.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Executive Vice President. I am excited to continue this journey with all of you—not as a Board member, but as a fellow member who believes in the future of Tall Clubs International.

I look forward to seeing you at the next event!

Wishing you t'all the best,

Kristen Carlson Gallagher
Executive VP
Miss TI 2002

thank you



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COMMUNICATIONS 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 Final Message from this Communications Officer, John Waltman

Oh my, another year has come and gone, and the Executive Board has certainly had a busy year! That said, several members currently serving will be termed out as of September. While there may be a slight shuffle among some of the officers, a few will not continue, and I regret to say that I am one of them.

It has been a pleasure to step into this position four years ago, thanks to the encouragement of Sue Morrison. We had many discussions about the board and the responsibilities involved. As a delegate for the Baltimore Tall Club, I have had the opportunity to participate in numerous convention delegate meetings, gaining insight into how this entire system operates. It has been quite an education!

Over the years, I have managed several businesses and been involved in management, safety, and contract negotiations. Life is a continuous learning experience, and I want to acknowledge the dedication of both past and present board members who keep Tall Clubs International thriving.

A special thank you goes out to Kristen Carlson Gallagher for her invaluable assistance in putting the finishing touches on all of the *Talkin' Tall* issues. Her support has been a blessing, especially given my challenges with computer programs. I can't express enough gratitude for her help throughout my time as Communications Officer.

As we move forward, it is time for the new Board to take over in September. I wish them success in leading TCI. However, I want to emphasize one last time that TCI is not just our club; TCI belongs to each and every one of you. It is your responsibility to step up and give back to this organization. Consider becoming an officer, hosting a weekend event, or sponsoring gatherings.

Without your input, TCI will struggle. The past few years have shown that the GATHERING option has truly become a staple that will remain for some time. It's easier to organize while still providing a function for everyone to enjoy.

As this will be my final edition of *Talkin' Tall*, I would like to leave you with these words:
"If you build it, they will come."

Until we meet again,

John L. Waltman Jr.
Communications Officer





Hi T'all!

The 2026 Tall Clubs International Foundation scholarship recipients have been selected. We're excited to provide over \$50K in scholarships to 46 outstanding recipients!!! See the complete list of the recipients on our webpage: <https://tallclubfoundation.org/scholarship-history/scholarship-winners-history-2026/>

As a reminder, scholarships are provided to high school seniors under the age of 21, entering their first year of higher education, and who meet the TCI minimum height requirements. Applications are accepted from USA and Canada students whose submission is reviewed and recipients selected based on established merit criteria.

Since 1996, the TALL community has invested over \$300K to ~272 tall students. This investment makes Kae's dream to provide scholarships to support our tall future a reality!

APPRECIATION to our REPRESENTATIVES

A TALL thank-you to all our 2026 coordinators and members-at-large who acted as our representatives to the students. These folks make it all happen – they answer student questions, review their applications and provide continuity to the selected recipients! We have established a Facebook page for recipients to ensure continued communications. **Many, many thanks to these outstanding tall friends!!**

VOLUNTEER to Support Kae's Dream!

We continue to seek volunteers to assist with our scholarship process. Any interested TCI member is welcome and may volunteer as a representative as a coordinator or member-at-large. We also request all clubs verify their coordinator or proxy for the 2027 season as well as all volunteers submit names to Bob Weltzer (rweltzer@ix.netcom.com) and TCIFscholarship@gmail.com no later than 31 August.

In addition, we have vacancies on the **Foundation Board** for Secretary and Publicity, both are **voting** board members. All board members may participate in the selection process and help award deserving TALL students. If interested, please contact Marie Austin or Lynda Lowin at TCIFscholarship@gmail.com.

continued on next page...



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Also, please consider providing a **donation to the convention auction** that supports the necessary continued investment for the scholarship funds. We rely on your generosity to donate as well as **BID!** Coordinate your donations with Sheila Koster bskoster@aol.com

The 2027 Scholarship Season

The next season will open in January 2027. We are excited that we have updated our application website to be more user friendly! Thank you, Dave Spencer - our amazing TCIF webmaster – who took the website Leta Johnson initiated to a whole new level! Training sessions will be provided to all representatives and will commence in September.



Tall Clubs International Foundation, inc.

Guiding All to Greater Heights!



