



# LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



The changing of the seasons reminds us to appreciate the remarkable summer we've had, new skills we've learned, and shared adventures with new and old friends. At our recent Annual Breakfast, we had the chance to reflect on the growing urgency around protecting (and advocating for) wild places and public lands. Now more than ever, The Mountaineers offers opportunities to explore, learn, and conserve – and as leaders in this organization, you are at the forefront of both creating and benefiting from those opportunities.

This month's edition of LeaderLines aims to provide you with inspiration (via our Leader Spotlight), education (via the Leadership Conference), accident prevention (via Lessons Learned), and ultimately appreciation (via our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and much more).

Enjoy this month's edition of LeaderLines!

**Sara and Steve,  
Adult Education Managers**



## **Leader Spotlight: Rodica Manole**

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 Rodica Manole, a volunteer with the Everett Branch who encourages her fellow women to step into leadership roles because you're more ready than you think you are.

[Read more](#)



### [Mountaineers Leadership Conference | Dec 2](#)

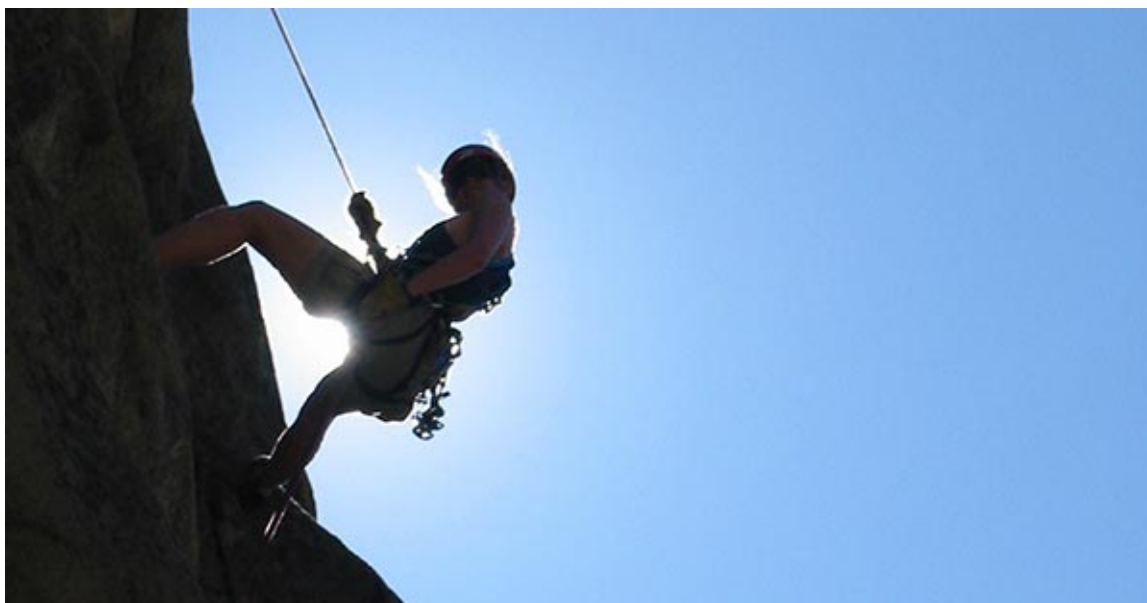
Register for The Mountaineers' fourth annual [Leadership Conference](#)! You can take a look at the full conference schedule now too.

- [Click here](#) for a complete list of presenters with bios.
- [Click here](#) for breakout session descriptions and a full schedule.

We are also excited to announce that all attendees at this year's Leadership Conference will receive a complimentary copy of *Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills, 9th Edition*! Although "mountaineering" is called out in the title, this brand new edition of our flagship publication is, at its heart, a book about outdoor skills. With chapters on first aid, risk management, clothing systems, terrain assessment, leadership, conditioning, Leave No Trace – and more! – *Freedom 9* is applicable to so much more than technical climbing, and we hope that you find it a valuable tool in your leadership toolkit!

Leaders may register for the discounted price of \$25 with the promo code **LC17LEADER**. Additionally, we are still seeking a handful of volunteers to support the event day-of. Volunteers will receive **complimentary registration** as a thank you for their service! Interested? For more information and to register as a volunteer, please contact [Sara Ramsay](#).

[Register](#)



### **Lessons Learned: Swiss Cheese, Auto-blocks, and the Importance of Back Up Systems**

Whether you're a climber or not, the concept of having multiple levels of backup systems in place is one you should incorporate into your personal approach to managing risks for yourself, and for your group. If you haven't checked out James Reason's "[Swiss Cheese Model](#)" of accident causation, please take a look and consider how having multiple safety nets and backup systems in place can help prevent accidents.

What are the holes in the swiss cheese of your trips, and how can you use backup systems to add layers of defense between you and hazards/consequences?

A surprise climbing example: there are many reasons to use an auto-block for your rappel, even some you [might never expect](#).

### **Quick Hits**

- **Save the Date** for the club-wide [Volunteer Appreciation Dinner](#) on Saturday, January 27. Registration will open on December 4. This event is open to volunteers from all branches and their guests. Dinner is complimentary, and there is no cost to attend. We hope to see you there!
- **An Ode to Volunteerism:** John Dunlap shares his [inspiring perspective](#)
- **Creating Identity:** "Growing up, I was a chubby, painfully shy girl who didn't fit in. But I am grateful for that girl. She taught me that stepping out of my comfort zone is well worth the sweaty palms and apprehension. Most importantly, she taught me to live with integrity. By doing so, I found my familial tribe of queer folk, band geeks, tree huggers, and underdogs... I hope young people discover, like I have, their own interconnections within the National Park Service – and realize [they belong](#)."

that aims to dismantle the Antiquities Act, the bedrock conservation law that allows presidents to protect many of our most beloved wild places through National Monument designation. [Learn more and take action.](#)

- **“How can I support you?”** It was so basic, and yet so unbelievable. It was maybe the best question I had ever been asked.
  - [The Power of Expedition Behavior](#)
  - [Expedition Behavior: What It Is and How to Foster It](#)
- **Did you know?** Governor Evans and a Mountaineers Books publication inspired President Ford to create the Alpine Lake Wilderness we know and love today: <http://bit.ly/2x7BXDR>
- **We want to be this girl** when we grow up: Ellie Carey, 6-year-old world BMX champion: <http://bit.ly/2ylKeJq>
- **Speaking of girls like Ellie....** What role does risk-taking play in children’s education? A recent [international study](#) describes it as “essential for a child’s well-being.”
- **New Trailhead** at [Granite Creek](#)
- **Can’t Stop Won’t Stop:** "Throughout her career, Gleich has been thrown into a controversial light. Many doubted her ability in the mountains, calling her a mere “ski model” with too many Instagram followers, and laughed when she set out to complete her goal of skiing every line in the guidebook. This [didn’t stop her](#) from trying."

### **Stay Safe Out There!**

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!

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

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