



Hi Everett Mountaineers,

Spring is just around the corner, and the Everett Branch is welcoming the new season in typical Mountaineers fashion - with a batch of new courses. Take a look at hiking, navigation, trail maintenance, or sea kayaking! This month we also have a bunch of leadership opportunities for you to explore.

As we look forward to spring, we also celebrate a great winter season. Heavy snowfall in Washington's mountains made for amazing back-country skiing, Nordic (cross-country) skiing, snowshoeing, and scrambling trips. Many thanks to our veteran leaders who made our winter excursions fun and memorable for everyone.

As always, this newsletter highlights some of our branch's activities, courses, events and amazing volunteers. Remember, you can check out all our offerings at mountaineers.org/Everett.

Matt Vadnal,
Acting Editor



Craig Romano autographs his Olympic Peninsula Day Hiking Guide for admiring fans.



Veteran Mountaineers display their climbing gear for aspiring climbers

Annual Potluck Dinner and Gear Grab a Huge Success

On Wednesday, March 1, a large group of Mountaineers gathered for the Everett Branch's Annual Pot Luck Dinner and Gear Grab at the Everett United Church of Christ (UCC). Members of the general public attended as well and learned about Mountaineers courses and activities. The UCC is a historic gathering place for the Everett Branch because its membership meetings convened there for 38 years.

Tables were covered with camping, climbing, hiking, skiing, and snowshoeing gear. Buyers were pleased by the good deals and sellers seemed happy to unload items which they had not used for years. As always, conversations morphed into discussions about mountaineering adventures in the recent and distant past and the Mountaineers who participated in them. Two Mountaineers who joined our organization in the late '70s reminisced on climbing together for nearly 40 years.

The highlight of the evening was a presentation by Mountaineers Books author Craig Romano, a prolific outdoor writer and hiker, who has authored or co-authored 18 hiking guides. His research efforts included hiking over 19,000 miles all over the Pacific Northwest. Craig introduced his latest work, [*Day Hiking, Olympic Peninsula, 2nd Edition*](#), through photos and descriptions from many of the 136 hikes in the guide. The presentation included many new hiking trails, which have been created or restored since Craig authored the first edition

in 2007. After his presentation, Craig stayed to autograph copies.



Upcoming Courses

[Basic Sea Kayaking](#) | Mar 23 - Sep 23

This once-a-year offering provides you with a thorough and safe introduction to the world of sea kayaking. Learn the basic paddling strokes, how to get back into the kayaking after capsizing, trip planning, equipment, and safety guidelines and procedures. On top of all that, you'll meet a great bunch of new friends to paddle with during and after the course.

[2017 Everett Navigation Course - Camp Pigott](#) | Mar 18

This one day course combines lectures, classwork and outdoor field experience to learn the techniques and confidence needed to navigate the wilderness with a map, compass and altimeter. A requirement for basic climbing and alpine scrambling students.

[Hike Essentials - Snohomish County PUD](#) | April 5

This free seminar is open to members and non-members alike. This course is designed to answer questions that a novice hiker may have about how to get out hiking. Learn from experienced hikers what to put in your pack and how to dress for comfort and safety. We will discuss clothing, boots, packs, the Ten Essentials, seasonal trail hazards, where to shop for equipment and how to research your trips. Members as well as non-members are asked to register online.

[Basic Trail Maintenance Class - Lord Hill Park](#) | Apr 8

Learn the techniques, tools, and safety tips to help steward our trails. This is a great way to get introduced to the rewards of trail maintenance, while also exploring Lord Hill Regional Park, which features 1,453 acres of wilderness.





Learn to Instruct and Lead

Attend these events so you can serve as an Assistant Instructor and share your love for a Mountaineer activity with others. With additional experience and mentoring, you can become an activity leader.

[Scrambling Field Trip Instructor Orientation](#) | **Mar 14**

Two-hour classroom orientation for new or aspiring Everett Scrambling field trip assistant instructors. It's a great way to sharpen and maintain your skills, to help others, and to give back to the Mountaineers. Topics include field trip logistics and day itineraries, expectations of instructors, fundamentals of how to teach and demonstrate physical skills, roles of Field Trip leaders, lead instructors, and assistant instructors and safety.

[Rock Instructor Clinic - Leavenworth](#) | **Apr 14**

Prerequisites include the ability to build and use rock anchors, place trad gear, and top rope up to 5.8 in an outdoor crag environment. Topics include belay techniques, moving about in a top-managed environment, extended knot vocabulary, advanced anchors, risk management, and rescue/assist essentials.

[Ice Ax Refresher - Stevens Pass Ski Area](#) | **Apr 15**

A half-day workshop, primarily for individuals instructing at the Everett Scrambling Snow Field Trip. Climbing and scrambling graduates from all branches are also invited to attend. This is a great way to sharpen and maintain your skills, help others, and give back to the Mountaineers.

[Scrambling Trip Leader Orientation - Snohomish County PUD](#) | **Apr 18**

Have you developed your mountaineering skills and experience to the point where you'd like to plan and lead alpine scrambling trips? If you have, this two hour orientation is for you. Step up and accept a challenging and rewarding new role in the Mountaineers. Topics include good leadership characteristics, trip leader skills, leadership styles, time management, teamwork, risk assessment and problem-solving discussions. The orientation is to Scrambling and Basic Climbing graduates as well as current leaders.

Upcoming Events

[AWE - expect the unexpected](#) | **Mar 18**

Join The Mountaineers at Fremont Studios for our annual gala to honor a legendary Mountaineer and to raise funds to advance The Mountaineers efforts to inspire conservation through outdoor adventure. Tickets available now.
