

# Mountaineer

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

## INSPIRED

Stories of achieving  
and exceeding goals

### ALSO INSIDE:

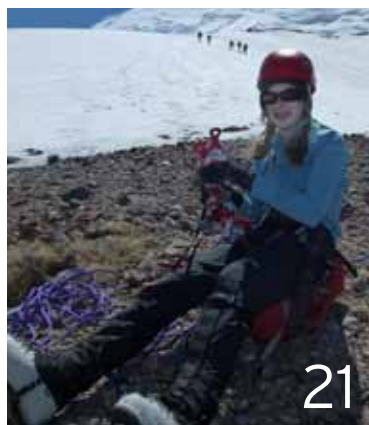
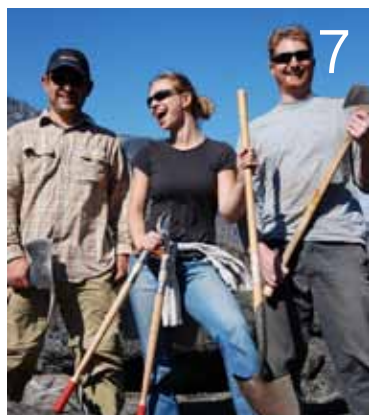
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Nov/Dec 2011 » Volume 105 » Number 6

*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:** Mountaineer Sarah Draves looks out from atop Mt. Rainier for the very first time. Her father, Rich Draves, took the photo.

## When we give, horizons are expanded

**Ahhh—November.** The snows will soon be upon us. Our activities soon will take a winter turn. Yea!

Speaking of activities, how many days of kids' activities do you think we supported this past year through volunteer and staff work?

I confess that when I first joined The Mountaineers to get outdoors and meet fellow explorers, this question never entered my mind. I was just glad to meet many of my now closest friends, intrigued and drawn in by the range of outdoor activities as I continued to learn and challenge myself, and enjoyed events like the Banff Film Festival, Mountaineers presentations, lectures and other celebrations centered on the outdoors.

It was a couple years after I joined that I began to really enjoy giving back, assisting with instruction and teaching as well as leading activities and trips—the personal investment and reward of seeing others progress. I felt a sense of making a difference in my community unlike anything else I could imagine. In fewer words, I was inspired. Eventually, this led to my volunteering for organizational leadership roles within The Mountaineers.

It's through this last set of roles that I've come to truly understand what I think of as our "higher calling," a way in which we distinguish ourselves from other outdoor recreation organizations. As a collective community we are a strong and unique voice in helping to preserve the lands we love, enjoy and explore while ensuring reasonable access. Through our renewed youth and family programs we are inspiring the next generation to connect with and care for nature. We are effectively leaving our legacy for future generations while engaging in our own enjoyment of the outdoors today.

This "two-for"—enjoying today while creating a legacy for tomorrow—is important to me, especially when it comes to inspiring future generations to care for the outdoors during a time when so many other interests compete for their attention and so many other uses compete for our unprotected lands. We are fighting a battle with our Mountaineers resources—volunteers, staff and publishing arm—to remind people about the beauty in the outdoors and inspire them to enjoy the outdoors responsibly while preserving our natural wonders. For many of our members and partners, this higher calling is the reason they participate in or with The Mountaineers. Some of them speak of their higher calling—their inspirations—in this issue.

### 100-plus days in the field working with youth

Through our volunteer- and staff-led efforts this year, we spent more than 100 days in the field working with youth, thanks to your support as members as well as support from foundations. We published several new books on how to get outdoors with kids. And we maintained a very active conservation outreach while continuing our mission-based publishing effort to save natural areas.

As we come to the end of the year I will continue to support The Mountaineers in terms of my time and expertise, but also with my financial gifts. Since we are now a 501(c)(3), a majority of my membership dues and direct gifts are tax deductible. Therefore, as this year ends I will be giving more to support our ongoing work with youth and conservation and to enhance our legacy, thus securing a future for our natural lands through a continuing interest in the outdoors that lasts well beyond my lifetime. Won't you please join me in giving?

I'd like to hear from you at [tabmountaineers@hotmail.com](mailto:tabmountaineers@hotmail.com).



Tab Wilkins, 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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## Inside these pages: seeing the horizon and reaching beyond it

A famous American political leader once said, "There are those who look at things the way they are, and ask why . . . I dream of things that never were, and ask why not?"

As our community of hikers, climbers, paddlers, naturalists and other outdoor goers stands at the precipice of The Mountaineers' 106th birthday, we can proudly say that in 2011 we reduced our list of "things that never were," on personal and organizational levels.

On the personal level you will learn in this year-end edition of the *Mountaineer* how a 13-year-old girl who dreamed one day of standing at the top of the highest mountain in the Northwest came about doing it, with a little help from a fellow Mountaineers member—her dad. You will also learn how a man whose climb of Mt. Rainier at an age one year younger than the girl came to realize—as an adult who had stood atop Everest a few times—how his famous great uncle, a Mountaineer by the name of Duke Watson, inspired him to set his sights on "something higher than Everest."

A longtime Mountaineers steward who leads Salmon Safari field trips for underserved children conveys that only seven words provide her inspiration: "That was cool. Let's do it again."

These things that were never possible in someone's life are the

things that The Mountaineers is now striving, harder than ever, to make possible by connecting with those lives.

Read a longtime Mountaineer conservationist's account of how something as unseen as the removal of an entire dam is now breaching the wall of "things that never were."

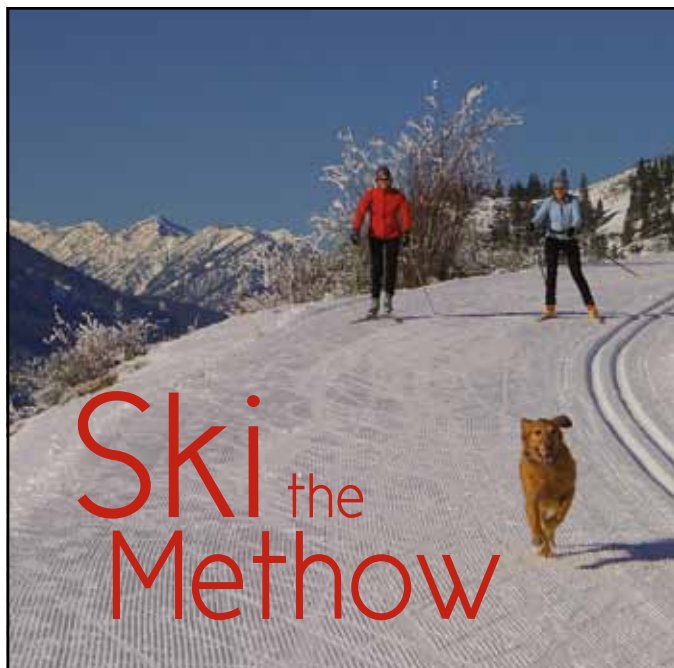
Read how one Mountaineers climber has found that the best way to see those things that are now out of sight is by setting "an adventurous goal."

Perhaps it was an adventurous goal that took the aforementioned political leader and first-time climber Robert F. Kennedy—the dreamer of "things that never were"—to the top of what was then our continent's highest peak to never have been climbed. He also had the help of a Mountaineer or two, Dee Molenaar and Jim Whittaker.

As our magazine ends its first year in a format that never was but now is, and our organization crosses a new threshold as a 501(c)(3) whose duty to reach out is more tantamount than ever, let's all aspire to what climber Jessica Todd, in her article inside, espouses from an old Persian proverb:

"Go as far as you can see, and when you get there you'll see further."

Brad Stracener, Managing Editor



The Methow Valley Sport Trails Association welcomes members of The Mountaineers to **ski 2 for 1 for a day** this 2011-2012 season.

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## MUST KNOW . . .

**Steve Swenson**, engineer, president of the American Alpine Club, and member of The Mountaineers Advisory Council and Peak Society.

This Seattle native's climbing career spans decades and includes the second ascent of the North Face of Mount Alberta, 1981; the first ascent of the Northeast Face of Kwangde Nup in Nepal, 1989; and the first ascent of the Mazeno Ridge on Nanga Parbat, 2004. He's also summited K2 in 1990 via the North Ridge and soloed Everest in 1994—both without supplemental oxygen.

Swenson was drawn to climbing in the third or fourth grade. "I wasn't very good at playing organized-ball sports as a kid. In fact, when choosing teams at school recess, I was usually last to be chosen. My classmates would often remark, "Don't choose Steve.



We'll be sure to lose." But he found that climbing was something he was good at. Nearly 45 years after reaching the top of his first mountain, he is still actively pursuing the sport.

Swenson and his team returned to Seattle in September after successfully achieving the first ascent of Saser Kangri II on August 25. Saser Kangri II, at 7,518 meters, was the second highest unclimbed mountain in the world.

Steve says his climbing can be a worry to his family. He recently overheard his father respond to his visiting father-in-law's question, "Do you worry about Steve when he goes climbing?" Steve's father replied, "It is a worry but it could be worse—he could be in a motorcycle gang or something like that."

## MUST DO . . .

Explore the outdoors with your kids because:

- 1) The skills learned will teach self-reliance, confidence and an ability to overcome adversity
- 2) It allows the chance to build a meaningful relationship with your child
- 3) It prevents obesity and all of the accompanying health issues
- 4) It fosters creativity, imagination and caring for the outdoor spaces where we play

## MUST HAVE . . .

**Tools to create alpine art.** Dee Molenaar (see pg. 27) is believed to have painted the highest-altitude watercolors in history—25,000 feet on K2—in a snowbound tent during a storm. As stove fuel for melting the snow dwindled, thus their drinking water as well, his fellow climbers made him drink the remaining water colored with pigments.

You might not be that dedicated, but here are some means to inspire your own alpine art:

**Rite in the Rain**—these all-weather journals are perfect for the Northwest's drizzle, whether you're the next Molenaar, John Muir or just want to keep track of your routes from your Basic Climbing Course. [www.riteintherain.com](http://www.riteintherain.com).

**Sketcher's Pocket Box**—If you are just starting out with watercolors, naturalist and field guide author John Muir Laws recommends this box from Winsor & Newton Cotman, available online (\$17). Visit [www.johnmuirlaws.com](http://www.johnmuirlaws.com) for more ideas on naturalist sketching.

**A darned good memory**—Could you paint a picture of your tent while inside of it?

## Stay Mountaineers informed



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## Olympia Service Award goes to the late Bruce Towhey

The Olympia Branch of The Mountaineers has honored Bruce Towhey with its 2011 Service Award. The honor was presented in memoriam. Bruce died on June 14, 2011, after a brave and prolonged fight with cancer.

An extraordinary, multifaceted and relentlessly energetic man, Bruce devoted himself to the Olympia Mountaineers for which he served unselfishly as branch chair, vice chair, chair of the climbing executive committee and as a climb leader. His vitality, creativity, determination, kindness and humor will be missed.

Bruce's interests and skills ranged widely, sharing his knowledge and experience as a forester, firefighter, karate black belt, Scout leader, pilot and business owner. He summited Mt. Rainier numerous times, including while he was on chemotherapy in 2009 and accompanied by his daughter. While battling cancer he competed in a triathlon, trekked in Nepal, climbed Mt. Hood, Rainier and at least one 20,000-foot peak.

Compiling many personal accomplishments and skills, he untiringly shared his time, talent and experience with the branch and its members. Devoting his energy to countless meetings, classes and Mountaineers climbs, Bruce's impact extended to beginning and experienced mountaineers alike—strengthening the branch and enriching its members.



Mountaineers at ease after upgrading trails in Tumwater Canyon

Paul Kriloff photo

## Climbers apply some TLC to Castle Rock

Fourteen Mountaineers volunteers gathered in Leavenworth on Saturday, September 24, to celebrate National Public Lands Day (NPLD) in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. One of several Mountaineers-sponsored NPLD events, many of these volunteers were basic climbing and scrambling students earning their stewardship credits by maintaining a popular climbing route.

Working alongside Forest Service rangers, the team set out to maintain and stabilize the Lower and Upper Castle Rock Trails in Tumwater Canyon.

Armed with shovels, pulaskis, adze-hoes,

McLeods, rock bars and loppers, volunteers improved trail tread, placed granite to create retaining walls and trail steps, and cut brush blocking access to the trail.

The Lower and Upper Castle Rock Trails are well-used approach routes just off of Highway 2, leading to a crag enjoyed by climbers of all abilities. Castle Rock offers several easy and moderate multi-pitch trad routes, as well as more challenging routes. Thanks to the hard work done by volunteers on Public Lands Day, climbers can look forward to a better experience at the crag and improved access to this valuable resource.



Olympia Chair Michael Silverstein accepts a reissue of The Mountaineers Service Award for Paul Wiseman

## Briefly

**Paul Wiseman** (1912-2011) posthumously received a reissue of The Mountaineers Service Award during ceremonies at The Mountaineers OutdoorsFest in September. He had received the award in 1964 for his leadership and volunteer spirit with The Mountaineers since joining the organization in 1948. He later founded the Olympia Branch, to which he belonged until his death.

**The Orting City Park kiosk** was dedicated in the name of **Stan Engle** (1921-

2009), a prolific Mountaineers volunteer. Stan was the prime mover and shaker in the construction and fundraising for the Foothills Trail Coalition's kiosk. He was treasurer for the coalition for over 15 years, representing The Mountaineers. As a life-long member of the Tacoma Branch and Tahoma Audubon Society, Stan was known for not only his community service but his worldwide mountaineering. The kiosk is situated along the Foothills Trail at the city park.



# A vision 27 years ago, reality today

Elwha dams come tumbling down

By Richard Rutz



*The breach of the Elwha Dam as it looked on October 8.*

Tom O'Keefe photo

**The sound of breaking concrete** can be heard on the Olympic Peninsula. It's a welcome sound, for contractors have begun the work of removing two Elwha River dams that have blocked fish passage for a hundred years. The removal is expected to take about three years, but this historic event is the product of many years of hard work.

**A crazy idea.** A lot has been said in the media recently about how the benefits of removal are so great, that the idea just made so much sense that it had to happen. But in 1984, when I first proposed dam removal, the reaction was almost universally negative. "What a radical, irresponsible, crazy idea," is what agencies, politicians, even most conservation and environ-

mental groups said to me. "Tearing out a dam? You can't do that! And why would you do it? It's crazy!"

Hydropower dams require a federal license to operate, and that license must be renewed every 30-50 years. The two dams were up for relicensing, and through my research I discovered that the upper dam was in the Olympic National Park and had no grandfathered status. The relicensing process and the special circumstances of the park gave us the leverage to force removal of the dams, as long as we had the determination to see it through.

**Environmental action.** While most scoffed, some saw the real potential and also began to work on the project. Several organizations—the Seattle Audubon Society, Friends of the Earth, Olympic Park Associates, and the Sierra Club Cascade Chapter—were brave

## Elwha River at a glance

- Flows north from the Olympic Mountains to the Strait of Juan de Fuca
- Is the largest drainage in the Olympic National Park
- Has provided spawning ground for nine anadromous fish species, some returning in the hundreds of thousands and some fish weighing as much as 100 pounds
- Because of dam construction fish have been denied access to all but four miles of the river for 100 years
- Because fish runs were decimated by the dam a large part of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe's livelihood was destroyed
- Due to the long absence of protein-rich salmon carcasses upstream, wildlife in the basin was significantly reduced
- Kayakers and other river paddlers are eagerly awaiting the opportunities to enjoy a continuous river run from Olympic National Park to the Strait of Juan de Fuca

enough and interested enough to provide backing for me and our initial handful of environmental activists to work towards that seemingly unreachable goal. Very early in the process we began working closely with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, which also was interested in dam removal.

In 1986 the four conservation groups formally intervened in the quasi-judicial, hydro-licensing proceedings for the two dams, as did the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. We both petitioned for the removal of the two dams, and for the restoration of the fish runs and ecosystem of the Elwha River and Olympic National Park. Soon after Trout Unlimited also moved to intervene.



**A long, hard fight.** The aforementioned conservation groups, the tribe and the National Marine Fisheries Service together formed a coalition to pursue restoration of the ecosystem and the fisheries, as well as dam removal. The National Park Service, Washington Department of Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and a local citizens' group, the Friends of the Elwha, later joined the coalition.

A long battle ensued, requiring much advocacy, lobbying, and technical work on our part, as well as legal review. Agency and tribal fisheries experts provided scientific wherewithal in support of dam removal and ecosystem restoration. Conservation activists found numerous scientific and engineering shortcomings in technical documents provided by the dam owners. We counterpunched every move by dam operators.

