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FOOTHILLS NEWS

monthly e-news for Mountaineers

Hello Foothills Mountaineers!

I hope everyone stayed safe this summer and found ways to enjoy the outdoors in the beautiful PNW. It's been a challenging summer for many of us, but The Mountaineers offered many opportunities to stay connected with each other and the outdoors. Check out the [update](#) from Mountaineers CEO, Tom Vogl, on challenges we've overcome this summer and the plans we're building for the coming year to ensure we continue to support our community and the mission of The Mountaineers.

As we head into fall, the Foothills Branch offers plenty of [opportunities](#) to help you get outdoors. As September 2020 is [Cleanup Month](#), this is a good time to think about what you can do to support the public lands you love so much. Look in the news section below to see how you can participate in the [Love Your Lands](#) campaign sponsored by the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

But before you head outside, please review the recent updates The Mountaineers [COVID-19 Response](#) page for the latest information on reopening plans, and follow the provided tips to stay safe and [recreate responsibly](#).

Stay safe out there!

Virtual Events, Courses, & Seminars

All activities, courses, clinics, and seminars are subject to change and can be cancelled or rescheduled at any time. Please stay up to date by visiting our website or reaching out to the appropriate leader.

[BeWild with Vik Sahney](#) | Sep 10

Join us for a virtual event with outdoor adventurer and Mountaineers board president Vik Sahney. During his presentation Vik will share stories of humble beginnings and exceptional challenges, which resulted in him becoming one of approximately 350 people (and the first Indian-American) to complete the Seven Summits, a mountaineering challenge to reach the highest summit on each of the seven continents.

[Mountaineers Virtual Annual Meeting](#) | Sep 15

Call-in to The Mountaineers Annual Meeting to hear about the state of affairs of The Mountaineers from staff and board members and learn about the 2020 board endorsed candidates

for At-Large positions on the Board of Directors.

[Filmmaking in the Wilderness: How to Tell Your Adventure Story](#) | Sep 23

Join Alex Maier, long distance hiker and documentary filmmaker, for this practical seminar with essential tools and tips to make your own documentary films while hiking!

[Conrad Anker: Mountaineering and the Climate Crisis](#) | Sep 24

Join The Mountaineers for a virtual presentation from longtime Mountaineers member Conrad Anker. He will share photos and stories from recent adventures and talk about how impacts of the climate crisis are changing the places where we play. All proceeds from ticket sales and donations will directly support The Mountaineers ongoing Conservation and Advocacy work.

[New Hike and Backpack Leader Seminar](#) | Oct 1

This 2.5-hour evening seminar provides experienced hikers or backpackers information to help them become an effective hike or backpack leader for The Mountaineers. This seminar is a prerequisite (along with a mentor hike/backpack and committee approval) to becoming an official hike or backpack leader for the club.

[Virtual Mountainfilm on Tour](#) | Oct 1

Mountainfilm showcases a selection of culturally rich, adventure-packed, and incredibly inspiring documentary films curated from the annual Mountainfilm festival held in Telluride, Colorado. This will be our 7th year hosting Mountainfilm on Tour, please join and support us as we celebrate the spirit of the outdoors!

[Walking the Wild Online: Trek to Everest Basecamp and Beyond](#) | Oct 7

Join Mountaineer Doug Kabel as he explores trekking in Nepal's famed Khumbu Region and Sagarmatha National Park. Doug will share stories, photos, and tips on how you can take this amazing journey yourself!

[Raptors of Washington](#) | Oct 8-Nov 5

Twenty species of raptors regularly occur in Washington State. Their sizes and behaviors make them fascinating and create curiosity in birders. This virtual course will help you become familiar with all of them, learning the key characteristics and behaviors that will help you identify a raptor.

[Foothills Basic Alpine Climbing Course](#) | Registration Opens Oct 12

The Foothills Climbing Committee is excited to announce our new Basic Alpine Climbing Course! In this comprehensive introduction to alpine mountaineering, students will develop the fundamental skills necessary to climb peaks in the northwest.

