

The
Kinnikinnick
Winter 2020



SPRING *KINNIKINNICK* DEADLINE: MIDNIGHT FEBRUARY 2

- Events are to be entered online and approved by the appropriate committee chair. Deadline is one week before the Kinnikinnick deadline.
- Send items for publication to editorial@spokanemountaineers.org.
- You should receive the next Kinnikinnick around March 1, 2021.

The Kinnikinnick is published four times a year (spring, summer, fall, winter) for the use and enjoyment of Spokane Mountaineers members.

Changes of address should be made at www.spokanemountaineers.org
Spokane Mountaineers, P.O. Box 1013, Spokane, WA 99210 509-838-4974

COMMITTEE EMAIL ADDRESSES

Centennial Trail	centennialtrail@spokanemountaineers.org
Chalet	chalet@spokanemountaineers.org
Climbing	climb@spokanemountaineers.org
Conservation	conservation@spokanemountaineers.org
Editorial	editorial@spokanemountaineers.org
Hiking	hiking@spokanemountaineers.org
Mountain Biking	mtnbike@spokanemountaineers.org
Paddling	paddle@spokanemountaineers.org
Picture of the Week	picweek@spokanemountaineers.org
Road Biking	roadbike@spokanemountaineers.org
Skiing	ski@spokanemountaineers.org
Social	social@spokanemountaineers.org
Trails	trailwork@spokanemountaineers.org

ADVERTISING IN THE *KINNIKINNICK*

Promote your business with us! Proceeds from advertisements in the *Kinnikinnick* benefit the Spokane Mountaineers. Restrictions may apply. Full-page ad: \$150; half-page ad: \$90; quarter-page ad \$60. 10% discount for yearlong contract. For more information, contact Merideth Jeffries 928-853-4566 or editorial@spokanemountaineers.org.

SUBMITTING MATERIALS FOR PUBLICATION

IN THE *KINNIKINNICK*

We welcome all sorts of items for publication in this bulletin. Trip reports, photos, creative writing, drawings, information on schools or special trips, corrections, historical notes, and more are welcome. Events listed in the calendar are taken directly from the online calendar and are not edited for accuracy, so make sure your events are current and correct. Language used in articles should be appropriate for readers of all ages. The editor reserves the right to decline or edit submissions. Substantive editorial changes are always discussed with contributing authors. Photos should be large and include identifying information as well as the name of the photographer. If you have any questions about the suitability of material for publication, or to submit a piece, contact the editor at editorial@spokanemountaineers.org. See formatting guidelines elsewhere in this issue.

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The emblem of the adopted on February 9,

Spokane Mountaineers was 1933 and is described as follows: "In

the form of a circle approximately four inches in diameter, representing the woodman's compass and symbolic of the completeness of nature, the emblem shall have an outer margin of forest green, carrying the name 'Spokane Mountaineers' in white block letters, thus utilizing the Association's colors, green and white. Within the margin, a white field shall carry in the background the outline of a mountain, in the foreground shall be a spray of kinnikinnick, with green leaves and red berries. There shall be a blazing sun above the mountain, bringing in the name 'Spokane' in its Indian interpretation, and symbolizing the Mountaineer's love for the out-of-doors. To symbolize and include the year-round activities of the organization, there shall be inserted in the white border, a brown ice axe and ski pole crossed on the right, a pair of skis on the left."

Spokane Mountaineers,

It's good to be back serving as your president.

I don't know about you, but wow, this year has been ... don't say it, don't say it... ~~unprecedented~~.... Yep, it has sure been something.



Photo credit, Jodi Benson

The wonderful and wild thing about it is I, like many of you, have still found ways to pursue and enjoy the outdoors despite it not looking like what I had originally planned. As alpine pursuits across the border had to be paused, I ended up spending more time skinning up local side-country and introducing my son to skiing. Instead of making trips to over-crowded Cascade trailheads, I spent more time climbing new peaks in the Selkirks and Cabinets, helping with climbing schools, and honing my crack climbing at Teiton. Along the way, I even got a few goal climbs done!

I know many of you had to change plans this year too. But when has that stopped a Mountaineer? We get hit with weather changes, access issues, and personal issues all the time. Mountaineers are some of the most resilient people I know.

As an organization, we navigated change and pivoted our programs. Mountain school took the first steps of going digital as possible, and other courses like Trad School and High Angle Rescue figured out how to conduct socially distanced instruction.

A noteworthy accomplishment for everyone to be aware of is this year; the Spokane Mountaineers completed the three-year-long process of becoming an official 501(c)(3) organization. This means your donations (and items like mileage to volunteer with a school) now become tax-deductible. Becoming a bonified tax-exempt non-profit also empowers us to gain access to operational tools like technology services at non-profit pricing and peruse a much larger pool of grants and funding for strategic initiatives. With this project behind us, we can now start to dream and plan for what the future can be for the Mountaineers.