Several times, things seemed dark and nearly hopeless, but giving up was never an option. Finally, the General Accounting Office, an investigative arm of Congress, agreed with our position that it was illegal to relicense the Glines Canyon Dam. Studies by the National Park Service and the agencies confirmed the assertions of the conservation groups: removal of the dams provided the only good prospects for restoration of fish runs and that

Elwha River Basin wildlife populations had suffered adverse impacts from the blockage of salmon runs.

In 1991, the licensing agency was forced to consider dam removal as a full alternative in an Environmental Impact Statement. Because parties who comment on a draft EIS can also intervene, almost a dozen additional conservation and recreation groups, including The Mountaineers, then joined the original conservation intervenors. In 1992, the Elwha River Ecosystem and Fisheries Restoration Act was passed. Since then, many years of work by us, the tribe, the agencies and our congressional delegation have been required to find the money needed to remove the dams.

**The greatest opportunity.** The removal of the two dams is the single biggest opportunity for restoring salmon and steelhead in the Pacific Northwest. Forty-five river miles and up to 77 square miles of habitat (depending on the species) in the river and tributaries will be made available once the dams are removed. A river once known for epic salmon runs will now have a chance of becoming legendary again, our own Copper River.

**The public was essential.** Today, some refer to the teardown of the dams as a miracle. It's also been said that this dam removal makes so much sense that it was an

obvious thing to do, a grand experiment that had to happen. I strongly disagree with both of these statements.

The removal of the dams is the result of much hard work and tough questions from many people. Controversial approaches and bold, new initiatives aren't started or pushed by agencies, and they don't happen by the political process starting them. They don't miraculously happen on their own, or because it would be a noble experiment. Citizens working together make these things happen, just as the citizens in the conservation groups and the tribe did in regard to the Elwha. Citizens are not only a major part of this great victory—they are an essential part of it. ▲▲

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## About the author

Richard Rutz joined The Mountaineers in 1979. A graduate of basic and intermediate climbing, as well as Nordic skiing, he has dedicated his volunteer time and scientific training to a number of conservation efforts, including wilderness preservation, forest planning, protection of wildlife and fish habitats, energy planning and conservation, and hydropower licensing. He co-authored a section of "Washington Wilderness: The Unfinished Work," with Harvey Manning and Pat O'Hara. One of the most valuable lessons he has learned as a volunteer advocate is, "you don't have to be an attorney to understand regulations and the law."

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## Briefly

**Trails in the Wild Sky**—When Washington's Wild Sky Wilderness Area was created by Congress in 2008, it included a unique provision requiring a trails plan to increase access to the 106,577-acre wilderness. During the public comment period for the plan, The Mountaineers and The Wilderness Society (TWS) convened a small group of hiking experts, scramblers and conservation leaders from TWS, The Mountaineers, Washington Trails Association, Cascade Land Conservancy and the Sierra Club to make trail recommendations for Wild Sky.

The group envisions trails that cater to a variety of skill levels; offer opportunities to explore the unique features of the area; disperse use; protect environmentally sensitive areas and retain large expanses of undisturbed wilderness, while creatively leveraging existing trails and roads to provide access. TWS and The Mountaineers formally submitted the recommendations to the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and will work together to support implementation of the trail plan.

**Another one bites the dust**—The White Salmon River carves a canyon through ancient lava flow as it tumbles from glacial headwaters on Mt. Adams toward the Columbia River, providing valuable salmon habitat as well as a world-class destination for river enthusiasts. Starting in October of 2011, the deconstruction of Condit Dam on the White Salmon River marks another victory for river restoration in the Pacific Northwest.

In 1999 PacifiCorp signed an agreement to remove Condit Dam on the White Salmon River to culminate two years of negotiations between state and federal agencies and 15 conservation and recreation groups, including The Mountaineers. The agreement calls for removal of the 125-foot-tall concrete dam that since 1913 has diverted water from the natural channel, obstructing downstream navigation and blocking upstream fish passage. The removal of the dam will result in a completely free-flowing river, opening 33 miles of habitat for steelhead and 14 miles of habitat for chinook and coho salmon, as well as providing five miles of recreational boating runs on the river.

# Inspired by a plan, an energy, a mission

By **Becca Polglase**  
Education Manager

**Just over a year ago** I moved from Massachusetts and joined The Mountaineers as education manager, a newly defined position created to grow our organization's capacity for youth and adult education.

Our strategic plan charges us to “make the outdoors more relevant to more people, especially the next generation of explorers, conservationists, educators and voters.” My first-year tasks were to grow our youth programs, family programs and adult outreach.

Armed with a master's degree in nonprofit management and a certification from Outward Bound's Wilderness Educator's course, I have had the pleasure of working at YMCA Outdoor Centers across the country in a variety of roles, including Branch Associate Director, Outdoor Center Director, Adventure Programs Director, and trip leader. During my 15-year career I have also spent two years working for a California-based private company called Naturalists at Large. I'm passionate about teaching, learning and sharing a love of the outdoors with others.

Of the two exciting job offers I received after moving to Seattle, I chose The Mountaineers because I was inspired by the strategic plan, an energetic staff, and organizational leadership that championed innovation and lofty goal-setting. It was clear to me that The Mountaineers was gaining momentum in very exciting and progressive ways. Most nonprofit organizations are full of passionate people; many have competent leadership and many are inspired to grow and change.

Few nonprofits manage to successfully integrate all three of these important traits.



*Post session: Adam, Micah, Becca and Isabel.*

**Mountain Workshops:** Offered in collaboration with youth-serving agencies such as Hope Place shelter, Boys and Girls Club and the YMCA, Mountain Workshops is our newest and most successful pilot program—focused on educating and building life-skills, and introducing high-quality, volunteer-led outdoor education to over 300 youth.

**Family Adventures:** Membership and leadership in these activities have grown by about 30 percent in just one year. Family Climb Days have been a huge success. We are poised to reach new heights in Family Adventures during the 2011-2012 school year.

**Summer Camp:** We were able to host an entirely volunteer-led Junior Mountaineers Summer Day Camp. Hoping for 20 participants, we hosted 35 youth, ages 6-12, and ended up with a wait list. We hope to expand to three weeks of offerings in Seattle and one week in Tacoma next year.

**Venturing:** In partnership with the Boy Scouts, the Seattle Branch of The Mountaineers hosted its first Venture Crew—a youth-led, high-school adventure program. Our crew has doubled in membership as we approach 2012.

A year later, I am only more convinced that The Mountaineers is a competent, inspired and progressive organization, and I am proud to be a part of it.

While The Mountaineers was born mostly from adult outdoor recreation, youth have been incorporated into Mountaineers programming in a variety of ways over the years. A slew of emails and phone calls during my first few months indicated

an even greater demand for youth programs than we were currently meeting. In order to make our existing programs sustainable, and to increase our potential in youth outreach, there was a need to take a more strategic approach. By putting our youth programs in strategic “buckets,” we were able to begin tracking our existing programs and expand our reach to meet the increasing demand.

Thanks to a unique facility designed specifically for teaching outdoor skills and a large pool of highly-skilled volunteers, we were able to serve upwards of 500 youth, providing more than 2,000 youth experiences during my first year on staff. The results exceeded my goals and expectations.

As we enter 2012, I hope to expand our impact across multiple branches and lodges, and to increase access to our programs by raising funds to support The Mountaineers Access Program (MAP) Scholarship fund. MAP provides outdoor education for all—especially youth—regardless of ability to pay. I also intend to grow our volunteer base so that we can continue The Mountaineers legacy of volunteer-led programs and strengthen our existing partnerships with youth-serving agencies. ▲▲

## Ready for some fun Family Adventures?

This fall and winter, join other Mountaineers families on a variety of fun adventures. We'll kick off the season with a workshop on long-distance hiking and day hiking with your kids! Presented by Carolyn Burkhart, the first woman to through-hike the Pacific Crest Trail, and Joan Burton, author of *The Mountaineers* book, *Best Hikes with Kids: Western Washington and the Cascades*, the workshop is sure to leave parents and family hike leaders inspired with new and innovative ways to engage kids in hiking. Each month we will feature a different activity for families. (See more below.)

**By Becca Polglase**  
Education Manager

**On November 20**, join us on the ferry to the Kitsap Peninsula, playground to the forest's giants: one of the largest old-growth stands in the lowlands of Western Washington and two creeks that host some of the largest coho salmon runs in the state. December 10, join us for the Green Lake Pathway of Lights. We'll be meeting in the afternoon to make luminaries together. On January 7, join us for Winter Trails Day up at Snoqualmie Pass. Hosted in partnership with Tubbs, Atlas, MSR and REI, we'll have snowshoes to try out free of charge. Come try snowshoeing with your family!



**Meet Kristin, our new Family Adventures co-chair.** Kristin and her husband have two girls (the five- and eight-year-olds are atop their mom at left). Their family recently joined The Mountaineers in search of new outdoor adventures, learning opportunities, pals and plain old fun. After volunteering with our day camp this past summer, Kristin offered her services to help create a robust year-round Mountaineers family community. She's passionate about being outside with her family and would love your company. She is especially interested in your suggestions for valuable family-oriented workshops and awesome outings, so please pass them on to [beccap@mountaineers.org](mailto:beccap@mountaineers.org).

## Miss out on summer day camp? Don't fret

**If you missed out** on our first-ever summer day camps in 2011, don't worry. In 2012 we'll offer three weeks of Junior Mountaineers Camp in Seattle, one week in Tacoma and two weeks of Theater Camp in Kitsap. Run entirely by fun-loving and responsible volunteers, our day camps give kids a chance to play outdoors, use their imaginations, challenge themselves and learn new skills. Registration will open soon, but here's a sneak preview on the dates:

### Seattle Junior Mountaineers:

July 16-20

July 23-27

August 6-10

### Tacoma Junior Mountaineers:

August 13-17

### Kitsap Theater Camp:

July 30-August 3

August 6-10





## Did you just take a walk in the woods or a walk in the weeds?

By Joan E. Miller

Volunteers across the country are pulling invasive plants from parks and green spaces, and feeling good about it. In the Pacific Northwest, do-gooders are removing English ivy, English holly, Himalayan blackberry and a host of other aggressive, non-natives. But is all this dirt under our fingernails making a dent in restoring ecosystems?

Restoration is not so much about removing individual plants from an ecosystem as it is making it inhospitable for weeds. Clay Antieau, botanist, horticulturalist and educator, says this management mindset offers more hope for conquering weeds. Learn about "Weeds: How they Work and Why that is Important" when Antieau speaks at The Mountaineers on Thursday, November 10 at 7 p.m.

Antieau has been a science practitioner for Seattle Public Utilities for 11 years. Part of his job is restoration and he's passionate about it. In his talk, Antieau will draw on the latest scientific findings and emerging perspectives on weeds. "It's really fascinating how weeds work," he says.

**What makes a weed a weed?** Simply, "a weed is a plant that is not native to a region, and introduced (by accident or on purpose) by people," notes Antieau. Invasives are nothing new. "Beginning around 1850, people from elsewhere settled here and began introducing plants." Once weeds arrive, they can change entire ecosystems. Successful invasive species often have characteristics or "strategies" that suppress the growth of competing plants, he explains.

Most people think of weed control from the traditional, "How do I get rid of this weed?" perspective, according to Antieau. Now, he says, practitioners are turning to a "Why is this weed here?" approach. They're using new knowledge of how weeds work to develop new tools to support ecosystem restoration, he says.

In the Pacific Northwest, a major factor in ecosystem health is "evergreenness," notes Antieau. "It's a front-line defense against



*A healthy native evergreen ecosystem can stave off weed invasion.*

weeds. A healthy native evergreen ecosystem has a remarkable resistance to weed invasion."

What's more, when we think "evergreen," he says, we should remember that the term is not exclusive to conifers. Salal, mosses and sword ferns are all evergreens. But not all evergreens are beneficial. "(Some) trees are among the Northwest's worst weeds," says the weed expert.

The next time you're hiking a trail, whether it's at Chinook Pass or in a city park, take a closer look at what's growing there. Is it a healthy ecosystem, or full of weeds? Antieau's talk will help you determine.

**To learn more about native plants,** visit The Mountaineers Native Plant Garden on the south end of the program center in Magnuson Park, where volunteers have worked hard to remove weeds and establish native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. Better yet, enroll in The Mountaineers Naturalist Course, to be offered by the Seattle Branch next spring, and you'll be able to see plants close up and personal on field trips. ▲▲

### Naturalists' Thursday night lectures

**November 10:** Clay Antieau, "Weeds: How they Work and Why that is Important"

**January 12 :** Paul Bannick, "Owls and Woodpeckers"

**February 9:** Christopher Anderson, "Bats and their Urban Ecology"

**March 8:** Ralph Haugenud, "Glaciation of the Puget Sound Lowlands"

(Lectures will be held 7-9 p.m. at The Mountaineers Program Naturalists' Study Group members: free. Others: \$5 donation asked)

### 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.

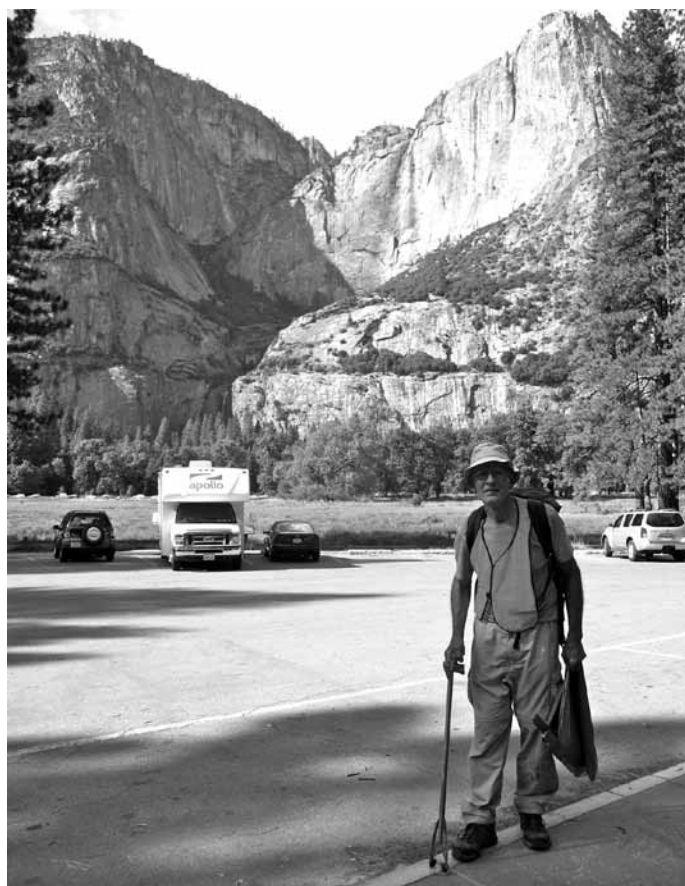


## Yosemite's magic keeps Mountaineers coming back

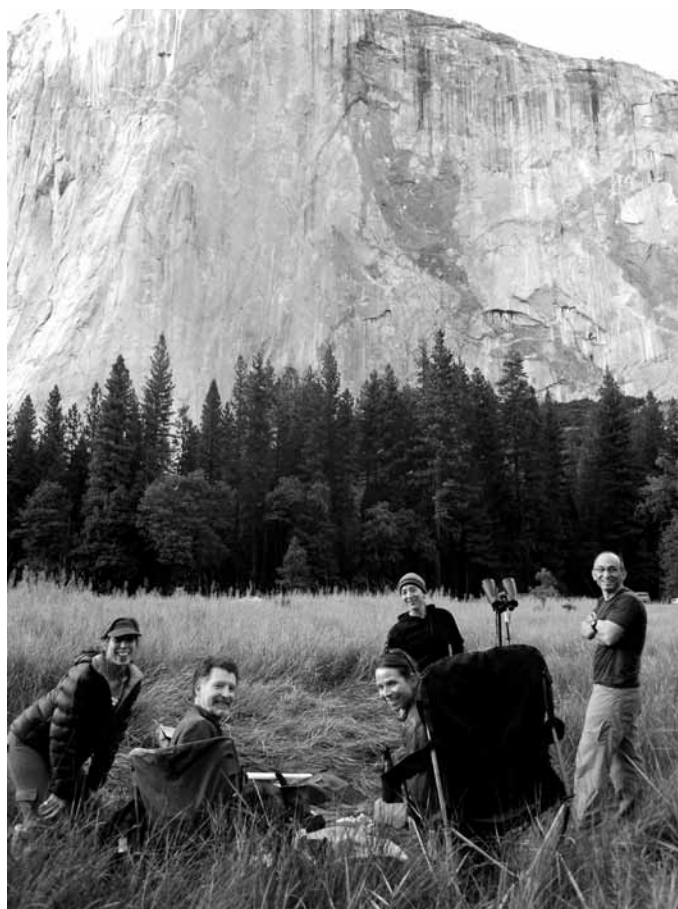
Over the course of three weeks in September, almost 40 Mountaineers descended upon Yosemite National Park to climb free routes and big walls in the valley, as well as many beautiful routes in Tuolumne Meadows.