Branch Elections

Each year The Mountaineers host elections for our Board of Directors and open Branch Officer

positions. Voting opens on Thursday, October 1 and closes on Wednesday, October 21. All active members over age 14 are eligible to vote, either online or by mail, and should receive an electronic ballot on October 1. If you are a member in good standing and you do NOT receive a ballot, please check your junk mail or spam folders and, if it the ballot is not there, please contact info@mountaineers.org. If you prefer a paper ballot, you can get one starting October 1 in the Seattle Program Center bookstore.

Foothills Branch Candidates

The Foothills Branch is excited to have strong candidates running for several key Foothills Council officer positions: Branch Chair, Branch Chair-elect, Board Representative, and Council Member At-Large.

- **Branch Chair** (Term: 11/1/20 to 10/31/21)
 - [Position Description](#)
 - Candidate Alan Davey - see Alan's [letter of intent](#) and [resume](#).
- **Branch Chair-elect** (Term 11/1/21 to 10/31/22)
 - [Position Description](#)
 - Candidate Ben Morse - see Ben's [letter of intent](#) and [resume](#)
- **Board Representative** (Term 11/2/20 to 10/31/22)
 - [Position Description](#)
 - Candidate James Henderson - see James' [letter of intent](#) and [resume](#)
- **Branch Council Member At-Large** (Term 11/1/20 to 10/31/22)
 - [Position Description](#)
 - Candidate Tom Eng – see Tom’s [letter of intent](#) and [resume](#)

Thanks to all Foothills members for taking part in this important governance process for our branch!

News

- **National Public Lands Day**

In honor of National Public Lands Day on September 26, Mountains to Sound Greenway is sponsoring a week of giving back through individualized volunteering, capped off with a virtual celebration. From September 19-26, Mountains to Sound Greenway is encouraging individuals to support public lands by (safely) picking up trash. You can stay close to home and pick up litter from a local neighborhood park, or clean while you’re recreating out on the trails. Find more information on the Mountains to Sound Greenway’s Love Your Land Campaign [here](#).
- **Shout-out for Foothills Hike Leader Chris Ensor**

[Feet First](#), a local nonprofit working to ensure all communities in Washington are walkable, recently recognized Foothills Hike Leader Chris Ensor in their newsletter. They complimented Chris on the fantastic job he’s done leading socially distanced walks

that meet the King County COVID guidelines, while still getting people out and about. We're grateful for Chris's effort and energy in making these walks happen!



Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Foothills Volunteer Kim Frasher. Kim initially jumped into volunteering as a way to give back after joining The Mountaineers, and has now been leading activities for over 12 years. Kim places a priority on supportive group dynamics and loves Bavarian Spicy Landjaegers and a good huckleberry milkshake.

[Read More](#)

Three Ways You Can Help The Mountaineers

The COVID-19 outbreak [has had a significant impact](#) on The Mountaineers. All money received during this time is supporting general operations so we can continue offering creative

programming and be ready to help you get back into the outdoors again as soon as it's safe to do so. Together, we can get through this, and we thank you for any help you can provide.



Renew or Join

With your ongoing support, we will weather this storm and come back stronger than ever. Use code ME20TOGETHER through September 30 to get 20% off when you join or renew your membership. Already renewed? Contact info@mountaineers.org to take advantage of this deal and we'll extend your membership to 2022.

[Join/Renew](#)

Shop Green Trails Maps

Mountaineers Books is now the exclusive distributor of Green Trails Maps, offering 150+ high-quality backcountry maps. Features include; icons for picnic areas, tent camping, backcountry bathrooms, and more; dot-to-dot trail distances; permit requirements; and much more! Get your Green Trails Maps today.

[Shop Maps](#)

Give Back with Workplace Giving

Double the impact of your volunteer hours, membership dues, or donations with a matching gift through your company's Workplace Giving program. Many employers sponsor generous Workplace Giving programs for employees, and yours could be one of them. Learn more and give back to your community.

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The Mountaineers enriches lives and communities by helping people explore, conserve, learn about and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

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