

# Mountaineer

E X P L O R E • L E A R N • C O N S E R V E

## TO THE ARCTIC

Mountaineers book  
promotes protection  
of Arctic wilderness

### Inside:

Head south for spring  
snow play, pg. 12

Photography in extreme  
conditions, pg. 21

Ice, water, time—how our  
lowlands were shaped, pg. 38



Mar/Apr 2012 » Volume 106 » Number 2

*Enriching the community by helping people explore, conserve, learn about, and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest.*



the *Mountaineer* uses . . .



the *Mountaineer* would like to thank **The Mountaineers Foundation** for its financial assistance during the redesign of both this magazine and [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org). The Foundation operates as a separate organization from The Mountaineers, which has received about one-third of the Foundation's gifts to various nonprofit organizations.

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## DISCOVER THE MOUNTAINEERS

If you are thinking of joining—or have joined and aren't sure where to start—why not attend an information meeting? Check the Branching Out section of the magazine (page 32) for times and locations for each of our seven branches.

**On our cover:** One of many stunning images from photographer Florian Schulz ([www.visionsofthewild.com](http://www.visionsofthewild.com)) in the Braided River title, *To the Arctic*. (By the way, for the curious, the skier booking down Mt. Baker on the cover of our previous *Mountaineer* was Vancouver, B.C. resident Andy Traslin, who lives only two hours from what is one of his favorite haunts.

## Planting the seeds of conservation

I remember looking down on the deep blue water of Guitar Lake from the tiny footpath leading to the summit of Mount Whitney in California. I was on the final stretch of a challenging, weeklong 50-mile backpacking trip with my Boy Scout troop. I was 12 years old and exhausted, but to this day I will never forget the exhilaration and anticipation of reaching the summit. The experience left an indelible mark.

Research shows that positive outdoor experiences during childhood can generate a lifetime of appreciation for the outdoors. You have to experience it to appreciate it, and you have to appreciate it to want to protect it.

Like many of you, my wife Sara and I joined The Mountaineers so that we could learn how to explore the mountains and waters of the Pacific Northwest in a safe and responsible manner. Our mentors—many of the same volunteers that lead courses today—helped us learn the skills we would need to reach the highest peaks, from where we could absorb the grandeur of the great Northwest and begin to appreciate the land right here in our own backyard. Our time spent exploring the natural environment has strengthened our sense of duty to protect public lands for the next generation, to which Sara and I will be contributing with a newborn in June!

**Beginning my term as your new board president** has caused me to reflect on what The Mountaineers has given me. For one, I've developed a deeper appreciation for the food we eat, the water we drink and the land on which we recreate. Just as notably, mentors and hundreds of volunteers dedicated to keeping our organization vibrant have inspired me to give back and do what I can to help carry out our mission.

Over the course of my membership I've observed the development of innovative programs that focus our educational commitment and our volunteers on the organization's core strengths of outdoor recreation and conservation. I want to acknowledge outgoing Board President Tab Wilkins for all he has done to usher in these foundational changes upon which we can build. In fact, a recent \$50,000 grant awarded by REI Foundation to help fund our Youth and Family Initiative serves testament to the credibility we have gained in the community as an organization well equipped to provide positive outdoor experiences for future generations.

**Recently, I was fortunate to see a presentation** on *To the Arctic*, a new title from our publishing arm, Mountaineers Books. The book exemplifies the pivotal role our mission-based publishing plays in not only providing a message of conservation to the general public, but also an opportunity to connect to the environment through inspiring stories and images.

Through education, recreation and publishing, The Mountaineers has the power to speak to a future that ensures outdoor experiences and a resulting appreciation for what we need to protect. I'm excited to see us take huge steps forward and proud to take a leadership role as we continue to advance our mission. As we go forth, I am reminded why I'm passionate about The Mountaineers: We provide a phenomenal platform for members to explore, learn and conserve.

See you in the backcountry!



Gavin Woody, Board President



The Mountaineers is a non-profit organization, founded in 1906 and dedicated to the responsible enjoyment and protection of natural areas.

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## The Arctic depends on our connection to it

© Florian Schulz/visionsofthewild.com; from his book *TO THE ARCTIC* by Mountaineers Books/Braided River

As Florian Schulz turned to the slide image of black brandt in chevron flight over the Arctic expanse, I thought to myself, those are the geese I used to see above me as a kid with my dad and brothers at the Skagit Wildlife Area. Florian turned to an image of snowy owls fluttering on the Arctic tundra, and I thought, those are the same owls that also stopped off at the Skagit reserve on their migration south. Following that, the image on the screen is a flock of snow geese as white as the expanse below them—the same snow geese one could hear cacophonously honking on a foggy Skagit Bay only days later.

Florian shared his images at the program center in January as part of a preview to his author's tour for the book, *To the Arctic*, the inspiration for this issue of the *Mountaineer*.

Upon seeing his images it became ever more clear to me that there is a vein—an umbilical if you will—that wends its way south from a land so far north and so vast we in the Northwest cannot imagine it, unless—like our friend Tom Campion featured inside these pages—we have been there and have perched ourselves at a vantage point to see the actual curve of the earth. Yes—that vast, that unobstructed, that unimaginable.

Unfortunately, what is all too imaginable is the severing of this vein, this umbilical cord of sustenance to nature's own—its brandt, its snowy owl, its caribou, its polar bear, its muskox, its beluga whale—the creatures that became the fulcrum of Florian's view for the rest of the world to see, to experience and know by the image on a page.

For me, the connection to our Arctic is in the impact of experiencing its brethren just overhead as a teenager near the mouth of Washington's Skagit River. For others, like Tom Campion or Mountaineers Publisher Helen Cherullo at Gates of the Arctic, the connection comes from the almost epiphanic moment of treading the Arctic's ground, flying over it and breathing its air while standing witness to some of the most wondrous scenes of migrations, topography and hues of light that the world has to offer.

**For millions and millions of others,** the connection has to be made from the world of imagery—via Florian's work and the filmmaking work of MacGillivray-Freeman's upcoming IMAX release by the same name as Florian's book, published by our Mountaineers imprint, Braided River.

We cede this *Mountaineer* to those who may not be able to enter the Gates of the Arctic, fly over the Brooks Range or—like Florian—jog on ice in subzero weather alongside a polar bear and her cubs to capture a photo of their escape from a predacious killer, the male polar bear.

By so dedicating this magazine we hope you make a connection to the Arctic. Because as Gavin Woody says in his president's message on the previous page, "You have to experience it to appreciate it, and you have to appreciate it to want to protect it." The survival of the Arctic depends on our connection to it, our appreciation of it.

— Brad Stracener, Managing Editor





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PHOTO: JONATHAN GRIFFITH

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## Mountaineer's ascent nominated for alpinism's highest award

In our November/December 2011 issue of *Mountaineer* magazine, we shared a heartwarming story about Steve Swenson, engineer, president of the American Alpine Club and member of The Mountaineers Advisory Council and Peak Society.

Swenson joined us at OutdoorsFest last fall, partly to try out our new basalt columns, shortly after he and



Southwest face of Saser Kangri II

Mark Richey photo

his teammates returned to the United States from a successful climb of the southwest face of Saser Kangri II (7,518m)—the first ascent of what was the second highest unclimbed mountain in the world.

The team, consisting of Swenson, Mark Richey and Freddie Wilkinson, also achieved one of the highest first ascents ever climbed in alpine style. For Swenson and Richey, both in

their 50's, the climb would be the capstone of their long and already distinguished climbing careers.

**We're proud to report** that the team's ascent of Saser Kangri II is one of the six most noteworthy ascents of 2011 and nominated for the 20th Piolets d'Or, a prestigious award that celebrates alpinism at the highest level. The purpose of the award is to raise awareness about the year's greatest ascents across the

world and celebrate the taste for adventure, bravery and the sense of exploration that lie behind the art of climbing the world's great mountain ranges.

All of the mountaineers responsible for the most noteworthy ascents will be in Chamonix and Courmayeur from March 21 to 24 for a formal presentation of the six nominated ascents and the Piolets d'Or Carriere Award.



At the second bivouac

Photo provided by Steve Swenson

## Shows in Boston and at Mountaineers Program Center to feature ascent

**Swenson and his team** will premiere a film and slideshow of their ascent at the American Alpine Club (AAC) annual dinner in Boston in early March.

The Northwest premiere of their ascent is scheduled to be presented by Swenson on **May 17 at The Mountaineers Program Center**. Co-hosted by The Mountaineers and the AAC, the fundraising event will support a regional stewardship project co-led by the Washington Climbers Coalition, the AAC and The Mountaineers.

Check The Mountaineers website for more information: [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org)

## Peak Society: leadership gifts fuel programs that prove worthy of investment



*Mountain Workshop youth and volunteers: December 2011.*

**By Rich Draves**

Peak Society Co-Chair

**A few months ago, I was thrilled** to hear the news that The Mountaineers Youth and Family Initiative had been selected to receive REI Foundation's annual \$50,000 Mary Anderson Legacy Grant—an impressive development for a novel program.

In the fall of 2010, The Mountaineers made a commitment to connect the next generation of explorers and conservationists with the great outdoors by expanding its educational reach to more youth. The Youth and Family Initiative was thus borne. The initiative encompasses a suite of opportunities, including Mountain Workshops, a pilot program delivered in partnership with youth-serving agencies.

**Fueled by visionary private support** that included generous gifts from Peak Society members, program staff charged with creating and implementing youth outdoor education programs produced dramatic results in a short period of time.

**The results showed incredible promise** and proved to be so worthy of investment that REI Foundation took notice and awarded the grant to support the growth of the Youth and Family Initiative. Much of the funding will help expand the Mountain Workshops program and bolster its scholarship efforts.

As chair of the Youth and Family Committee and father to two girls, I've observed how positive outdoor experiences can have a meaningful effect on a young person's physical and mental development. As a member of the board of directors, I've supported both organizational and cultural shifts that advance our mission. And as co-chair of the Peak Society, I've been proud to invite fellow members to take a leadership role in support of The Mountaineers' vision by making generous gifts and joining the Peak Society.

**Peak Society members showed confidence in The Mountaineers' efforts** to responsibly direct private donations to programs that best leveraged the organization's core strengths, and provided generous leadership gifts that helped fund the Youth and Family Initiative early on. Thank you. This is a perfect example of how your gifts make a difference. I hope you take pride in the success of this initiative as it would not have been possible without your generous support over the past year.



Join a distinguished group of individuals who support The Mountaineers mission and share our vision to educate and engage the next generation of recreationists and conservationists by make an annual, unrestricted gift of \$1,000 or more to support The Mountaineers General Fund

### Exclusive benefits:

- One-year membership to The Mountaineers;
- Recognition as a donor in The Mountaineers Annual Report;
- Invitations to exclusive member social events and unique occasions to engage with influential leaders in the recreation and conservation communities;
- Complimentary tickets to select Mountaineers productions;
- AND MORE

For more about Peak Society visit [www.mountaineers.org/giving/peaksociety](http://www.mountaineers.org/giving/peaksociety) or contact Mary Hsue at [maryh@mountaineers.org](mailto:maryh@mountaineers.org), 206-521-6004.

**Transforming young lives by sharing a legacy that is uniquely Mountaineers:** Clearly a worthy investment. Please consider joining the Peak Society or renewing your gift this year.

**THANK YOU**





*The Enchantments are a popular Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest destination*

## Forest planning brings together coalition of recreationists

By Sarah Krueger  
Public Lands Programs Manager

**Don't get me wrong, I love the rain.** I love the mossy, big-leaf maples and alders of the Puget Sound lowlands, the lush Western red cedar and Douglas fir forests that shroud the Cascade Range's western flank. I love the cast of cloud cover on an otherwise colorful landscape. I love our maritime climate that is so often confused for dreary. Really, I do.

But when I want to hike among wildflowers in early spring, find powdery snow to play in, climb on dry rock in autumn, encounter a diversity of rare and interesting flora and fauna, or simply get a good lungful of ponderosa pine and a dose of sunshine, the forests of the Eastern Cascades are my go-to destination.

Those of us who flock east of the crest for recreation are most often headed to the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest (OWNF). Encompassing over four million acres along the east slopes of the Cascades, from the Canadian border to White Pass, the OWNF is a favorite destination for people both regionally and nationally. Because it contains important habitat for a range of rare, threatened and endangered species, there is considerable interest within the conservation and recreation community in the current revision of the OWNF Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan).

The Forest Plan sets the direction for how the Forest Service will



The Mountaineers  
and our partner  
organizations  
recommend a spectrum  
of management  
approaches to protect  
the backcountry  
and provide quality  
recreational  
opportunities



*Spider Meadows, another popular Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest trail, in the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area.*

manage natural and recreational resources for the next 15 years. Similar to how cities zone areas for industrial, residential or commercial use, the Forest Plan sets broad direction for how large areas of the forest will be managed, from roadless backcountry set aside for primitive recreation and habitat, to areas where intensive logging might occur.

The Forest Plan provides an opportunity to recommend new wilderness areas, designate which areas are appropriate for motorized recreation and sets the course for how habitat and recreation will be managed in the future.

The Forest Service released its initial proposed action for the Forest Plan revision in spring of 2011 and expects to release a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the plan in summer of 2012. The proposed action does not veer far from the status quo regarding lands available for summer motorized recreation. Further, it fails to address conflicts caused by un-managed winter motorized recreation and recommends only limited wilderness additions.

### Recognizing the opportunities

to help shape the future direction for forest management, The Mountaineers has joined forces with a broad coalition of human-powered recreation interests to weigh in on

the OWNF Forest Plan.

Representing hundreds of thousands of people who care about the OWNF both locally and nationally, the coalition includes regional organizations such as El Sendero Backcountry Ski and Snowshoe Club, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Washington Climbers Coalition, and Washington Trails Association; and national organizations such as The American Alpine Club and The Wilderness Society as well as the six membership groups of the

## For updates on the plan, subscribe to The Mountaineers' Currents e-newsletter

Outdoor Alliance, including the Access Fund, American Canoe Association, American Hiking Society, American Whitewater, International Mountain Bicycling Association and Winter Wildlands Alliance.

Through ongoing meetings and correspondence with the OWNF planning team, The Mountaineers and our partner organizations recommend a spectrum of management approaches to protect the backcountry and provide quality recreational

opportunities. The coalition supports proposals to add new wilderness areas within the OWNF, but even areas proposed for wilderness in the Forest Plan would not be managed for non-motorized use unless and until they are designated by Congress. Currently, designated wilderness areas are the only areas off-limits to snow machines in the winter.

**The Mountaineers believes** that the Forest Service can go much further to designate non-motorized backcountry management zones outside of wilderness, including year-round, non-motorized designations and specific zones set aside for non-motorized winter recreation.

The Mountaineers hopes to see a DEIS in 2012 that considers alternatives which provide substantial opportunities for quiet, human-powered recreation year-round.

Whether you are a budding naturalist in search of wildflowers endemic to the Wenatchee Range, a telemark skier seeking turns in untracked basins off of Blewett Pass, a hiker inspired by the backcountry surrounding Lake Chelan, or a climber aspiring for summits near Washington Pass, you, too, may wish to weigh in on the Forest Plan. ▲▲

# Conservation with kids

“In the end we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand; and we will understand only what we are taught”

– Baba Dioum

By **Becca Polglase**, Education Manager



**Learning stewardship at ground level**

our future generations and the future of our planet.