Mountaineers have had a tradition of annual September treks to "the valley" since well before Gene Yore's first Mountaineers trip in 1996 as an Intermediate student.

This year, three leaders led trips. Gene Yore, past Seattle climbing chair, led a diverse group of Yosemite newbies and veteran climbers on favorite routes in "the valley." An instructor, Loni Uchytel led crag climbers on classic granite domes in Tuolumne. And Takeo Kuraishi led the Aid & Big Wall (ABW) group. One ABW highlight was Lost



*Gene Yore helps with Yosemite Facelift*



*At the outdoor theater*

Arrow Spire with its Tyrolean traverse, an annual tradition since the first ABW trip in 2002.

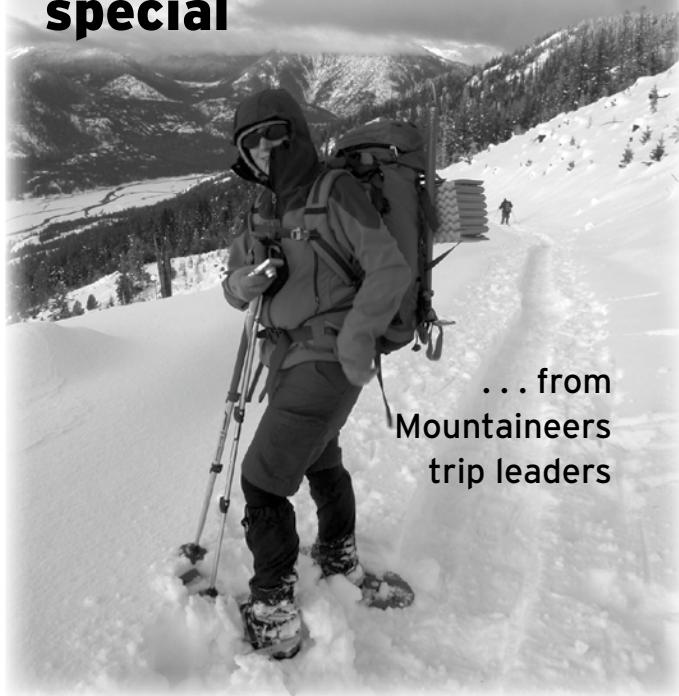
Mountaineers enjoyed climbing, scrambling, hiking, and relaxing while observing big wall climbers on the Nose and other routes of El Cap, as well as visiting with Yosemite denizens, Holly Beck and Mike Gauthier.

Gene closed his trip—his 21st since 1996—with a day helping to provide stewardship for the park by participating in Yosemite Facelift, the park's biggest volunteer event of the year. Climbers come from all over the world to climb and then help clean up Yosemite near the end of the season.

Gene is hoping that next year even a larger group of Mountaineers are inspired to experience the magic of Yosemite climbing, scrambling, hiking and community—and moreover, take the opportunity to give back by volunteering for Yosemite Facelift, September 20-23, 2012.



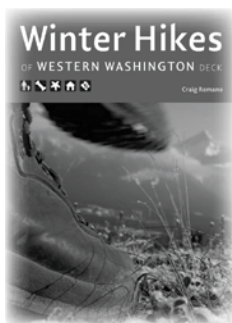
## A few snowshoe trips that offer something special



... from  
Mountaineers  
trip leaders

All three leaders put Hex Mountain high on their lists

Anna Bartels photo



For more  
about good  
winter hikes  
and snowshoe  
destinations,  
including all  
mentioned here,  
check out these  
two titles from  
Mountaineers  
Books



THE  
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[www.mountaineersbooks.org](http://www.mountaineersbooks.org)

## Source Lake: nighttime is the right time

**Gay Gibson:** My favorite snowshoe trip is to Source Lake in the dark. I typically lead this trip as a "Full-Moon Friday Frolic" on the Friday closest to the full moon for the month.

It is my favorite because navigation is easy, even in the dark, and because the bowl surrounding Source Lake and the down-valley views are simply STUNNING in the moonlight! The route is relatively safe from avalanche danger, except for the shore immediately around the lake, where danger can be high. Not unduly difficult, even those who have never snowshoed before can enjoy this pleasant stroll.

**Round trip:** 5 miles (about five hours)

**Elevation gain:** 1,000 ft

**Map:** Green Trails, Snoqualmie Pass (No. 207)

**Contact:** Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District, North Bend office

## Reflection, Louise Lakes: good intro

**Erik Swanson:** When I'm introducing a friend to snowshoeing, my favorite place to take them is Reflection and Louise Lakes at Mount Rainier National Park. It's a bit of a drive from Seattle, but if the weather is clear or even partly clear, you can get dramatic views of snow-dusted Tatoosh Range peaks, or even 'The Mountain' itself if you are particularly lucky

The lakes make a great stop for lunch and you have the option to continue on a little farther for a view down to Louise Lake.

From the park's Nisqually entrance near Ashford, follow the main road to the Narada Falls View Area parking lot. No need to make your friends nervous by heading straight up the open slope, there is a trail beginning just beyond the restrooms that wends upwards through the woods to join up with the snow-covered Stevens Canyon Road that is closed in the winter.

From there you can either follow a trail over Mazama Ridge to the lakes, or (if the snow conditions are safe and stable) follow the road as it runs south and then turns east. Keep an eye out for both winter campers and camp robbers (winged variety)!

**Round trip:** 7 miles (about four hours)

**Elevation gain:** 560 ft

**Map:** Green Trails, Mt. Rainier E. (No. 270) & Paradise (No. 270S)

**Contact:** Mt. Rainier National Park

## Diamond Head sparkles with views

**Anna Bartels:** On a clear day you can see all of the Teanaway Peaks and the entire Stuart Range from Diamond Head, located off of Blewett Pass.

**Round trip:** 5 miles (about seven hours)

**Elevation gain:** 1,800 ft

**Map:** Green Trails, Liberty (No. 210)

**Contact:** Wenatchee National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District



# Try these winter warmers on the trail

## Hot Buckwheat Cereal with Bananas, Nuts, and Honey

Serves 2

- 1/4 cup cream of buckwheat
- 1/2 cup dried banana slices
- 1/4 cup raisins or dates
- 1/3 cup chopped almonds, walnuts, or pecans
- 2 tablespoons honey, or to taste
- 1 1/4 cups water

At home: Pack the cereal and banana slices together in a zipper-lock bag. Pack the dried fruit, chopped nuts, and honey individually. On the trail: Bring the water to a boil in a pot and add the cereal and banana slices. Reduce the heat and simmer to the desired consistency, stirring often. Add the dried fruit, nuts, and honey before serving.

Note: This recipe is good for those with food allergies. You can substitute cream of rye or amaranth for the buckwheat if you like; check the directions on your box.

## Cheddar Cheese Chowder

Serves 4

- 1 cup dehydrated potatoes
- 1/3 cup dehydrated onion (1 medium onion)
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- 1/4 teaspoon dried sage
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 cup margarine or clarified butter
- 8 ounces Cheddar cheese, grated (about 2 cups)
- 3 2/3 cups water

At home: Combine the potatoes and onion and pack in a zipper-lock bag. Combine the flour, herbs, and spices and pack in a separate zipper-lock bag. Pack the margarine and grated cheese individually. On the trail: Add the potatoes and onion to the water in a pot. Bring to a boil and simmer for 10 minutes, or until the vegetables are rehydrated and tender. Stir in the margarine. Add the flour mixture a tablespoon at a time, stirring well. Add the cheese. Simmer until the soup thickens, stirring all the while.

## Chili

Serves 3

- 1 box (6.4 ounces) dry vegetarian chili mix
- 2 ounces dried tomatoes, cut into small pieces
- Dehydrated kidney beans from 2 cans (30 ounces total)
- 3 ounces Cheddar cheese, grated (about 3/4 cup)
- 40 corn chips

Hot sauce

- 7 1/2 cups water, or more as needed

At home: Combine the chili mix, tomatoes, and beans in a zipper-lock bag. Pack the cheese, corn chips, and hot sauce individually.

On the trail: Place the chili mixture in a pot and add the water. Stir well. Bring to a boil and simmer for 15 minutes, or until done. Spoon into bowls; stir one third of the cheese into each bowl and sprinkle with one third of the corn chips. Serve with the hot sauce.

Note: Look for chili mix in the natural foods section of the supermarket; some health food stores sell it in bulk.

## Golden Bricks of the North

Makes 18 squares

- 4 1/4 cups rolled oats
- 1/2 cup peanuts or almonds
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup margarine
- 2 1/2 tablespoons honey
- 2 1/2 tablespoons corn syrup

At home: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Combine the oats, nuts, sugar, margarine, honey, and corn syrup in a large bowl. Divide the dough in half and place it in two well-greased 9-inch square pans (or comparably sized cookie sheets with raised edges), pressing it into a compact layer. Bake for 20 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove from the oven and cut into squares. Let the squares cool before removing them from the pans.

Note: When cut into 3 +-inch squares, these fit nicely into a cardboard milk carton for protection.

All recipes above are excerpted from *Backcountry Cooking Deck: 50 Recipes for Camp and Trail* by Dorca S. Miller (Mountaineers Books)

# OutdoorsFest 2011



## President speaks of his 'personal' Mountaineers vision

*Editor's note: At the Annual Meeting during the 2011 OutdoorsFest, Mountaineers President Tab Wilkins put down the gavel to share his own vision, in true bully-pulpit fashion, of The Mountaineers as it relates to our world at large. Part of his speech follows.*

Brothers and sisters of the outdoors, this vision is neither approved nor reviewed . . . **it is a personal statement.**

Our work with youth and families is building the next generation of Jim and Lou Whittakers, Polly Dyers and Fred Beckeys—turning *Ranger Rick* magazines into action.

In publishing, we're on the web, we're in print—hitting you in the head, the heart and soul like a cross between the *Huffington*

*Post*, *National Geographic* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Our lodges are gateways into the Disney World of the outdoors—an escape for families, a way to taste-test the wilderness and places for good food, fun and frolicking.

We are the Harvard University and Stanford University of outdoor learning.

In our conservation work we embody the best of Greenpeace, the Seirra Club and WTA (Washington Trails Association—giving more to preserving and caring for our lands than we take in exploring them.

Our volunteers are celebrated for their giving as they are the ambassadors of our work, the front line of experience and our engine of success.

As a community we are a coffee shop for sharing outdoor experiences, a Bumbershoot Festival celebrating nature, a place for friendship and communion around the outdoors, fused together in a higher calling.

Our image no longer known as an army descending upon the great areas of the Pacific Northwest; we are a lean, mean, fighting machine, helping people discover their natural self in the outdoors.

Our first ascents include new ways to get kids, adults and families outdoors, new ways to experience nature and new routes to the top.

And as we grow, it's well beyond the 'Ailing Pale Male' like myself that you see before you today.

Our goals are simple: get more people outdoors. . . preserve the lands we love, enjoy and explore.

Brothers and sisters of the outdoors, again I say to you, this vision is neither approved nor reviewed. It is a personal statement, and if any of this resonates with you, then please, please give with your spirit, give with your time, give with your support—come and join us! ▲▲

## Duke Watson: a Mountaineer whose skills were of heroic proportions

*Editor's note: The mountaineering prowess of Duke Watson—referred to in the pg. 22 article by his nephew, Jake Norton—was not only renowned in the world of Pacific Northwest climbing but also in World War II, where his skills were instrumental in the capture of German strongholds in Italy's Alpines. It was there that the member of The Mountaineers and of the famed 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division was wounded, taking a chunk of mortar shell in his abdomen. The account below, excerpted from an article in the Northwest Mountaineering Journal by Lowell Skoog, when Duke was still alive, covers Duke's activities after his heroic return from the war.*

**Returning to the Northwest** after his Army discharge, (Duke Watson) worked for timber companies for several years before establishing his own lumber wholesaling business in Seattle. He renewed his acquaintance with Fred Beckey, who had received a medical discharge from the Army before Duke went to Italy, and they did several climbing trips together in the Cascades. On Memorial Day, 1947, they made an attempt on the South Peak of Hozomeen Mountain, which was thwarted by bad weather. (Two weeks later,



**Duke: the early years**

Beckey returned with another party to make the first ascent.) In 1958, they made the first ascent of the North Face of Golden Horn from the Methow River. In 1963, with Tony Hovey and Vic Josendal, they made the first winter ascent of South Twin Sister, near Mount Baker.

Duke didn't focus on making first ascents, but he made hundreds of climbs in the North Cascades and Canada, many of them in areas that had been visited only once or twice before. In 1958 he visited the Northern Picket Range with Vic Josendal, Maury Muzzy, Phil Sharpe and Warren Spickard. They climbed Whatcom Peak, Mount Challenger and Crooked Thumb and capped off their trip with the first ascent of the West Peak of Mount Fury. Warren Spickard described the climb with great satisfaction as "the last great first" in the North Cascades.

**Duke . . . also skied the Cascade backcountry,** making early ski ascents of Mount Dickerman (1947), Big Chiwaukum Mountain (1962), Snowking Peak (1963), Snowgrass Mountain (1965), and Ruby Mountain (1967). He made a climb and partial ski descent of Mount Rainier in 1959. For a lumberman and ski area developer, he was very much a conservationist. Duke was an early member of the North Cascades Conservation Council in 1957, served on its board, and was later president of the North Cascades Foundation.

In the early 1960s, the United States Ski Association declared its opposition to a national park in the North Cascades, concerned that a park would preclude ski area development in the region. In a 1963 letter to *Northwest Skier* magazine, Duke cited his involvement with Crystal Mountain as evidence of his support for organized skiing. But he stood behind the park. "Along with lift skiing," he wrote, "a number of us have also found time for touring in the high Cascades. From this experience I can state with conviction that there are alluring prospects for lift development almost too numerous to count outside the (proposed park) boundaries, including every type of terrain that is found within. The well-meaning officials of the USSA should put on climbing skins and take a look for themselves!"

Thanks to the efforts of Duke and many others, the North Cascades National Park was established in 1968.

Duke's most remarkable outdoor achievement took place far from mountains, and began when he was over 50 years old. In 1967, when he and several friends had sons nearing college age, they planned a father-son canoe trip to the Hudson's Bay region. Duke took 15 years and many trips to complete his 7,000-mile trans-Canada canoe project. He and his wife, Marillyn, handled most of the logistics and he invited many friends over the years to accompany him. ▲▲



# Mountaineers ready, willing when skills are called upon



*Jessica Todd, who led The Mountaineers party that responded to the call for help on Forbidden, makes her way to its true summit*

Stefanie Schiller photo

**By Linsey Warren**

**Whether a climber, skier, scrambler or hiker,** many join The Mountaineers to learn backcountry fundamentals and safety. Sometimes the lessons are hard-learned or even frustrating, but those of us who go on to make mountaineering a lifelong commitment are likely to be called upon at some point to use our training and skills. And this past year, the call for help was heeded by Mountaineers more than just once.

While Mountaineers climb leader Eileen Kutscha and her party were heading up the Witches Tower in the Enchantments, they heard yells for help from Aasgard Pass and went down to investigate. Assessing the situation, they were able to immediately assist by building an anchor and lowering people down into a moat to search for the missing victim. While part of their party was searching, another group headed to the top of Dragontail Peak to call for help. And when that help arrived in the form of a military helicopter, the crew ended up using the rigging system that The Mountaineers group had put together. They were even able to provide extra clothing and gear for the airman

to use while in the moat.

On July 23, longtime Mountaineers climb leader and instructor Cebe Wallace led a group uneventfully up the notoriously beautiful Eldorado Peak. Uneventful until the way down, when a solo climber slipped and, unable to self-arrest, slid into a moat. The victim was able to crawl out of the moat but was severely hypothermic.

