



LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



We hope that you enjoy this August edition of Leader Lines in between your many adventures exploring the Pacific Northwest (and beyond!) this summer. The smoke from the BC fires has come and gone, the eclipse happened, and we are all reveling in the ongoing late summer weather that affords such tremendous outdoor opportunities here in the mountains and waters of Cascadia.

This edition of LeaderLines continues with our new features (Leader Spotlight, Lessons Learned) and offers useful content, tips, and upcoming events to make the most of your time as a leader at The Mountaineers. We also encourage you to participate in our Strategic Plan survey - your feedback as a leader is critically important to the future of our great organization.

Enjoy the summer while it lasts!

**Sara and Steve,
Education Managers**

Leader Spotlight: Donna Krueger

Leader Spotlight is a monthly showcase of the incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. It is a platform for our leaders to share tips and tricks, favorite memories, and inspiration for new and rising leaders. For our Leader Spotlight this month we talked to Donna Kreuger, a Hike Leader from Olympia who wants people to understand that they don't have to be a big, bad mountain climber to rock the outdoors!

[Read more](#)

Join us at the Wilderness Risk Management Conference | November 2017

One of our [Core Values](#) is Adventure. Along with adventure comes a corresponding need for accurately assessing and managing risk. If you'd like to expand your skills and knowledge regarding risk management in order to give back to The Mountaineers in a leadership role, please consider applying for a scholarship to attend the Wilderness Risk Management Conference in Maine this November.

[Read more](#)



Lesson Learned

Continuing to reinforce our culture of learning from near misses, we share two stories. First, a close call on The Tooth earlier this summer provides a vivid opportunity to appreciate the importance of situational awareness and innovation to avert catastrophe. Then, we explore some important takeaways from a harrowing rescue on Mount Stuart.

Tooth Rappel

Stuart Rescue



Pickets, Peaks, Prusiks, and Pronouns?

We are always learning at The Mountaineers. In a recent course, one of our students identified a common language shortcut with the unintended impact of being non-inclusive. Learn how we can focus on intentional use of language to foster positive learning environments.

[Read more](#)

Leader Logistics

In this segment of LeaderLines, staff share nuggets of information and administrative updates that pertain to our volunteer leadership. Do you have questions or an issue that you'd like to see addressed? Please contact [Sara Ramsay](#).

Recording Volunteer Hours

Our volunteers put in a lot of time behind the scenes, and we often receive questions about what hours to track for a given course or activity. You should record ALL hours spent relating to a course or activity - including pre/post trip communications, trip listing and planning, roster management, etc. If in doubt, ask yourself: "Was I doing this thing primarily for the trip or for myself?" If the answer is primarily for the trip, the hours should be counted! When thinking about time that may be allocated towards more than one activity, please do your best to avoid double-counting hours. And don't forget – you must close out your trip for your volunteer hours to be counted! Questions about how to record your hours or close a trip, in the first place? Please email [Member Services](#)!

No Shows vs. Late Cancellations

What's the difference between a No Show and a Late Cancellation? No Shows are relatively straight-forward: a participant failed to attend an activity and provided no advanced notice. When a leader marks a participant as a No Show, the participant receives an automated email after every instance. Late Cancellations are slightly different and more nuanced: a participant did provide advanced notice, however late, but it was provided after registration closed. As the leader, you knew the person wasn't coming but were inconvenienced by how it impacted the activity. If a person has four of these Late Cancellations over the course of three months, they receive an automated email that describes how Late Cancellations impact our programs.

Related: Learn more about writing a [great activity listing](#) to minimize No Shows and Late Cancellations and read up about [good cancellation etiquette](#).

Quick Hits

- **Leadership Conference:** Save the Date for The Mountaineers' fourth annual [Leadership Conference](#) on December 2. Registration opens on September 15! All leaders will receive a promo code to attend for \$25. Additionally, we are seeking volunteers to support the event day-of. Interested? For more information, please contact [Sara Ramsay](#).
- **Strategic Plan:** Strategic Planning isn't one of the "sexy" things we do, but it is critically important to the future of our organization. We're halfway through the process of building 'Vision 2022' and we've put together a survey to help us further define our future priorities. [Take it!](#)
- **Don't die out there!** Meteorologist, broadcast professional, and author of [Mountain Weather Pocket Guide](#), Jeff Renner, presents on [Safety in Mountain Weather](#).
- **Searching for our next fundraising champion.** With the departure of Mary Hsue, we are looking for our next [development director](#). Please spread the word and help us find someone to champion giving for The Mountaineers
- **Interested in travel and adventure overseas?** Consider leading a trip for [Global Adventures!](#)
- **Want a simpler trail pass system?** Our partners at Washington Trails Association are working to improve the recreation pass system in Washington. Hikers are needed to share thoughts. [Take the survey!](#)
- **When you need it, you NEED it.** When was the last time you restocked your [first aid kit?](#)
- **Super Bloom!** Biologists and nature lovers from around the world, and even NASA satellites, are focusing their attention on this year's extraordinary wildflower "[Super Bloom.](#)" Right in our backyard, it's the best recorded in decades.
- **Because everyone should get outside:** "[Unlikely Hikers](#)" works to highlight and

celebrate people of all different shapes, sizes, races, ages, fitness levels, and mobility who appreciate hiking and the outdoors.

- **Some ultra-running humor** for your Tuesday from Mountaineers Books author Brendan Leonard: "If you've always wanted to [try 'chafing'](#), here's your chance."
- **Support your public lands!** The Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is recruiting volunteers to help with data collection for parking occupancy on the newly-paved Middle Fork Snoqualmie Road outside of North Bend. If you plan to visit between August 26 through the winter, contact [Sarah Lange](#), Recreation Planner, to get more info.

Stay Safe Out There!

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!

Thank you for subscribing! Follow us online:



www.mountaineers.org

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

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