But as much as we are proud of our conservation-minded kids, we also know these are the select few. American children growing up in the 21st century know more about conservation than their parents or grandparents, simply because it is incorporated into school curricula, and “going green” has become trendy. Nevertheless, the average American youth is not focused on conservation, and many kids lack enough access to the outdoors to form the emotional ties that cause us to want to preserve special natural places.

**Our mission at The Mountaineers** is to create those emotional ties with as many kids as possible by giving them ways to enjoy the outdoors, and then teaching them ways they can protect the outdoors. We want to reach the kids who’ve never been outside the city as well as those select few who already have a passion for

**There are some** kids who, for whatever reason, are inclined towards conservation efforts at an early age. Maybe it’s their family’s lifestyle, maybe it’s something they learned from a particular teacher whom they looked up to, or perhaps they witnessed the destruction of a place that was close to their heart. Either way, with a little mentorship, these kids will provide creative, sustainable solutions for



Conservation.

Over the past year, our volunteers have provided a variety of experiences for kids in the communities we serve. From getting urban youth out into the parks to teaching rock climbing, we’ve been able to connect over 600 individual youth to their natural surroundings. Added to that, we incorporate Leave No Trace education or a stewardship project into almost every youth program.

In August 2011, we were proud to be able to offer the nation’s first teen-focused Leave No Trace Trainer course for those youth who are already passionate about conservation. We’re excited to be offering another on March 24-25 in partnership with the Bellevue YMCA’s High School Leave No Trace Club.

**Many of our Mountain Workshops** last summer included a stewardship component, in partnership with local Green Seattle Forest Stewards and the Audubon Society. Among others, our summer campers, YMCA youth and kids from John Muir Elementary School removed invasive species as part of a forest rehabilitation project.

In 2012, the youth we serve will continue to learn about conservation and stewardship through our Mountain Workshops, Venturing program, Summer Camps and Leave No Trace Trainer courses. If conservation education is something you’re passionate about, contact [beccap@mountaineers.org](mailto:beccap@mountaineers.org) to discuss ways you can offer your skills and knowledge to the kids we serve.



**Teens at nation’s first Leave No Trace Trainer Course for youth—next one set for March 24-25**



# Junior Mountaineers Summer Camp

Monday-Friday – 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. – ages 6-12

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August 13-17 - Tacoma Junior Mountaineers

Join us for one, two or three awesome weeks as we explore our natural world, learn outdoor skills, and make friendships that will last a lifetime!

Want to help? Our camps are run by volunteers who love to pass their love of the outdoors on to the next generation. Email [beccap@mountaineers.org](mailto:beccap@mountaineers.org) to volunteer!

To sign up, go to [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org) and click on "Families & Kids" under "Explore"



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As with every backcountry trip—whether late or early season—always check road and avalanche conditions before you head out

### Planning a late-season trip into the mountains?

Check out how to prepare your vehicle and how to drive on snow and ice — pg. 16

## Don't always look north for good spring ski destinations

**The south is rising, in snow that is.** Though it has generally been a somewhat fickle year for snow in the Pacific Northwest backcountry, the mountains have seen some heydays, especially to the south in and near Oregon.

Mt. Bachelor received nine feet of snow over one 10-day span and Mt. Hood saw many foot-a-day dumps in midwinter. This means lots of snow is still out there to enjoy, with the added luster of bluebird skies in March and April.

Christopher Van Tilburg, MD, author of the new *Backcountry Ski & Snowboard Routes: Oregon* (Mountaineers Books, 2011) has shared his late-season suggestions for those seeking a few snowy gems to the south. Following are some of his picks as excerpted from his book.

### Cooper Spur on Mt. Hood

**Start Point:** Cloud Cap Saddle, 6,000 feet

**High Point:** Cooper Spur, 8,500 feet

**Trail Distance:** 4 miles

**Skill Level:** Advanced

**Map:** USGS Mt. Hood North

**Getting there:** From Hood River, drive south on Mt. Hood Highway for 23 miles to Cooper Spur Road. Turn right and follow Cooper Spur Road for two miles, then turn left on Cloud Cap Road. Follow this one mile farther to Tilly Jane Sno-Park. From here the road can be closed—call Hood River Ranger District for details and road status.

**In late season Cooper Spur is a solid bet** for “good quality snow and relatively low avalanche risk.” When Cloud Cap Road is open to Cloud Cap Saddle, this can be a great day trip. If the road is still closed, it can be an easy overnight for those just venturing into multi-day trips; book the A-frame shelter or the Tilly Jane Guard Station. Most skiers and snowboarders ascend to well under Tie-in Rock at 8,500 feet; they ski and ride the snowfield back to the Timberline Trail.

### Swift Creek on Mount St. Helens

**Start Point:** Marble Mount Sno-Park, 2,640 feet

**High Point:** Mount St. Helens summit, 8,365 feet

**Trail Distance:** 9 miles

**Skill Level:** Advanced

**Map:** USGS Mount St. Helens

**Getting There:** From I-5 south take Exit 21 at Woodland. From Woodland drive east on SR-503 30 miles to Cougar. Continue right (east) at Cougar as SR-503 becomes Forest Road 90, just before the dam that holds Swift Creek Reservoir. Turn left on Forest Service Road 83 and follow it east for five miles to Marblemount Sno-Park.

**As Van Tilburg says, sometimes late season** at Mount St. Helens can be the “best time for making turns all the way back to your car.” Swift Creek is the second of the two main routes on Mount St. Helens, and most people get up early and ski this in one day. The road is plowed all the way to the sno-park, so if you time it right, you should be able to skin up the trail right from the car. Warning: Once at the top of St. Helens use caution at the rim of the crater.

## Wy'east face on Mt. Hood

**Start Point:** Hood River Meadows Sno-Park, 4,520 feet

**High Point:** Wy'east Face, 10,500 feet

**Trail Distance:** 6 miles

**Skill level:** Expert

**Map:** USGS Mt. Hood South

**Getting there:** From Hood River, drive south on Mt. Hood Highway for 32 miles. There are two different approaches: Heather Canyon and Vista Ridge. For Heather Canyon, turn right up the Hood River Meadows Access Road to Hood River Meadows Sno-Park. For the Vista Ridge approach, exit at Bennett Pass, and turn right up the Mt. Hood Meadows Access Road to Mt. Hood Meadows Sno-Park.

**Giving you a good chance to find corn snow and sun in April,** Wy'east Face is the smooth, steep, expansive snowfield above Heather

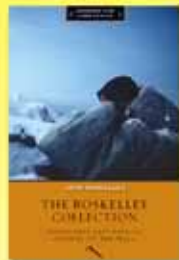
and Clark canyons, directly above Superbowl. It is sometimes called Newton Clark Headwall. Although it's really an extension of the Superbowl route, it's a spectacular mountaineering objective, not a routine backcountry ski. The route is capped by spectacular views, excellent south-facing snow, and few crowds. Be advised, the face can be dangerous. This is an expert ski and snowboard mountaineering route. ▲▲

## About the author

Christopher Van Tilburg specializes in medical and safety aspects of outdoor recreation, adventure travel and mountaineering. He is the author of eight books, including *Mountain Rescue Doctor: Wilderness Medicine in the Extremes of Nature*, which was a finalist for Oregon Book Awards and the Banff Festival of Mountain Books. He serves as editor in chief of *Wilderness Medicine*, contributing editor to *Backcountry*, a member of the Mountain Rescue Association Medical Committee and the Hood River Crag Rats Mountain Rescue team. He lives and works in Hood River, Oregon.



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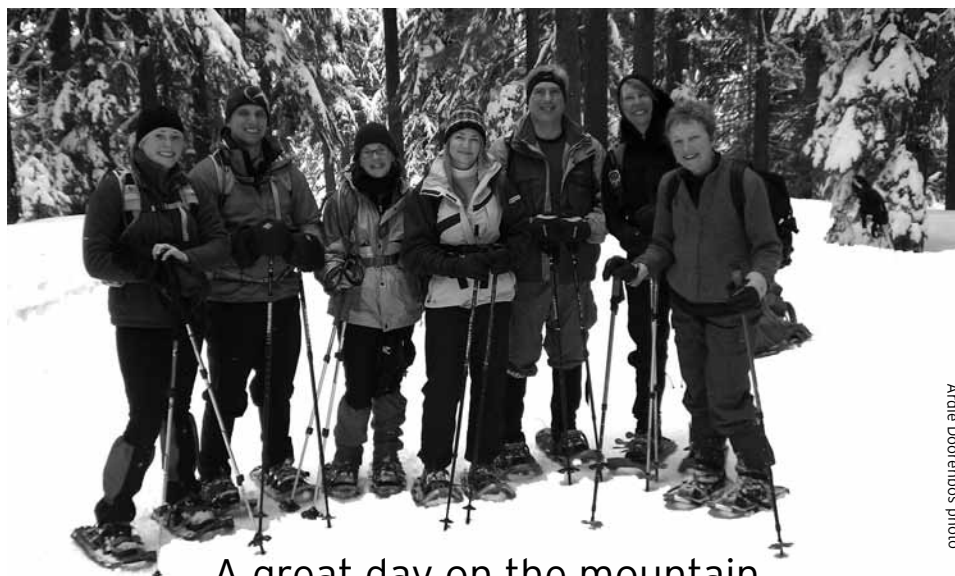
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## Give these homeward hubs a try after your next outing

By Johnny Jeans



Ardie Doornbos photo

A great day on the mountain deserves a great place to warm up and share stories

### Menu

**Many Mountaineers like to stop** on the way back from an outing for a social get-together to end the day. When the hats and layers are off, we get to find out more about who we've been with all day in the mountains.

Following is a short list of my favorite hangouts, mostly those nearby that are great for late winter and early spring after snowshoeing, skiing or scrambling.

A comprehensive list has been compiled online by our scrambling leaders and edited by our own Russ Hamerly (see his article from our Jan/Feb 2011 *Mountaineer* at <http://www.mountaineers.org/about/magarchive/Mtr01-11.pdf>). Or go directly to his online dining guide inside [www.foothillsmountaineers.org/hiking](http://www.foothillsmountaineers.org/hiking).

#### Along I-5

**Mt Vernon's Skagit River Brewery** (404 S. Third St.) A brick building on the west side of I-5 and downtown by the railroad tracks. First found it after rock field trips at Mt. Erie many years ago. Decent micro beers and plentiful food selection. Good, cozy atmosphere, but also excellent for large groups.

#### Along SR-410

**Greenwater's Naches Tavern** Definitely not Bellevue, but a warm area with a great fireplace, and you can be a slouch on the monster couch. Welcoming after a wet day on the mountain, and if you are past ready to eat, it is certainly worth the stop. Beer is passable and I'm told the shakes are really good (I'm not a shake guy). This is a burgers-and-fries kind of place, but the chili goes down well.



## And now, I-90

**Roslyn's The Brick** (on the corner of Pennsylvania & 1st—the main drag) Yes, there are other alright eateries in Roslyn, but the Brick is my must stop. Many beer choices and a complete menu, from a snack to a large dinner. Used to go there long before TV fame hit the town, so seeing the old sod and the main bar coming around the horn is a bit nostalgic for me, not to mention that it is the oldest operating pub in the state. If you have never been there, you have to go. And I think you'll go back again.

**Cle Elum's El Caporal** (105 W. 1st St.) Again, this is a must stop for me on the south side of the main street. For so many years I have taken so many groups here that the family-run place always gives us a huge welcome. When I returned after a long absence with surgeries, I was amazed that they remembered me. The food is standard Mexican and the beer is not my choice, but the margaritas do the trick. Endless bowls of chips after days in the hills nullify any wait time.

**North Bend Bar and Grill** (145 E. North Bend Way) In the center of town on the south side. Beer selection okay; it used to be better. Always a few "guest" choices, but the Guinness hits the spot. Comprehensive menu, fine chili and splendid bowls of jambalaya. (We always used to order the Mt. Si burger with endless fries but they took it off the menu—perhaps we were bankrupting them.) The super nachos serving is massive and very tasty after a wet scramble or cold ski trip. Quite large and popular.

**Issaquah Brew House** (35 W. Sunset Way, near junction of Front & Sunset) Another firm favorite—huge microbeer selection including many brewed on site. You can get the "selection set" if you are not sure what you may prefer. Large menu should satisfy most, but I'm here for the beer!

**Issaquah's Pogacha** (120 N.W. Gilman Blvd.—take a right off Front St. and you are practically there) Relatively new to me (about a year or so), but this is a pleasant change from North Bend and we have used it for short stops. Have not had dinner here but the menu is extensive. Friendly staff in a modern setting. Beer and appetizers are splendid (they make their own breads and I'm gradually working my way through the choices). Thursday (when we often go) is happy hour from 3:30 on!

**Redmond's The Three Lions Pub** (8115 161st Ave. N.E. ) West end of town, just a block or so north of the main drag and just before you get to QFC or the bridge, if you are eastbound. I have been going here since it was first a tiny English teashop. It has since expanded to a full restaurant and a splendid pub. First rate Brit menu, plus extras (my diehard fussy eater friends—American—amazed me by asking to go back repeatedly!). Wonderful draft beers. Make sure you always get the curry sauce with your fries or whatever. Has a number of TVs, but a carpeted quiet surrounds you, so you can chat to your mates without having to yell over the din so common in other bars. It is a great venue for watching world-class soccer or rugby at any time, and they make genial concessions if you want to watch the gridiron or baseball. If you can handle pasties, meat pies and fish & chips, it is a must visit. Oh yes, also for the ex-pats—and maybe you, too—they have a well-stocked grocery shelf of every kind of British import specialties—another absolute for this Brit. ▲▲

## Along Highway 2

**Monroe's Ixtapa** (19303 SR-2) I always eat Mexican in Monroe and there are several choices, all okay. Most often we congregate at Ixtapa, easy to get to and park, on the north side, middle of town. Large and noisy but good and friendly service. Essentially standard Mexican fare, but I'm always hungry by the time I get there, and there is a table for your group size—perhaps a short wait for large groups.

## About the author

After making the long jump from the UK to the US, Johnny Jeans joined a cricket club, sailed and kayaked the waters of his new home, while playing soccer in the evening, before finding out about The Mountaineers and joining the organization in 1984. He resumed his climbing habit from Europe and earned a majority of The Mountaineers Peak Pins after gaining equivalency here. He says his very first "hike" here was Mt. Rainier. He also spent some time as a professional ski instructor in alpine, telemark and Nordic—lending keen insight on places to hang the ski gloves and hat while wetting the thirst and appetite along Washington's Cascade corridors.



*"This isn't too appetizing. Think I'll grab a bite down the road."*

**I enjoy driving in snow when I'm not sliding sideways** down the road. Assuming you feel the same way, here are a few thoughts to prepare for the most dangerous part of your next winter or early spring mountain trip—driving.

Always carry a set of chains, since they provide the ultimate traction and braking performance. Practice installing your chains at home, not on a stormy night in the mountains. A safe spot to install chains is often in front of a big truck doing the same. If you know before you leave home that chains are required, find an alternate trip that avoids crossing a pass or stay home and save your gas money for a better day.

## Driving on snow and ice: the do's and don'ts

By Chuck Gustafson

When I learned to drive in Wisconsin winters, my mother told me to drive with a feather touch and pretend I was in a china shop. This advice has proven sound. Steer, shift, accelerate and brake with slow, gentle and deliberate motions. Assertive and jerky technique invites skids, collisions and the ditch.