**Calling upon their basic training and first aid,** the group was able to get him out of his wet clothes, into a sleeping bag and give him an examination to assess his injuries. The party elected two of its fastest climbers to go notify authorities while the rest began a slow descent with the victim, who was able to walk with assistance. On the way down, The Mountaineers group encountered an Alpine Ascents party whose satellite phone was used to communicate with the rangers. The Mountaineers group continued the descent with the victim until they met with park officials.

The leader summed up the trip well when he said, "Our party of mostly basic course students performed an excellent rescue, recognizing and treating hypothermia, assessing injuries, giving TLC,

## Courses prepare climbers for the unexpected afield

**We develop climbers** with strong technical skills, the expectation and ability to make sound mountain judgment, and preparation for the unexpected. It is this very training and culture within The Mountaineers climbing community that allows us to climb safely in the Cascades and other mountain ranges throughout the world. It also trains our climbers to be able to not only ensure their own group's safety, but also to quickly and safely respond to other climbing groups when their own judgment potentially leads to an accident or life-threatening situation. As a result, what might be a fatal situation can become a rescue success story.

**Mark Scheffer, Chair  
Seattle Branch Climbing Committee**

**Every year I can remember since joining** the Climbing Committee, we have considered and debated new techniques and when to incorporate them into our basic and intermediate curriculum. Some that I recall include the cordelette, using belay devices for rappel, the AutoBlock, 5.5mil spectra vs.

7mm nylon, the equallette, so on and so on. Most recently, it was eliminating oval carabiners from basic gear list.

The Mountaineers comprises a large community of active climbers and instructors who are passionate about climbing and remain on the forefront of new methods and techniques. Accordingly, all our branch chairs come together for a climbing summit several times a year.

Different from commercial climbing courses, we expect each climbing party member to learn, to have all the knowledge and skills to be self-sufficient in the mountains and to develop leadership skills. Yes, compared to some other programs, it takes much longer to take The Mountaineers basic course and develop the skills to do glacier climbs like Rainier, or rock climbs like the Beckey route on Liberty Bell. But it costs less (about 25 percent) and is comprehensive.

**Gene Yore, Past Chair  
Seattle Branch Climbing Committee**

and formulating a rescue plan in a calm and reasonable manner. It could not have been done better, I think." He added, "One student commented that it was just like a scenario in his recently completed first aid course. This speaks well of our training, and of course, of the character of the people involved."

**Not a month later,** I found myself descending Forbidden.

Another group we had met on the route had talked about descending the rock bypass, but our group decided to descend the couloir. Not too long after our first rappel we heard a large rockslide trigger on the bypass, where two other parties of two were descending. Minutes later there was a call for assistance, but we still had a few tricky moats

and berschunds to navigate. And as one might imagine, hearing the rock fall only heightened our sense of security, so we took every precaution to ensure our safety. I was amazed at how level-headed our group stayed.

Once we reached a point where we could safely walk, the parties in trouble enlisted our assistance to move the victim, via hand lines, farther down the basin towards a flat bench where we could see numerous tents had been set



**Improvised splint on Forbidden**

up. We walked into the large campsite after midnight and roused the sleeping group to see if we could appropriate extra assistance. This group had a satellite phone and, after some wrangling, consented to call for help. Meanwhile we applied first aid to the victim.

By early morning we made it to the trailhead and ran into a ranger who was responding to the 2 a.m. call for help, but he had incorrect information about the incident. We provided the accurate details and the ranger relayed it to her incident commander.

## ... convincing me that very high-caliber individuals belong to The Mountaineers

Soon after, the ranger station summoned a rescue helicopter.

While we were at the Marblemount Ranger Station, one of the rangers noted that Mountaineers had given assistance and left a positive impression numerous times this summer. As a group that has come together to share and celebrate the outdoors, we are also a group that has proven willing to assist others, convincing me that very high-caliber individuals belong to The Mountaineers. ▲▲

## About the author

Linsey Warren got a taste for the outdoors at a young age, learning how to build igloos and hike with the Boy Scouts. Years later, while living in Europe, she developed a taste for vertical rock and acquired the skills to sport climb. Hungry for more, she joined The Mountaineers in 2003, enrolled in basic climbing, then the intermediate course and later to advanced alpine rock. She spent two months in Nunavik learning about Inuit culture and Arctic survival training in 2010.

Linsey Warren photo



# CPR—cardiopulmonary resuscitation

By Mickey Eisenberg, MD, PhD

**Learning how to do CPR**, an essential in mountaineering oriented first aid, is a life skill everyone should acquire. One never knows when someone at work, at home or on the street may go into cardiac arrest. Perhaps you haven't yet been called upon to apply CPR, but it happens often enough that one day you might. To put this in perspective, Medic One and Emergency Medical Services in King County responds to approximately 2,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests annually.

## A mini-course on cardiac arrest:

The term cardiac arrest refers to cessation of circulation and the most common cause is a heart rhythm called ventricular fibrillation (VF). If you could look at a heart muscle at the moment of cardiac arrest the heart in VF would look like a quivering and uncoordinated blob of muscle.

With the onset of VF the heart stops beating and there is no pulse or blood pressure—the person loses consciousness in a matter of seconds and is clinically dead. Clinical death will turn to biologic (and irreversible) death in a matter of 5-10 minutes. But if CPR can be started quickly, and if a defibrillatory shock (the type provided by firefighters, paramedics, doctors, nurses and increasingly by lay persons using automated devices) can be provided in 10-12 minutes, the person has a pretty good chance of surviving the event. The electric shock stops the VF and allows a normal rhythm to begin. It is like rebooting the heart.

**How do I recognize cardiac arrest?**  
If there is any doubt you should shout at

the person and vigorously tap them. If there is no response begin chest compression. Remember, however, that there may be agonal respirations that may continue for a few minutes. These abnormal death-associated respirations sound like snoring or gasping. They often fool bystanders into thinking the person is still breathing but in fact the agonal breaths are ineffective and almost no oxygen is getting into the lungs. CPR instructions no longer include a pulse check. This was dropped because it was too difficult to determine the presence of a pulse especially in possible shock conditions.

**How does CPR work** and does it make a difference? CPR works by circulating blood to vital organs such as the heart and brain, and buys a few critical minutes of time until a defibrillator can shock the heart. When CPR is provided within four minutes, a shock can be successful up to 16 minutes into the arrest. But if there is no CPR then the window of opportunity for the shock to be successful is only eight minutes. Blood is moved forward with chest compression in two ways: one is from direct squeezing of the heart against the vertebrae on the back and the other, more important, is by increasing and decreasing pressure within the chest with the down-and-up motion.

Valves in the large veins prevent backward flow of blood. With every downward compression the brain is receiving blood and with every upward decompression the coronary arteries are receiving blood. The up and down circulates blood to the brain and heart. Of these two ways (squeezing the heart

and pressure changes) the latter is the most important and studies have demonstrated that chest compression can achieve about 30 percent of a normal cardiac output.

In the past few years the American Heart Association has stressed chest-compression-only CPR, especially for untrained or tentative rescuers. This means if you encounter someone in cardiac arrest, it is acceptable to do only chest compression. This makes good sense since mouth-to-mouth ventilation is difficult to do well. And unless it is done well, it only wastes time when chest compression could be circulating blood. Professional responders are still being taught chest compression and mouth-to-mouth ventilation but for lay rescuers it is acceptable to only do chest compression.

**Does CPR make a difference?** Yes. The bottom line is that it buys valuable time. And in so doing, doubles the likelihood of survival following cardiac arrest.

**CPR in the wild:** Although success rates in the wilderness aren't always high, knowing CPR is essential and can be critical in saving a life. Whenever anyone asks me whether CPR should be done in the wilderness, I tell them to try it for 10-15 minutes and see if there is a response. Sometimes the cardiac arrest may be due to a very slow rhythm or a respiratory cause, both of which may respond to a short period of CPR. And if it doesn't work, at least you tried to help.

For a quick reminder with one-minute videos, go to [LearnCPR.org](http://LearnCPR.org) or download a free Apple or Android app—search “CPR” and “choking.” ▲▲

Want to learn more about mountaineering first aid?

Check out these texts from Mountaineers Books  
[www.mountaineersbooks.org](http://www.mountaineersbooks.org)





# Keeping Mountaineers in the family

Teen reaches top of Rainier with a Mountaineers mentor, her dad



*Sarah Draves at the trailhead (top) and with her dad atop Rainier (right)*



Brian Young photo

**Editor's note:** In this issue of the Mountaineer we look at stories of achievements that were made possible by connections to The Mountaineers. We start these three articles of "Inspiration" with the story of Sarah Draves, 13, the daughter of Mountaineers members Rich and Martha Draves. Sarah summited Mt. Rainier via the Emmons route with her father and a team of Mountaineers on Sunday, July 10.

## How did you become interested in climbing Mt. Rainier?

Mt. Rainier has always been there. It's practically in my backyard. My dad summited Rainier many times when I was a child. It was fun to see pictures of my dad's trips and hear his stories. It made me want to climb Rainier, too. My little sister expressed interest in climbing Rainier a couple of years ago—I didn't want her to climb it before me, so I made the decision to climb it last year.

## How did you train for it?

With lots of hiking. My dad set up a training schedule for us. We started training last fall by hiking every weekend. We began with Tiger Mountain, but mostly hiked up Mount Si. In the winter we skate-skied and backcountry skied. In the spring we went back out to hike every weekend. Overall, it was nine months of general training, with the last four to five

months of intensive hikes carrying a weighted backpack. A few months before the climb we prepared for altitude with three outdoor experiences—we skinned up and skied down from Camp Muir, Camp Schurman and Mount St. Helens.

## Did you do anything else?

My dad's personal trainer set up a strength training regimen for me, but I never had the time to fit it in. I've been practicing ballet once a week for as long as I can remember. I've been en pointe since fifth grade. I'm also a member of the Vertical World Junior Rock Climbing Program. Rock climbing and ballet have helped me build strong legs and a strong core.

## What was the hardest part of training?

Giving up the time it took to train. We trained intensely four to five months before the climb. I missed lots of birthday parties and social activities.

## What was the hardest part of the climb?

On Friday night I had a headache and felt nauseous from the altitude. I was probably dehydrated too. I slept a lot, drank lots of water, had some soup and felt better.

## What was the scariest part of the climb?

Jumping over two crevasses, each about two feet across.

## What was the most fun part of the climb?

Glissading on the Inter Glacier!

## What was it like at the top and how did you feel when you got there?

It was COLD! So cold that I wanted to sit next to the vents that spewed poisonous gas! Of course, my dad wouldn't allow me to do that. It was a clear day so we could see everything. It felt unreal to be so up high. It also felt great. I was proud to have pushed through the tough parts—it made all the time and activities I gave up to train all worthwhile.

## Who is the first one you told? When? How?

Dad and I texted my mom from the top of the mountain and Dad updated his Facebook status. We called my mom at base camp. She was very proud, but really worried and just wanted us to get back down safely.

## Do you look at Mt. Rainier differently?

Yes. I used to think of it as I imagine most people do—the big mountain in the distance. Now I have a new sense of it. I think of it as "my mountain."

## Who or what inspired you to push through?

We started our summit attempt in the dark, so I couldn't see the top of the mountain. It was a clear night, so I could see Seattle. Whenever I looked over my shoulder to see

Continued on page 30

## Inspired to reach 'higher than Everest'

By Jake Norton

*Editor's note: Like Sarah Draves, climber Jake Norton found his inspiration—to make a difference in the world—from a Mountaineer in his family, great uncle Duke (Watson), who joined The Mountaineers almost 40 years before Jake was born.*

**In my 12-year-old mind, the Zen koan-like words** bounced around like a pinball, ricocheting off the walls of logic, no end in sight. I had just climbed Rainier with my father, and we were spending the night in Seattle with my great uncle, Roe 'Duke' Watson. (Read Lowell Skoog's great article on my since deceased great uncle in the *Northwest Mountaineering Journal*, "Duke Watson: A Mountaineer for All Seasons," and see "Backtracks" on pg. 17.)



Jake Norton, 34, from Golden, Colorado, has worked as a professional mountain guide and photographer for over 12 years, and has traveled the world for countless clients. His climbing and photographic exploits have taken him to the top of some of the highest peaks in the world, not the least being Everest three times. In 2004, Jake recreated Sir Ernest Shackleton's famous 1917 traverse of South Georgia Island with a group of adventurers from Geographic Expeditions. An athlete and photographer for the First Ascent line of technical outerwear by Eddie Bauer, he presents keynote speeches to audiences nationwide.

I had been inspired to start climbing by our family friend, Lou Whittaker (like Duke, a former Mountaineers member) and his tales of his adventures on Everest in 1982 and 1984. That one evening, I recounted to my uncle how impressed I was by our Rainier guide, Phil Ershler, on having reached the summit of Everest in '84—the first American to climb it from the north.

Duke, in his quiet yet forceful way, smiled and told me about Willi Unsoeld's epic ascent of Everest's West Ridge in 1963 with Tom Hornbein. He mixed in some stories of his own pioneering climbs with Fred Beckey and others, and then recounted Willi's famous post-Everest quote:

"So you've climbed the highest mountain in the world. What's left? It's all downhill from there. You've got to set your sights on something higher than Everest." Higher than Everest? What did he mean? How could one of the greatest 'Everesters' of all time discount the import of the top of the world? Those words, those questions, and Duke's example stuck with me for the past 25 years.

In the years after that first climb, climbing took over much of my life. I became a guide in 1992 and started climbing internationally. I managed to reach the top of Everest a few times. I loved to climb, but found I didn't really care for summits. From that first trip on Rainier, it was the journey rather than the summit itself that left an indelible mark on me.

My inspiration to climb came from the mental and physical challenges it posed, and from the uplifting experience of being wholly immersed in an incredible, pristine environment, reminding me that I am but a small cog of a much greater piece of machinery. To paraphrase Robert Pirsig, for me the summit was simply a means to an end rather than a unique end in itself.

Additionally, climbing opened my eyes to remote cultures and peoples. These places and faces not only intrigued and inspired me, but also called me to action, for I quickly realized that these people I met had a far tougher lot in life, and not because of a dearth of discipline, dedication, tenacity, or intelligence. In fact, most people I've met on my

travels have far more of those qualities than I could ever hope to obtain. The difference was simply by virtue of geography: I was born to relative affluence in the USA, and they to relative poverty in the developing world. I wanted—and felt like I needed—to do more, to use my skills and abilities to effect some change in the world.

It was this thinking and these experiences that led my wife, Wende Valentine, and me to start Challenge21 ([www.challenge21.com](http://www.challenge21.com)), a four-year initiative to leverage the drama and visibility of climbing to draw attention and funding to the world's most pressing needs in the developing world: water and sanitation.

It won't be easy; in fact, it's already been hard. There's a lot of climbing, both physical and metaphorical, on the trail ahead for me and for my family. But, to me, for the first time it truly feels right. I think I'm finally understanding what Uncle Duke taught through the example of his life, and what Willi talked about so many years ago. I think I've finally set my sights on something higher than Everest. ▲▲



Todd-Evenson: "The best way to see those things that are now out of sight is by setting an adventurous goal"

"Go as far as you can see,  
and when you get there  
you'll see further."

— Persian proverb

## The challenge leads to reward

By Jessica Todd Evenson

**Editor's note:** One might say Jessica Todd Evenson is tied in to *The Mountaineers*. Here she speaks of how *The Mountaineers* family and courses helped her to not only attain her own goals, but set a path toward helping other women attain their goals.

**Since beginning basic climbing in 2008**, I have shared leads on over 90 multi-pitch traditional routes up to 10c. I currently on-sight traditional routes up to 5.10b at places like Index and Squamish. I lead water ice up to WI4, share leads on alpine routes up to grade 5, and climb alpine mixed snow, ice and glacier routes. I sport climb too.

I visited Rainier's summit in the winter, then climbed my way to the summit of Denali. My route tick list includes Alaska, Canada, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, California, Oregon and Washington. I also kayak, ski and snowboard. I'm committed to living my life and every day I feel like I'm just getting started.

I grew up in the mountains of Colorado. I've traveled and lived all over the world. I went to the University of Colorado where I obtained a bachelor and master in mechanical engineering. Soon after, I moved to Seattle to work on airplanes. I have a son who's 16 and I am proud of him. I'm living a happy life in my 30's.

**Prior to discovering *The Mountaineers***, I hadn't climbed technical routes; I thought it was out of my reach. I joined because of my goal to learn the skills to climb Mt. Baker and meet people. I took scrambling, basic, and intermediate alpine courses. Those beginning courses taught me the basics and inspired me to learn more.

