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# LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



## Welcome,

We hope that you're able to enjoy this August edition of LeaderLines in between one of your many adventures out exploring the Pacific Northwest (and beyond!).

For the two of us, summer is a time of planning for the busy fall season ahead. This month, we welcome you to register to attend this year's [Leadership Conference!](#) Registration is scheduled to open on Monday, September 16 and we're thrilled about how this year's event is coming together. It's sure to be a good one, full of new content and presenters that you definitely don't want to miss!

In the meantime, we look forward to seeing you out on a trip or at a Mountaineers event in the near future. Happy trails!

**Sara Ramsay & Nick Block**  
**Education Department**



## Leader Spotlight: Lisa Loper

Leader Spotlight is a monthly blog to showcase our incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. Meet this month's featured leader: Lisa Loper. She is a seasoned leader with the Everett Branch who believes that every person we meet in the mountains has something to teach us.

[Read More](#)



## Leadership Conference: Registration Opens on September 16

The Mountaineers sixth annual [Leadership Conference](#) is scheduled for Saturday, December 7. This is a fun one-day event dedicated to thanking, inspiring, and empowering The Mountaineers current and aspiring volunteer leaders. Registration opens on Monday, September 16 at 9am!

The theme for this year's conference is 'Vision Forward', and we'll explore the many facets of leadership and how they relate to the three core tenets of our [Vision 2022](#) strategic plan - **leading** innovation in outdoor education, **engaging** future Mountaineers, and **advocating** for wild places - plus a **core** track for the sessions that are central to who we are and what we do. In total, we'll have 16 interactive sessions plus a keynote speaker. Read about our [confirmed speakers](#), and check back often for more information about our sessions!

As a thank you for your ongoing dedication to The Mountaineers programs, please use one of the following codes to register for the Leadership Conference.

- LC19LEADER - For our current leaders to register at the discounted rate of \$25!
- LC19FUTURE - To share with rising leaders 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: What happens when you call SOS?**

Last month, we shared information about false alarm rescues. But what if you need to trigger an SOS in response to a real emergency? [Learn about](#) what happens next.

“Every rescue is different and having an understanding of the gears that must fall into place to get you home safe if you’re hurt in the backcountry is important, not only so you can make better decisions about initiating a rescue, but also so you can give SAR teams the best chance of finding you.”

[Read More](#)



### **Access & Permits: Ouray Ice Park**

All Mountaineers trips, including trips without a fee, must be under permit at the [Ouray Ice Park](#) in Ouray, Colorado. Permit applications are submitted by Mountaineers staff in the fall for the coming winter.

**Please note!** At least one instructor per permitted group must have a current Wilderness First Aid (or higher) certification on file with the ice park. If you are hoping to lead a trip to Ouray this winter, plan ahead and [recertify your WFA](#) this fall!

Please review the [group permit requirements](#) and contact [Amanda Virbitsky](#) by October 15, 2019 to be sure that your trip is included in The Mountaineers permit application. A full instructor roster must be included in the application.

### **Leader Logistics: Close your trips!**

With our fiscal year coming to a close, we need your help to ensure that our records accurately reflect the activities you've led! Please close your activities to ensure that participants in course and stewardship-related activities have an accurate record of their participation, and earn the appropriate badges.

For a refresher, please review our [instructions for closing an activity](#). To find a list of your open activities, please visit the "My Activities" area of your Mountaineers profile and use the checkboxes at the top of the page to show all open activities. You can specify a date range that runs from 10/1/2018 through today to show this fiscal year's activities!

**Pro tip!** This is also a great time of year for committee admins to clean up their committee rosters. You can use the "Last Activity Led" date, plus "Membership Status" - both of which appear on the committee roster - to quickly identify volunteers who are no longer engaged with your committee.

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## Quick Hits

- **Remembering Ann Nelson:** Earlier this month, we [mourned the loss of Ann Nelson](#), an active 25-year member of The Mountaineers community. Our deepest sympathies go out to Ann's family and friends as they process their grief.
- **Introducing the Liesl Waldhausen Basic Alpine Climbing Scholarship.** Learn the story of the Liesl Waldhausen Scholarship and why we are honored to be the recipient of [this meaningful gift](#).
- **Breaking the halo:** Join volunteer Katja Hurt to learn about a simple, universal approach to confronting complacency, assumptions, and communication breakdowns between students and instructors. [This workshop](#) will be held on October 3 at the Seattle Program Center.
- **Ice Ax recall:** Seattle Manufacturing Corporation [recalls ice axes](#) due to serious injury and fall hazards. The spike and/or head of the ice ax can detach from the handle during use. 165 units affected.
- **We're hiring!** As volunteer leaders, you know you're the lifeblood of our organization, and we have a small staff team dedicated to supporting your efforts to get more people outside. [We're hiring](#) for a few positions right now - help us spread the word!
- **Slow going:** "Having a health condition doesn't stop me from enjoying the outdoors. While I may not be able to do summits or harder hikes, I'm facing my reality and want to [share how I cope](#) with pre-existing health conditions."
- **No more sore hips or cold shoulders!** Learn the ins and outs of women's gear and how to choose what's right for YOUR body in [this piece](#) by Mountaineer Teresa Hagerty.
- **"It's a fat body.** It's definitely a fat body," Mirna said. "And I have no trouble using that word. And I know that it makes people uncomfortable which is why I have no trouble using it because I want people to [think about the words that they use](#) and about the intention behind their words."
- **Action Alert: Cocktails for Conservation Rooftop Party.** On Wednesday, September 25, we're hosting a [rooftop party at Mountaineering Club](#) to support our conservation efforts. This is a great opportunity to meet your fellow volunteers, socialize with a complimentary cocktail, and enjoy incredible 360-degree views of our mountains. We look forward to seeing you there!
- **Want more laughs?** "Avoid eternal damnation by not doing any of this repugnant sh\*t." and other goodies in Brendan Leonard's new book, [Bears Don't Care](#). We're proud to have published Brendan's work at Mountaineers Books, and if you can't get enough of his tomfoolery, check out these very true facts [about Alex Honnold](#).

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

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!



[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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