As we look ahead to 2021, many things will change; some will stay the same. Personally, I think about what climbing goals I want to accomplish – as President, I think about how the Spokane Mountaineers will need to continue to evolve to continue to provide the community and experiences that make us the Mountaineers.

With this in mind, I welcome all members to join with me, the board, and the committee chairs to participate in thinking of fresh and new ways we can be us in 2021. How can we hold more outings safely even when there are COVID-19 restrictions? How can we re-envision the website to not just “be better,” but truly be an evolution that empowers every member to participate more? How can leadership help make it easier to participate?

These are some of the questions I am asking, and I invite you to join me in thinking about them. I know I don't have all the answers, but many of you do.

My challenge for you in 2021 is, how are you going to participate in your club?

I challenge you...

To share new ideas.

To lead a club trip.

To volunteer with a school.

To take a course you have not taken yet.

To be a Mountaineer.

Warmest Regards,

Matt Jeffries

President

Spokane Mountaineers

president@spokanemountaineers.org



Summit, Sacajaewa in the Wallows, 09-2020, Shuwen Wang



Spokane Mountaineers - Know before you go!

Just like your 13 essentials, your safety during this health pandemic is paramount.

As a 501c (3) incorporated in Washington, all Spokane Mountaineers' events and activities will follow the Washington State advisory levels introduced by Governor Inslee for any activity, travel, and social distancing.

The guidance listed below is the starting point for activities. Trip leaders are empowered to require additional measures or PPE if they feel it is necessary. We are currently in Phase 2.

What does Washington's phased approach mean for the operations of the Spokane Mountaineers?

Phase 1 - Any Spokane Mountaineers' events or activities not able to comply with the state guidelines should be either postponed or cancelled.

Phase 2 - Spokane Mountaineer activities of 5 or fewer people are permitted at the discretion of the activity leader.

Phase 3 - Activities of less than 50 people can generally proceed at the discretion of the organizer. Phase 4 - Back to adventures!

Please follow the guidelines on the following page as a supplement to Washington's overall approach (below). Additionally, please respect the regional and local closures across the northwest, including any conditional use requirements of the areas you are hoping to recreate at.

WASHINGTON'S PHASED APPROACH

Modifying Physical Distancing Measures as we Reopen the State

INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES SHOULD FOLLOW ALL REQUIREMENTS LISTED ABOVE DURING ALL PHASES

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
High-Risk Populations*	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Resume public interactions, with physical distancing
Recreation	Some outdoor recreation (hunting, fishing, golf, boating, hiking)	Outdoor recreation involving 5 or fewer people outside your household (camping, beaches, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor group recreational sports activities (50 or fewer people) - Recreational facilities at <50% capacity - Professional sports without audience participation (horseshoeing, baseball, etc.) 	Resume all recreational activity
Gatherings (social, spiritual)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None - Drive-in spiritual service with one household per vehicle 	Gather with no more than 5 people outside your household per week	Allow gatherings with no more than 50 people	Allow gatherings with >50 people
Travel	Essential travel and limited non-essential travel for Phase 1 permissible activities	Essential travel and limited non-essential travel for Phase 1 & II permissible activities	Resume non-essential travel	Continue non-essential travel
Business/ Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essential businesses open - Existing construction that meets building code criteria - Landscaping - Auto/IN/Boat/OTV sales - Retail (curb-side pick-up orders only) - Car washes - Pet walkers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remaining manufacturing - Additional construction phases - In-home domestic services (e.g., cleaning, etc.) - Retail (in-store purchases allowed with restrictions) - Real estate - Professional services/office-based businesses (network remains strongly encouraged) - Hair and nail salons/barbers - Pet grooming - Restaurants/venues <50% capacity (table size no larger than 2, no bar-area seating) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restaurants/venues <75% capacity/ table size no larger than 10 - Bar areas in restaurant/venues at <25% capacity - Movie theaters at <50% capacity - Customer-facing government services - Network remains strongly encouraged) - Museums - All other business activities not yet listed except for nightclubs and events with greater than 50 people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nightclubs - Concert venues - Large sporting events - Resume unrestricted staffing of workites, but continue to practice physical distancing and good hygiene

CONSTRUCTION OF THE FLYING L

Photos and submission by Lynn Smith



Completed Flying L trail

There's a new neighborhood trail in town named the FLYING L, and it's a great one! This 2.2-mile route begins at a new trailhead parking lot at the end of Cimmaron Dr Spokane Valley's Ponderosa neighborhood. It heads west, gaining around 670 feet of elevation before connecting with the existing Glenrose Trail.

The trail can be done as a 4.4-mile round trip hike, or as part of a through hike ending at the Thierman Road trailhead in the Glenrose area; essentially an east to west hike connecting the Spokane Valley and South Hill.

