



Hi Everett Mountaineers,

Make 2017 a great year by enrolling in one of the Everett Branch's outstanding winter courses! Registration is open for snowshoeing, Nordic skiing, and alpine scrambling.

Have you already taken a course? Consider returning as an Assistant Instructor this year. Teaching reinforces and enhances your knowledge and skill. Plus, it's incredibly rewarding to pass on the gift of outdoor adventure.

As always, this e-newsletter highlights some of our branch's activities, courses, events, and amazing volunteers. To view all of our offerings, visit mountaineers.org/Everett.

Matt Vadnal,

Acting Editor



Upcoming Courses

[Nordic \(Cross Country\) Skiing](#) | Jan 4 - Feb 4

Unlock a world of winter fun and exploration. This course is designed for beginners, but more experienced skiers are also welcome to join us to improve their techniques and make new skiing partners.

[Basic Snowshoe](#) | Jan 10 - Jan 28

This popular entry level course will get you on your way to exploring winter trails. There are two classes and one field trip at Stevens Pass. Topics of instruction include selection and use of proper equipment, conditioning, what to rent, where to go, how to plan and evaluate snowshoe routes to avoid avalanche risk, winter travel, safety, and choosing an outing.

[Alpine Scrambling](#) | Feb 16 - May 6

A bridge between hiking and technical mountaineering, alpine scrambling teaches students how to negotiate low angle rock, travel through talus and scree, cross streams, navigate dense forest growth, and climb and cross snow-covered slopes. You will learn the skills necessary to reach many Cascade and Olympic summits safely.

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

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



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.

[Nordic Ski Instructor Clinic](#) | Jan 7 - Jan 29

Refresh your touring skills, while learning the student progression for Nordic skiing. Completion of this clinic qualifies you to register as an instructor for the Everett Branch Nordic Ski Course.

[Basic Climbing Instructor Review](#) | Jan 21

This review will take place at the Seattle Program Center. If you're a new instructor, feel like you need to brush up on your skills, or haven't attended in the last few years, this review is a requirement to help instruct. It's a good way to get back in the climbing mindset before the course starts.

[Scrambling Rope Techniques Workshop - Snohomish County PUD](#) | Feb 2

This workshop will focus on how to use a rope and a few other lightweight pieces of climbing gear. Intended for Everett branch scrambling leaders and prospective leaders. The [second day](#) will take place on Feb 11 at The Eaglet.

Upcoming Events

[Monthly Meetings](#) | Begins in Feb

The general public and all Mountaineers are invited to attend our monthly get togethers to learn more about our 110 year-old organization and get plugged into our outdoor community. **Notice:** Our January monthly meeting, scheduled for the 4th, has been cancelled. Stay tuned for details about our February meeting!

[Spring Course Night](#) | Wed, Feb 1

Scope out our upcoming spring adventure opportunities! Representatives from the Alpine Scrambling, First Aid, Hiking, Lookout and Trail Maintenance (LOTM), Navigation and Sea Kayaking will be on hand to preview and field questions about their spring courses. The public, as well as Mountaineers, are welcome.

[Annual Gear Grab and Potluck Dinner](#) | Wed, Mar 1

Sell or trade used gear and score some sweet deals. Plus, Craig Romano, a prolific outdoor author who has written many Mountaineer Hiking Guidebooks, will give a presentation. This event will be at the Everett United Church of Christ.

Our Annual Awards Benefit, A Great Night To Be A Mountaineer!

Over 110 Mountaineers attended the Everett Branch's Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, Nov 5. The night featured Lowell Skoog, a renowned skier, climber, writer and photographer, who presented "A Living History: A Visual Perspective." He complimented his talk with incredible shots of pioneering Northwest skiers descending steep slopes with wooden skis, bear trap bindings, and bamboo poles.

Guests included Geoff Lawrence, Mountaineers President; Lorna Corrigan, Mountaineers Vice President and Everett Branch member; and Mary Hsue, Branch Liaison. Certificates were awarded to the graduates of the following courses: Alpine Scrambling, Basic and Intermediate Climbing, Self-Rescue, Leading on Rock, Nordic Skiing, and Sea Kayaking. The graduates of the Avalanche, Sport Climbing, and Snowshoe courses were also listed in the program.

We also honored the following service awards winners: Hike Leader of the Year - Bernadette Lamarca, Ken Nelson Climbing Award - Paul Gehlsen, Nordic Ski Program Service Award - Anita Harvey, and Larry Ingalls Distinguished Service Award - Doris Hatton. You can [read more](#) about Doris Hatton, our amazing Ingalls Award recipient, online.

Students Praise the Branch Leadership Course

We introduced 20 future Branch leaders to important and relevant subjects during the 3rd Branch Leadership Course on Nov 19. Lectures included creating trips on the Mountaineer website, safety and safety reporting, personal liability protections, women in leadership, and types of leaders. During breakout sessions, groups of students tackled leadership problems based on actual incidents. For the finale, John Morton of Mountain Search and Rescue gave a presentation emphasizing the importance of having good leaders on the ground during emergency evacuations.

Student evaluations included comments like: "Well organized and presented," "Lots of different aspects of leadership were covered," and "I loved this course and was very happy that I had a chance to take it." Many students expressed an interest in instructing and leading, which was what the course was all about.