**Slow down.** Stopping distances on ice or snow can be at least 3-5 times greater than those on dry pavement. Ignore other cars going faster. They may have better traction or they may be foolhardy. Allow extra space between yourself and the car in front, and drive very defensively. If you go into a skid caused by braking hard, remove your foot from the brake. If the skid was caused by excessive speed, gently decelerate by easing up on the gas pedal. Then steer in the direction you want to go in a controlled, easy motion. As you regain control, slowly turn the wheels back to the normal direction of travel and gently engage the accelerator. Note that cars in all-wheel-drive mode are somewhat less apt to go into a skid and cars with electronic stability-control can bring a car out of a skid better than the best-trained driver.



### 'I'm driving to the mountains' checklist

- Battery jumper cables and directions for using
- Blanket
- Gloves
- Broom (cut handle down to fit in vehicle) and whisk broom
- Butane lighter to thaw door and ski locks (heat key and insert)
- Chains (steel cable or reinforced steel link; NO plastic) and rubber tighteners
- Chain blocks; hanger to retrieve chains from under car
- Old clothes for installing chains; pad or rug to lie on
- Flares. Check for use date each season
- Flashlight, 6v spotlight and/or 12v plug-in trouble light with good batteries
- Screen, wire mesh, sand or kitty litter to put under drive wheels when stuck
- Shovel
- Sno-Park permit
- Survival essentials: e.g., waterproof/warm clothes, food, candles, metal cup
- Tool kit, duct and electrical tape, fuses, spare belts
- Tow rope
- Spare wiper blades (carry your old ones in case you rip one from a frozen windshield)
- Windshield spray de-icer
- Windshield scraper(s)

*For long trips and severe winter conditions, carry a custom grill cover, cardboard or thin plywood for front of radiator to keep the engine warm and the heater working, and/or an engine block heater; a battery charger and extension cord; diesel fuel thinner; spare windshield fluid rated below freezing.*



## About the author

Chuck Gustafson has decades of winter driving experience, starting from 38-degrees below zero in Wisconsin to a Washington, D.C., snowstorm and the high Rockies, before making his home near the slushy Cascades. He used to conduct an annual winter driving seminar and has dabbled in many a Mountaineers activity over his 37 years with the organization—climbing, snowshoeing, backcountry skiing and sailing among them. He has led trips and instructed courses in most of these activities and once divulged some of his sailing secrets in a book, *How to Buy the Best Sailboat*.

**Front-wheel-drive cars have unique problems with skids.** Because so much weight is over the front wheels, suddenly letting off the accelerator slows down the front end much faster than the rear. This can cause the rear end to swing out and send you into a spin. To counter this, you can press the clutch in or shift into neutral when the skid starts (easier said than remembered). This tendency to spin out is greatly exaggerated if you have snow tires or chains on the front and summer tires on the rear. To diminish this problem, you should mount all-season or snow tires on all four wheels. This is the law in Canada and is recommended by the U.S. National Traffic Safety Commission.

## Preparing your vehicle

- **Use anti-freeze mix** rated at -30 to -40° F
- **Use the highest cold-start amp** capacity battery that will fit in your vehicle. Be sure it's load tested and well within its warranty period
- **Diesel fuel should be thinned** with kerosene or a commercial thinner to prevent jelling at temperatures below 20-25° F. Thin to the lowest anticipated temperature
- **Install an engine block heater** for extremely cold temperatures. This can only be used where 110v electricity is available\*
- **Use an engine oil rated for cold temperatures.** Check the recommendation for your vehicle
- **Be sure your engine** is in very good tune
- **Check your exhaust system for leaks.** Carbon monoxide poisoning is a higher risk in the winter because the car is closed up and the engine typically is idled more
- **Fog lamps with yellow or amber** lenses dramatically improve visibility in heavy snow and rain\*
- **Tires should be:** all season, all-terrain, or for the maximum traction, snow tires with a "Mud and snow" rating (M & S). They should have at least 4/32" of tread depth across the entire width of the tire. I recommend hydrophilic (sticky) winter snow tires if you snowshoe or ski a lot. Studs excel on glare ice, but provide less traction in every other condition. Four-wheel, all-wheel (AWD) and front wheel drive vehicles should mount the same type of tire on ALL four wheels
- **Use windshield washer** fluid rated to at least -10° F
- **Check and, if necessary, replace wiper blades.** I also apply Rainex or a similar product to all the exterior windows (repels road gunk)

\* Useful for extended trips or driving in extremely low temperatures.



## Great work, Forrest and Everett crew!

### For more than two

decades the Everett Branch of The Mountaineers has contributed mightily to trails and fire lookouts in the Cascades, from Heybrook to Pilchuck to Three Fingers, to name a few.

Much of this volunteer work has been spearheaded and led by Forrest Clark, who has been an ardent steward of our wilds since joining The Mountaineers in 1986 to take our basic climbing and backcountry ski courses.

Most recently Clark and his crew of Everett trail tenders have been working with urban youth from Seattle and educating them about stewardship. In fact, some of these young stewards have found a place with U.S. Forest Service crews as a result of their volunteer stewardship under Clark's stead.

In addition to lookout restoration and maintenance, Everett Mountaineers have been active in trail maintenance for many years, including the coordination of more than 100 work parties in observance of National Trails Day.

At right is a letter from Robert Iwamoto, retiring forest supervisor at Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, sent to The Mountaineers and serving testament to the value of Clark's and the Everett Branch's commitments to our trails, historic lookouts and the next generation of stewards.



*Forrest Clark (center front) of the Everett Branch and his intrepid crew of young lookout stewards*

**"I am writing this letter to thank you** and (your) members for the commitment to the preservation of fire lookouts on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBSNF). It has been a pleasure to work with (your) members, especially Trail and Maintenance Chair Forrest Clark, who has been vital to the successful acquisition of funds and recruitment of dedicated volunteers. Your members have planned, fund-raised, and cared for four fire lookouts, including Heybrook, Evergreen, Kelly Butte and Three Fingers. Without the Everett Mountaineers, we would not have the ability to maintain these historic facilities that are enjoyed by thousands.

**In the last two years, 30 urban youth** have worked closely with Forrest in painting and repairing the Heybrook Fire Lookout. We anticipate 20 youth from Seattle Parks and Recreation and the International District Housing Alliance once again to complete work at the lookout during the 2012 summer. Six youth from these two programs were hired into the 2011 MBSNF recreation and fire crews. This is one of several valuable outdoor experiences that have brought these young leaders a profound personal connection to public lands.

**We thank you again for this valued partnership.** The MBSNF is committed to continue our collaboration with the Everett Mountaineers and looks forward to future opportunities. As you may be aware, I have announced my retirement at the end of this year. It has been a pleasure working with you and your organization over the course of my time here.

Sincerely,  
Robert Iwamoto  
Forest Supervisor

**To learn more or sign up for projects:**

Visit [www.everettmountaineers.org/lotm/lotm.html](http://www.everettmountaineers.org/lotm/lotm.html)

# One idea of giving something back led to another for key volunteer

By Leah Schulz  
Mountaineers volunteer



**Leah helps a youth tie in**

It was September 2006 when I joined The Mountaineers. I remember thinking at first that I would take a few classes, learn a little bit about the outdoors, and then probably move on to something else. I mean that's how hobbies go, right?

Five years ago I didn't know a bowline from a burrito. To call me "green" would have been, um, generous. I caught the climbing bug at the tender age of 41. At the suggestion of a friend, I got online, looked up some classes and decided I would start out with the Basic Climbing Course.

Since graduating from the basic course in 2007, I've continued to take courses and help teach classes at The Mountaineers. Like many others that have taken the course, I stood in awe of the incredible number of volunteers that helped deliver the curriculum. These people were not just my mentors, they were my heroes. Through their gift of time, they opened up a world to me.

I, too, wanted to share my love of the outdoors with others, especially young people that wouldn't otherwise get a chance to experience the outdoors. I called Education Manager Becca Polglase and shared an idea I had for a class for inner-city youth to come to the program center for rock climbing. Becca suggested we also teach first aid and Leave No Trace. I thought that sounded awesome!

I knew this program would cost money, but I also knew I had a lot of professional friends who would love to sponsor it. Pacific Medical Centers was our first generous sponsor with a donation of first aid supplies.

These people were not just my mentors, they were my heroes.

Through their gift of time, they opened up a world to me.

Seeing young people come to The Mountaineers Program Center and climbing for their first time is an extremely rewarding experience. I love volunteering at many of the courses and field trips, but I think what I love the most is how The Mountaineers has allowed me to bring together all the best things in my life. Through the years, many of my climbing partners have become clients. It feels great to help people that you know and care for on a deeper level.

**Recently, I've started partnering with local businesses** and The Mountaineers to hold more networking events (see below). I find that many of my business partners subscribe to the mission of The Mountaineers but are unaware of how to support it. When I tell them about all the different activities we have, their interest is sparked. I believe adults, just like youth, will fall in love with the outdoors once they experience it. After they have experienced it, they'll want to help protect it.

## New! A business directory for and of Mountaineers

I would like to introduce my business associates to the The Mountaineers "Business Membership Directory." Business persons will be able to attend networking events throughout the year and they'll get a listing in The Mountaineers directory (see pg. 37). Not all of these members will be rock-star climbers, but they'll be members who support our mission, including educational outreach, and who have a desire to see our organization flourish. I'm sure once they see how much fun we're having, they'll want to know how they can get in on the action!

Excerpted from  
*Hypothermia, Frostbite  
and other Cold Injuries*  
(©Mountaineers Books)

## The rule of 3's

HUMANS CAN SURVIVE:

- 3 minutes without air
- 3 hours without heat
- 3 days without water
- 3 weeks without food

## Winter survival items (minimum)

CARRIED ON PERSON (POCKETS)

- Lighter, matches or flint match
- Firestarter (cotton in Vaseline)
- Whistle
- Compass
- Thick foil or other container for melting snow
- High-energy food

CARRIED SEPARATELY (BACKPACK)

- Lighter, matches or flint match
- Metal container for melting snow (may be kit container)
- Jackknife
- Shelter, plastic sheet (10x10 ft.)
- Strong string or thin rope
- Signal(s) (e.g., pen flares, smoke flares, mirror)
- High-energy food



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## Cold weather survival

**Most individuals do not plan to get** into a survival situation when they leave their homes. That scenario develops when some adverse event makes a planned activity far more difficult than expected. The word survival is often misapplied. Situations may become difficult or inconvenient, but an argument can be made that the term should only be applied to situations in which surviving is actually in question.

Precipitating adverse events include: becoming lost while hiking or hunting; being stranded by vehicle breakdown or accident; illness; injury such as a fall while mountaineering; losing equipment, particularly clothing; accidents such as a snowmobile or skier falling through the ice; or being unexpectedly benighted by weather or an accident. Such events can occur in a variety of locations, ranging from close to home to isolated areas that include highways, cold or frozen bodies of water, woodland trails, or mountain slopes.

Three principle elements determine whether a precipitating event produces merely inconvenience or becomes a lifethreatening event. With the required skills, proper equipment, and no major injury or illness, the experience may prove only difficult. However, with inadequate skills or equipment, or with significant injury or illness, the situation may rapidly deteriorate into a survival scenario.

A precipitating event often provides little or no warning of impending disaster. Often little, if any, time may be available for on-scene preparation, and only an individual's knowledge and experience and the equipment on hand can prevent disaster. This chapter describes the basics of preventing and preparing for survival, particularly in cold weather. Throughout, the overriding principle is to always prepare for the reasonable worst-case scenario.

### Priorities in a survival situation

The body's physiological tolerances must be understood and preparations must have been made to have at hand whatever is required to facilitate rescue, either by one's self or by others.

Clearly a person without oxygen as the result of drowning, choking, or a heart attack must be resuscitated immediately. After dealing with such emergencies, however, the physiological order of priority is heat, water, and food. Equipment can help individuals await rescue, get to safety through their own efforts, or signal rescuers. Anyone preparing for an outdoor activity in cold conditions should carry equipment and supplies that fall into the following five categories, listed in order of usual preference:

- 1) Fire
- 2) Shelter
- 3) Signals
- 4) Water
- 5) Food

In preparing for survival, attention should be paid not only to having the correct gear but also to not losing it during an adverse event. The most basic gear should always be carried in the pockets so it is always available. More sophisticated and bulky equipment can be carried in backpacks or in vehicles. As much as possible, items should be small, reliable, easily accessed, simple to use, and idiot proof.





## To the Arctic

© Florian Schulz/visionsofthewild.com; from his book TO THE ARCTIC by Mountaineers Books/Braided River

### Florian Schulz: Putting the power of pictures to work

When Florian Schulz talks about his many months taking photos in the Arctic, he talks a lot about waiting . . . and waiting. Waiting for the right time of the day to shoot photos in a land where the sun never sleeps but the cold never surrenders. Waiting until his watch is over and his wife can take over sentry duties, watching for the always curious and sometimes deadly polar bears. And waiting for fierce blizzards to break, allowing him to get back to what compelled him to the Arctic in the first place: putting its power and vitality into pictures so that the public might just feel some of what he felt without all the waiting and all the numbing elements of what he likes to call “the earth’s air conditioner.”

Following are excerpts from the question-and-answer pages in the back of Schulz’s and Braided River’s recently released *To the Arctic*, the companion piece to the coming release of the IMAX movie of the same name.

**What did you hope to achieve with this book, and how did that play into how you chose to photograph the Arctic?**

My overall goal was to produce a visual account of the Arctic that would bring the ecosystem to life. I wanted viewers to be able to feel what I felt when I was out in the Arctic landscape. In order to achieve this, I tried to make the wildlife part of the picture whenever possible, using wide-angle lenses or shooting in a panorama format with midrange or telephoto lenses to incorporate the animals. The panorama format also lends itself beautifully to this particular

**Continued on next page**



© Florian Schulz/visionsofthewild.com; from his book TO THE ARCTIC by Mountaineers Books/Braided River

“First, we need to recognize that environmental destruction and climate change, not terrorism or a neighboring country, are the biggest enemies of our time”

landscape. In these shots I used a video tripod so I could level out the tripod head for a straight horizon. This allowed me to rotate the camera and keep a series of images in line, which allowed for easy stitching later. Getting close to animals with the wide-angle lens was trickier, of course, especially with polar bears. For the bears I worked with remote cameras and protective cases for the camera body.

#### **What is it like to camp in polar bear country?**

Quite challenging! When you're inside your tent, you are always aware that at any moment a bear might come right through the side. Someone always has to be on watch, which is fine when you're in a large group, but can be really hard when there are just two of you, as is frequently the case with me, because I'm often with only a guide or my wife. When it's your turn to go on watch and you have to crawl out of a warm sleeping bag to head out into the cold, it becomes a mental battle between you and your exhaustion. Sometimes when I'm worn down by the cold and by sleep deprivation, I just want to stay in bed, polar bears or not.

#### **What is the closest you've ever been to a polar bear?**

On one occasion, a very determined polar bear came within fifteen feet of me and my guide. Its eyes had a special expression that went beyond curiosity. They looked hungry. I was preoccupied with taking frame-filling images of the polar bear that would communicate this expression when my guide realized there was no more time to spare and decided to shoot a flare. No bear had ever come that close to either me or my guide, who has lived in the Arctic for many years.

#### **What can you do to scare a polar bear away?**

They don't scare very easily, that's for sure. This is one big difference between polar bears and grizzlies. Most polar bears are simply not intimidated by humans, even if you wave your arms and yell.

They also can be very curious animals. If they spot a camp from the distance, they may come straight in your direction to check it out. One time we had a whole polar bear family head straight for our camp. They first circled around us until they caught our scent on the wind, and then they came right into the middle of our camp. Raising our voices did not impress them in the least. It took one of the Inuit hunters to shoot into the air to chase them away. That's why either my guide or I carry a rifle and flare gun.

