

The Everett Mountaineers

Newsletter

No. 94 Autumn 2000 • Everett Scramble-line 551-4204 • The Everett Mountaineers P.O. Box 1848 • Everett, WA 98206 • 385-3660

Annual Meeting Hosted by Everett Branch

The Everett Branch will host The Mountaineers Annual Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 13. The meeting will provide a chance for all members to review the business of the organization and meet the candidates running for the board. Also a summary of the proposed bylaws amendment will be presented.

The meeting will be at the Everett Congregational Church, 2624 Rockefeller, at 6:30 p.m. The agenda will be: call to order, introduction of officers and trustees, financial review, updates on key projects, bylaws amendment overview, introduction of the candidates, nominations from the floor, good of the order, and adjournment.

Everett Branch Members' Slide Show

September 6, Wed., 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in downtown Everett, 2624 Rockefeller. It's the annual election of officers for the Everett Branch followed by the annual members' slide show. Bring your ballot, slides, tall-tales, and stories. Who has been to the most exotic places?

Salmon Bake 2000

The Everett Mountaineers Annual Salmon Bake is back by popular demand. The event will be held Sunday, October 1, 2000 at the Masonic Park rain or shine. The park is located 4.5 miles East of Granite Falls on the Mountain Loop Highway. Find us at the Big Kitchen. We will serve alder-roasted salmon, baked potatoes, and corn on the cob. The event is free to all Everett Mountaineer Members and their immediate family. For more details see the Go Guide.

Denali 2000

Larry Ingalls

What better way to celebrate the year 2000 than by climbing the highest mountain in North America? About a year ago six of my friends got together and decided to climb Denali. My friends are part of that group of crazies called mountain climbers. All six started our planning and practice climbs but some are crazier than others and soon our group dwindled to two. So began the adventure with Kevork and me, the craziest.

After reading three books, a trip report, a couple of magazine articles, buying and borrowing a lot gear and making transportation reservations, we were posed to begin our adventure. We took all our gear up to Stevens Pass and to see how everything would work roped up while pulling 75-pound sleds and carrying a 55-pound pack. We also practiced crevasse rescues in case one of us fell into one on the Kahiltna Glacier. As you might expect we found that we needed other equipment and a change in some techniques. Putting the cart before the horse was useful, especially when going down hill with a 75-pound sled bumping our heels. Of course, one always modifies technique in actual experience; Kevork became a very skilled sled rider making some of the down hill sections on the way out quite quick. Ride 'em Kevork!

Our travel to the mountain was amazingly according to schedule. We flew out of Seattle at 11 PM. on Friday, May 26, and got into Anchorage at 2 AM Saturday morning. Being basically cheap, except when it comes to buying climbing gear, we pulled up the floor in the terminal and slept until 6 AM when people started to arrive for their flights. The shuttle van picked us up at about 8 AM and we were in Talkeetna, Alaska by about 11 AM. After

checking in with the Bush Pilot operation, we signed in with the National Park Service and received a briefing on conditions on Denali and some safety considerations. We then loaded all that gear into a Cessna 185 and took off about 3 PM. We landed at the Kahiltna Glacier Base Camp, 7,200', at about 4 PM. Here we buried a stash of food that we could use upon return in case we ate everything else before we got back. Fat chance! As it turned out, we carried out a whole week's worth; much to our chagrin. Food is heavy. We had about 2.5 pounds of food per day for a three-week trip. That is 52.5 pounds of food apiece to carry up the mountain. At the start we conserved our food. At the end we were eating as much as we could to keep from having to carry it out. Amazingly, we still lost weight; Kevork lost 15 pounds and I lost 13.

Since there was plenty of daylight left, about 2 months, when we arrived at the base camp we started hiking to our first camp right away. Our mode of travel was to carry half of our gear to the site of the next camp and then return the same day to the original camp to sleep. The next day we would take the tent and the rest of the gear to the next camp. We did this all the way up the mountain. This, of course, means we climbed the mountain twice. Practice makes perfect!

We used this process with camps at 7,400', 9,400', 11,000', 14,000', and 17,000'. We spent three days at 14,000' getting used to the thinner air before making our first attempt to summit. The weather thus far had been very good, with only one day of blowing wind and visibility of less than a mile. The day temperatures were typically between 10 and 20° F.

...To be continued

1999 Everett Branch Ballot

BRANCH CHAIR

Phil Prins

No Candidate

Write-in Candidate, Voter 1

Write-in Candidate, Voter 2

SECRETARY

Write-in Candidate, Voter 1

Write-in Candidate, Voter 2

TRUSTEE

Doug Donaldson

Write-in Candidate, Voter 1

Write-in Candidate, Voter 2

VICE BRANCH CHAIR

Brian Hench

Don Heck

Write-in Candidate, Voter 1

Write-in Candidate, Voter 2

TREASURER

Write-in Candidate, Voter 1

Write-in Candidate, Voter 2

Mailed ballots must be received by 5:00 PM. on September 6, 2000. Ballots may also be brought to the Annual Meeting on September 6, 2000.

The ballot was designed for two voters per ballot as only one newsletter may be sent to a household. If there are more than two voters per ballot, feel free to improvise.

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