The trail is part of a 607-acre holding that was stitched together between 2012-2018 from three Conservation Futures acquisitions and a parcel from Dishman Hills Conservancy, overseen by Spokane County Parks, and is the result of more than a year of efforts. Work on route layout started in 2019 with multiple ground-check trips, and multiple route iterations tried and discarded, but by February 2020 the route was set with a slate of large-crew project days scheduled and their rosters filling. Then, COVID-19 hit, and the original plans had to be scrapped for a Plan B that would be the construction mode for the next five months until the trail was completed.

The Spokane Mountaineers had the lead on this project with a lot of labor help from Dishman Hills Conservancy, Evergreen East Bike Club, and Washington Trails Association.

As with everyone else, we had to adapt to the new pandemic situation, so we started searching for a way to do this project safely but successfully. Our Plan B was to use a core group of 12-15 very experienced trail workers who were self-supported and self-scheduled, using their own tools, and on their own time-tables. Since we weren't able to do



our usual outreach, training, carpooling, group-ups, or tailgating activities, we relied on folks already hopelessly addicted to trail work. And it worked!

Individuals did drop-in shifts anytime from dawn until dusk, with there seldom being a day where no one worked. Often, there might be up to a half dozen volunteers overlapping hours during a 14-hour day, essentially tag-teaming as individuals began or finished work passing each other on the trail, all the while observing expanded social distancing. We kept networked through weekly e-mail updates to deal with any situations that arose.

Progress may have seemed slow at times but it was always incredibly steady. Seldom if ever was the leading edge of the trail in the same spot you left it on your last shift, even if you worked consecutive days. Not seeing other workers made it seem like Menehunes, maybe woodland elves, or whoever your favorite secret helpers might be were pushing the work forward during the darkness of night. Whatever, the steady progress was awesome! More so considering that our core group of about 15 kept evolving as folks worked around layoffs,

furloughs, on/off unemployment, work from home hours, home schooling demands, and personal and/or family health issues.



Looking back now, there were situations (like rock work) where one person couldn't do the ideal job that several working closely could have, but along with those limitations were some interesting realities that cropped up that made this an unusual project.

There's a philosophical question I remember reading that asks, "is it better to hike one trail a thousand times or a thousand trails once?" or maybe it was "climb a mountain," but regardless, we definitely lived the first scenario. Usually when constructing a trail, larger sections are done daily, then you move on up the trail knowing that in a year, adjustments will be necessary after the trail has had a chance to settle. But our work style during the hunker down days of COVID Spring, with the daily hike in over the same ground, gave us an intimate knowledge of every foot of trail and how it was settling over time. That provided the unusual chance to do fixes while the project was still ongoing and not having to wait a year.



Another interesting reality was time; or rather how quickly it passed. An obvious indicator was the weather pattern changing from the spring rains to the 10-degree heat of summer when we worked the open meadows. Another was observing the succession of plant blooms around us. We started in early spring with buttercups, then grass widows, glacier lilies, and balsam root, ending with the chicory of late summer. For much of Spokane, while time seemed to slow down (read petrify) during the shelter-in-place months, we often heard work partners marvel to the effect that "What, it's August, where did spring and summer go!"



Covid-19, like Mt. St. Helens 1980, will probably become a rich ground for future introspection; nostalgia probably not being the right word. I've heard of various shelter-in-place projects like learning a foreign language, re-reading a home library, refitting a drift boat, and others, but constructing a new community trail has to be well up there in the "added value" column, and our product will be used for generations. From my rough tally, by completion time we'd put in about 1,500 hours of work with a fair share of it being hiking time as the trail approached the 2-mile mark. It was GPS'd at 2.2 miles or over 11,600 feet of new trail constructed, so a huge shout-out to the efforts of the volunteers is in order, and to the core crew in particular. In a normal year for a comparable project, we would have recruited 60-80 volunteers, including many newbies requiring some on-the-job training, but this year was different, so we had to adjust. There were other folks that contributed much-appreciated labor, but the core crew plugging away through the months, often putting in parts of 30, 40, or more days apiece, were these stalwarts: Chris Baldini, Denise Beardslee, Miles Breneman, Zach Carter, Belinda Cron, Alexey and Paul Florianovich, Bill Kinzel, Del Liljegren, Bob Peragoy, Bob Rands, Mary Siegel, Dary Vandusen, Dan Wilson, and myself. Most but not all (currently) are Mountaineers members. Think of them as you enjoy this new addition to our local trail inventory, and as always remember that "Time spent on the trails is not deducted from one's lifetime."

Crack Climbing Seminar

Submitted by Bob Loomis



Students participating in 2020 Crack Climbing Seminar, led by Bob Loomis (center left).

Spokane Mountaineers are like USPS mail carriers, but instead of delivering the mail on time in spite of wind, snow, hail, and rain in this case a group of intrepid Mountaineers braved excessive heat and crowds to attend a one-day crack climbing seminar. The seminar was held Saturday, October 17, 2020 in Vantage, WA., on the Sunshine Wall. Bob Loomis was the instructor, capably assisted by Brett Barna.