#### **What's in your camera bag when you're out there?**

For cameras I carry a Nikon D7000, a Nikon D3s, and a Nikon D3x. My lenses are the Nikon 14-24mm, 24-70mm, 28-70mm, 70-200mm f/2.8, 200-400mm f/4, 600mm f/4, 16 mm f/2.8 fisheye, and 24mm tilt-shift; and I use the 1.4x teleconverter. Other equipment includes remote camera boxes, Manfrotto and Gitzo tripods, a PocketWizard for my remote setups, a Subal underwater housing, rollable solar panels, sixteen Li-ion batteries, a Nikon GPS, an Apple MacBook Pro, over 200 GB of CompactFlash cards, and three Western Digital 500GB pocket drives.

#### **What were some of the challenges you faced working in the Arctic environment?**

Hunting for incredible light, a photographer gets very little sleep in the Arctic between late spring and early fall. As the sun does not set during these seasons, the best light often is found in the middle of the night. I frequently needed to switch my entire schedule around, sleeping during the middle of the day and then photographing throughout the night. As the light is still good in the morning or afternoon, it does not take long until one gets very sleep deprived. Working in extremely cold conditions was particularly challenging. I created a layering system of gloves, wearing very thin undergloves,



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then midweight gloves, and adding heavy-duty mittens on top. I often took the two heavier layers off to access small buttons on the camera. When my fingers were so badly frozen that I could not stand it any longer, I would put my mittens back on and beat my hands against my body until my fingers would work again. Wind, of course, makes the situation much worse than the cold alone.

**What about your camera equipment? How did it perform in the extreme cold?**

Well, the first trick is to never press your nose against the metal part of the camera, because it will quickly freeze to it! As far as how the equipment worked in the cold, I found that my cameras did fine to about -20 degrees Fahrenheit. Of course, the batteries drained faster and the cameras responded more slowly, but overall they performed well. I always kept my extra batteries close to my body so that I had a fresh, warm set.

**Do you need to keep the cameras themselves warm, too?**

A mistake many newcomers to the Arctic make is that they keep their camera underneath their parka. No! Bad idea. The camera will fog up completely and be unusable. When I head out into the field, I let the cameras freeze and then remain frozen. If I need to bring the cameras inside a warm room or a heated tent, I put everything into an airtight plastic bag and let it warm to the ambient temperature before I take it out of the bag.

**How much patience did it take to create your photographic account of the Arctic?**

In serious wildlife photography, your patience is often tested. For years I returned to the Arctic just to find the large caribou herds, never mind getting the caribou images I envisioned. It took me years to even see my first polar bear, and I spent over seventy-two hours in a blind to photograph the snowy owls in this book. But even when I'm not getting perfect images, I am learning so much about the landscape and the wildlife. So I cannot say

that I'm bored waiting; I'm excited to be out in the wilderness.

**What signs of climate change have you witnessed?**

Unfortunately, I have witnessed dramatic changes in the short time—ten years—that I have been traveling to the Arctic. On land, the permafrost is melting at an unprecedented rate. During my aerial expeditions I was shocked to see the Arctic Ocean west of Barrow completely ice-free at the beginning of July, as well as many areas where entire hillsides had come down in giant mudslides, taking all the vegetation with them. From elders in different Native communities, I have heard the same story of shockingly accelerated change. The time when hunters can travel on the sea ice has been significantly reduced, and the dangers have increased. I experienced this myself on my 1,200-mile trek across Baffin Island. Many areas had dangerous ice that was too thin for

Continued on next page



safe passage.

#### **What impact do these changes have on the wildlife?**

Without ice, seals and walrus need to spend more energy moving between their resting areas and feeding grounds. Polar bears are dependent on the sea ice for their food, too—mainly ringed seals—and are under increasing pressure, which is why they are a symbol in the fight against global warming. Caribou are affected by winter rainstorms, as a thick layer of ice prevents them from reaching food below the snow. Increasingly regular tundra fires destroy vast areas of their summer feeding ground. The warming trend also means that wildlife species are pushing north. Moose, for example, are seen more often now in the Arctic plains due to changing vegetation. And we will also see many more species of fish in Arctic waters as the temperature warms.

#### **Why should the rest of the world be concerned about the changes in the far north?**

We need to see the world more as a whole. The Arctic ecosystem is very much a part of the rest of the world. Millions of birds and several species of whales migrate

past our latitudes to the south, where they spend the winter each year. On a larger scale, we need to see the Arctic as an “air conditioner” for the world. Without the cooling effect of the Arctic on the atmosphere, we are experiencing disasters around the world like tornadoes, hurricanes, major floods, and droughts with greater frequency and of greater intensity.

#### **Given all of this, can anything**

#### **be done to slow climate change?**

One major way to reduce warming in the Arctic is to cut black carbon emissions globally. My conservation partner, Earthjustice, is fighting to achieve this goal. Black carbon reduction would have a very quick effect, as it can leave the atmosphere in a matter of weeks. Of course, reducing CO<sup>2</sup> emissions needs to be the number one priority, and it can be achieved through improved technology and partnerships with the major stakeholders.

#### **In the Gulf of Mexico, there are**

#### **thousands of offshore oil wells. Why is oil drilling in the Arctic Ocean such a big deal?**

As we saw with the Gulf oil spill in 2010, major disasters can happen. It took many weeks to get the situation under control in the Gulf, even under fairly modest weather conditions and with great infrastructure in place. Now think of an oil spill in the Arctic Ocean, where for months out of the year darkness and extreme

cold temperatures are the norm, and there is no infrastructure—no ports or access for possible cleanup crews. To date, there is no known method to clean up an oil spill in icy waters. The entire Arctic Ocean ecosystem could be destroyed, and animals from the little krill to seals and polar bears could be heavily affected and possibly wiped out.

#### **If life as we know it will change, do you have hope for the future?**

Hope is to wish for fulfillment of dreams in the face of all life's challenges. Hope is fighting for what you dream about.

I dream that rationality will win over greed. I have faith that the human race is capable of unthinkable achievements. First, we need to recognize that environmental destruction and climate change, not terrorism or a neighboring country, are the biggest enemies of our time. We need to fight on multiple levels—through public education, through change of policy, and on the industrial level through technology and the way we consume and invest. Often we hear the argument that the economic cost of enforcing a greener policy is too high, but scientists warn today that the price to be paid in the future will be much higher. Our children and children's children will pay this price.

As I am writing these words as my wife, Emil, is carrying our first baby in her belly. It was conceived in the high Arctic of Greenland. I hope that in the years to come, I will not have to tell my son stories of a world that once was. I hope that we can continue to explore this frozen world as a family to tell the story of the Arctic. And I am fighting for this dream.

This gives me hope. ▲▲

“Hope is fighting for what you dream about . . . And I am fighting for this dream”

## **Partners in protecting the Arctic**

**The Alaska Wilderness League** (AWL) has been working closely over the years with Braided River writers and photographers, such as Florian Schulz, to launch books with compelling photographs and essays, thus extending its reach to new audiences. *Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Season of Life and Land* by Subhankar Banerjee and *Salmon in the Trees: Life in Alaska's Tongass Rain Forest* by Amy Gullick are two stellar examples of the league's partnership with Braided River, according to AWL Executive Director Cindy Shogan. “We look forward to partnering with Braided River on (the) IMAX and book 2012 project, *To the Arctic*,” Shogan stated. For more information on AWL and to learn how to protect the Arctic, visit [www.AlaskaWild.org](http://www.AlaskaWild.org).

## Tom Campion talks about leverage and private support for a wild Arctic

**When you mention the word “Arctic”** to Tom Campion, you’d best have your pen and notebook ready because class is in session. The chairman of a multi-million-dollar company and fervent defender of wild places effortlessly recounts his first impressions upon seeing the Arctic’s vastness on his initial flight over the Brooks Range in 1995. He recalls what animals he saw and where they were. His recollections flow into something just shy of a sermon on what the Arctic means to him, but moreover, to the world.

“We got into a plane and started bumping through the Brooks Range, peak after peak, from east to west.

Between peaks the ground would be 500 feet under us one moment and then, all the sudden, drop to 3,000 feet below us . . . you could see Dall sheep as you looked out over the wing tips and literally thousands of caribou booking up the Aichilik River.

“The sheer size of the place is the impressive thing. If you are into nature, it is a very emotional kind of experience.”

After landing, Tom set out on a scramble a thousand feet up on one of the peaks, and spotted a black wolf walking one of the ridges. “Looking out I could see the expanse of the reserve and actually see where the earth curves.”

For Tom, the wilds are a “rush”—one a bit different than those his customers enjoy while surfing or skateboarding with gear made by Zumiez, co-founded by Tom in 1978. Back then, he had opened the first store in Northgate Mall, and immediately started to put his operative word to work: “leverage.”



© Florian Schulz/visionsofthewild.com; from his book TO THE ARCTIC (Braided River)

**MacGillivray-Freeman film crew at work on the upcoming IMAX release**

At first he put his corporate influence to work on saving old-growth forests, but it wasn’t just from the armchair of his Zumiez office. He put his feet on the lush ground of the Pacific Northwest’s rainforests to find spotted owls, and taught himself how to make the call of the owl, which he demonstrated in his foundation’s office during this interview (prompting the reply, “I hear a spotted owl!” from an employee in a far corner).

Since 1995, he has set foot on Arctic ground 20 times and has not only become a student of all things north of the Brooks Range but a vital cog to enabling the preservation of it all. A sitting board member for the Alaska Wilderness League, Tom has put his leverage tool to work since the first wide-scale literary campaign to divulge the abundance of life in the Arctic refuge.

**It was 2001 when a Mountaineers member,** Subhankar Banerjee, quit his job at Boeing to go take as many pictures of wildlife as he could from his base at Kaktovik, a tiny Inupiat village that is the last stop before one steps into the Beaufort Sea. Tom was the first sponsor to step up and provide Subhankar much needed support to outfit himself for his Arctic expeditions and accomplish his mission, one made famous by his Mountaineers-published book, *Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land*, raised high by Sen. Barbara Boxer so that all her congressional colleagues could see it prior to their vote on whether to open the area surrounding Kaktovik to off-shore drilling for oil and gas. (Drilling was defeated by a vote of 52-48.)

**By Brad Stracener**  
Managing Editor

Continued on page 29

## Youth outreach awarded pivotal funding by the REI Foundation



In 1929 a new member on only his second climb with The Mountaineers, Lloyd Anderson happened to pitch his tent next to Mountaineers co-founder Edmund Meany who was on his last club climb with the organization. "During that chance encounter, the past and future of The Mountaineers rubbed shoulders," according to the book, *The Mountaineers: A History*.

A handful of years later, Anderson turned the climbing establishment of The Mountaineers upside down by climbing six of the state's major peaks in a single season and teaming with other younger climbers, including his wife, Mary Anderson, to restructure a climbing program that had become an enter-by-permission-only fraternity of old-school alpinists.

The foundation of this climbing revolution within The Mountaineers can be found in each chapter of what became the climbing bible: *Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills*. However, on their way, Lloyd and Mary Anderson accomplished one other golden achievement for which they are likely to be much better remembered. They founded Recreational Equipment, Inc.

**Playing a pivotal role in early mountaineering** history, the Andersons' outdoor retail co-op has come full circle, through the REI Foundation, to support another historic moment for The Mountaineers and its educational outreach: a \$50,000 Mary Anderson Legacy Grant to fund programs central to The Mountaineers Youth and Family Initiative.

In late December, The Mountaineers received the exciting news of the grant in support of The Mountaineers' efforts to actively engage young people with the outdoors.

"The Initiative is a relatively new effort by The Mountaineers to develop a more sustained program for youth and families," explains Martinique Grigg, executive director.

"Outdoor participation is declining among kids, but research shows that positive outdoor experiences during childhood can generate a lifelong appreciation for the outdoors. Conservation is a big piece of

our mission, so that connection is vital."

The grant program was established in 2009 to honor REI co-founder Mary Anderson and celebrate her 100th birthday. It recognizes and helps fund organizations that reflect Mary's passion, as both an educator and an outdoor enthusiast, to actively engage young people in learning about nature.

**"We launched several youth outreach** pilot programs in 2010-2011. Thanks to enthusiastic partner response and extraordinary volunteer participation we grew quickly and provided thousands of youth experiences in our first year of operation," said Becca Polglase, education manager. "The Mary Anderson Legacy grant represents a huge vote of confidence in our desire to respond to increased demand to provide outdoor experiences to more youth. The grant will help us expand staff and volunteer resources, provide more scholarships and broaden our programs outside of the greater Seattle area."

The Mountaineers outdoor education programs are taught by highly-skilled volunteer educators who support youth programs because they appreciate the impact that outdoor activities have on the youth we serve. Volunteer commitment also enables a high instructor-to-youth ratio, which translates to a deeper and more personalized educational experience.

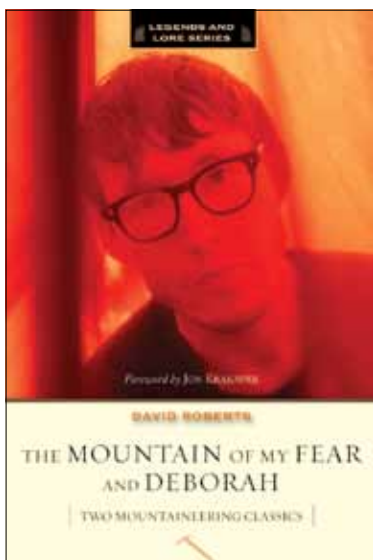
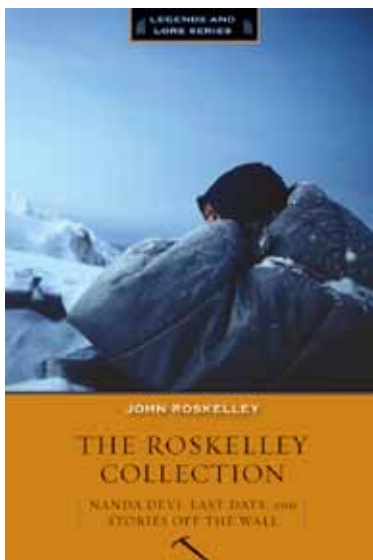
"Through our Youth and Family Initiative, we have a unique opportunity to instill an appreciation for outdoor adventure in today's youth and to shape the future of youth education, recreation and conservation in the Pacific Northwest," says Grigg.

The Mountaineers, Mary Anderson and the REI Foundation recognize that connecting youth with the outdoors is critical not only to their health, but also to the health of our natural landscapes. Youth need the benefit of a healthy, active, outdoor lifestyle, and our landscapes need the protection of individuals with a strong connection to the outdoors. The Mary Anderson legacy grant will allow The Mountaineers to continue to build these strong connections.





