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# LEADERLINES

monthly e-news for Mountaineers volunteers



## Welcome,

January is a time of new beginnings, and at The Mountaineers, it is also a time for celebration. This month, we'd like to start by taking a moment to recognize you - our volunteers! At the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner this past Saturday, we welcomed over 250 volunteers into our Seattle Program Center for an evening celebrating this year's [volunteer award recipients](#) and reflecting upon all that we [collectively accomplished](#) in 2019. Thanks to each and every one of you for your dedication and commitment to the mission of our programs!

In this edition of LeaderLines, we also share a number of upcoming leadership development opportunities, highlight a cautionary tale from one of our members about using emergency communication devices, and provide a new tool to bring awareness to the emotional and physical safety of all Mountaineers members. We hope that you enjoy this month's content and we look forward to seeing you at an upcoming program in 2020!

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

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## Leader Spotlight: Steven Anderson

Leader Spotlight is a monthly blog to showcase our incredible volunteer leadership at The Mountaineers. Meet this month's featured leader: Steven Anderson. He is a climb leader with the Kitsap Branch who led an expedition to Denali in 2019, and now has his sights on Kilimanjaro and Mt. Fuji!

[Read More](#)



## Leadership Development: Seminars & Recordings

The Mountaineers is excited to continue our popular [Leadership Development Series](#) through the spring! The goal of these seminars is to provide high-quality, continuing education opportunities for our volunteer leaders. Check out our [calendar of events](#) to find a workshop that's of interest to you!

- [Effective Instruction](#) - Feb 10 in Olympia
- [Practicing Good Judgement in the Outdoors](#) - Feb 12 in Bellingham
- [Group Decision Making](#) - Feb 19 in Seattle
- [Principles of Instruction](#) - Feb 22 in Seattle
- [Group Management & Leadership](#) - Feb 23 in Seattle
- [Five Lessons Learned in a Decade of Guiding](#) - Feb 26 in Tacoma
- [Five Lessons Learned in a Decade of Guiding](#) - Mar 2 in Bellevue
- [Partnership, Conflict Resolution, and Feedback](#) - March 10, 17, 24 Webinar Series
- [Keys to Success for Effective Instruction](#) - Mar 30 in Issaquah

- [Breaking the Halo](#) - Mar 26 in Bremerton

We're also excited to share share full-length video recordings of several presentations from this year's Leadership Conference, including the Keynote Presentation from Deb Ajango. Visit our [Resource Center](#) for additional information and materials.

- [Performing Under Pressure](#) - Deb Ajango
- [Liability Traps in the Volunteer-Based Recreation Arena](#) - Richard Jolley
- [Providing High-Quality Feedback for Improved Performance](#) - Deb Ajango



### **Lessons Learned: The Time a Search and Rescue Member was "Rescued" by Her Team**

“The first message I set was ‘Everything is fine, updating my map with our location’, and the second was ‘I love you and miss you’ for my fiancé. The third message was one that was set on the device when I bought it. I had left it on there since I hadn’t come up with another preset message to replace it. The message said ‘I am going to press SOS. Call the police station closest to me with my position.’ ... Can you figure out where this is going yet?”

Search and Rescue member Diana Davis shares a cautionary tale about setting-up and using your Garmin InReach. The punchline? Always test your preset messages after a sync.

[Read More](#)



### **Access & Permits: Mt. Rainier National Park**

If you're planning a course-related or fee-based trip to Mt. Rainier National Park, or a free trip with 13 or more people, please be aware that a Special Use Permit may be required. Committees are responsible for applying for their own Special Use Permits and permits may take up to four weeks to process. More information about Special Use Permits at Mt. Rainier National Park and links to the relevant Park webpages may be found on the Facilitated Access Permitting page for [National Parks](#).

### **Leader Logistics: #SafeOutside**

The Mountaineers believe a diverse and inclusive outdoors inspires unity, respect, and passion for the places we love. We are committed to building a culture where all people feel emotionally and physically safe. To assure this commitment is front and center, we created a #SafeOutside poster for our volunteers to print and have on display at events, in our program centers, and at our lodges.

[Learn More](#)

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### **Quick Hits**

- **Tread Lightly:** The Mountaineers prides itself in creating a community of stewards who integrate mindful, low-impact recreation skills into the courses we teach and the activities we lead. Refresh your skills with our [video series](#), take our [online quiz](#), and earn your [Low Impact Recreation](#) badge!

- **3 Simple Steps to Get Started on your Equity & Inclusion Journey:** We've heard from a number of our volunteers that it's hard to know where to start when it comes to equity and inclusion. To help, we've outlined [three steps to get you started](#).
- **Financial transparency.** We're striving to be transparent about how we're spending and investing our different forms of revenue. Our 2020 operating budget is \$9.28M - [learn where it comes from and where it goes](#), including the [\\$100k raised in December](#) to support you, our volunteer leaders.
- **Action Alert!** The administration has announced a plan to rewrite the rules for a bedrock environmental law - the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The new rules would limit public comments and exclude climate change entirely from analysis, hindering an informed and balanced approach to managing public lands.
- **It's not a popularity contest,** but [these were](#) our most read blogs of 2019.
- **A first snowshoe.** "Oh, good," said Steve, our instructor, "now you can [practice getting up](#) after a fall."
- **Rope tow at Mt. Rainier?** Over the past 100 years, the ski map of Washington has changed dramatically. Buckle your boots – we're going for a trip to the [hidden gems of yesteryear](#).
- **Citizen Science.** "Many of you have likely spotted ptarmigan in the Cascades in their summer plumage, blending in with their rocky alpine habitat, but reports of these beautiful birds in their [all-white winter plumage](#) are few and far between."
- **Snow camping.** The [#1 reason to go](#).
- **Only in the PNW!** What do you think? World's smallest boat or [world's largest sea lions?](#)

### Stay Safe Out There!

Assess and manage the risks of your adventure!

Thank you for subscribing! Follow us online:



[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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