The students were: Luke Bakken, Nathan Coulson, Bryan Cox, Kelsey Hollenbaugh, Jeff Mergler, Christian Striggow, and Pat Sullivan. Normally temperatures would be in the 60s (F) or perhaps in the 70s (F) for this time of year, but by mid-day Sunshine Wall had lived up to its name--it was likely into the low 90s(F) and all of us were feeling the sun's enervating effects, but we kept going with nary a complaining word (though perhaps some had private unshared thoughts). Additionally, the crag was crowded—there were perhaps as many as 100 climbers on this section of the crag. But we practiced as much social distancing and mask wearing due to the pandemic as practical under the circumstances.

The instructor's main goal, in addition to teaching the fundamentals and how to tape, was that each student come away from the seminar with at least one specific improvement to his/her technique, and thus boost his/her confidence. That goal was met. As one student said in a follow up email "[t]hat was an incredible experience . . . I really got a lot out of the seminar and feel much more comfortable and confident climbing cracks now and look forward to expanding my trad experience using that knowledge."

In sum we all had fun, got a tan, and came home safe and sound having made some new friends.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Loomis



Rock School 2021

We are working on how to run Rock School 2021 in the spring of next year, under whatever state guidelines are in place at that time. Watch for more information online and in the spring Kinnikinnick. In the meantime, send questions to Christian Striggow at christian.striggow@outlook.com or 509-429-8184.



A Close Call

Submitted by Nita Gregg

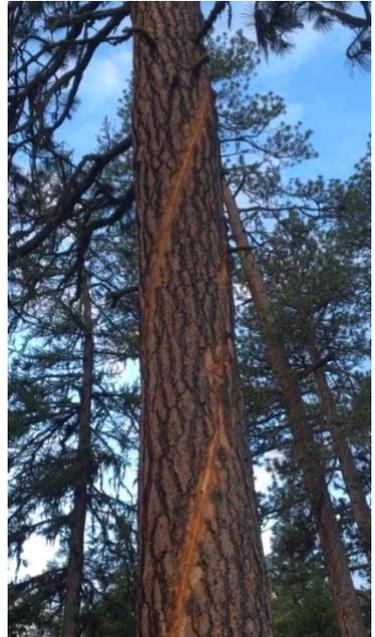
Our second trip from Bear Pot trailhead in the Colville National Forest turned out to be lucky. The late June trip was supposed to take place in the Idaho Selkirks, but there were reports of remaining snow and ice on Harrison Lake. The second choice was Mt. Gilbralter in the Kettle River Range, but more than one report suggested a water shortage. So, Galen suggested doing the Thirteenmile Mt trail, the same one that Galen, Ken and I had done a little over three weeks earlier in June. When we first went, we didn't know it would turn out to be a reconnaissance trip for a backpack in the near future.

The Thirteenmile Mt. Trail is a beautiful four-mile hike to a large and fairly level campsite, not far from the bottom of Thirteenmile Mt. Our campsite was very likely one that the sheep herders used when they used to drive sheep on these same trails for summer grazing many years ago. You will find metal signage on several trees that read "Center Stock Driveway USFS." In early June, we had to wade through a bog near the trailhead because water flooded the trail. The second trip in, the water was down about a third of what it was earlier but there was plenty of water near the campsite for our use. The ticks hitched several rides on us, and the mosquitoes were swarming! This time, we didn't have to battle the insects very much and the wildflowers were more abundant and appeared to be at their peak. It was looking like it was going to be an uneventful three-day backpack, so the decision to take this trail a second time seemed to be a good one.

We established base at the sheep camp safely down below the nearby peaks. The second day, we hiked to the 4885-foot summit of Thirteenmile Mt. where there is an old disassembled fire tower and miles and miles of mountain and canyon views that are stunning! We were able to get updated weather information on top and confirmed that there was a possible thunderstorm passing through later in the day.

We ate our snacks and left the mountaintop for a little more hiking before ending back at camp before the drizzle began. Everyone retreated to their respective tents when the rain fell more steadily, and it wasn't long before we heard the thunder. I began counting the seconds between the lightning and thunder as it approached. Four seconds, two seconds and BAM! The lightning and the thunder were one together and struck a tree less than 20 yards from Janell's tent! The sound was deafening!

After that, I don't recall hearing any more thunder at all and everyone slowly began poking their heads out of their shelters. There was a strong sappy odor in the air and Annie yelled, "OMG, look at that tree! Doug, get out of your tent! The tree might fall!" The Ponderosa pine that had taken the strike was leaning towards Doug's tent, about 25 yards away,



but it turns out that it had always had that inclination. Some of us ventured out of our tents to discover the barber pole lightning strike on the tree from its top to the very ground. And Doug's tent fly suffered two holes from the incident! The holes were not created by the shrapnel of bark that flew everywhere after the lightning struck the tree, but by the overpressure, Doug said.

In close inspection of the tree, it looked like someone had taken a chain saw and made this perfectly grooved spiral about $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep all the way down the tree. Galen, our tree expert, said despite this injury, the tree most likely will survive many more years. This Ponderosa pine was thought to be around 400 years old and had escaped any lightning strikes until that very weekend.