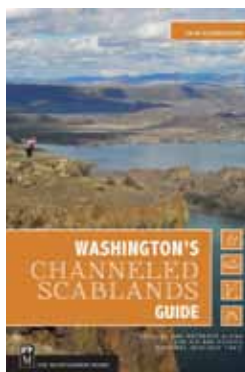
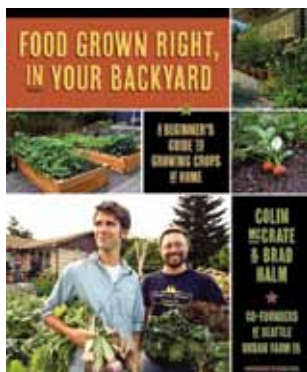
## Stories from Roskelley and Roberts top list of five new Mountaineers releases



From the **Legends and Lore Series** come two new Mountaineers Books titles by the climbing world's premier storytellers. John Roskelley's stories, collected all together for the first time, are to be found in *The Roskelley Collection: Stories off the Wall, Nanda Devi, and Last Days* (foreword by Jim Wickwire). Meanwhile, two tales from David Roberts have also been collected into one book, *The Mountain of my Fear and Deborah: Two Mountaineering Classics* (foreword by Jon Krakauer).

**Also fresh** off The Mountaineers Books press this spring is *Food Grown Right, In Your Backyard* by Colin McCrate & Brad Halm, founders of the Seattle Urban Farm Co. This full-color primer for beginning gardeners—from our Skipstone imprint—covers fertilizer, crop planning and container design with step by step instructions and that solve the mysteries of urban vegetable gardening once and for all. If you're a Mountaineer looking to explore conservation literally in your own backyard, check out the Sufco farmers at [www.seattleurbanfarmsufco.com](http://www.seattleurbanfarmsufco.com).

**Capping off** the new releases are *Washington's Channeled Scablands Guide* by John Soennichsen and *Sea Kayaking: Basic Skills, Paddling Techniques, and Expedition Planning* by Dan Henderson. Soennichsen sheds light on an Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and where to set up your camera to capture a stunning sunrise over Palouse Falls among other illuminations on the splendor of our one-of-a-kind region to the east. Henderson, founder of Cascade Canoe & Kayak Centers, Inc., gives first-hand advice on everything from picking the right gear to self-rescue to paddling techniques for wind, waves, and surf in the most recent addition to the Mountaineers Outdoor Expert Series



## Three weeks in paradise: hiking Italy's Dolomites



One of the stops on the Dolomites outing

**Editor's note:** Shari Hogshead and Paul Gauthier have the best of both worlds, being Mountaineers in the Pacific Northwest and having a "tour-riffic" connection to the beautiful mountains of Italy, where they annually share their joy of the hills with fellow Mountaineers.

### By Shari Hogshead

It's obvious that I dearly love the Dolomites. I love hiking, skiing, cycling and just hanging out in these beautiful mountains. I have spent over 11 months there, since I first visited them with fellow Mountaineers Steve Johnson and Bev Dahlin in 1990. Since then,

I have led many ski and hiking trips there. Of the 33 global adventures I have led for The Mountaineers, Paul and I were also very fortunate to live only a few hours from the Dolomites for three exciting years, giving us additional opportunity to explore them in depth.

Our latest adventure in these fabulous "pale mounts" was in summer of 2011 when 16 extremely compatible Mountaineers enjoyed a three-week holiday in three separate areas of the Dolomiti South Tirol.

While we stayed in small, privately owned/operated village hotels, bedecked with flowers, we visited alpine club rifugios each day for lunch and other refreshment. Many of these huts are nestled between awe-inspiring, vertical, karst towers and verdant-green mountain pastures, but some are perched right on top of the mountains, such as one atop the Sella Massif. We visited other famous mountain areas (i.e., the Drei

Zinnen, the Langkofel, and the Schlern/Sciliar).

Our hiking days were spent in areas devoted to protecting and preserving the unique alpine areas of the Sesto Dolomites, the Puez-Odle, and the Seiser/Alm, one of the largest upland alpine areas in Europe. Footpaths are extensive and well maintained.

Food, of course, was delicious with elements of both German/Austrian and Italian influences. In 2011 we enjoyed near-perfect weather (only one day with rain), without a threat of thunderstorms. I think everyone loved the hikes, the hotels, the food, and the weather, but some might have been surprised at the ruggedness of the terrain.

We are excited to be leading a similar adventure in summer 2012, and hope to organize another Nordic ski outing here in winter 2013. I hope you'll join us soon on another Mountaineers global adventure.

### N. American outing: Ski Columbia Icefield April 7-15, 2012

(If the weather forecast is bad, this outing to Alberta will be April 14-22)  
April 7: drive to Lake Louise Hostel; April 8: drive to Columbia Icefield and ski up Athabasca Glacier to the Trench; April 9: ski Mt. Columbia (second highest in Canadian Rockies); April 10: move camp; April 11: ski North and South Twin; April 12: ski Stutfield Peak and move camp; April 13: ski Mt. Kitchener and Snow Dome (hydrographic apex of North America—snow melt flows to the Arctic, Atlantic and Pacific Oceans); April 14: ski Castleguard Mtn., down Saskatchewan Glacier, and drive to Lake Louise Hostel; April 15: drive home. **Sign up by March 15** with Craig Miller, craigmiller@comcast.net, 206-285-2399. Limit 6.

### Hike three weeks in Italy's Dolomites Aug. 23-Sept. 13, 2012

Please see the leader's article above to learn about this trip. **Cost:** \$3,750. **Leader:** Shari Hogshead, skimtr@aol.com, 425-957-4548.

### N. American outing: Wind River backpack Sept. 2-Sept. 14, 2012

This is an opportunity to challenge yourself physically while experiencing "up close and personal" some of the most extraordinary and unspoiled high country in North America—the Wind River Range in the Bridger Wilderness of Wyoming. Stretching 100 miles along the remote crest of the Continental Divide, this narrow chain of crags includes eight summits of over 13,500 feet, rising from the wide open valleys of the West. Below these rugged peaks

are thousands of small lakes and streams nestled in boulder-strewn, alpine meadows. **Cost:** \$735 per person (4); \$470 per person (8 or more). **Leader:** Cheryl Talbert, cascadehiker@earthlink.net, 253-229-4018

### Nepal: trek ultimate Everest or climb Mera Peak

Oct. 18-Nov. 9, 2012

This outing combines Himalayan culture, spectacular scenery and the highest peaks on Earth. Trekkers will stay in lodges, hike up to the Sherpa village Namche Bazaar, Buddhist Tengboche monastery, Kala Patar viewpoint, Mt. Everest base camp, Cho La pass, beautiful Gokyo Lakes, Gokyo Ri viewpoint and Renjo La pass. Meanwhile climbers will follow the standard Mera Peak (21,247 ft.) route up a low-angle glacier, guided by local

experienced Sherpas. Both the Mera Peak climb and Mt. Everest trek are strenuous because of the altitude, but porters will haul your overnight gear, so you carry only a daypack. **Cost:** \$3,000. After leader's approval, deposit \$1,000 by March 1. **Leader:** Craig Miller, craigmiller@comcast.net, 206-285-2399.

### Hike New Zealand's 'Southern Alps'

Feb. 18-March 7, 2013

**Informational meeting:** Sun., March 25, 3 p.m. at the public library, 14250 SE Newport Way, Bellevue. See our website for more about this trip. **Cost:** \$3,850 (8-10), \$3,500 (11-12). **Leader:** Cheryl Talbert, cascadehiker@earthlink.net, 253-229-4018.

**Go to [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org) for all details on Mountaineers global outings**

## Tom Champion (continued from page 25)



*Arctic triumvirate: (l to r) Helen Cherullo, Tom Champion and Cindy Shogan*

... the film and book will introduce “millions and millions of people” previously unfamiliar with the Arctic to the importance of the polar bear and preservation of its Arctic habitat

“I have been very lucky to have his support,” said Subhankar from his home in New York. “My work would not have happened without Tom. He lives and breathes the Arctic. It is hard to imagine the Arctic without Tom.” Mountaineers Publisher Helen Cherullo handed similar credit to Tom’s support. Cherullo notes, “It is fair to say the work of Mountaineers Books and Braided River would never have evolved without Tom’s support and leadership,” she noted.

Though the 2002 Senate vote to prohibit drilling was a victory for the power of images, Tom does not hesitate to note that drilling in the Arctic has since continued to draw more votes and debates in Congress than any other environmental issue. “The fight goes on,” he asserts.

Just as in a business whose core clientele consists of teenagers thirsting for the next rush, Tom notes that one must constantly be leveraging new resources and seizing opportunities to catch the attention of a public to which the Arctic is mostly “out of sight, out of mind.” He adds, “I have to work on this.” The petroleum reserve is 23.5 million acres and the Arctic Refuge is 19 million acres, “but (few) have seen it. We have to get it in front of the customer, just as we do with merchandise at Zumiez.”

**One of the biggest and newest leveraging devices** for Tom is a double-barrel visual blast about the Arctic. On April 20 an IMAX film documenting the plight and magnificence of the Arctic polar bear and for which Tom is executive producer, will be released nationwide. Its companion book, *To the Arctic*, from The Mountaineers’ Braided River imprint (see pg. 21), is already released and being publicized throughout the country via author appearances. Tom is already brainstorming on ways to leverage the tour for “take action events” that will get the public further engaged in preserving the Arctic.

Because the refuge receives only 1,000 visitors a year, Tom says, “We have got to keep hammering” to get the Arctic into the public eye. He adds that the film and book will introduce “millions and millions of people” previously unfamiliar with the Arctic to the importance of the polar bear and the preservation of its Arctic habitat.

In the meantime, Tom welcomes others from the private sector to leverage their own resources in saving the Arctic. His advice: “Get engaged. Meet with other foundations working on this. And remember that it’s not just giving out checks, it’s about the influence that brings.”

He thinks everyone should visit the Arctic, especially individuals who want to help the cause, such as Mountaineers members. And then, he adds, visit Washington, D.C., and write letters to Congress. “What goes on in D.C. is as important as what goes on in Alaska.”

**Asked for his view of where we are** on the road to saving the Arctic, Tom remains upbeat. “We have history in our favor,” he notes, pointing to Bob Marshall’s work in the 1930s as well as Mardy Murie who some have credited for laying the scientific groundwork that led to Alaska’s Arctic becoming a federally protected area in 1960, and further protection via the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act under President Carter in 1980.

As Tom talks about the successes in the Arctic, names of colleagues for the cause begin to pour from his lips: Peter Mathiessen, Sens. Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray and Dick Durbin, Robert Kennedy, Jr., Alaska Wilderness League Director Cindy Shogan, and not least, Mountaineers Publisher Helen Cherullo and Braided River authors Subhankar Banerjee, Florian Schulz and Steven Kazlowski—all collectively educating, voting, acting and leveraging on behalf of the Arctic’s preservation.

Tom concludes, “As a nation we are not really good at what we think we are good at, especially when it comes to our use of oil. But we are good at preserving.” ▲▲



## Birding at the Montlake Fill caps Naturalists' lecture series

By Diana Yuen

**She stood in the wind and the patchy snow,** dripping from the day's drizzle. Three chickadees called out, their throats bulging with every note. "They had triangulated me," she mused, observing her position in between the three birds. Their calls communicated with one another what they were doing, yet to Constance Sidles, it was much more than a simple avian, "How do you do?" To Sidles, these chickadees were broadcasting insights into their private world, sharing all with this ardent birdwatcher.

"How do I explain to somebody how marvelous these birds really are?" she wonders.

As a bird blogger, noted author of two bird books, and a Seattle Audubon Society master birder, Sidles is well-suited to tackle this question. She'll share stories and insights of her birding adventures at the Montlake Fill from her book, *In My Nature*, closing out a successful public lecture series with the Naturalists on April 12 at The Mountaineers Program Center (see more at [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org)).

**Admittedly a "nutty birder"** and former bird "chaser," Sidles has amassed 600 species on her "life list," referring to all the birds seen in her lifetime. A point of pride is the red-footed falcon—a rarity in North America. Friends made on an expedition to Siberia called her with the news one day: they had just made the first North American record (or sighting) of the falcon in Martha's Vineyard. "Gee, I'd sure like to see that bird," Sidles fondly recalls telling them. She jumped on the next plane heading there and shortly added the falcon to her list.

Today, Sidles harbors no desire to chase. Her writing duties and responsibilities as chair of the Seattle Audubon Society's publications committee occupy her energies. She's even passed on a rare local acorn woodpecker sighting. She does, however, continue to find magic in the Montlake Fill, an internationally-recognized birding mecca

spanning 75 acres and boasting rare species unseen elsewhere in the state. This backyard birding gem is close to Sidles' home and heart. It's not unusual for her to encounter distressed individuals at the fill taking in the environment "to gain strength, to be uplifted, and to fall in love with nature."

### *In My Nature*: April 12, 7 pm Mountaineers Program Center

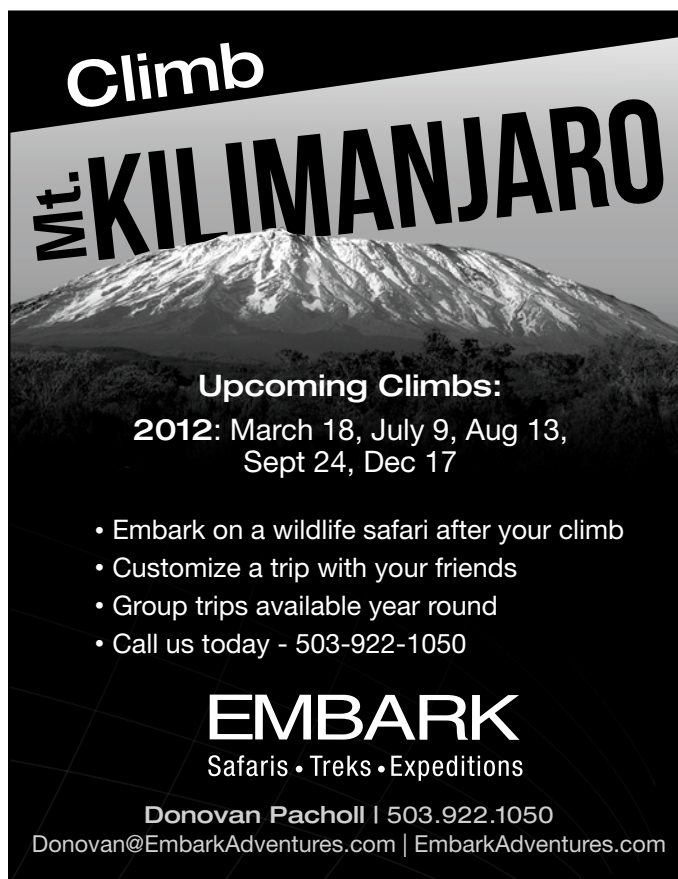
"You can get closer to birds there than any other place on the planet," observes Sidles. "Birds will let you into their world . . ." Her books compile numerous observations from the fill, but what she hopes readers will take away is a love of nature and a love of place. "Birds do not exist in a vacuum," she says, and conservation of these spaces will encourage their continued enjoyment.

**Imagine again the diminutive chickadee** as he braves the wind, rain, and snow in search of vittles. He tirelessly flaps his wings, hangs upside down from tree branches, and keeps vigilant watch for predators and his next mobile meal. Imagine running this daily routine for survival and it becomes apparent how marvelous the little chickadee can be. ▲▲

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## Groundbreaking marks beginning of renovation project in Tacoma

**Proudly outfitted** in their Mountaineers volunteer recognition jackets, executive leaders of The Mountaineers Tacoma Branch welcomed members of the Tacoma City Council and Pierce County Council, the Port of Tacoma commissioner, the president of the Economic Development Board, Tacoma and Old Town business owners, as well as other business leaders, to a groundbreaking ceremony on February 8.

The ceremony marked the start of the renovation process for The Mountaineers Tacoma Program Center.

The event included remarks from Deputy Mayor Joe Lonergan, Mountaineers Executive Director Martinique Grigg and Tacoma Branch President Geoff Lawrence.