In 2010 I became a climb leader, and now I'm leading the development of the Advanced Climbing Community, which includes climbing policy and stewardship. It's an inspired and diverse community.

Climbing is a dance. And it can be done on a multitude of surfaces: sandstone, ice, granite, snow, basalt, andesite. The list is endless. To me, the best type of climbing is traditional on-sight leading, whether it is in the crags or in the alpine, and the best kind has lots of good exposure. Each new route is a fun and challenging puzzle.

**Rising to the challenge of a route** that is steep and complex requires a mastery of many different skills, both physical and mental. It's an exercise in decision making, positioning and balance. It's also mastering fear, because if I'm afraid, my focus shifts to a tunnel vision instead of the big-picture view. I miss a key hold, an important step or a different way to go. It requires patience and commitment, knowing myself and understanding when to go for it, and when to come back another day. It's also about learning to rest and breathe.

In climbing it's important to have mentors. I've been mentored by some very experienced folks. I'm lucky. They have pushed me to see further. To honor what they have taught me and continue the tradition of giving back, I've found an adventurous goal is the best way to discover, on a personal level, how to see further.

**The Mountaineers provides an awesome vehicle** to support these goals. In addition to supporting the climbing communities, my favorite activity at *The Mountaineers* is to encourage and mentor women to step up and be leaders, to help them raise their hands to new opportunities, to take ownership and to engage in what inspires them. The challenge of being a leader is extremely rewarding. The best feeling is to be able to say, "I led that, I did what it takes!" ▲▲



## Peak Society: investing in a vision

**Rich Draves**  
Chair, Peak Society

**This summer I had the amazing opportunity** to climb Mt. Rainier with my 13-year old daughter, Sarah. It was a privilege for me to share the experience with her and watch her develop the important physical and mental skills she would need to achieve her goal of a Rainier summit.

Our experience, though exceptional, is one that could be considered common for many Mountaineers members and their families. The transformational benefits of outdoor experiences that we appreciate and have passed on to our children are examples of what we as Mountaineers, through financial support of emerging youth programs, can give young people that do not have the same opportunities.

This is one of the many reasons why Doug Walker and I presented a dollar-for-dollar matching gift challenge to encourage 20 members to take a leadership role in support of The Mountaineers by making a \$500 gift to join the Peak Society. I'm pleased to announce that the challenge was met well before the September 30 deadline and that an additional 16 members were inspired to make generous \$1,000 gifts to become members of this distinguished group of supporters. On behalf of Doug Walker and me, I'm delighted to acknowledge and welcome the 36 Mountaineers members listed at the bottom of this page as Charter Members of the Peak Society.

**Peak Society members provide critical, annual funding** to sustain outdoor education and conservation programs vital to The Mountaineers' mission, and to support emerging programs and initiatives that are integral to our vision. Mountain Workshops, a pilot program of the Youth & Families Initiative, is one such program. Mountain Workshops are educational programs delivered in collaboration with youth-serving agencies. The workshops, focused on education and the building of life-skills, have shown promising results in introducing underserved youth to benefits of outdoor recreation: confidence, perseverance, self-reliance, and an appreciation for the natural world. Funding this opportunity for youth is just one example of an impact made by Peak Society members. I invite you to join the Peak Society and share a legacy that is uniquely Mountaineers.



*Rich and daughter Sarah on Rainier*



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 copies of select new titles published by Mountaineers Books;
- Complimentary tickets to select Mountaineers productions;
- Periodic e-updates summarizing topical events, news and information; and
- Annual progress report detailing your impact on our programs.

For more about Peak Society contact Mary Hsue at [maryh@mountaineers.org](mailto:maryh@mountaineers.org) or 206-521-6004.

## How can I make a Peak Society qualifying gift?

- Make a one-time unrestricted gift of \$1,000 or more
- Make a multi-payment pledge for an unrestricted gift of \$1,000 (payable within one year)
- Make a gift of \$1,000 or more at a signature Mountaineers fundraising event

## Peak Society Charter Members (as of September 30, 2011)

|                                 |                                    |                            |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Beth Alderman & Ed Boyko        | Martinique & Eliot Grigg           | Mike Riley                 |
| Kirk & Jill Alm                 | Jonathan Hawkins & Ann Mecklenburg | Chandra & John Sadro Jr.   |
| Mearl Bergeson                  | Jimmy James                        | Steve Sears                |
| Tina Bullitt                    | Dan & Nadine Lauren                | David Shema                |
| Dave Claar                      | Gretchen Lentz                     | Rob & Jennifer Stephenson  |
| Andy & Ann Devereaux            | Tom Lewis                          | Steve Swenson & Ann Dalton |
| Jim Dobrick                     | Eric & Pam Linxweiler              | Tom & Christine Varga      |
| Rich & Martha Draves (co-chair) | Steve & Colleen McClure            | Doug Walker (co-chair)     |
| Evy Dudey & Mark Glidden        | Greg Moga                          | Mona West                  |
| Mickey & Jeanne Eisenberg       | John Ohlson                        | Tab Wilkins                |
| Lee Fromson                     | Patti Polinsky                     | Gavin & Sara Woody         |
| Don & Natala Goodman            | Gerry & Donna Price                | Gene Yore & Doris DeVries  |

# Thank you for your support and membership

**As we approach the close of 2011** you may be considering which organizations to support with your year-end giving. This year we'd like you to consider The Mountaineers. Your gift matters and you can have a large impact on our programs.

Fall is always an exciting time for us. Our 800 volunteers are gearing up for their outdoor education and conservation courses, including our legendary basic climbing course. They are out on the trails doing stewardship work and they are preparing our lodges for the winter season.

Volunteers are also responsible for the success of our new Youth and Families Initiative which began in 2010. In one year, we launched five new pilot youth programs and we worked with 400 volunteers across our

organization to provide over 2,000 youth experiences. Our highly-skilled volunteer educators support our youth programs because they appreciate the impact that activities have on the youth we serve. With your support we can organize more volunteers and get more young people outside.

**One of our most successful** pilot programs is Mountain Workshops, delivered in collaboration with youth-serving agencies such as Hope Place Shelter, local schools, Boys and Girls Club and the YMCA. Mountain Workshops focus on education and the building of life-skills—with promising results in the first year, introducing underserved youth to the benefits of outdoor recreation: confidence, perseverance, self-reliance, and an appreciation for the natural world.

**We recently hosted children from Hope Place,** a shelter for homeless women and children. At the end of the day-long workshop a staff counselor thanked our education manager and expressed amazement at the level of trust and responsibility shown by the kids during the rock climbing sessions. She acknowledged the importance of having a space in which the kids felt supported while learning a new skill and connecting with nature.

**With our youth programs we're doing more** than empowering young people to get outdoors. We're instilling values and teaching skills that will serve them well for the rest of their lives. This year showed the promise of what can be. In 2012 we hope to serve 20 percent more youths and families than in 2011.

To reach our goals and achieve our vision to inspire and connect the next generation with the outdoors, we need your support.

Private, unrestricted funding from generous donors enables The

Mountaineers to forge new programs and courses that teach responsible outdoor recreation skills and cultivate stewards of our public lands.

While every dollar helps make a difference, I ask you to please consider making a generous gift of \$100 or even \$1,000 to help us pilot new initiatives, expand innovative programs and make outdoor experiences accessible to all. Your gift will enable us to transform young lives.

I appreciate your kind consideration and thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely,  
Martinique Grigg  
Executive Director, The Mountaineers



## Employer match can double or triple your gift!

Many employers sponsor generous matching gift programs for employees as an incentive and support for their charitable donations and volunteer commitment to their community.

As the foremost outdoor recreation organization of the Pacific Northwest, The Mountaineers is dedicated to educating and inspiring people of all ages to explore, conserve and steward not only our public lands but all of the outdoors. When you take advantage of your employer's matching gift, you maximize the impact of your charitable donations and volunteer hours.

### Some employers who match:

- **Boeing:** boeingsupport@cybergrants.com (Mountaineers ambassadors: Dave Shema and John Wick)
- **Microsoft:** ms@easymatch.com (Mountaineers ambassadors: Rich Draves and Steve Yi)
- **Expedia:** expcomre@expedia.com (Mountaineers ambassador: Gavin Woody)
- **Weyerhaeuser:** anne.leyva@weyerhaeuser.com (Mountaineers Ambassador: Dan Lauren)
- **Alaska Airlines** (is there a Mountaineers ambassador out there?)
- **Starbucks** (is there a Mountaineers ambassador out there?)
- **Macy's** (is there a Mountaineers ambassador out there?)
- **Kraft** (is there a Mountaineers ambassador out there?)
- **Medtronic** (is there a Mountaineers ambassador out there?)
- **Allstate** (is there a Mountaineers ambassador out there?)
- **MANY MORE!** Ask your human resources department if your company matches.

### A \$200 gift can become \$400,

\$50 can become \$100. When every dollar makes a difference, just imagine what doubling your gift can do! Most companies' matching gift programs for employees will match 1:1 for personal donations of cash or stock.

Many companies will also match volunteer hours. With over 700 volunteer leaders conducting over 2,000 trips and courses each year, the potential support from employer matching gifts for volunteer hours is huge! In June and July alone, companies contributed over \$10,000 in volunteer-hour matches to The Mountaineers.

If you volunteer your time to The Mountaineers and your employer matches

volunteer hours, please consider applying them to your employer's matching program. Most companies that match hours will contribute between \$10-\$17 per volunteer hour.

**Matching your gift is easy.** To find out if your company matches simply contact your Human Resources department or email our Development Office at [emilyn@mountaineers.org](mailto:emilyn@mountaineers.org). Many companies will also have information on their internal website. If your gift of time or money is eligible for a company match please reference **Tax ID 27-3009280** on the gift verification form.

To ensure that your matching gift is properly directed you must specify The Mountaineers: Tax ID 27-3009280. This is especially important for companies with online-based donation verification systems since there may be other organizations or groups with a similar name listed.

If you have any questions about Matching Gifts or would like to serve as an ambassador for your company's matching gift program please e-mail Emily Noel at [emilyn@mountaineers.org](mailto:emilyn@mountaineers.org) or call at 206-521-6006.

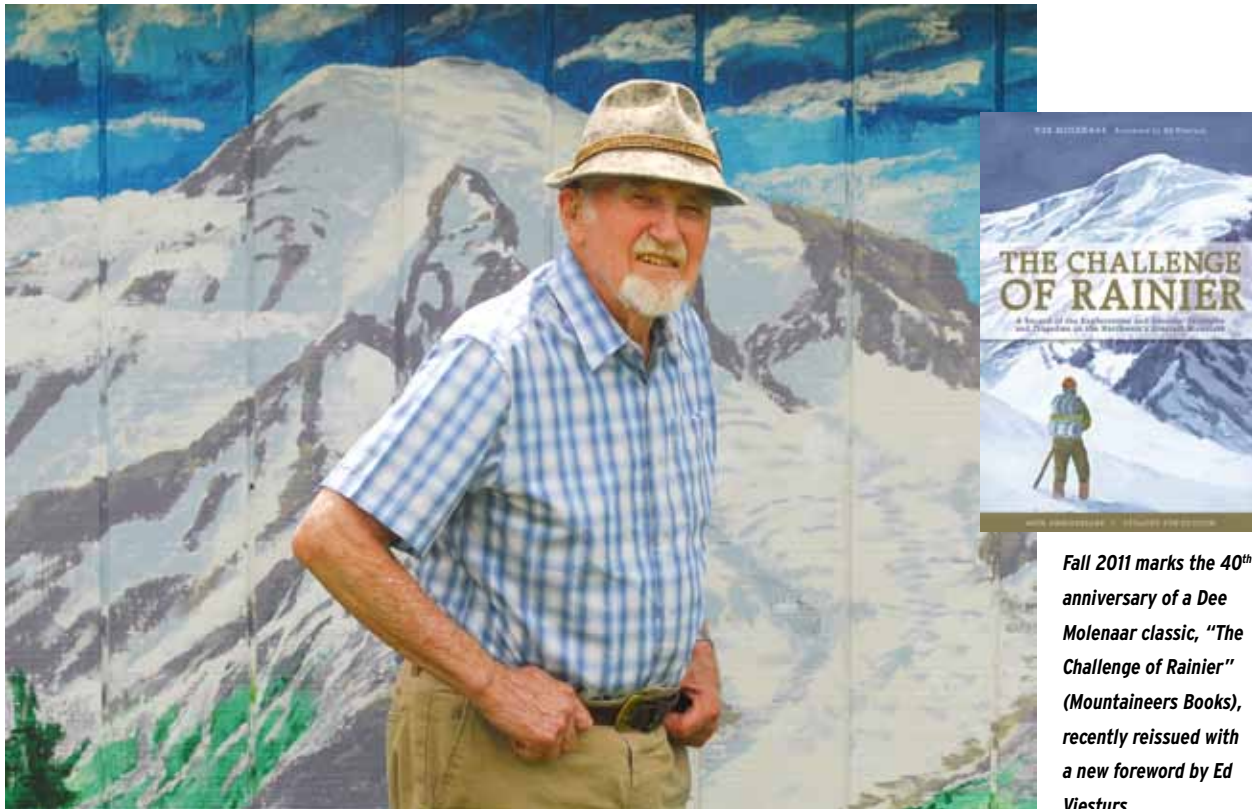
## Giving to The Mountaineers

The Mountaineers became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in April 2011. Your donations are now deductible to the fullest extent of the law. A 501(c)(3) designation ensures that 100 percent of your gift to The Mountaineers goes to support The Mountaineers' highest priorities.

Prior to April 2011, portions of The Mountaineers philanthropic endeavors had been overseen by The Mountaineers Foundation. While the foundation has long supported The Mountaineers, two-thirds of donations to the foundation's general fund support grant programs outside of The Mountaineers. The foundation plans to increase its external community grant programs so that by 2014, 100 percent of its donations will support external programs and zero percent will support The Mountaineers.

Now, donations must be made directly to The Mountaineers to ensure that 100 percent of your gift supports our mission to enrich the community by helping people explore, conserve, learn about and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest.





Garage door as art; mountains just have a habit of coming to mind for Dee Molenaar, the artist

Fall 2011 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a Dee Molenaar classic, “*The Challenge of Rainier*” (Mountaineers Books), recently reissued with a new foreword by Ed Viesturs.

## The mountain as his muse

A tip of the ice ax to Mountaineer Dee Molenaar and the art of the alpine as we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of *The Challenge of Rainier*.

Growing up in Southern California, Dee Molenaar didn't exactly aim to become an internationally known mountaineer, artist, and author. But the man with a hand-painted mural of Mount Rainier on his garage can now tell tales of mountaineering trips from far flung corners of the world, his oil paintings and watercolors hang in museums and galleries, and his detailed map renderings and journals have aided many a geographically-bewildered alpinist.

One might say that Molenaar is an example of the positive influence of nature on youth

By Emily White  
Publicist, Mountaineers Books

Now 93 and residing in Port Orchard with his wife Colleen—a longtime muse of Molenaar's in her own right—he has just wrapped up the latest climbing statistics and route information for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of *The Challenge of Rainier*—long acclaimed as the definitive history (and love letter of sorts) to one of North America's most celebrated mountains.

**How does one have a love of the mountains at 93 years of age?** One might say that Molenaar is an example of the positive influence of nature on youth, as his experience in the outdoors was started when he went hiking as a kid with his Dutch immigrant parents in the Hollywood Hills. Inspired by the landscapes, he also started to test his outdoor artist skills, with “initially pencil, then watercolor sketching during hikes in the mountains of Southern California and the Sierra.”

This early love of nature not only stuck but became a driving force—literally. Road trip! As young

Continued on page 29

## Patagonia's Awesome Glaciers, Lakes, Parks

Feb. 18-March 8, 2012

Glen Strachan photo



Explore the spectacular scenery of national parks in Patagonia's northern and southern regions, including the volcanic terrain of Nahuel Huapi NP, the world-renowned Perito Moreno Glacier, Los Glaciers NP (Unesco World Heritage Area) in Argentina and Torres del Paine NP (International Biosphere Reserve) in Chile. We'll hike near our base in San Carlos de Bariloche in the Lake District, known as the South American Switzerland, and then head for Southern Patagonia parks for a mix of trekking and day hikes.

At Los Glaciers, we'll trek to close-up views of Cerro Torre and the north and east faces of Monte Fitzroy. In Torres del Paine NP, we'll follow the "W" trek and the "Traverse of the Horns." We finish in the historic seaport town of Punta Arenas, Chile.