We all came away feeling very lucky indeed and most likely, none of us will ever experience being that near a lightning strike again in our lifetimes. The only other hazard some of us had to overcome was a moose on the trail on our way out the following day. We took our time with loud noises and patiently gave her the room to cross over to the pond where she took a swim away from the mosquitoes. It turned out to be a very eventful backpack indeed! Read Chic Burg's article "Thunderstorms, Lightning and How to Stay Safe" in the Fall 2020 Kinnikinnick.



THIRTEEN (OR MORE) ESSENTIALS

These are the selections of essential outdoor gear, which the Spokane Mountaineers refer to as the Thirteen Essentials and promote as critical and essential items, which belong in your pack as insurance against the unexpected. Although you may not use all the essentials every day, they can be lifesavers in an emergency.

Never forget the ultimate essential not on the list—COMMON SENSE.

And consider Jason Luthy's recommendation for a 14th essential—compassion.

1. EXTRA FOOD & WATER: Emergency packet of high-energy food and minimum of one quart of water
2. EXTRA CLOTHING
3. MATCHES in a waterproof container with striker
4. FIRE STARTER: candle or other commercial starter
5. MAP: topographic map of current area
6. COMPASS with 2° markings and base plate
7. HEADLAMP or flashlight with extra bulb and batteries
8. SIGNALING DEVICE: whistle and/or mirror
9. POCKET KNIFE
10. EMERGENCY SHELTER: tarp, space blanket, or bivy
11. FIRST AID KIT
12. TOILET PAPER & TROWEL
13. SUN PROTECTION: Sunglasses with 98-100% UV protection, sunscreen with 15+SPF, lip balm

ARE YOU MISSING FROM THE PICTURE? DID YOU GET YOUR ***KINNIKINNICK***?
SOMETHING AMISS?

If you need help, first check the FAQ on our web page: www.spokanemountaineers.org, then contact the following individuals:

- Login problems: ecomm_chair@spokanemountaineers.org
- No *Kinnikinnick*, or multiple copies: membership@spokanemountaineers.org
- Committee list changes (back of this book): editorial@spokanemountaineers.org

For other problems, try a leader of the activity in question, a board member, or an officer (see inside cover or back pages). We will get your problem solved or your question answered!

CLUB VOICEMAIL

The club phone number is 509-838-4974. When you connect, you will be given options to leave a message in one of the committee voicemail boxes. These messages will then be forwarded to the appropriate chairperson or person responsible for these areas. We do not have mailboxes for all committees at this time, so when in doubt, use the general mailbox and it will be recorded and routed as needed. An extension number can be pressed at any time to bypass the message.

If you do not choose an extension, the message will be left in the general voice mailbox. To leave a message, choose from the following:

- General mailbox or if you are not sure who should receive the message Press 0
- Membership Press 1
- Centennial Celebration and Historian..... Press 2
- Club President and Officers..... Press 3
- Chalet Press 4
- Conservation Press 5
- Climbing Press 6
- Hiking Press 7
- Mountain Biking Press 8
- Skiing Press 9

STYLE GUIDELINES FOR *KINNIKINNICK* SUBMISSIONS

Files may be submitted in any form, but editable Word documents are preferred. Photos should be large format (do not compress for sending), color or black and white, and sent as separate files (not embedded in text) or downloadable links. Please limit trip reports to no more than 2,000 words unless specified by the editor. If you are submitting print-ready files, use these parameters:

- Page size 5.5"x 8.5";
- Half-inch margins all sides
- Font = Corbel 8.5-pt regular for text, Corbel 12-pt bold for titles, Corbel 10-pt regular for "submitted by" and Corbel 8-pt italic for picture captions.
- Page numbers will be inserted into your text as needed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the editor at editorial@spokanemountaineers.org. The editor can work with most file types and assist with formatting

Events at a Glance

CHALET

Volunteer deck shoveling party	Sun	Dec 6
Charlie Brown Christmas Trees	Sun	Dec 6

CLUB-WIDE

Monthly Board and Leadership Meeting	Mon	Dec 7
Monthly Board and Leadership Meeting	Mon	Jan 4
Monthly Board and Leadership Meeting	Mon	Feb 1

CONSERVATION

Conservation Committee Meeting	Mon	Dec 21
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HIKE/SNOWSHOE

Trailhead Hangout #2 Hiker Arts and Crafts	Thurs	Dec 3
Steven's Lake Snowshoe	Sat	Jan 9
Moscow Mountains Snowshoe	Sat	Jan 30
Graham Mountain Snowshoe	Sat	Feb 13



Z Canyon Paddle, 10-18-20, Shuwen Wan

Calendar

EVENT: Trailhead Hangout #2: Hiker Arts & Crafts **TYPE:** Hiking - Day Hike
DATE: December 3, 2020 **DAY:** Thursday
TIME: 07:00 PM - 08:00 PM **COST:** Free

MEET:

LEADER(S): Therese Roberson 509-998-1359, Holly Weiler 509-921-8928

Join us for "Trailhead Hangout #2," which will be a night of hiker arts & crafts! Member Therese will be showing everyone how to take a favorite old wool sweater, one that accidentally went through the dryer or got a hole in it or was picked up for cheap at the thrift store, and convert it into a warm skirt for layering on snowy hikes. Cold bums are the worst, but this skirt will solve that problem! As a nice bonus, the sleeves can be converted to your new favorite wool hat. This is an online Zoom event; please see the "discussion" tab for the log-in information for the night of the event.