"Groundbreaking is something of a misnomer as much of the original clubhouse, built by volunteers in 1955, is being reclaimed and reused in the renovation of our Program Center," said Geoff Lawrence.

He added, "We consider this to be more of a reclamation ceremony that marks the transition from our beloved clubhouse to an expanded program center that will maintain the spirit of The Mountaineers community as it serves the outdoor education, recreation and conservation communities in the South Sound region."

Tacoma Branch member, Tom Bates conducted a traditional Native American saging ceremony and participants had the opportunity to sign an ice ax and concrete sills that will be prominently displayed and



*Mountaineers and Tacoma community dignitaries prepare to break ground on program center in Tacoma's Old Town*

permanently incorporated into the program center.

The Tacoma Branch is in the midst of a fundraising campaign to support the program center renovation. "We're grateful to the many donors who have made generous gifts and pledges to help us raise almost \$70,000 toward our \$250,000 goal," said Jim Feltus, chair of the fundraising committee.

"This groundbreaking ceremony also marks intensified efforts to reach out to all Mountaineers members and the Tacoma community for support of this important project," he added.

For more information, contact Jim Feltus at [jimfeltus@msn.com](mailto:jimfeltus@msn.com).

**Follow the renovation process via our blog: <http://tacomaprogramcenter.blogspot.com>**

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## Upcoming Tacoma Branch Centennial celebration events

Tacoma Mountaineers, 1912-2012

### Save these dates!

**March 19** - Official 100 year Anniversary date of the Tacoma Branch of The Mountaineers

**May 12** - Commemorative "Local Walk": Location to be determined. Contact Bud Truitt [truittbljt@comcast.net](mailto:truittbljt@comcast.net) or Debbie Due [debdue@harbornet.com](mailto:debdue@harbornet.com)

**August 4** - Irish Cabin Peaks Climbs and Picnic at Mowich Lake. Contact Dan Lauren [dan.lauren@weyerhaeuser.com](mailto:dan.lauren@weyerhaeuser.com)

**October 7** - Salmon Bake at beach location to be determined

**There are more events and activities to come - much more.**

Please go to [www.tacomamountaineers.org](http://www.tacomamountaineers.org) and click on "Tacoma Branch Centennial Celebration" at the top of the page for all the latest information.

## Welcome to our seven branches of The Mountaineers

Propelled by dedicated and skilled volunteers, all branches offer a number of courses and seminars. Many courses, such as climbing, scrambling, kayaking, backcountry skiing and others, require a set of learned skills to enjoy safely and follow a common curriculum from branch to branch. Some, however, may have slight differences in the names of the courses they hold in common, such as Snowshoe Level 1 and Snowshoe Lite; Snowshoe or Backcountry Ski Course and Winter Travel; or Sailing Course and Crewing Course. Just look for the descriptions when visiting course information online or in this *Mountaineer*. See course events in the "Go Guide" section of this magazine. Although our program curricula are coordinated to meet Mountaineers-wide standards and policies, each branch offers a slightly different flavor or character to its offerings. Though you may want to join the branch nearest to your home, you may join any branch of your choosing. Note that once you are a member you may participate in trips or courses in any branch. One way to gain a taste test of a particular branch is to attend a new/prospective members' meeting. General dates of these meetings are noted under each branch heading. For all current activities and links to branch websites, visit [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org).

### BELLINGHAM

**Vice Chair:** Minda Paul

**Website:** [bellinghammountaineers.org](http://bellinghammountaineers.org).

The Bellingham Branch, tucked alongside the craggy expanse of the North Cascades, features a vital, close-knit climbing program, as well as courses in first aid and alpine scrambling. It is also home to one of the most popular Mountaineers getaway destinations, Mt. Baker Lodge. The lodge facilitates many of the courses and seminars offered by the branch. From the lodge, Mountaineers and guests can also recreate to their heart's content year-round. In addition to the courses noted above, Bellingham also offers hiking trips, snowshoe tours and backcountry ski trips.

#### Learn more

In most months other than summer, the branch hosts a meeting and slideshow for prospective members and new members to better orient them to branch offerings:

**March 13, Tue. - Bob Kandiko: Cascade**

**Panoramas:** The High, Wild and Wide Perspective of the Range - 7:30 pm at Backcountry Essentials.

**May 2, Wed. - Mount Baker Theatre**

**Speaker Series:** Mattias Klum presents Being There: On Expedition with National Geographic, 7:30 p.m. More information: [www.mountbakertheatre.com](http://www.mountbakertheatre.com)

### EVERETT

**Chair:** Carrie Strandell, [wolfwoman0819@hotmail.com](mailto:wolfwoman0819@hotmail.com)

**Website:** [everettmountaineers.org](http://everettmountaineers.org).

The Everett Branch of The Mountaineers was founded in 1910 by H.B. Linman, an Everett dentist. The new organization successfully sponsored over a dozen hikes that year. Its first outing was a hike to Lake Isabelle. Several hundred members of the public attended "stereopticon" presentations at the Everett High School auditorium. Dr. Linman, his wife, and seven other branch members reached the summit of Glacier Peak in August 1910 during

The Mountaineers' annual outing. The branch was not "officially" founded until 1911 when The Mountaineers charter was amended to provide for branches. This anomaly allowed the branch—now with over 850 members—to hold its centennial celebration in 2011!

Everett members share a wide variety of activities. Please explore the branch website or attend one of the branch monthly meetings to discover more about the branch.

#### Learn more

To learn more about branch activities and meet some nice people who happen to be Mountaineers, attend the monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month (except for July, August, and December). The next meetings are set for **March 7 and April 4**. They start at 7 p.m. in the Drewell Conference Room of the Snohomish County East Administration Building, 3000 Rockefeller Ave., in downtown Everett.

#### HELP RESTORE TRAILS & LOOKOUTS:

For more details about volunteering, contact Forrest Clark, [LOTM@everettmountaineers.org](mailto:LOTM@everettmountaineers.org).

#### SEA KAYAK COURSE ENROLLMENT:

The Everett Basic Sea Kayaking Course registration is now open and will close March 31. Register online at [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org) for this course, which runs from April 5-May 6. For more info: Ginger Stackpole, 425-232-9777, [ginger.stackpole@gmail.com](mailto:ginger.stackpole@gmail.com).

#### BASIC NAVIGATION COURSES—

Registration is open for both the student course and instructors' course in basic navigation. Courses begin March 31. To register, visit [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org).

### FOOTHILLS

**Chair:** Fran Troje, [foothills.branch@gmail.com](mailto:foothills.branch@gmail.com).

**Website:** [foothillsmountaineers.org](http://foothillsmountaineers.org).

The newest neighbor in The Mountaineers hood, Foothills Branch is continuing to add new programs and adventures to its offerings, year by year.

Covering communities on the Eastside, from Bellevue all the way to Ellensburg, the branch offers opportunities for safe and en-

joyable outdoor recreation year-round.

The branch offers conservation and recreational access advocacy, hiking, photography and skiing. As its membership grows, the branch is looking for **volunteers** to steer current and new programs, and provide new ideas for additional programs. You might even want to become one of our leaders or instructors! We can put you on that trail. Just notify Foothills Chair Fran Troje, [foothills.branch@gmail.com](mailto:foothills.branch@gmail.com), 425-746-6726.

#### Learn more

The Foothills Branch meeting for new and prospective members is held most months throughout the year. They usually start with a socializing session at 6:30 p.m., which is followed by a brief update on branch goings-on and a feature presentation at about 7:20 p.m. Meetings are held in Issaquah at the King County Library System Service Center. Watch the Foothills website (listed above) for the announcement of coming meetings.

**PCT SERIES ENROLLMENT OPEN:** Designed to introduce Mountaineers to sections of the Pacific Crest Trail and how gear up for it, students hike on sections at a time. Course starts April 1. To register, see [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org).

#### GLACIER SKI/SNOWBOARD CREVASSE

**RESCUE:** For those with competent backcountry skiing or snowboarding skills who desire to safely travel on glaciers and to perform crevasse rescues. Four-week course begins April 24. Enroll at [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org)

### KITSAP

**Chair:** Mike Raymond, [branch@kitsapcabin.org](mailto:branch@kitsapcabin.org).

**Website:** [kitsapmountaineers.org](http://kitsapmountaineers.org).

The Kitsap Branch is home to a preserve, a program center — the Kitsap Cabin — and an outdoor stage. All of these allow a potpourri of activity and delight for Mountaineers and guests.

Kitsap offers courses and programs in climbing, alpine scrambling, hiking, snowshoeing tours, photography and sea kayaking. Its Salmon Safari for youths—streamside observations of spawning salmon in the



Rhododendron Preserve—is only a short hike from Kitsap Cabin amidst some of the longest standing old-growth forest in Western Washington's lowlands.

Also a short hike away is the magical Kitsap Forest Theater, home to two **Mountaineers Players** stage productions each year.

## Learn more

The Kitsap Branch holds quarterly membership meetings at 7 p.m. at the Norm Dicks Government Center in downtown Bremerton (345 6th St.). Anyone interested in programs offered by The Mountaineers is encouraged to attend. We'll share slides of our activities followed by a feature presentation. Refreshments will be served. Watch the Kitsap Branch website for coming dates and times.

**BECOME A HIKE LEADER!** Kitsap Branch is looking to train new hike leaders hoping to offer some spring trips. Contact Dave Burton, davidbburton@msn.com for course description/schedule.

**VOLUNTEER ALERT!** We are always looking for volunteers to make our Kitsap Cabin more accommodating. If you're in the mood for cutting up some wood for our beautiful fireplace or wish to share your carpentry skills, let us know. Also, if you have some dry, burnable wood to spare at home, we could use it! If you can help in any of these ways, contact Mike Raymond, branch@kitsapmountaineers.org.

**CONSERVATION/EDUCATION PROGRAMS:** To find out the latest about Kitsap conservation projects, contact Katha Miller-Winder, conservation and education chair, info@salmonsafari.org.

## OLYMPIA

**Chair:** Bob Keranen, keranen@hcc.net.

**Website:** www.olympiamountaineers.org.

The fastest growing of the branches, Olympia has been offering Mountaineers programs and training to the South Sound for more than 45 years, including hiking, skiing, sea kayaking, snowshoeing, backpacking, climbing, outdoor leadership, and naturalist activities.

## Learn more

The Olympia Branch holds a potluck and special adventure presentation for prospective, new, and current members on the first Wednesday of each month from September through May (excluding November). It is held at the Olympia Center, 222 Columbia St. NW, in rooms 101-102. The next events will be

**March 7 and April 4.** Socializing and the potluck meal begin at 6 p.m. The adventure presentation begins at 7 p.m., followed by dessert at 8:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow Mountaineers, share ideas, learn about others' escapades, and connect with a

greater community of outdoor enthusiasts. Contact Carolyn Bureson, cbbureson@q.com, if you have questions.

## MARCH 7 POTLUCK AND ADVENTURE PRESENTATION:

Four 15-minute Adventure Presentations include Mike Kretzler on hiking along the wilderness coast in Olympic National Park, from the Hoh River to Shi Shi beach—three trips over four years. Kerry Lowry (awards) who will talk about the many awards—pins and patches—are offered by The Mountaineers. From hiking trails in the Olympics to climbing to the highest peaks in the state (and even more!), there are plenty of pins to earn. If you want more information about the various awards, then this short presentation is just what you need! Mike Riley will talk about climbing the Tres Amigos from Olympia on Le Grand Teton. And Jean Fisher, who asks: "Who would have guessed that cycling across England, would be such a challenge? It's such a small country and relatively flat - right!" The pubs along the way were great and the natives were friendly, she says, including road traffic. Jean will present a presentation on her bicycle ride from the Irish Sea to the North Sea.

## APRIL 4 POTLUCK AND ADVENTURE PRESENTATION:

Heather Hansen will present her adventures in Morocco, including art, culture, food, history and hiking, with travel from the coast to the mountains and her award-winning photographs.

**IF YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE** about joining The Mountaineers or wish to send a membership brochure to a friend, or if you have moved and don't want to miss an issue of the bimonthly *Mountaineer* magazine, send an e-mail to olymountaineers@gmail.com. Please include your mailing address so that we can send you a membership packet.

**BANFF RADICAL REELS** comes to Olympia's Capitol Theater on Friday, March 9. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7:30 p.m. Radical Reels is the higher, faster, steeper, deeper films from the Banff Mountain Film Festival. If you like high-energy and adrenaline-charged films showing climbing, base jumping, cycling, skiing, kayaking, climbing and more, then you'll want to see this show. Tickets are \$13 for the general audience. Members of the Mountaineers, Olympia Film Society, Students and Military with I.D. get \$2 off. Get tickets at The Alpine Experience in downtown Olympia, 956-1699, or through brownpapertickets.com. Come out and support the Olympia Mountaineers.

## SEA KAYAK, LEADERSHIP COURSES

**BEGIN:** The branch Sea Kayaking course begins, with classes April 24, 28, May 1, May 5, May 8, May 12 and/or 13. The Leadership Course runs in April, with classes the evenings of April 24, 26, and 27. See the branch website for details.

## THE OLYMPIA BRANCH BOARD

meets every month at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meetings are March 14 at Alpine Experience in the Hyak Room and April 11 at the Olympia Center. Members are encouraged to attend.

**OLYMPIA BRANCH LIBRARY:** Located at Maxine Dunkelman's house, 5418 Lemon Rd. N.E. Contact Maxine, 360-352-5027, maxdunk@comcast.net, if you'd like to come by to browse or check out or return materials. Returns can also be made at Alpine Experience (in the box behind the front counter). Books, DVDs, and maps owned by the branch are listed and searchable on the branch website. Maxine also attends our first-Wednesday potluck presentations with a selection of books to check out.

## SEATTLE

**Chair:** Timmy Williams, mtnrtimmy@clearwire.net.

**Website:** seattlemountaineers.org.

The largest of our branches, Seattle gives lovers of the outdoors an opportunity to try out hiking, backpacking, scrambling, climbing, skiing, snowshoeing, wilderness navigation, first aid, family activities, folk dances, leadership training, naturalist study, photography, singles events, Retired Rovers activities, Under the Hill Rovers activities and sailing.

## Learn more

The next **MEET THE MOUNTAINEERS** will be held in May. Watch the website and next *Mountaineer* for more about this informational meeting on all things Mountaineers. Snacks and beverages always available.

## BASIC SEA KAYAKING COURSE:

Enrollment closes April 3 for this course that runs from April 10 to August 31. See www.mountaineers.org for more.

**FREE HIKING SEMINARS:** Do you have the hiking or backpacking bug but you just need to know a little more about how to get started in the Pacific Northwest? The Seattle Branch offers a free Beginning Hiking Seminar most months. They begin at 6:30 p.m. on **March 15 and April 19** at The Mountaineers Program Center. Though they are free, it is requested that participants register online for these seminar to make sure there is enough seating available.

**CRAG CLIMBING COURSE:** Only five spaces open as of press time. Enrollment closes March 15 for this course beginning March 22.

**CONDITIONING HIKING SERIES:** For seasoned hikers wanting the challenge of long-distance day hikes. Enrollment closes March 11.

## BASIC CREWING/SAILING COURSE:

Learn how to be a crew member on a Mountaineers sail and sail for free after graduation!

Continued on page 34

Enrollment closes April 3 for this course that begins April 5.