**Cost:** \$3,950 (8-12 people). \$2,000 deposit due at registration.

**Leader:** Glen Strachan, 425-869-8094, glenshgi@msn.com.

## North American

### Outing: Ski BC's Cariboo Range

February 18-26, 2012

(Presidents Day Week)

(For intermediate-advanced



skiers.)

British Columbia's Cariboo Range, in the Columbia Mountains, has some of the deepest, most consistent powder snow on the planet. North Blue Chalet and Yurt are located near Blue River and Wells Gray Provincial Park.

Exclusive, cozy facilities feature a covered deck, drying room, view windows, wood stove and propane stove for heat, propane lights, well-stocked kitchen, propane cook stove with oven, wood-fired sauna, sleeping rooms with beds and foam mattress pads for 12, toilet inside, and hot shower.

We will self-guide and self-cater. Alpine bowls, peak ascents, and great tree skiing.

Feb. 18, drive to Blue River; Feb. 19, Snow Cat in to North Blue Chalet; Feb. 19-24, ski sub-alpine tree glades and alpine powder bowls; Feb. 25, Snow Cat out; Feb. 26, drive home.

**Cost:** \$1,000 (includes Snow Cat in, North Blue Chalet and Yurt, custodian, and Snow Cat out.) To register, call 206-521-6001 by Dec. 1; provide credit card info. Limit 10.

**Leader:** Craig Miller, craigmiller@comcast.net, 206-285-2399.

## Ski the Alps in Austria

March 1-18, 2012

Patti Polinsky photo



**Preview:** [http://web.me.com/mrbunz/Site\\_4/Ski\\_Austria\\_2012.html](http://web.me.com/mrbunz/Site_4/Ski_Austria_2012.html)

Join a grand adventure in Zurich, Appenzell, Innsbruck, Munich and two weeks in Austria for winter walking, snowboarding and skiing: downhill, on or off piste, or cross-country. Spend Week 1 in Schruns, Austria, with expansive terrain on groomed, powder slopes. Return to refreshments, the spa, a six-course dinner and live music.

In Week 2 we go to Lech, the highest valley of the largest ski area in Austria, St. Anton, with over 50 interconnected lifts for all levels of skiing on and off piste. Our small family-run hotel offers a wonderful breakfast buffet and elegant multi-course dinners after a relaxing spa. As we start home we stop in Innsbruck for lunch before arriving in Munich.

**Cost:** \$3,495 (12-16 people) \$1,000 deposit with registration.

**Leader:** Patti Polinsky, MeanySports@me.com, 206-525-7464.

## Nepal: Trek and Climb Mera Peak

Oct. 12-Nov. 6, 2012

Craig Miller photo



This outing combines remote Himalayan culture, a glacier mountain climb and the highest peaks on Earth. Our journey begins with a flight to one of the world's most amazing airstrips, Lukla.

We trek on part of the historic trail that early Mt. Everest expeditions hiked. We acclimate slowly to Mera Peak base camp and high camp. Our standard route involves low-angle glacier climbing, guided by local experienced Sherpas.

The view from the summit is one of the finest in the Himalaya with five 8,000-meter peaks visible: Everest, Lhotse, Makalu, Kanchenjunga, and Cho Oyu. For basic climbers, Mera Peak is a technically straightforward ascent, higher than Denali, but much easier. This is a strenuous climb because of the altitude, but porters will haul your overnight gear, so you carry only a daypack. For a daily itinerary, visit [mountaineers.org/activities/nepal\\_itin.html](http://mountaineers.org/activities/nepal_itin.html).

**Cost:** \$3,900 (10-12 people), \$4,400 (7-9 people), \$4,900 (4-6 people). \$2,000 deposit by March 1 with leader's approval.

**Leader:** Craig Miller, craigmiller@comcast.net, 206-285-2399.

## Three Weeks Hiking in Italy's Dolomites

Aug. 23-Sept. 13, 2012

Shari Hogshead photo



The Dolomites of northern Italy encompass some of the most beautiful hiking areas in the world. Green alpine meadows, stretching between charming village-studded valleys and craggy, awe-inspiring karst mountains provide visual feasts in every direction.

Mountain walkers tread an extensive network of well-maintained and interconnecting footpaths, and visit interesting villages and well-placed rifugios (high altitude mountain huts).

Our three-week adventure finds us staying in flower-bedecked, 3-4 star hotels each night, with bounteous buffet breakfasts and multi-course evening meals included in the \$3,750 cost.

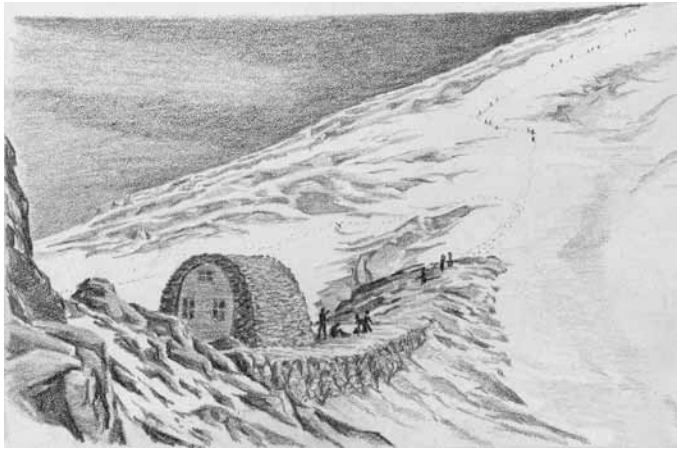
Trip classification is upper-moderate to strenuous and hiking days are long, but pace is moderate. Lifts are used when practicable so we can spend an abundance of time at altitude. Lunches are enjoyed at rifugios or in simple farmers' alm huts on summer grazing pastures below towering spires.

**Cost:** \$3,750

**Leader:** Shari Hogshead, skimntr@aol.com, 425-957-4548.

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

## Inspired by Muir, Shipton (continued from pg. 27)



*Molenaar's rendering of Camp Schurman*

adults, Molenaar and his brother scraped together what little gear and savings they had to seek adventure in the Northwest. Crevasses, moody weather, icefall, and stunning beauty—the young brothers found their challenge on the flanks of Mount Rainier.

**After a few seasons of poorly-fitted crampons** and picking peaches in Eastern Washington to keep the adventure on the road, Molenaar's professional association with Mount Rainier began in 1940 when Clark Schurman, then chief guide on the mountain, suggested he "give up milking cows, enroll in college, and guide during the summers." He never looked back.

Molenaar went on to work as a park ranger and mountain guide in Mount Rainier National Park for several years, climbing the mountain

over 50 times in his career, and making three first ascents (which ones? Hint: there is a book which lists all of first ascents of Mount Rainier). He also learned to keep his sketchpad handy, and over time grew a collection of impressionism-style oil paintings and watercolors of mountain landscapes that would later go on to adorn museums and guidebooks.

**When asked about inspiration,** Molenaar says he has "been most impressed by American naturalist John Muir's scrambling, philosophy, writings and sketches, and Britisher Eric Shipton's travel writings of 1950's-60s."

Although he'd rather tell you tales about the early years of climbing with his brother (which he does with the mischievous sly grin of a teenager), Molenaar's climbs wound up taking him all over the world, throughout the ranges of the western United States (including the 1946 second ascent of Mount Saint Elias in Alaska) and Canada, the European Alps, and the Peruvian Andes, as well as New Zealand, Antarctica, and a trek to Everest Base Camp. You'll have a hard time getting him to tell you about any of those climbs however, as he considers his mountaineering rather tame compared to the feats of today's alpinists.

Mountaineer, artist, author . . . one should mention that Molenaar is also known for his yodeling—but you might have to ask him about that the next time you're lucky enough to meet him in person. Next time you're hiking the meadow trails of Paradise Valley, be on the lookout for a fedora-bedecked mountain man, striding through the wildflowers in the company of his wife, his weathered 1940's ice ax and a watercolor sketch pad. ▲▲

**Members of the Tacoma Branch** of The Mountaineers and their neighbors gathered in the home of hosts Jack and Angela Connelly on October 14 to raise a toast to Mountaineer Dee Molenaar and his contributions to the local climbing community. Molenaar entertained all with tales about picking peaches in Eastern Washington, climbing mountains with his brother and his guiding days on Mt. Rainier. Tacoma Mountaineers Chair Geoff Lawrence and other Mountaineers shared their reflections on the local climbing community and its strong ties to the identity of Old Town, where The Mountaineers Tacoma Program Center is about to be remodeled.



*Angela and Jack Connelly stand with Dee Molenaar (l to r) beside a photo of the famous 1953 K2 team*



## 'I am stronger than I think I am' (continued from pg. 21)

the lights of Seattle I thought of the people I would tell about my climb. I guess it was Seattle that inspired me to push through.

Also, on Friday night, when I felt bad from the altitude, my dad gave me the option of returning the following weekend to try again. I decided to push through because I already had big plans to attend a two-day slumber party with my closest friends the next weekend. We were scheduled to watch all seven Harry Potter videos before going to

**"My goal is to climb the Seven Summits before I turn 30. And I would like to climb all of the peaks with my dad"**

the midnight premier of the last movie. It was really important to me because the movie was the final one of the Harry Potter series and I didn't want to miss that, no matter what.

**Now that you've climbed the highest peak in Washington, what's next?**

Well, I have a new plan. Next spring and summer I would like to climb all the other high peaks in the area—Baker, Adams and Hood. Then, in 2013, I would like to climb Mt. Whitney, the highest peak in the lower 48 states. After that I would like to climb Kilimanjaro. In high school, it

would be great to climb Denali and then climb a couple of high peaks in college. My goal is to climb the Seven Summits before I turn 30. And I would like to climb all of the peaks with my dad.

**How do you think the experience will help you in life?**

I learned the value of perseverance. And I think it will be a great thing for me to include in essays for college applications. I have high non-climbing goals as well. I would like to obtain a Ph.D. in science. My favorite sciences are physics and astronomy, so maybe a Ph.D. in astrophysics.

**What did you learn about yourself during or after the experience?**

That I don't give up too easily—I will want to, but I know it will be worthwhile if I don't. I also learned that I'm stronger than I think I am. The experience also helped me recognize my climbing goals.

**What did you learn about your dad on the climb?**

It was fun to hear climbing stories he never shared with me before—like the time he forgot his sleeping bag on his first climb of Rainier. The experience confirmed in my mind that my dad has more energy than normal people. I also learned how much he cares about me. He wanted me to carry a lighter pack, so he carried lots of my stuff. He also packed the lighter sleeping bag in my pack and the heavier sleeping bag in his pack, and let me sleep in the heavier sleeping bag because it's warmer. ▲▲

## Kitsap Service Award winner speaks of her inspiration



**Katha and the kids**

doctorate in political science from Vanderbilt University, she married into The Mountaineers. Her husband is Douglas Winder, who grew up in our organization. She has been a leader with Salmon Safaris at Kitsap since they began in 2006 and just received her branch's Annual Service Award, recognizing her for the countless volunteer hours she has devoted to the mission of The Mountaineers.

**Katha Miller-Winder**, a Mountaineers member since 1989, was born and raised in a small rural community in Eastern Washington, not far from the Idaho border. With a BA in political science from Whitman College and a

She speaks of her inspiration to get kids outdoors:

"I grew up outside in eastern Washington rambling through the fields and climbing hills. I grew up among animals, cats, dogs, ponies, pigs, cows, ducks, chickens, etc. I grew up where I could pull a carrot right out of the ground, knock the dirt off and eat it. I didn't realize how profound an impact this had on me until I had children of my own and discovered that I had birthed them into a culture that no longer allows children to grow up outside, to eat vegetables right out of the ground or to know the meat on their table on a first name basis.

Everything I learned growing up cries out against denying our children the right to grow up outside. I want to run into buildings and grab children, dragging them outside joyfully shouting, 'Look around, this is cool! And it's all yours; this is your inheritance, embrace it.

That's what inspires me; that passion motivates my commitment to Salmon Safaris and Youth Theater Camp; it's a chance to get young people outside and show them how cool it is. I can't think of anything I find more rewarding than to hear a child saying 'that was cool! Can we do it again?' Those words are worth all the blood, sweat and tears that I pour into my efforts to get kids outside and show them how amazing it is." ▲▲

## Olive Hull, past Olympia chair

Olive Hull, an Olympia Branch member for 45 years whose service covered almost every facet of her branch, died September 18, 2011.

A recipient of the branch's Service Award, she served as hiking chair, branch secretary, branch chair and vice-chair.

Olive headed the nominating committee, edited the monthly newsletter, served on the climbing committee multiple times from 1968 to 1980, organized field trips, presented lectures, worked on the Mt. Ellinor "chain gang" and led countless climbs.

She also led hikes, scrambles, bike rides, cross-country ski trips, beach hikes and snowshoe trips.

She presented slide shows and discussions for several Olympia monthly meetings, encouraging all to get out and see the world. She donated several books and magazines to the branch library.

Besides the branch service award, she earned several peak pins: Six Majors, Snoqualmie First and Second 10, Tacoma Irish Cabin First and Second 12, the Tahoma First 12 and the Olympic Peak Pins.

She had earned the Lookout Patch and Rocker—developed and implemented by Olive—for climbing both sets of lookout peaks. She had reached the top of some 430 fire lookouts throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Olive was the driving force behind a group of local women called the Tuesday Trotters, who journeyed into the mountains on Tuesdays and Thursdays as often as possible.

She served a role model in outdoor ethics and stewardship of the environment, advocating minimum impact to her hikers and climbers. The litter of others was always quietly gathered and carried out of the woods by Olive.

A contributing writer to the first Northwest climbing magazine, *Off Belay*, one of her articles contained instructions for making a quick and easy rope litter—still in use today.

## John Hazelton, Tacoma leader

John Hazelton, an 11-year member of The Mountaineers, died September 15, 2011 at age 60. He loved to climb, ski, hike, fish and canoe.

John moved to Laramie, Wyoming in 1969 to attend the University of Wyoming on a ski scholarship. He met his wife, Janet, there. He worked as a logging contractor for 15 years and moved to Tacoma in 1991.

He volunteered as a leader in Tacoma's scrambling program, Mountain Oriented First Aid, and the basic and intermediate climbing courses. His love for climbing helped many achieve their goals within The Mountaineers.

## Wayne Balcom, pastor, climber

Long active with the Seattle and Everett Mountaineers, the Rev. Wayne E. Balcom died at age 85 on May 27, 2011.

A professional social worker and pastor, upon joining The Mountaineers in 1976, he took the basic mountaineering class at age 50 and proceeded to climb the five volcanoes in Washington and the two highest

in Oregon.

After his beloved wife, Dorothy, died in 1992, he retired from the Department of Social and Health Services in Olympia and as pastor of Burton Community Church on Vashon Island. He then joined Highpointers Club and climbed to the highest point of all 50 states in less than a year, becoming the 29th person to achieve that goal and the only one to have accomplished it after age 66. (In an interview for *Third Age* magazine, he rated Montana's Granite Peak as the most technically difficult ascent, but Alaska's Mt. McKinley, where his party spent five days holed up in a snowstorm at 17,200 feet, as the toughest climb overall.)

Following his milestone, Wayne conquered the remaining

11 active volcanoes over 7,500 feet high in the Cascades during 1995-1996, and even performed a marriage ceremony at the summit of Mt. Adams.

In his later years, Wayne continued backpacking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing for as long as his health allowed. He also worked for many environmental organizations that advocated for air and water conservation. He performed trail maintenance and construction, and presented Highpointer lectures at senior centers, clubs and churches.


## Chris Averill, climb leader

Chris Averill, a 23-year member of The Mountaineers, died October 11, 2011 after being diagnosed

Continued on page 34

# Climb

# Mt. KILIMANJARO



### Upcoming Climbs:

**2012:** March 18, July 9, Aug 13, Sept 24, Dec 17

- Embark on a wildlife safari after your climb
- Customize a trip with your friends
- Group trips available year round
- Call us today - 503-922-1050

## EMBARK

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## 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:** Steve Glenn

**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. Please check the branch home page (noted above) for updates on when and where the meeting is to be held.

**CLIMBERS' RENDEZVOUS:** Instead of a regular October members' meeting, the branch celebrates with its **Annual Climbers' Rendezvous Dinner**. Keep an eye on the branch website.

### 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). They start at 7 p.m. in the Dwell Conference Room of the Snohomish County East Administration Building, 3000 Rockefeller Ave., in downtown Everett.

