



# LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



## Welcome,

In this edition of LeaderLines, we first want to take a moment to acknowledge and reflect on a recent loss within The Mountaineers community. Earlier this month, we learned about the tragic passing of [Stephen Kornbluth](#). While relatively new to our community, Stephen made an enormous impact on those he spent time with. He was a valued and beloved member of our Olympia Branch who will be deeply missed. In the coming weeks and months, please know that our staff are always available to provide support as our community processes the grief of this event.

Along with our standard LeaderLines features, this month we also welcome you to sign up for this year's [Leadership Conference](#). Registration is scheduled to open on Monday, September 17.

We hope that you're enjoying the tail-end of your summer in the PNW, and we look forward to seeing you out on a trip or at a Mountaineers event in the near future.

**Sara Ramsay,**  
**Volunteer Development Manager**

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## **Leader Spotlight: Henry Romer**

Leader Spotlight is a monthly blog to showcase our incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. Meet this month's featured leader: Henry Romer. He is a 20+ year leader and instructor who supports multiple activities ... and who just completed the 100 Peaks at Mt. Rainier list in July 2018! Congratulations Henry, and thank you for your many years of service!

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### **Leadership Conference**

The Mountaineers fifth annual [Leadership Conference](#) is scheduled for Saturday, December 1. Registration opens on Monday, September 17 at 9am!

As a thank you for your ongoing dedication to The Mountaineers programs, please use the promo code LC18LEADER to register at the discounted rate of \$25!

Know someone in The Mountaineers community who would make a great leader? We want to encourage future and aspiring leaders to attend the Leadership Conference. Please share the promo code LC18FUTURE with a promising future leader to register at the discounted \$25 rate.

Additionally, we are seeking about 25 volunteers to support the event day-of. Volunteers are needed to help with morning registration, provide support as room hosts, and help with clean-up over lunch. All 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: Turnaround Times**

Have you ever caught summit fever? It's just a little bit further... we're almost there... I think I can see the top... we'll definitely have time to make it back to the car before it's dark... before it's totally dark... I don't mind hiking for an hour with a head lamp. You get the picture, and chances are, if you've spent any time in the mountains... you've been there!

Turnaround times are a crucial component to a safe and successful day in the mountains. As climb leader Liana Robertshaw put it in her recent blog, adhering to turnaround times allow us to "live to die another day."

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### Welcome to Nick Block!

We are excited to welcome [Nick Block](#) to our staff team as The Mountaineers new Volunteer Collaborations Manager. Nick joined The Mountaineers in 2015, and he has been volunteering ever since. Most notably, Nick chaired Seattle's Intense Basic Alpine Climbing Course this past year after serving as one of the primary leaders for this course in 2017. We're excited for the depth of experience that Nick brings to our team, and we know that he'll bring enormous value to you - our volunteers! Please join us in welcoming Nick.

### Quick Hits

- **Vision 2022.** As one of our volunteer leaders, you likely had a voice in creating Vision 2022: our new [strategic plan](#). Give it a read to understand the priorities, actions, and investments we will take over the next 5 years to enable us to advance our mission and positively impact the outdoor community and public lands here in the Pacific Northwest... and beyond.
- **Student failure on the path to success.** [Learn how](#) clarifying critical safety applications can help set students and instructors up for success.
- **Committee roster page updates.** The committee roster page and its download now have a "Last Trip Led" column that contains the date of the most recent activity that the leader led for the committee. This will help with keeping your committee's

leader list up-to-date by making it much easier to find inactive leaders! Read more about our new website features [here](#).

- **In the mountains, everyone rises together.** This may as well be the Climbers of Color motto. Inclusion is paramount, in every way possible. “We want to be guides for everyone,” [Nguyen says](#).
- **Top 10 July trip reports.** Check out our [favorite trip reports](#) to highlight a small slice of the fantastic climbing, sailing, kayaking, and hiking you accomplished last month!
- **Second Vantage toilet now open.** Following the success of the first toilet installed in the Frenchman Coulee climbing area, fundraising was jointly undertaken by the Washington Climbers Coalition, the Access Fund, the American Alpine Club, and The Mountaineers to [build a second toilet](#). The new facility is now open for public use.
- **Meet The Mountaineers + Gear Grab.** Join us September 24 for our [biannual gear grab](#). Be sure to RSVP - we had a full house last year.
- **Reroute to Seattle Program Center.** Magnuson Park officials [recently installed a barrier](#) preventing left turns after entering the park at the 74th street entrance, requiring a reroute around the east side of The Mountaineers facility.
- **Stewardship day at Blue Lake Trail & Liberty Bell area.** Join us this September 8 in partnership with the Access Fund for a [day of trail work](#) at Washington Pass.
- **Everett Branch climb instructor Don Sarver narrowly escape from Little Tahoma.** “I’ve been shot at and been in some pretty scary situations, but all that paled in comparison to how I felt at that moment. [I’ve never been more scared in my life.](#)”

### ~~Stay Safe Out There!~~

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!

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[www.mountaineers.org](http://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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