**PLANNING AHEAD:** Kathy Biever and Julie Miller's Light-footing to Lighthouses (#14 - North Head & #15 - Cape Disappointment) series continues with a five-day stay (May 14-18) at Long Beach, WA. Contact Kathy for complete details. [eskay39@comcast.net](mailto:eskay39@comcast.net) or 206-283-9047.

**DO YOU WANNA DANCE?** The Seattle singles group and the Folk Dancing Committee hold dances and lessons. Contact Karen Ludwig, [karenludwig2000@yahoo.com](mailto:karenludwig2000@yahoo.com), for upcoming singles dances and visit [www.mountaineers/seattle/folkdance](http://www.mountaineers/seattle/folkdance).

**ADVANCE NOTICE!** Join us for a weekend hiking trip to the sunny Methow Valley—leaving on Fri., June 1, and returning Sun., June 3. The weekend will include optional lodging at Sun Mountain Resort for Friday and Saturday nights, your choice of Mountaineers-offered hikes of varying distance/gain on Saturday, and an optional Cowboy Dinner/trail ride offered on Saturday night. For more information on the weekend, contact Chris Ensor, [censor@comcast.net](mailto:censor@comcast.net), or Kelly Cleman, [masterhiker@gmail.com](mailto:masterhiker@gmail.com). To see more about Sun Mountain Lodge, visit [www.sunmountainlodge.com](http://www.sunmountainlodge.com).

## TACOMA

**Chair:** Geoff Lawrence, [geoff.lawrence@tacomamountaineers.org](mailto:geoff.lawrence@tacomamountaineers.org).

**Website:** [www.tacomamountaineers.org](http://www.tacomamountaineers.org).

The second largest of all seven branches, Tacoma hosts its own program center and hub (soon to be renovated and expanded) in the quaint Tacoma neighborhood of Old Town near Puget Sound. Close to Mt. Rainier and to yet another Mountaineers property, Irish Cabin on the Carbon River, Tacoma Branch offers an extensive list of activities and courses in backpacking, hiking, conservation, scrambling, climbing, first aid, snowshoeing, skiing, sea kayaking, sailing, bicycling, singles events, wilderness navigation, avalanche awareness, folk dancing, photography and family activities.

Visit our website and browse through our activities, our events calendar, the "Who We Are," and learn about us.

### Learn more

#### MEET THE TACOMA MOUNTAINEERS:

Tacoma Branch holds a free meeting on the third Friday of every month (except June-August and December) to introduce prospective and new members to the branch. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. with a presentation about The Mountaineers, followed by an interlude to talk with various activity reps (hiking, climbing, sea kayaking to name a few of 22 activities) Due to the Tacoma center remodel, meetings will be at

Pierce County Library PAC, 3005 112th St. E., Tacoma (just south of Highway 512, about halfway between Interstate 5 and Puyallup).

**EDGEWORKS CLIMBING GYM** has announced an approximately 15 percent membership discount to all Mountaineers! For more details visit their website at <http://www.edgeworksclimbing.com>.

**PROGRAM CENTER REMODEL:** See pg. 31 for the latest about this renovation and fundraising for it.

#### OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SEMINAR.

March 24, Sat., 8:00 a.m.-5 p.m. The Tacoma Branch one-day leadership seminar, held at the Masonic Lodge (2530 Grandview Dr. W.), is for both current and prospective leaders of Mountaineers trips and activities. Register by March 10 via [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org) or contact Julie Myer, [juliem135@comcast.net](mailto:juliem135@comcast.net), 360-870-1553, for all the info.

**FOLKDANCING:** On the fourth Saturday, Sept.-April, the branch offers Scandinavian folkdance, waltzes, Schottische, polka and mixers at Normanna Hall at 7 p.m.. \$10 admission; no registration required. Contact Karen Goettling, 253-759-3731, [karengoettling@gmail.com](mailto:karengoettling@gmail.com), for more.

## MOUNTAINEERS-WIDE PLAYERS:

Escape to the Kitsap Forest Theater and stroll down the forested trail to our unique, breathtaking stage. Create a treasured family tradition!

The Players are excited to announce the 2012 lineup: "Fiddler on the Roof" this spring (directed by Craig Schieber) and "Footloose, the Musical" this summer (directed by Ken Michels). Guy Caridi will be choreographing both shows, featuring wonderful stories, memorable music and fun dancing. Fore more, see our website, [www.foresttheater.com](http://www.foresttheater.com).

**Help wanted:** If you are interested in helping in any capacity, please contact Gala Lindvall, 206-542-7815, [galabaskets@comcast.net](mailto:galabaskets@comcast.net), and/or Nancy Estill, 206-595-8610, [nestill@u.washington.edu](mailto:nestill@u.washington.edu). Visit [www.ForestTheater.com](http://www.ForestTheater.com).

**Kitsap Forest Adventure Camp:** The Players are excited to announce a new adventure camp for youth, grades K-3. Dates of the camp are July 9-13 and July 16-20. Enroll your kids to play, explore and create at the Kitsap Forest Theater. Visit our website for additional information or call 206-542-7815.



**Mt. Baker Telemark/Randonee Ski Camp: March 3-4, 2012**

Presented by the Foothills Branch, camp participants will meet at the Heather Meadows Mt. Baker Ski Area at 9 a.m. Members: \$190, Non-members: \$210. Leader: Shannon Marie, (206) 849-3203, [smarie123@aol.com](mailto:smarie123@aol.com)

**For updates on all branches' events, visit  
[www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org)  
and see "Connect"**

Mountaineers lodges are open year-round for members and guests. Reservations are made through a prepay system which accepts payment by either credit card or a check. If paying by credit card, simply call 206-521-6001 by 5 p.m. (for all lodges except Meany which is via [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com); 800-838-3006) on the Thursday prior to the weekend. If paying by check, the payment must be received by 5 p.m. Thursday prior to the weekend you wish to reserve. All we ask of you thereafter is to call the program center, 206-521-6001, by 5 p.m. on Thursday to confirm that your payment has been received and that a reservation has been secured. **Cancellations:** All cancellations, except for Meany, must be made at the program center by 5 p.m. on the Thursday before the lodge visit. The cooks need to know you're coming! This is also the refund deadline.

## Baker Lodge

The Mountaineers Mt. Baker Lodge is nestled in the spectacular beauty of the North Cascades and just a short walk from nine ski lifts operated by the Mt. Baker Ski Area Co. ([www.mtbaker.us](http://www.mtbaker.us)). Within a short distance from the lodge there are snowshoe routes and cross-country ski trails ([www.nooksacknordicclub.org/overview.php](http://www.nooksacknordicclub.org/overview.php)). Watch the Baker Lodge website via [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org) (under "Outdoor Centers," "Baker Lodge" and "Search & Register") or [www.bakerlodge.org](http://www.bakerlodge.org) for updates and details on openings this winter. Unless otherwise indicated, the lodge is open to the public on all dates, with reservations on a first-call basis through online registration or by calling 206-521-6001. Payments are made at time of reservation with credit card.

Questions can be answered by contacting Bill Woodcock, 206-725-7750, Judy Sterry, 206-366-2750, [jsterry60@comcast.net](mailto:jsterry60@comcast.net), Dale Kisker, 206-365-9508, [dkisker@comcast.net](mailto:dkisker@comcast.net), or by visiting the Baker Lodge website.

**Winter Schedule/rates:** Baker Lodge is open all weekends from Thanksgiving through early April, provided there is adequate snow and registrations. Additionally, the lodge is continuously open from the day after Christmas through New Year's Day. Please click on "Calendar and Reservations" in the upper right corner of the Baker Lodge website's home page at [www.bakerlodge.org](http://www.bakerlodge.org).

**Amenities:** The lodge is normally open by 7 or 8 p.m. on Fridays. If you need a more specific opening time, call the host listed online.

The trail from the parking lot to the lodge is marked with flagged poles and lights until approximately 10:30 p.m. when the lights are turned off. If you arrive after 10:30 p.m. be prepared with a flashlight or headlamp. Each person should bring a sleeping bag, pillow, personal gear and a flashlight. Cars should have a shovel and chains. Saturday/Sunday breakfasts and Saturday dinner are served on weekends.

Baker Lodge welcomes the public, all ages and abilities. Families with children of age 5 or under should call the host prior to registering.

**Fifth graders can obtain a free lift ticket** from the ski company's Bellingham office (9-5:30 weekdays) after completing an application and providing proof that they are in the fifth grade. Visit the ski area website at [www.mtbaker.us](http://www.mtbaker.us) for the application and

additional information.

**Get involved:** Do you enjoy hosting people at parties, special events or in your home? Do you enjoy being a part of a team that puts meals together for others? If so, Baker Lodge may be your next opportunity.

The Baker Lodge Committee is looking for energetic individuals/couples/families to assist with general operations throughout the year. You can become hosts for Baker Lodge with just two weekends of training. Specific duties range from opening and closing the lodge, assisting with and/or supervising meal preparations, and coordinating lodge activities. The possibilities are limited only by your imagination.

Members of the Baker Lodge Committee are interested in exploring new ideas for maximizing this "beautiful little gem of a lodge" that sits in the shadows of Mt. Baker. Couples could team up with other couples to serve as hosts. Families could come together and welcome other families in for a family weekend. **Hosts stay for free.**

Those who lead Mountaineers trips and activities are always welcome to bring your group of Mountaineers members and guests to the lodge for any overnight or weekend.

**Mt Baker Telemark/Randonee Ski Camp - March 3-4:** Presented by the Foothills Branch. Meet at Heather Meadows Mt. Baker Ski area at 9 a.m. Members: \$190, Non-members: \$210. Leader: Shannon Marie, (206) 849-3203, [smarie123@aol.com](mailto:smarie123@aol.com) (st1/15-2/29)

**Driving directions:** N. on I-5 to Bellingham, take Exit 255, the Mt. Baker Highway, and go E. on SR-542 about 54 mi. to the ski area. At the Firs Chalet, turn right onto the one-way loop road that leads 0.3 mi. to our lodge on the right side of the road. We are about 1-1/2 hours from Bellingham and three hours from Seattle.

## Kitsap Cabin

Built mostly by Mountaineers women in 1918, the Kitsap Cabin is home to The Mountaineers Kitsap Branch and The Mountaineers Players during spring and summer as they rehearse and perform at the Kitsap Forest Theater. The Players also hold their Youth Theater Camp at the Forest Theater.

Kitsap Cabin is surrounded by the Rhododendron Preserve, a 460-acre private reserve operated by The Mountaineers Foundation. It is one of the largest remaining parcels of Puget Sound lowland, old-growth forest in the Puget Sound Basin and serves as a buffer

from encroaching development not only for the theater but also the creeks that are vital for spawning salmon each fall.

The cabin and theater are available for private rentals. For rental information, please call 206-542-7815.

For more about the Kitsap Branch, visit [www.kitsapmountaineers.org](http://www.kitsapmountaineers.org).

For information about the 2011 Players' season, visit [www.ForestTheater.com](http://www.ForestTheater.com).

For information about The Mountaineers Foundation and the Rhododendron Preserve, visit [www.mountaineersfoundation.org](http://www.mountaineersfoundation.org).

## Meany Lodge

**Meany Facebook page:** We continually add info and pictures about Meany events. Don't worry if you don't have a Facebook page; all info is posted on the Meany website and sent out monthly via e-mail.

**Informational emails:** To keep everyone up to date as to what is happening at Meany we send out a general informational emails roughly once or twice a month. We also send out emails geared to some of our specific events (i.e., Women's Weekend, Mushroom Weekend). So if you are interested in anything Meany has to offer, visit our website at [www.meanylodge.org](http://www.meanylodge.org) and fill out the request information

**Meany Winter Carnival:** When the winter season ends, Meany does it up big! The Winter Carnival is an event not to be missed. All sorts of winter sports activities are planned. To name a few: all types of ski races (even skiing backwards), snow/ice sculpting, s'mores and a talent show.

**Meany's own world premiere videos:** definitely a time for the entire family to enjoy. To register go to <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/128390> and select either March 9 or 10.

**Meany hosts a series of events coming this summer and fall:**

- Women's wellness weekend. [http://www.meanylodge.org/summer/women\\_weekend/women\\_weekend.html](http://www.meanylodge.org/summer/women_weekend/women_weekend.html). A weekend for women to empower and refresh themselves.

- Bicycle weekend. [http://www.meanylodge.org/summer/bicycle\\_weekend.html](http://www.meanylodge.org/summer/bicycle_weekend.html). A weekend for bicycling the trails/roads around Meany.

- Family hiking weekend. <http://www.meanylodge.org/summer/hikeweekend/Announcement.html>. A chance to see what Meany is like without snow and where picking/

Continued on page 36



eating wild berries is the rave.

•Mushroom weekend. <http://www.meanylodge.org/fall/mushroomwknd/mushroom.html>. A fantastic way to learn everything you want to know about picking mushrooms in the Pacific Northwest

**Meany rentals:** Meany is available for private rentals and Mountaineers events for the winter season. If you want a nice, secluded cabin for a retreat or seminar, then visit our website, [www.meanylodge.org](http://www.meanylodge.org). Go to "Contacts" and send an email telling the chair that you are interested.

## Snoqualmie Campus

Snoqualmie Campus is available for group rentals on Saturdays and Sundays only. Please contact The Mountaineers Program Center, [info@mountaineers.org](mailto:info@mountaineers.org) (preferred) or 206-521-6001, if you are interested in renting the property for your group.

## Stevens Lodge

Visit [www.stevenslodge.org](http://www.stevenslodge.org) to view current activities at the lodge. For more information, contact Angela or Greg, 425-258-4847, [greg@stevenslodge.org](mailto:greg@stevenslodge.org).

Bring a warm sleeping bag, toilet articles and a towel for the shower, suitable clothing, your gear and a flashlight. Some pillows are available, but feel free to bring your own if you desire. Bring a padlock if you wish to secure your equipment. Stow your gear in a pack or sled suitable for walking the 600-foot distance to the lodge.

**Driving directions:** Take US-2 to the Stevens Pass Ski area. Turn into the parking entrance just below Tye Creek Lodge (the old West Lodge) on the W. side of the summit. Stay left at the entrance and go around the hairpin turn at the far end of the lot, then continue to the upper level parking area, Lot

#4. Park here. Look for a steep Cat track/service trail leading up the bank at the far end of the lot. Stay on it and turn right at the top. Go past the lodge on the left (Penguins' Ski Club) for 500' until you come to a sharp 90-degree bend in the trail. The reddish-brown, four-story building is the lodge.

**Mt. Baker  
Telemark/Randonee  
Ski Camp, March  
3-4. See Baker  
Lodge, pgs. 34-35**

# offbelay

## Daniel R. Davis, noted alpinist and Mountaineer

Friends of accomplished alpinist Dan Davis, a Mountaineers member since 1959, were deeply saddened to learn of his death on January 14, 2012, after his nearly six-month bout with lymphoma.

Dan emerged at a young age as one of the most distinguished alpinists of North America by virtue of numerous and notable first ascents. His calm wisdom, combined with enormous strength and skill, made him a favorite climbing partner for many and a highly revered climbing mentor.

Among his notable accomplishments were the first winter ascent of the North Peak of Mt. Index and the first ascent of Mt. Robson's N. Face in the Canadian Rockies—climbs that demanded the intense focus and bold initiative for which Dan was known.

The record holder for Mt. Rainier routes—climbing the mountain 24 times by 23 different routes—Dan had nearly completed his pursuit of reaching the highest summit in each of the 50 states.