**FRED BECKEY TO SPEAK AT BANQUET:** Renowned climber and guide book author, Fred Beckey, will speak at the Everett Mountaineers Awards Banquet on Sat., Nov. 12 at the Medallion Hotel in Smokey Point. A social hour begins at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m.. Beckey has made more first ascents than any other North American climber. He is the author of the three-volume *Cascade Alpine Guide*, a classic for all mountaineers and climbers in the Pacific Northwest, as well as his 2003 geographic history of the region, *Range of Glaciers*. He will sign books after the banquet, which is open to all. In addition, **Outdoor Youth Connections** will hold its annual silent-auction fundraiser to further its mission of empowering youth with outdoor education and recreation. Banquet reservations, via [www.everettmountaineers.org](http://www.everettmountaineers.org), will close Nov. 8. Tickets will not be sold at the door. For more details, contact Penny Barker, [pbarker81@hotmail.com](mailto:pbarker81@hotmail.com), 360-386-9261; or Carrie Strandell, [cwstrandell@gmail.com](mailto:cwstrandell@gmail.com).

#### HELP RESTORE TRAILS & LOOKOUTS:

The Everett Branch Lookout and Trail Maintenance Committee, well known throughout the Mt. Baker and Snoqualmie Ranger Districts as

leaders in volunteer work, is always looking for volunteers to help out on fire lookouts. For more details about volunteering, contact Forrest Clark, [LOTM@everettmountaineers.org](mailto:LOTM@everettmountaineers.org).

#### BASIC CLIMBING ENROLLMENT OPEN:

The Everett Basic Climbing Course registration is now open and will close Jan. 24, when the course starts. Registration can be done online at [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org).

**The Basic Climbing Instructor Review** will be held on Thu., Jan. 12 and Sat., Jan. 14. If you are a recent basic graduate or a new instructor, you are required to attend both sessions in order to instruct in this year's basic course. If you are a veteran instructor you must attend the review once every three years at a minimum in order to maintain your instructor status. For more info contact Nick Mayo, [nicholas.e.mayo@gmail.com](mailto:nicholas.e.mayo@gmail.com), or Adam Clark, [aclark20@gmail.com](mailto:aclark20@gmail.com).

### 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 enjoyable 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.

**SKI CLASSES ON HORIZON**—Foothills Branch, in conjunction with Seattle Branch, will offer more than a dozen Nordic ski courses this winter season. For more about the courses, visit [www.foothillsmountaineers.org](http://www.foothillsmountaineers.org). To register, visit [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org). The **Foothills Annual Nordic Ski Swap** will be held Fri., Dec. 2, from 6 to 9 p.m. at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 111 N.E. 80th St., Seattle. See the Foothills Branch website for details.

## 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. Keep an eye on the Kitsap Branch website for coming dates and times.

**UPCOMING:** Basic Navigation Course will be starting in November (see website).

**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](mailto:branch@kitsapmountaineers.org).

[tainers.org](http://tainers.org).

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

## OLYMPIA

**Chair:** Michael Silverstein, [silvermas@comcast.net](mailto:silvermas@comcast.net).

**Website:** [www.olympiamountaineers.org](http://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.

**UPDATE YOUR PROFILE:** The Olympia Branch urges all members to update their profiles on the club website at [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org). Make sure your e-mail address is filled in and your phone numbers are up to date. As our club communications continue to move online, your e-mail address becomes a critical tool for staying in touch.

### 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 event will be **Dec. 7**. Socializing and the potluck meal begin at 6 p.m. The adventure presentation begins at 7 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 Burreson, [cbburreson@q.com](mailto:cbburreson@q.com), if you have questions.

### DECEMBER 7 POTLUCK & ADVENTURE PRESENTATION:

Learn about hiking in the Columbia River Gorge with award winning guidebook author, Craig Romano. Craig will share tales of the trails from his new release, *Day Hiking Columbia River Gorge*, full of descriptions of well-loved trails and overlooked gems. Craig grew up in rural New Hampshire, yet he ranks Washington state, his home since 1989, among the most beautiful places in the world for hiking. Visit him at <http://CraigRomano.com> and on Facebook at "Craig Romano Guidebook Author."

**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](mailto:olymountaineers@gmail.com). Please include your mailing address so that

we can send you a membership packet.

**OLYMPIA BRANCH ELECTIONS** for vice chair, treasurer, and member-at-large were held in August. The new set of officers for 2011-12 are Bob Keranen (Chair), Greg Lovelady (Vice Chair), Carla Jonientz (Chair-Elect), Nancy Lloyd (Secretary), Elaine Fischer (Treasurer), John Flanagan (Member-at-Large), Mike Riley (Board of Trustees member), and Richard Kennedy (Management Committee representative).

**THE BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR** comes to Olympia's Capitol Theater the first weekend in December. Our program features a balance of long and short films on adventure, culture, the environment, and thrills. Each night offers a different lineup and over two hours of films. Get your tickets in advance at The Alpine Experience and Olympic Outfitters in downtown Olympia, online through [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com), or at the door the night of the show, if not sold out. The shows are on Saturday, **Dec. 3**, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, **Dec. 4**, at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$13 for Saturday, \$11 for Sunday, and \$22 for both nights when purchased together. A discount of \$2 is available for Sunday night single or two-night purchases to Mountaineers, Olympia Film Society members, students, and military with ID.

**THE OLYMPIA BRANCH BOARD** meets at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meetings are **November 9** at Alpine Experience in the Hyak Room and **December 14** at the Olympia Center. Members are encouraged to attend, especially the December meeting, which is the quarterly members' meeting.

**OLYMPIA BRANCH LIBRARY:** Located at Maxine Dunkelman's house, 5418 Lemon Rd. N.E. Contact Maxine, 360-352-5027, [maxdunk@comcast.net](mailto:maxdunk@comcast.net), if you'd like to come by to browse, 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, [mtntimmy@clearwire.net](mailto:mtntimmy@clearwire.net).

**Website:** [seattlemountaineers.org](http://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,

Continued on page 34

singles events, Retired Rovers activities, Under the Hill Rovers activities and sailing.

## Learn more

Watch the website for an announcement of the next **MEET THE MOUNTAINEERS** event. They are usually held midweek from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at The Mountaineers Program Center. Dozens of volunteers from the branch committees will be eager to introduce you to all things Mountaineers. Members of The Mountaineers Board of Directors are on hand to find out what you'd like to see in the organization. Snacks and beverages will be available.

**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. The next one is set for 6:30 p.m. on **Nov. 17** 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.

**NATURALISTS' EVENTS/LECTURES:** The Naturalists Committee will hold its reunion potluck dinner event on Sept. 27 at The Mountaineers Program Center from 6:30-8:30 p.m. It has also announced its first two lectures:

Nov 10, Thu. - Clay Antieau, "How Weeds Work and Why that Matters"

Jan 12, Thu. - Paul Bannick, "Owls and Woodpeckers"

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

**PHOTO COURSES:** I Got a New Camera for Christmas and the Basic Photography Courses are open for enrollment. The former will be held Saturday, Jan. 21 at 9 p.m. at The Mountaineers Program Center. The latter starts Wednesday, Feb. 29 at 7 p.m. at the program center. Register via [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org).

## 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 and hear Beckey

The next Tacoma Branch Open House and Speaker Presentation, held the third Friday of most months, will be held **Nov. 18** in the Rotunda Room of the Wheelock Student Center at the University of Puget Sound. The event will start at 7 p.m. and gives current members as well as prospective members a chance to learn more about the branch's activities, courses and programs. Called the most accomplished climber of all time by Colin Haley, Fred Beckey will be featured speaker at the November event. A climbing legend from our own Pacific Northwest, Beckey will sign copies of his three editions of his classic *Cascade Alpine Guide*. Admission for the event is \$5. Tickets are available through Brown Paper Tickets, at Edgeworks Climbing Indoor Rock Gym and at the Wheelock Student Center on the UPS campus.

**Want a personal guide to what the Tacoma Branch offers?** Contact one of our new-member mentors (see our branch website).

**ANNUAL AWARDS AND FALL HIKING BANQUET:** The Tacoma Branch invites all to this potluck event on Sunday, **Nov. 6**. Bring your favorite dish, a salad, main course or dessert. The program will include Peak Pin Awards, Tacoma Service Award, and an update on The Mountaineers Tacoma Program Center remodel. Plans for the Tacoma Branch Centennial celebration (March 19) will also be discussed. RSVP to Debbie Due, [debdue@harbor.net](mailto:debdue@harbor.net), 253-564-4188. There is no charge, but it would be helpful to have a head count to set up tables, etc. You can RSVP up until the noon of Nov. 6.

**COURSE INFORMATION NIGHT:** Unsure which climbing course to take? These meetings, **Nov. 2 and Dec. 14**, at 6:30 p.m. will help you decide. They are held at the Anna Lemon Wheelock Library, 3722 N. 26th St., Tacoma. Enrollment for the **Tacoma Basic Climbing Course** will open **Nov. 7**. More info can be found at the branch website.

**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.

**TACOMA BRANCH BOARD** meets on the last Monday of most months at 7 p.m. at the Tacoma Program Center. Meetings are open to

all members.

**ELECTION RESULTS:** Voting is over and the ballots have been tallied for the Tacoma Mountaineers Board Officers and Trustees for the fiscal year of October 2011 - September 2012. Geoff Lawrence is elected chair, Margot Tsakonis is chair-elect, Rick Yasger is secretary, Marian Shepherd is treasurer. Branch rep to The Mountaineers Board of Directors is Jim Feltus. Tacoma Board trustees are Gregg Gagliardi, Amy Mann and Tom Shimko.

## MOUNTAINEERS-WIDE: PLAYERS

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

**The Players are excited to announce our 2012 season:** "Fiddler on the Roof" this spring and "Footloose, the Musical" this summer. Visit our new, redesigned website, [www.foresttheater.com](http://www.foresttheater.com), for all the details.

**Help wanted:** If you are interested in helping in any capacity, please contact Gala Lindvall, 206-542-4195, [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).

**Chris Averill** (continued from pg. 31)  
with cancer in July.

Chris joined the Seattle Branch in 1988 and graduated from the Intermediate Climbing Course in 1992. He led climbs from 2004-08. Additionally he served on the Climbing Committee, was active in the Water Ice Climbing Course and was an accomplished telemark skier.

He was also a skilled and experienced rock, waterfall ice, and alpine climber. His exuberant passion for climbing was equaled only by his warm personality, his good sense of humor, his love and devotion to his wife, and his valued friendship with fellow climbers over the years.

See [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org)  
for updates on all trips/  
outings



# outdoorcenters

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 club headquarters 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 the upper lifts of the Mt. Baker Recreation Co. Watch the website via [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org) for updates and details on open weekends this winter.

### Thanksgiving Weekend, Nov 23-27:

We will be serving our Annual Homestyle Thanksgiving Dinner with traditional dishes, as well as attention to vegetarian and gluten-free needs, at 5 pm, Thursday, Nov 24. This is usually a laid-back, low-key weekend of relaxation, spent hiking, conversing, and reading. Music is always welcome, especially during prep time. If it is agreeable with all, you may bring wine or beer for dinner (but store in your car please). Lunch will be served Thursday through Sunday. We need a minimum of 20 people to keep the lodge open. Please check the weather forecast; in past years it has ranged from 6 inches of new snow, to gorgeous sunny skies to pouring rain.

**Reservations:** At times during the season Mountaineers activity groups have signed up for specific weekends. Even though groups may be scheduled for a weekend, 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, 206-696-6127, Judy Sterry, 206-366-2750, [jsterry60@comcast.net](mailto:jsterry60@comcast.net), or by visiting the Baker Lodge website at [www.mountaineers.org/lodge/baker](http://www.mountaineers.org/lodge/baker).

To ensure that there is room for your group and to avoid scheduling conflicts, please contact Judy Sterry (contact info above) for November-May reservations and Jim Gipson (425-985-0616, [gipwood@msn.com](mailto:gipwood@msn.com)) for June reservations before publicizing the date of your event. Non-scheduled openings may be arranged if hosts can be found, but because most of our volunteer hosts are working full-time, midweek reservations may be hard to staff. The sooner you ask, the more likely it is that someone can be found.

**Schedule/rates:** Please click on "Calendar and Reservations" on our website's home page: [www.mountaineers.org/lodge/baker](http://www.mountaineers.org/lodge/baker).

**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.

Trail lights from the parking lot to the lodge

are on until 10:30 p.m. and the trail is marked by flagged poles. If you arrive after 10:30 p.m. be prepared with a flashlight or headlamp. Each person should bring a sleeping bag, 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** if they are accompanied by a paying adult, complete an application and have proof that they are in the fifth grade. Visit the ski area website at [www.mtbaker.us](http://www.mtbaker.us) for a copy of 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.

**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 Lodge, 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 3 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 for not only 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:** Check it out! 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.

**Meany rentals:** Meany is now open and 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 at [www.meanylodge.org](http://www.meanylodge.org). Go to "Contacts" and send the chair an email telling him that you are interested.

**Meany Work Parties:** Meany has just one fall work party left (Nov 5-6). So if you have procrastinated, now is the time to come up and see what the lodge is like while lending a helping hand. For information, contact Chuck Welter at [chair@meanylodge.org](mailto:chair@meanylodge.org). Bring your kids (helpful ones are most welcomed), even if it's only for a couple of hours. The work parties are listed on the Meany calendar ([www.meanylodge.org/calendar.html](http://www.meanylodge.org/calendar.html)). To register for a work party, go to [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/116061](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/116061).

**Meany Winter Season Pass:** So, do you think you want to spend all your winter weekends playing in the snow? Well, do we have a deal for you. The Meany Season Pass entitles you to come to Meany, get fed, have a place to sleep and play in the snow whenever Meany is open. Of course, you also get to

Continued on page 36



enjoy the Meany camaraderie—priceless. And if you purchase the pass before Dec. 1 you get a discount of \$50. Talk about a deal! Prices follow (first is before Dec. 1 and second rate is after Dec. 1):

Adult (14 and up) - \$450/\$500

Child (5-13 years) - \$300/\$350

To purchase visit <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/194598>.

**Meany instructor-led trips:** Did you know that our own Patti Polinsky, when she's not skiing at Meany, leads a series of trips across the globe? In 2012 it will be here "Ski the Alps in Austria" tour with great on- and off-piste skiing complemented by hotels serving grand, multi-course dinners and post-ski spas. To preview the trip go to [http://web.me.com/mrbunz/Site\\_4/Ski\\_Austria\\_2012.html](http://web.me.com/mrbunz/Site_4/Ski_Austria_2012.html). For more info contact Patti at [MeanySports@me.com](mailto:MeanySports@me.com).

**New England Fall Colors:** Join the group that Patti is leading for a week of day-hiking and paddling while enjoying the New England fall colors of Maine. You will be staying at the Appalachian Mountain Club Camps and will

hike the Appalachian Trail one full day. To preview the trip, go to <http://gallery.me.com/mrbunz#100214>. For more info contact Patti at [MeanySports@me.com](mailto:MeanySports@me.com).

**Ski the Alps in Austria:** Last spring it was skiing Italy and France. This year it is Austria with great skiing on- and off-piste, and staying in hotels serving grand, multi-course dinners with spas for your after-ski relaxation. To preview the trip go to [http://web.me.com/mrbunz/Site\\_4/Ski\\_Austria\\_2012.html](http://web.me.com/mrbunz/Site_4/Ski_Austria_2012.html). For more information contact Patti at [MeanySports@me.com](mailto:MeanySports@me.com).

