



LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



Welcome,

As you may have read in last month's LeaderLines, we have a new staff member in the Education Department! We are excited to have Nick Block on board as our new Volunteer Collaborations Manager, and together, we look forward to supporting our incredible community of volunteers. In the past several weeks, we've received a number of questions about our roles and responsibilities. We encourage you to review our [staff page](#), which was recently revised to serve as our org-chart. If you're ever unsure of who to contact, please email info@mountaineers.org and our Member Services team will point your question in the right direction!

We also want to take a moment to acknowledge another tragic loss within The Mountaineers community, the passing of [Laurie Choate](#). In early September, Laurie died on a private trip to Kendall Katwalk. She was an active member of the Olympia Branch, and a mother, teacher, nurse, and friend. We know that the past couple of months have been especially difficult for members of our climbing and hiking communities, and we would like to reiterate that our staff are always available to provide support to those processing the grief of these tragedies.

Sara Ramsay & Nick Block
Education Department



Leader Spotlight: Curtis Stock

Leader Spotlight is a monthly blog to showcase our incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. Meet this month's featured leader: Curtis Stock. He is a climb leader in Tacoma who has leveraged his experience with The Mountaineers to climb around the world!

[Read More](#)



How To: Prep for Course Season

Fall is in the air, and at The Mountaineers, that can only mean one thing ... course season is just around the corner! As our leaders revise their curriculum and plan for the upcoming year of students, we encourage you think about [self-assessment](#), [learning outcomes](#), and [defining the parameters for success \(and failure\)](#). Not only will these tools and tactics improve the student experience, they will clarify the goals and objectives of your course and provide a better experience for your volunteer leaders and instructors!



Lessons Learned: Complacency in the Outdoors

At the tail-end of a long summer season, many of us are feeling confident and dialed-in with our systems and skills. That confidence is empowering - allowing us to go further and faster - but it can also be dangerous, luring us into the unguarded trap of complacency. Adventurer, skier, and skydiver Rachel Delacour shares some advice about knowing when to trust your instincts versus trusting the process.

[Read More](#)



Leadership Development & eLearning

Leadership Development Fund

Each year, The Mountaineers designates funds to support the professional growth of our leaders. These funds are made available to individual leaders – as well as small groups of leaders – to support their attendance at conferences, workshops, courses, and other programs that are relevant to their volunteer leadership. Read more about the [Leadership Development Fund](#) and [apply for a grant!](#)

Becoming a Mountaineers Leader – eLearning Course

We'd also like to encourage our leaders to take the [Becoming a Mountaineers Leader](#) eLearning course! This free course is in its first iteration, and we are seeking feedback from our leaders. This leadership course provides organizational background, important logistical information, how-to's, and strategies for leading successful trips. It is designed as a refresher for current leaders and a helpful tool to bring new leaders up to speed. Please send all of your positive and constructive thoughts to elarning@mountaineers.org before Dec 1, 2018.

Quick Hits

- **Leadership Conference:** Registration is open for The Mountaineers fifth annual [Leadership Conference](#) on Dec 1, 2018! Leaders may register for the discounted price of \$25 with the promo code LC18LEADER. Questions? For more information, please contact [Sara Ramsay](#).
- **#SafeOutside:** The Mountaineers is committed to [building and maintaining a culture where everyone feels safe and respected](#). Each of us plays an important role in making this goal a reality. To support this goal we have established specific expectations and a transparent process for what to do in the event of a behavior complaint.
- **Choose Your Adventure:** October marks the 50th birthday of the North Cascades National Park, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the National Trails System Act.

To celebrate these milestones and inspire future generations of conservationists, we're partnering with the National Parks Conservation Association and many others to host a special celebration on October 14 - and [you're invited!](#) We also have a number of volunteer needs to help the event run smoothly. Please contact [Katherine Hollis](#) if you'd like to volunteer!

- **Top 10 Trip Reports:** We've started documenting the best trip reports of the month. Did yours [make the cut](#)? "Liana Robertshaw's report on their climb details a copious amount of poop for one outing, but also plenty of great climbing and adventure!"
- **Apply for the Alpine Ambassadors Program!** We're seeking applications from volunteers at all branches to join us for the next Alpine Ambassadors ice climbing trip. Take your climbing to the next level with skilled volunteers and professional guides. [Learn more.](#)
- **Seattle Program Center is going solar:** Thanks to a generous gift from Mountaineers members and volunteers Charlie & Carol Michel, we're [installing solar panels at our Seattle Program Center](#). This is one big step toward reducing our carbon footprint!
- **Reframing what it means to be outdoorsy.** In [this piece](#) from *Mountaineer* magazine, Glenn Nelson dissects the misconception that people of color are not in the outdoors and why that false impression is damaging.
- **Stop the spread of invasive species!** With the updated WA Invasives app, simply snap a photo, share the location, and [report any plants or animals you suspect might be a problem](#).
- **Mountaineers gear library open for business!** After a year of work behind-the-scenes, we've [launched a community-facing gear lending library](#) to make the outdoors more accessible to the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts. Get signed up to check out gear!
- **Celebrating K2.** This month, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the first American summit of K2 with five events and many members of the summit team. In [this piece](#) written for *Mountaineer* magazine, Jim Wickwire shares stories and reflects on his experience. "Forty years later, I cannot help but feel incredibly fortunate to be one of the members of the expedition to end the long quest for K2. The public spotlight is invariably on those who reach the summit, with insufficient attention devoted to the team accomplishment... Only together did we share in pioneering the route and carrying load after load."

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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