Though climbing was his trademark, Dan

was equally passionate about cycling, as evidenced by his 900-mile bicycle trip from Seattle to Berkeley at age 17 to visit his grandmother.

An avid racer in his early years, Dan continued challenging himself on the bicycle throughout his life, notably participating in the 200-mile STP (Seattle-to-Portland) event 19 times. He finished in the elite group, completing the entire distance in one day, 13 times.

Born in California and raised in Seattle, Dan earned BS and MS degrees in mathematics from the University of Washington, and worked as a mathematician at Boeing.

A celebration of Dan's life will be Saturday, July 28, 2012. For further information contact: [dan.davis.climber@gmail.com](mailto:dan.davis.climber@gmail.com)

## Donald Bechlem, ski mountaineer

Donald Nielsen Bechlem, an ardent ski mountaineer who joined The Mountaineers in 1956, died December 5, 2011 in Seattle.

A dentist who gained his MSD degree from the University of Washington in 1959, Bechlem

loved being in the outdoors. He graduated from The Mountaineers ski mountaineering course and completed The Mountaineers Baker's Dozen climbs. He also enjoyed hiking and when not outside, listening to music, especially that of the swing era.

A native of the Northwest, Bechlem was born May 5, 1920 in Portland, Oregon. He practiced dentistry in Bremerton from 1947 to 1957 and in Seattle from 1959 to 1975.

## Gwen S. Sobieralski

Gwen S. Sobieralski, who died August 9, 2011, at the age of 94, loved the outdoors and participated in various Mountaineers activities. She and her husband, Toni, chaired the Mt. Baker Lodge in the 1960's and were involved in many of its work parties.

Dedicated conservationists, they helped protect wilderness and wild and scenic rivers in the 1950s and '60s. Additionally, Gwen participated in Camp Crafting, performed in Mountaineers plays and, in her last decades, was an active Retired Rover as well as an avid world traveler who enjoyed meeting people from far and wide.

## Introducing The Mountaineers Business Member Program

We are excited to announce that there will soon be a new way to join The Mountaineers! The new **Business Membership** category has been established as an option to provide the small business owners in our midst an opportunity to network with each other and with fellow members, as well as get the word out about the businesses and services that exist within The Mountaineers community.

Mountaineers have long been networking informally, but the new membership category allows easier access to fellow Mountaineers business professionals while also strengthening support for the organization overall. Some of the added benefits envisioned for members who join at this level include:

- Directory listing on The Mountaineers website
- Directory listing in the *Mountaineer* magazine
- Organized networking nights

Mountaineer Leah Schulz (see "Stepping Up," pg. 19) is volunteering to lead the effort to develop this program and recruit our first group of **Business Members**. We are incredibly grateful for her energies and excited by the potential to grow a new program that will greatly benefit both the organization and our larger community.

As the **Business Membership** option takes shape, watch the website for new info in the coming weeks and mark your calendars to join us for the first **Business Networking Night** at The Mountaineers Program Center in Seattle, Wednesday, May 30. Hope to see you there!

To learn more about the new **Business Member** category or the **Membership Program** in general, contact Valerie Normand, [valerien@mountaineers.org](mailto:valerien@mountaineers.org), 206-521-6023.

For a complete list of benefits and how to access them, log onto our website and check out our Member Benefits page, [www.mountaineers.org/membership/benefits.cfm](http://www.mountaineers.org/membership/benefits.cfm), or contact Member Services at 206-521-6001.

**And remember:** As a mission-based and volunteer-driven, 501(c)(3) nonprofit, we rely on the philanthropic support of our members to continue our recreation, education and conservation efforts in the community, and all but \$10 of your dues are tax-deductible.

### Other upcoming events

**Radical Reels 2012** (see ad, this page): Higher, faster, steeper, deeper! The Banff Mountain Film Festival Radical Reels tour is coming to town - screening the most outrageous films of the year featuring boarding, climbing, cycling, kayaking, mountaineering and more!

- **Olympia** - March 9, 7:30 p.m. (Capitol Theatre): \$13, general admission; \$11, member discount with ID (Mountaineers/Students/Military/Olympia Film Society); visit [www.olympiafilmsociety.org](http://www.olympiafilmsociety.org) for ticket availability and details
- **Seattle** - March 13, 7 p.m. (Mountaineers Program Center): \$20, general admission; \$15, member discount with ID; visit [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org) or contact Member Services for ticket availability and details

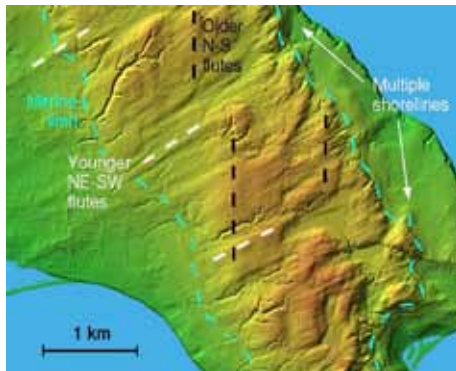


**OLYMPIA**  
Fri., March 9  
Capitol Theater

**SEATTLE**  
Tue., March 13  
Mountaineers  
Program Center

**Two  
Mountaineers  
showings!**

## How ice, water, time shaped the Puget Lowland



About 16,000 years ago, Seattle lay beneath 3,000 feet of ice. It's only just history, you may say. But Ralph Haugerud, a federal research scientist for USGS, sees its evidence all around. "Most of our landscape is pretty much as it was just after the last glaciation," he says. For 15 years he has been studying this glacial period, and new technologies in mapping the landscape have led to some unexpected discoveries.

New high-resolution topography from scanning laser rangefinders has allowed Haugerud and others to see the landscape in a new way. Topographic maps have long guided hikers and mountaineers interested in the lay of the land from the ground up. But for earth scientists like Haugerud, topography is best viewed from the air.

Scanning laser rangefinders are fine tuning what can be seen from the air. "We haven't had that technology until recently," Haugerud says. "Most of our mapping has used aerial photography, but now we have better detail using GPS and laser rangefinders." After the scans are run, computer modeling allows new details to emerge.

"Imagine trying to read a book when you can see the pages and paragraphs, but not the letters," says the scientist. Now they can see the 'letters' of the landscape. "We can see the fine texture. We can see where melting ice dumped debris. We can see shorelines formed by ice-marginal lakes. These are subtle features not easily seen when you are standing on the

surface."

The glacier itself did not act like a typical glacier, he adds. You can say, in general, that ice shaped the landscape, but more importantly, he says, "ice directed the flow of water, and water shaped the landscape."

Instead of being completely frozen, moving

**"The Last Glaciation of the Puget Lowland,"**  
a lecture by Ralph Haugerud: Thursday,  
March 8, at 7 p.m. at The Mountaineers  
Program Center.

forward continuously like a "conveyor belt," our last glacier had a lot of melt water under it, not just at the front edge.

It doesn't sound like a big deal, but from a geologic standpoint, all this water made a huge impact on the landscape. "It's this great amount of melt water that ultimately made the Puget Lowland that we see today."

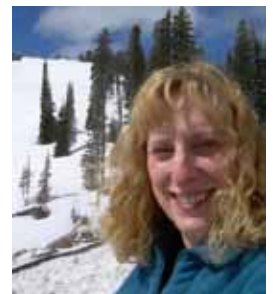
Not only has the laser technology revealed more about glacial history, it has melted away mysteries about another geological phenomenon. "The most spectacular thing has not been the glacial story," says Haugerud.

In the course of studying glaciers, researchers have turned up 14,000 years worth of new earthquake data that was previously unavailable. "Prior to 1995, we knew about two scarps—earthquake scarps. Now, with lasers, we have discovered more scarps—about 20 more." These are fault scarps, where past earthquakes have broken through the surface. Now scientists are learning more about earthquakes in our region. "We can dig a trench across these scarps and learn more about their history."

See page 30 for news about  
the April Naturalists' lecture

### About the author

Joan Miller grew up on the East Coast but happily calls the Pacific Northwest home now. A member of The Mountaineers Naturalist Group, she admits she still can't identify all the firs. She can check off orcas and tufted puffins from her life list, but she has yet to find Wilson's warbler. She's a former journalist, photographer, and works in nonprofit fundraising.





Please visit  
**www.mountaineers.org**  
for updates on all trips  
and course offerings from  
The Mountaineers



**Did you know Mountaineers play at sea level too?** The Seattle Branch Crewing/Sailing Course begins April 5. See "Sailing" above for information about registration. **Sea Kayaking** courses are also offering some sea-level skills (see at left).

**Go to [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org) for all trips/outings updates**

### I'm Where?

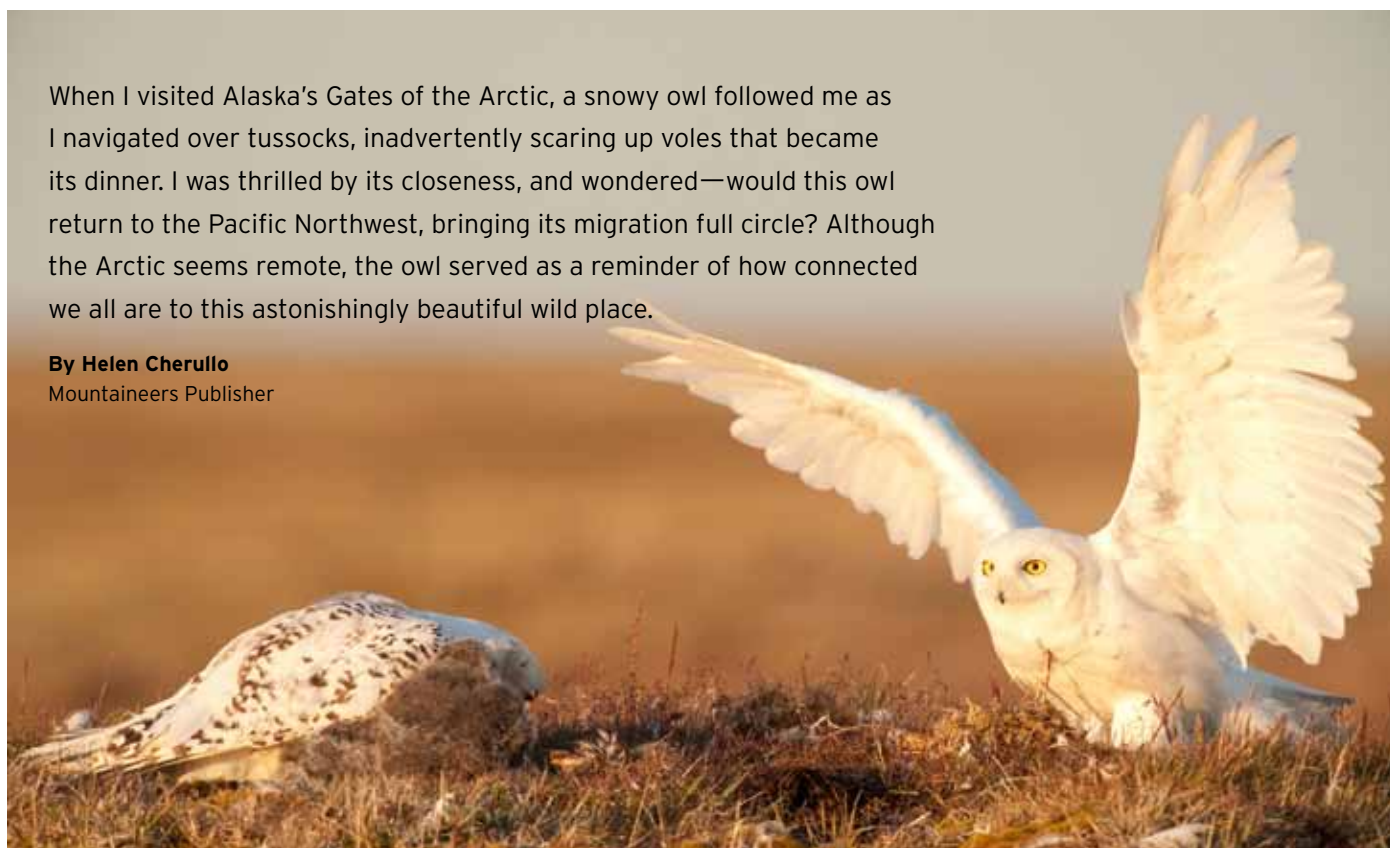
Can you identify the summit in the foreground here? Send your answer (by April 1) by post or e-mail: brads@mountaineers.org; I'm Where?, the *Mountaineer*, 7700 Sand Point Way N.E., Seattle, WA 98115. If you guess correctly, you'll receive a \$15 coupon good for Mountaineers purchases, and we'll publish your name in next month's column. In case of a tie, one winner will be chosen at random. Mountaineers employees or persons shown in the photograph are not eligible. Each month we'll publish a new mystery landmark and identification of the previous one.



- **Send your photographs** for possible publication as a mystery summit (include identification for our benefit). See e-mail and mailing address at left. If we use your photo, you will receive a \$15 Mountaineers coupon good for Mountaineers purchases.
- Julie Smith of our Olympia Branch correctly identified Mt. Hood as the summit in the January/February *Mountaineer*. The photo was taken by Matthias Schwoch.

When I visited Alaska's Gates of the Arctic, a snowy owl followed me as I navigated over tussocks, inadvertently scaring up voles that became its dinner. I was thrilled by its closeness, and wondered—would this owl return to the Pacific Northwest, bringing its migration full circle? Although the Arctic seems remote, the owl served as a reminder of how connected we all are to this astonishingly beautiful wild place.

**By Helen Cherullo**  
Mountaineers Publisher



© Florian Schulz/visionsofthewild.com; from his book TO THE ARCTIC by Mountaineers Books/Braided River

## Connections

**Through telling tales of adventure** and accomplishment, Mountaineers Books encourages our readers to expand their world and live their dreams.

We also celebrate the wild places that inspire personal challenges, and expand our understanding of the world around us. The physical tests of terrain, geology, weather, and the realization that we are not in control of our conditions is often humbling, frightening—and absolutely exhilarating.



*Helen at Gates of the Arctic*

Through a creative alchemy of images and words, the work of Mountaineers Books and our conservation imprint, Braided River, builds upon a tradition that has roots in the paintings of Thomas Moran. His images and stories inspired decision makers, who had never experienced the Yellowstone ecosystem, to create Yellowstone National Park in the late 1800s. We also take inspiration from the photographic books published by David Brower and the Sierra Club in the 1950s and 60s that led to preserving the giant redwoods and establishing ten new national parks.

Many decades after its creation, we are celebrating the North Cascades National Park with another photographic book—a project closely tied to an overall Mountaineers-focused commitment involving members, volunteers, staff and a broad-based community coalition.

In the Pacific Northwest, we still enjoy large-scale, wild, natural places that have been largely compromised around this continent, around our globe. Backyard treasures, like the North Cascades, are reminders of the importance of preserving the last remaining special places—for health and enrichment today, and for generations to come.

**Sales of guidebooks are not enough to fund** years of dedicated photographic fieldwork or the creation of Braided River's coffee-table books, exhibits and media. We are grateful for the philanthropy of individuals and foundations that make this work possible. People will protect what they know and value. This is our mission; part education—with a large measure of beauty and inspiration—and the encouragement and tools to help people engage in public policy discussion that determines the fate of these remarkable places. We chose the name Braided River because the many interwoven strands remind us of the importance of individuals and communities working together to make a difference.

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Check the weather and avalanche forecast at  
**[www.nwac.us](http://www.nwac.us)** before heading out.

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and support the service.

Photo © Stephen Matera