2026 Scholarship Representative			
First	Last	Club or MAL	State
Bev	Tysklind	Tip Toppers Club of Detroit	Michigan
Billie Jean	Morison	Redwood Empire TC (RETC), Golden Gate Tip Toppers (GGTT), TC of Silicon Valley (TCSV)	California
		MAL	Montana & Wyoming
Bob	Weltzer	Timberline Club of Colorado	Colorado
		MAL	Hawaii, Nevad & Utah
Bonnie	McMullin	TC of Orange County	California
Brian	Shorb	TC of Greater Washington DC	DC/Maryland/Virginia
		MAL	Delaware & West Virginia
Charlene	Denner	Kansas City Skyliners TC	Kansas
		MAL	Missouri
Chuck	Eastwood	Portland Skyliners	Oregon
		MAL	Alaska, Idaho & Washington
Darlene	Harrings	MAL	North & South Carolina, Pennsylvania & Tennessee
Dave	Byrne	High Cincinnatians	Ohio
		MAL	Indiana & Kentucky
Kathleen	McKeever	MAL (board)	Wisconsin
Debbie	Wilkerson	OKC Tall Club	Oklahoma
		MAL	Nebraska
Jane	Baldwin	MAL	Louisiana, Mississippi & Texas
Jim	Nelson	Paramount TC of Chicago	Illinois
Lynda	Lowin	MAL (Board)	Iowa, Minnesota, New Mexico, North & South Dakota
Marie	Austin	Boston Beanstalks TC	Massachusetts
		Southern Connecticut TC (Proxy)	Connecticut
		Central Jersey Tall Friends (Proxy)	New Jersey
		MAL	Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island & Vermont
Nancy	Collier	Central Arizona Tall Society	Arizona
Nancy	Jacoby	MAL	Alabama, Arkansas & Georgia
		Florida Skyliners of Miami	Southeast Florida (Miami/Ft Lauderdale/ Palm Beach/The Keys)
Norene	Roxbury	California Tip Toppers Club	California - LA/Ventura
Norma	Forrest	All Canada Provinces & Clubs	All Canada Provinces & Clubs
		Club des Grands du Quebec Tall Club	
		Sea 2 Sky Peaks	
		TC of Toronto	
Patty	Huggett	TC of Rochester	New York
		TC of New York City (Proxy)	
		TC of Long Island (Proxy)	
Tom	Sullivan	Sacramento TC	California



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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.orgLas
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



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EVEN TS





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1055 Montgomery Rd
Sebastopol.

Apple Picking Party & Concert

Big Bob's 44th Annual

Saturday – August 1, 2026

Festivities Start & Gates open at 2 PM | Band starts at 3 PM

FEATURING THE CRAIG CAFFALL BAND! <http://www.craigcaffall.com>

Don't miss one of Big Bob & Redwood Empire Tall Club's most popular events for his Tall and "Dance Tribe" friends from throughout Northern California, and beyond!

DIRECTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN YOU RSVP

THIS IS A FREE EVENT

Please be generous with the band and thank them accordingly with your abundant tips.

Swimming Pool | Darts | Pool Table | Fun | Tall Fellowship | Live Music | Dancing
and of course if you would like to have some to take home: **Apple Picking**

Bring your swim suit & towel. Wear comfortable shoes.

The band starts at 3pm and will be out in the apple orchard so people can be socially distanced, so bring your own chair or blanket, and if it's a warm day arrive early to get a place in the shade or bring your beach umbrella with you.

VERY IMPORTANT:

This is a potluck, so please bring a yummy dish to share with all your friends (think salads, main dishes, etc.) Thank you for bringing your shared potluck dish in a disposable container with your own serving utensil. Please Bring your own reusable/disposable plate, utensil, and cup as those are NOT PROVIDED
There will be 2 BBQs available in case you would like to bring something to grill (usually someone volunteers to help with grilling, if needed).

BYOB (WATER WILL BE PROVIDED)

At Bob Hirsch's Home (Big Bob's Fun Ranch) in West Sebastopol.
VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED TO HELP WITH THE PARTY.

Let us know if you can help when you RSVP: PARTY RSVP: bigbobsranch@gmail.com

TO VOLUNTEER CONTACT BOB DIRECTLY AT: 707-483-6228 cell/text

DUE TO MY OWN TRAVEL PLANS,
I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE OVERNIGHT GUESTS THIS YEAR





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11th Annual Tall Club Reunion August 2, 2026



LOCATION:

16912 North Pacific Avenue (between 9th & 10th Streets)
Sunset Beach, CA 90742

This is my family's beach cottage built in 1907 and one of the early Tip Toppers' stomping grounds including founder 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 party and honeymooned here too. Scrapbooks from that era available.

Arrivals begin at 11 AM and BBQ will start at approximately 1 PM

Please bring the normal beach accoutrements (swimsuit, sunblock, hat, sunglasses, boogie board, towels, beach chair, ice chest, change of clothes). We do have some extra towels and beach chairs, if you can't bring them. We will have pop-up tents set up on the green belt and in front of the house. **NOTE:** There is a 7-11 and a liquor store 1/2 block away.

This is an **RSVP** event since we will provide hamburgers with the fixin's for the low cost of \$5 per person. We are asking you to bring a dish to share and whatever beverage you want to drink

Parking: Don't worry about parking. If necessary, park near Peter's Landing, 16390 Pacific Coast Hwy, Huntington Beach (behind Starbucks). A volunteer shuttle will take you to and from Peter's Landing to the Beach House. Call Gail to be picked up (415-847-4775)

IT'S TIME TO GET TOGETHER AGAIN!!!

RSVP Event...Please RSVP by July 27th

RSVP required directly to Gail & Levi Swift

Call or Text 415-847-4775 or email: gail@swiftthomes.com



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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 - jnelson1225@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!**

Bringing Vehicle YES NO
O Full Package Deposit: \$175.00

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Cell #: _____

Email: _____ Club Name: _____ Title: _____

Check-in Date _____ Check-out Date _____





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VENTION



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 – 12:00AM

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



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2026 TCI



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 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!