EVENT: Volunteer: deck shoveling **TYPE:** Chalet - Work Party
DATE: December 6, 2020 **DAY:** Sunday
TIME: 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM **COST:** Free

MEET:

LEADER(S): Holly Weiler 509-921-8928

Looking for volunteers who are willing to stop by the chalet approximately once per week to shovel the deck over the winter months. I set this event up to repeat weekly starting on Sunday, so feel free to plan for any day during the week you have chosen (please click the "occurrences" tab to see the full range of available volunteer dates and make a selection that works for your schedule). The chalet is still closed due to Covid-19 restrictions, so please plan to bring your own shovel. This is a family friendly activity with a great sledding hill located just east of the chalet deck, so volunteers can pick a day for a sledding party for their entire family if they'd like! Please follow group size restrictions for anything outside one's own family group. Please contact the chalet chair with any questions (hmweiler@yahoo.com). SnoPark permit required.

EVENT: Charlie Brown Christmas Trees **TYPE:** Chalet - Day Use
DATE: December 6, 2020 **DAY:** Sunday
TIME: 10:00 AM - 02:00 PM **COST:** Free

MEET:

LEADER(S): Holly Weiler 509-921-8928

The chalet committee is in the process of thinning the small trees on the chalet property, and for the past several years we've held a day when members can select a Christmas tree to take home. These are definitely Charlie Brown Christmas trees: we're deliberately thinning from crowded tree stands. Once loaded with ornaments they still look lovely! Due to Covid-19 group size restrictions, we're asking everyone interested to select a time slot for this

year's event. We'll have a couple volunteers from the chalet committee on-hand all day long to help select trees, so only two member/family group slots are available per half-hour. We will stay outside and expect everyone to maintain social distancing requirements, but please also have a cloth face covering available. Please bring your own small handsaw to cut your tree. Dog friendly and must be prepared to clean up after your pet. We'll have a bonfire, so feel free to bring something to roast over the fire if you'd like (better for in the afternoon once the fire is down to coals). SnoPark permits are required & I'll let State Parks know we are getting trees from our property on this day. Event will be postponed in the event of a winter storm (if rain is in the forecast, or if high winds are projected). Please use this sign-up to choose a time to come: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4FA5AD2CA31-charlie>

EVENT: Conservation Committee meeting

DATE: December 21, 2020

TIME: 06:00 PM - 07:00 PM

TYPE: Conservation

DAY: Monday

COST: Free

MEET: Zoom-contact chair for meeting invite

LEADER(S): Club Conservation Chair 509-838-4974

Monthly meeting of the Conservation Committee. Email conservation_chair@spokanemountaineers.org to be added to the email list to receive the meeting agenda, minutes, etc. Zoom--contact chair for meeting invite

EVENT: Stevens Lakes Snowshoe

DATE: January 9, 2021

TIME: 08:00 AM - 02:00 PM

TYPE: Hiking - Snowshoe

DAY: Saturday

COST: Free

MEET: Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Idaho, USA

LEADER(S): Tyler Nyman 509-270-8236

Meet at 8AM at the Fernan Ranger Station in Coeur d' Alene. We will drive approximately 1 hour east to the winter parking area on Willow Creek Road south of Mullan. The winter route adds about a mile of snowshoeing one way along the forest road before reaching the official trailhead. From there, it is another 2 miles of steady uphill travel to the lower lake. Another half mile will take us to the upper lake, where we will have great views of Stevens Peak at the head of the valley. We will retrace our route back to the parking area. Round trip distance is approximately 7 miles with 2,200' elevation gain. This outing is best suited for physically fit hikers, due to the steady uphill travel with potentially deep snow. High avalanche danger or inclement weather may cancel. Contact Tyler Nyman for more information. Please note: the Spokane Mountaineers are following current COVID 19 guidelines. At the time of posting, the plan will be to drive separate vehicles and practice social distancing during the hike. The group size will be limited to 5 participants plus the activity leader. These parameters are subject to change in the future.