## 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.

## Want to learn? Enroll in the 2012 Foothills/Seattle Nordic Ski School

**Multi-Week XC Ski Classes** are offered as half-day sessions on three consecutive Sundays, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 2012. Course fee is \$85 Mountaineers members, \$100 non-members.

| Class   | Session | Time         | ID No. |
|---|---------|--------------|--------|
| Intro to Cross Country Skiing                   | AM      | 9:30-11:30AM | 28586  |
| Intermediate Cross Country Skiing               | AM      | 9:30-11:30AM | 28589  |
| Intro to Skate Ski                              | AM-Only | 9:30-11:30AM | 28588  |
| Intro to Cross Country Skiing                   | PM      | 12:30-2:30PM | 28587  |
| Intermediate Cross Country Skiing               | PM      | 12:30-2:30PM | 28590  |
| Hills, Hills, Hills: Mastering Hills on XC Skis | PM-Only | 12:30-2:30PM | 28591  |
| Intermediate Skate Skiing                       | PM-Only | 12:30-2:30PM | 28592  |

**One-Day XC Ski Classes** are offered as an all-day session on Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012. Course fee is \$60 Mountaineer members, \$70 non-members.

| Class                                  | Session | Time    | ID No. |
|--|---------|---------|--------|
| Intro to Cross Country Skiing: 1 Day   | All-Day | 9AM-2PM | 28595  |
| Cross Country Skiing Refresher One-Day | All-Day | 9AM-2PM | 28598  |
| Intro To Skate Skiing: One-Day         | All-Day | 9AM-2PM | 28599  |
| Mastering Hills on XC Skis: One-Day    | All-Day | 9AM-2PM | 28600  |

**Half-Day XC Ski Classes** are offered as an half-day session on Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012. Course fee is \$40 Mountaineer members, \$45 non-members.

| Class                                       | Session | Time   | ID No. |
|---|---------|--------|--------|
| Intermediate Cross Country Skiing: Half-Day | PM      | 12-2PM | 28601  |
| Intermediate Skate Skiing: Half-Day         | AM      | 9-11AM | 28602  |

To enroll or view complete Nordic ski class course descriptions go to [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org). Overview of the Nordic ski school program is posted at [www.foothillsmountaineers.org/winter/nordic.html](http://www.foothillsmountaineers.org/winter/nordic.html).

**The 2012 Multiweek Telemark/Randonnee Ski Lesson Program** at Summit-at-Snoqualmie is scheduled for Wednesday evenings, Jan. 11, 18, 25; Feb. 1, 8, 15. Payment for 2012 will be made directly to the Summit-at-Snoqualmie Summit Learning Center (SLC). Course fees: before Nov. 15, \$144; after Nov. 15, \$160.

To enroll or view complete course descriptions go to [www.mountaineers.org](http://www.mountaineers.org). Overview of the Multiweek Telemark/Randonnee ski lesson program is posted at [www.foothillsmountaineers.org/winter/tele.html](http://www.foothillsmountaineers.org/winter/tele.html).

**Nordic Ski Swap:** Buy or sell cross-country, skate, telemark, randonee or snowshoe gear at great bargains. Friday, Dec. 2, 6-9PM at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 111 NE 80th St., Seattle (Green Lake area; one block west of I-5/NE 80th Exit. For details visit [www.foothillsmountaineers.org/winter/skiswap.html](http://www.foothillsmountaineers.org/winter/skiswap.html).

## What's new in member benefits

**The Mountaineers has always offered valuable** benefits in exchange for your loyal membership. You probably know The Mountaineers offers you great discounts on all things Mountaineers—books, courses, lodges, activities, lectures, trips and travels—not to mention numerous volunteer and stewardship opportunities. You may also know as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, all but \$10 of your dues are tax-deductible. But did you know that Mountaineers members enjoy a number of great discounts from generous community partners—like 40-percent off all gear from **Eddie Bauer/First Ascent?** (The equivalent of a pro-deal discount!) Or discounted memberships to **Vertical World** and the **Magnuson Athletic Club?** In addition to the regular offerings, members can take advantage of seasonal specials, including:

- **Snoqualmie Summit**—members can buy discounted lift-ticket coupons to ski Snoqualmie Summit this winter (a limited number are generally available from December to January).

- **Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour**—members have always enjoyed discounted ticket prices to this often sold-out event (see adjacent ad). For the first time this year, members were allowed to purchase tickets one week before the general public.

**Well, now we've added a few more benefits!** Recently added partnerships include:

- **MVSTA 2-for-1**—the Methow Valley Sport Trails Association is offering vouchers to all Mountaineers members so you can ski 2-for-1 for a day in the Methow Valley this 2011-12 winter season (see pg. 4 ad).

- **Zipcar**—all Mountaineers members are now eligible to join the car-sharing program for \$25 per year, and once approved, can enjoy discounted driving rates that include gas, insurance and up to 180 miles per day.

- **GearTribe**—register via The Mountaineers for great deals on outdoor gear and adventure, and GearTribe will give back a percentage to The Mountaineers as a charitable contribution (see pg. 6 ad).

- **Living Spirit Yoga of Olympia**—offering all Mountaineers members 10 percent off Teacher Training and Immersions classes.

**Gift membership:** In our recent member survey, we learned that our very best ambassadors for the organization are YOU, the members. Now is a great time to consider a gift of membership for friends or family, and help expand The Mountaineers community of support. You can even add a personal touch by creating a gift package that includes a Mountaineers logo water bottle, tote bag and favorite title from Mountaineers Books.

If you haven't looked lately a complete list of benefits and how to access them is on our website (Member Benefits) or call Member Services, 206-521-6001. To learn more about the Membership Program, contact Valerie Normand, [valerien@mountaineers.org](mailto:valerien@mountaineers.org), 206-521-6023.



### DISCOUNTS FROM 25 TO 75%

#### Holiday Book Sale

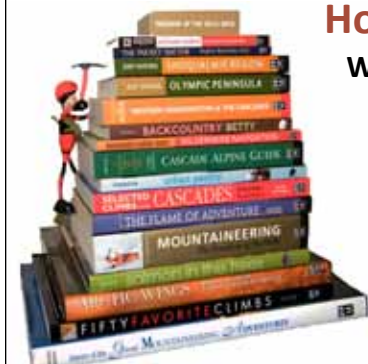
Wed, Nov 30 - Fri, Dec 2  
9 am to 7 pm

**MEMBERS ONLY:**

Tue, Nov 29, 5-9 pm

The Mountaineers Bookstore  
7700 Sand Point Way NE  
Magnuson Park, Seattle

*Books, Maps, TOPO! Software,  
Sets, Seconds, Clearance Titles,  
Logo Merchandise!*



**Wed-Fri, Nov 30, Dec 1, 2**  
7pm at The Mountaineers Program Center  
For tickets and info contact The Mountaineers, 206-521-6001

**Sat., Dec 3-4**  
7pm at Olympia Capitol Theater  
Get your tickets at the Alpine Experience or Olympic Outfitters; or through  
[brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)

**Tue, Dec 6**  
7pm at Tacoma's Rialto Theater  
Get your tickets at the Rialto Theater or call 253-591-5894; 800-291-7593

## Rhododendron Preserve inspires urban forest restoration



**Big Tree:** the hallmark of Rhododendron Preserve's old growth

**Urban forests** offer important refuge for wildlife and respite for city-dwellers, but all too often forested parklands are overrun with invasive species and suffer from altered soil conditions.

The Green Seattle Partnership, a collaboration with Cascade Land Conservancy and the City of Seattle, aims to restore heavily-impacted, forested parks to healthy habitats by enlisting a network of volunteer forest stewards trained in restoration ecology. But when

so many of the remaining forests in the Puget Sound region have been altered by decades of human impact and invasive species, how do forest stewards measure their progress?

They depend on "reference points" of healthy, intact forests to shape their stewardship strategies and determine success.

Just a few miles west of Bremerton, The Mountaineers Foundation's Rhododendron Preserve is one of those reference

points, home to one of the last remnants of lowland, old-growth forest in the Puget Sound basin.

Biologists and the partnership's forest stewards recently traveled to the preserve for a tour with Mountaineers Education Manager Becca Polglase and Katha-Miller Winder, a Mountaineers Kitsap Branch volunteer and foundation representative.

During the tour, forest stewards identified and measured plants, speculated over signs of human impact, and compared characteristics of the preserve to the characteristics of the specific city parks they steward. In return, Green Seattle Partnership shared strategies for restoring Wildcat Creek's eroding streambed and provided fodder for the environmental education programs that Miller-Winder and other Mountaineers conduct on the property.

The field trip demonstrated

to all parties that partnership is powerful and that conservation can create a ripple effect. In the early 1900's, this area inspired early Mountaineers to purchase land to protect the unique forest from the aggressive timber harvests on the Kitsap Peninsula.

Finding retreat and inspiration on the property, Mountaineers established the Kitsap Cabin and Forest Theater, now serving as home to the Kitsap Branch and Mountaineers Players. Today, the property is surrounded by the 460-acre Rhododendron Preserve, owned and managed by the foundation.

Those intrepid Mountaineers who took action to protect a special forest may never have guessed that their efforts would not only protect an old forest, but also inform an important effort to replenish urban forests throughout modern-day Seattle. ▲▲

## i'mwhere?

Can you identify the summit in the foreground here? Send your answer (by December 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.
- Several correctly identified Banshee Peak in the September/October *Mountaineer* but Tom Snyder won the drawing. The photo was taken by Chris Pribbernow.



***Please visit  
www.mountaineers.org  
to see up-to-date trip  
and course listings.  
Thank you!***

### **2012 Snowshoe Courses Seattle Branch**



We offer a full range of snowshoe courses, designed to take you from novice snowshoer all the way to experienced winter camper. Learn how to travel safely on snow and even build a snow cave!

**Registration for all courses  
below opens Nov. 1, 2011:**

- Basic Snowshoe (Jan 2012)
- Backcountry Snowshoe Skills (early Feb 2012)
- Winter Camping (late Feb 2012)

See our website for full details!  
**[www.seattlesnowshoe.org](http://www.seattlesnowshoe.org)**



## Foothills Winter Program

The Mountaineers



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info at: [foothillswinter.org](http://foothillswinter.org)

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**Traditional Shamans' Masks and Ritual Art ♦ Jewelry**

### Special presentations:

- Saturday, Nov. 26, 2 PM: "Lao Textiles: Cultural Traditions in Woven Art"
- Sunday, Nov. 27, 2 PM: "Off the Beaten Path in Laos: Family Travel At Its Best"

[www.hilltribeart.com](http://www.hilltribeart.com)

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[www.maginternational.org](http://www.maginternational.org)

Photos by Above the Fray



# Great Gifts from Your Mountaineers Books



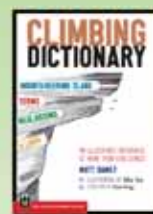
To the Arctic



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**Buy online using your member  
discount code at [mountaineersbooks.org](http://mountaineersbooks.org)**



I suggest you...

<http://feedback.mountaineers.org>



Craig Romano photo

## Dosey do, or Dosey don't

The well-intentioned opportunity to present to Mountaineers membership arguments for and against rerouting the Dosewallips River Road (*Mountaineer*, September/October 2011, pgs. 8-9) may have had the unintended effect of deepening the divide in the access vs. closure debate.

Rather than deal with generalities it is critically important to examine the specific facts of each case. Further, attention should be paid to changing hydrographic patterns; the times are changing.

For the Dosewallips, channeling the river back into its original bed is not an option. The alternative, to restore motor vehicle access beyond the washout, requires construction of a mile-long bypass road that, as currently surveyed, will be at an initial grade challenging the capacity of most RV-camping vehicles. The 45-degree hillside it would traverse is composed of unstable, fragmented material subject to landslide and washouts. A 20-foot wide roadbed would require the removal of 6.5 acres of near-old-growth forest.

Before taking a position on closure vs. access, one should visit the site. On the bleak late winter day I last visited the

Dosewallips washout area, I was amazed at the number of hikers, some of them very young, who had taken the short up-and-over bypass trail, to enjoy the upper reaches of the road.

In summary: Let us make sure that we evaluate each road washout on the basis of the relevant climatic, hydrographic, geologic and engineering facts rather than on the generalized issue of closure vs. access.

John S. Edwards

## Service above and beyond

I have been a member for a few years now and wanted to bring to your attention a staff member who exemplifies excellence in customer service.

Debbie Wick has a very demanding job that deserves more recognition for her efforts. She is always a pleasure to work with on the phone and has a very professional demeanor . . . blessed with a warm and cordial manner.

Keeping one's cool when helping members with detailed information and deadlines is a real challenge. Debbie makes it look easy, and it is not. She is in a word, seamless.

I offer this letter as a small token of the assistance she has rendered me over the years.

Leslie Seeche

## 'Great job'

I really enjoyed reading your article about the issue of rebuilding the washout on the Dosewallips Road. I think McNulty and Romano did a great job of presenting different viewpoints and the article was very fair in dealing with a complex issue.

This is a great way to present members with information to make up their own minds, and I hope the magazine will continue to present issues like this in the future.

Doug Walker

## Letters welcome

We invite your thoughts, concerns and joys in regard to not only *The Mountaineers* but the greater outdoors community. Please keep your letters to fewer than 200 words. All letters are subject to editing for length. Please sign off with your name and address. Thanks.

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11/  
12

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**A Camera, Two Kids and a Camel**  
Friday, January 20, 2012 at 7:30PM

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**Ends of the Earth**  
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# Innovation

By Mark Scheffer

Climbing Chair, Seattle Branch

**Mountaineers have a long and proud history of being leaders** in the outdoors. Our activities require leadership and innovation just to occur. Things change and the outdoor enthusiast must adapt to meet the new challenge or forego the adventure altogether.

Forego the adventure? This is not what Mountaineers do.

Before The Mountaineers was founded, there was very little in the way of organized outdoor groups in the Seattle area. Access was difficult and trips were measured in weeks or sometimes months—not the hours or days required by many of the trips we go on today. A hundred years ago, the need to change how we go on adventures inspired early Mountaineers to create a member-based organization unlike any other at the time. Soon Mountaineers were forging routes to the summits of some of the most challenging peaks in the Pacific Northwest. In each decade since The Mountaineers was formed members have embarked on many challenges requiring unique solutions to achieve goals.

In the 20's and 30's, higher peaks and challenging conditions inspired members like Wolf Bauer to pioneer alpine techniques and REI-founders Lloyd and Mary Anderson to import and develop specialized equipment. The basic alpine climbing course and outdoor recreation industry were borne.

In the 40's and 50's renowned climbers Fred Beckey, Jim and Lou Whittaker, and Ome Daiber, logged first ascents and established new routes all over the Pacific Northwest. They discovered innovative ways to achieve what was once unimaginable.

Innovation leads to more innovation. The '60s saw the creation of *Freedom of The Hills*—a comprehensive text of best practices for high elevation adventure and safety. Used by mountaineers and climbers worldwide, *Freedom* has been translated into 10 languages.

The '70s and '80s ushered in new courses and trip alternatives for members to experience the mountains.

The late '90s saw the introduction of specialized courses previously unheard of, like "Water Ice," "Crag," and "Aid and Big Wall." Innovation drove The Mountaineers to expand into new and exciting areas of the

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outdoor sports they loved so much.

A few years ago, a move to a new facility in Magnuson Park led to a unique solution

to a long-time problem—how to teach all of the climbing courses in a way that minimized impact on public lands. The move spurred innovation in ways never imagined. The Mountaineers Program Center became a base for technical instruction. Blank walls became routes for aid climbing, mixed rock and ice. Another wall enabled challenging climbing routes that allow beginners and advanced climbers to learn new techniques and improve their skills. The most recent innovation, basalt columns at the entrance to the program center, offers ways to learn crack climbing and traditional lead climbing on *real* rock.

These innovations were the stuff of dreams that forward-thinking members accepted as challenges. Over the years, Mountaineers have created solutions that fit our needs so well that today we take for granted that they exist. The innovations have enabled The Mountaineers to adapt to the changing needs of its members to ensure that successive generations of members would be inspired to find the next great challenge and, with it, the next great innovation.

Today we are not just a club of "great past ideas" but a growing community with the capacity to generate ideas and solutions for future needs not yet realized. A hundred-and-five years of constant innovation and invention is not indicative of a culture of luck, it represents a culture of innovation—one that seeks the challenge, solves it, and asks "what's next?"

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*Mark Scheffer begins his first year as Seattle Branch Climbing Committee chair. Since joining The Mountaineers in 1993, he has stepped up to lead on climbs as well as in the boardroom of the organization. A true climbing ambassador, Mark says his favorite joy in climbing is "taking new climbers out on trips."*

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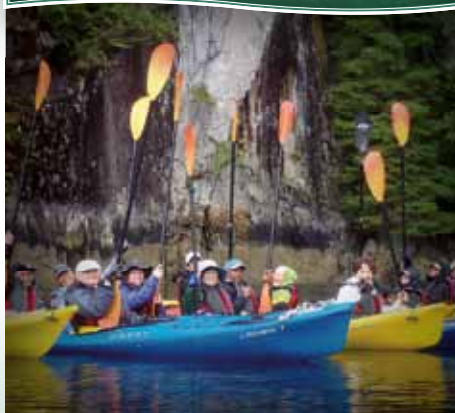


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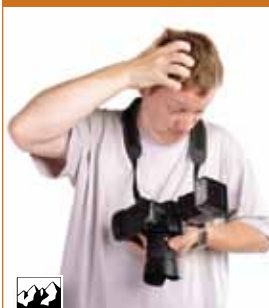


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