EVENT: Moscow Mountain Snowshoe

DATE: January 30, 2021

TIME: 08:00 AM - 02:00 PM

TYPE: Hiking - Snowshoe

DAY: Saturday

COST: Free

MEET: Headwaters Trailhead, Foothill Road, Moscow, ID, USA

LEADER(S): Tyler Nyman 509-270-8236

Meet at 8AM at Yokes Latah near Highway 195. We will drive approximately 1.5 hours south to the Headwaters Trailhead near Moscow, Idaho. This hike will include a combination of double track and single track trails. The route is well forested with intermittent view across the surrounding countryside. The highlight of this hike will be the 4356' Paradise Point, where views south as far as the Wallowa Mountains can be enjoyed. This will be a moderately difficult hike due to overall distance and hilly terrain. Distance will be approximately 10 miles with 1900' elevation gain. Come prepared with either snowshoes or traction devices, depending on snow and weather conditions. Inclement weather may cancel. Contact Tyler Nyman for more information. Please note: the Spokane Mountaineers are following current COVID 19. At the time of posting, the plan will be to drive separate vehicles and practice social distancing during the hike. The group size will be limited to 5 participants plus the activity leader. These parameters are subject to change in the future.

EVENT: Graham Mountain Snowshoe

DATE: February 13, 2021

TIME: 08:00 AM - 04:00 PM

TYPE: Hiking - Snowshoe

DAY: Saturday

COST: Free

MEET: Idaho Panhandle National Forest - Idaho, USA

LEADER(S): Tyler Nyman 509-270-8236

Meet at 8 AM at the Fernan Ranger Station in Coeur d' Alene. We'll drive approximately 45 minutes to the Coal Creek trailhead on the Coeur d' Alene River Road north of Kellogg. The hike begins with steady and often steep uphill travel through the Coal Creek drainage. Once we gain the ridgeline, we'll follow it west to the 5727' summit of Graham Mountain. If the sky is clear, we will be able to look north across the Coeur d' Alene Mountains, as far as the Cabinets in northwest Montana. The view south includes Silver Mountain and the many peaks in the Saint Joe River country. We will retrace our route on the way back. Round trip distance is approximately 10 miles with 3,900' elevation gain. This outing is best suited for physically fit hikers due to steep uphill travel in potentially deep snow. Inclement weather may cancel. Contact Tyler Nyman for more information. Please note: the Spokane Mountaineers are following current COVID 19 guidelines. At the time of posting, the plan will be to drive separate vehicles and practice social distancing during the hike. The group size will be limited to 5 participants plus the activity leader. These parameters are subject to change in the future.

Officers & Board of Directors

officers@spokanemountaineers.org

board@spokanemountaineers.org

President	Matt Jeffries ¹ 360-303-7495	president@spokanemountaineers.org
Vice-President	Li Ciavola ² 590-6822	vicepresident@spokanemountaineers.org
Secretary	Patty Kollenborn ¹ 496-9806	secretary@spokanemountaineers.org
Treasurer	Sara Schmitzler ² 270-8867	treasurer@spokanemountaineers.org
Board of Directors	Jeci Adams ¹ 406-370-6303	jessica.v.peterson@gmail.com
	Jerry Anderson ¹ 434-7399	navoffsf@yahoo.com
	Marge Andrews ¹ 747-6387	marge.andrews@gmail.com
	Brad Herr ¹ 448-6302	brad.e.herr@gmail.com
	John Miskulin ² 924-2146	jdmiskulin@yahoo.com
	Tyler Nyman ² 270-8236	tjtyguy31090@aol.com
	Michael Pinter ¹ 590-6502	
	Stacy Sorg ¹ 251-1078	
	Shuwen Wang ² ... 717-370-1910	swang07@gmail.com

¹ Term ends Fall 2022



Glacier Peak on Liberty Cap Trail, Shuwen Wang

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Denoted in **Bold**

Please send changes to editorial@spokanemountaineers.org

BACKPACK SCHOOL

Michael Pinter.....590-6502

bpschool_directors@spokanemountaineers.org

CENTENNIAL TRAIL

Debbie Pierce 991-1047

Bill Pierce 999-3921

centrail@spokanemountaineers.org

CHALET

Holly Weiler 921-8928

chalet_chair@spokanemountaineers.org

Miles Breneman..... 838-8415

Chic Burg 208-659-8183

CJ Bouchard.....208-691-3602

Cjbouchard91@gmail.com

Kristy Canright.....599-6743

Todd Dunfield.....979-64-01

Paul Evans 953-3444

Brad Herr.....448-6302

Jeff Lambert.....999-5100

Dave Sorg..... 868-5984

Stacey Sorg 251-1078

Darcy Varona 208-793-9936

CLIMBING

Rich Bennett 208-661-7575

climb_chair@spokanemountaineers.org

Carrie Carlquist..... 290-3184

carriecarlquist@yahoo.com

Lindsay Chutas 206-409-4394

lamchutas@gmail.com

Patty Danner 995-4165

pattyd777@gmail.com

Brian Hoots..... 868-4048

hootsb@gmail.com

Matt Jeffries 360-303-7495

jeffries.mj@gmail.com

Bob Loomis 710-5102

bploomis@comcast.net

John Miskulin..... 924-2146

jdmiskulin@yahoo.com

Todd Nelson 208-699-5647

tli.todd@gmail.com

Glenn Potter 993-5100

glenn.potter@inlandins.com

Andrew Ratcliff..... 208-818-5075

aratcliff@gmail.com

Sara Schmelzer..... 270-8867

saschmelzer@yahoo.com

Jon Thorpe 255-6405

spokmntj@gmail.com

Karen Vielle 326-4151

karenvielle@gmail.com

CONSERVATION

Gina Clayes.....

conservation_chair@spokanemountaineers.org

Andrew Ashmore..... 208-762-0120

Jace Bylenga..... 269-377-5658

Vicki Egesdal 251-0280

Paul Eichin..... 238-2300

Lunell Haught 443-1319

Jeff Lambert 999-5100

Lynn Smith 208-772-4337

Holly Weiler..... 921-8928

EDITORIAL

Merideth Jeffries 928-853-4566

editorial@spokanemountaineers.org

Wendy Huber 939-3717

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

ecomms_chair@spokanemountaineers.org

Brian Hoots..... 868-4048

Lisa Bradley (weekly email).....448-6302

Chuck Huber.....939-2644

Samantha Journot 474-9967

Susan Nash..... 999-5708

Matthew Inman 360-207-1565

HIKING

Miles Breneman 838-8415

hike_chair2@spokanemountaineers.org

Holly Weiler 921-8928

hike_chair1@spokanemountaineers.org

Chris Baldini 993-8971

echris60@yahoo.com

Dennis Cowley 926-7774

dennisc230@gmail.com

Todd Dunfield..... 979-6401

toddtdunfield@gmail.com

Lorna Emerich 844-2778

lornaemerich@gmail.com

Paul Evans 953-3444

paulevans5@comcast.net

Debb Hansen 499-6533

djhansen42@hotmail.com

Chuck Huber..... 939-2644

chuck@chuckmatic.com

Wendy Huber... 939-3717

wend@chuckmatic.com

Samantha Journot 474-9967

samanthajournot@gmail.com

Susan Nash..... 999-5708

suzieqkn67@gmail.com

Tyler Nyman..... 270-8236

tjtyguy31090@aol.com

Ken Ratz 209-6321
Greg Ropp 230-8245
gregorytropp@hotmail.com
Dave Rovick.....994-2506
dfrovick@gmail.com
Lynn Smith 208-772-4337
kslynndeb@hotmail.com
Shuwen Wang 717-370-1910
swang07@gmail.com
Sharon Yablon..... 208-818-6975
sharon@bikenorthidaho.com

HISTORY

Chic Burge 208-659-8183
historian@spokanemountaineers.org
Holly Weiler 921-8928

LEADERSHIP

leadertraining_chair@spokanemountaineers.org
Brian Hoots..... 868-4048
Chuck Huber..... 939-2644

LIBRARIAN

Steve Reynolds 466-3004
librarian@spokanemountaineers.org

MEMBERSHIP

Susan Nash..... 999-5708
membership_chair@spokanemountaineers.org

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Jeff Mergler..... 210-981-8179
mtbike_chair@spokanemountaineers.org
Joe Giegel 926-9282
Lisa Giegel..... 926-9282
Mardi Hardwick 795-9549
Lisa Helmbrecht 747-5522
Steve Kent..... 939-5962
Randy LaBeff 747-5522
Bob McLellan 995-5041
Catherine Moss..... 954-0971
Dianne Murray..... 710-3511
Bill Pierce..... 927-8764
Debbie Pierce 927-8764
Kevin Roark 951-4189
Chris Roberts 998-4004
Eric Ryan 325-2595
Russ Schwartz 206-276-0418
Teresa Watson..... 238-6776
Carl Wheatley448-5357
MOUNTAIN SCHOOL
John Miskulin..... 924-2146
mtschool_director2@spokanemountaineers.org
Karen Vielle 710-0736
mtschool_director1@spokanemountaineers.org
Marty Newell-Large..... 475-9925

mtschool_director3@spokanemountaineers.org

PADDLE SPORTS

John McKee 208-305-2604
paddle_chair@spokanemountaineers.org

ROAD BIKING

road_bike_chair@spokanemountaineers.org
Martin Ward 991-1221
Denise Beardslee 448-5714
Dan Robisch 208-651-2016
Jane Schelly..... 922-3496
Bonnie Ulbright 238-3038
Paul Eichin 238-2300

SKIING

BACKCOUNTRY

Natalie Koncz 435-3767
nataliekoncz@gmail.com
Ben Powell..... 208-215-5429
benjaminryanpowell@gmail.com
Landon Crecelius 988-5825
landoncrecelius@gmail.com
Nick Pontarolo..... 954-7639
pontarn2@mac.com

ALPINE

Annie Jensen 263-4709
Contact Backcountry Chair

CROSS COUNTRY

OPEN POSITION XXX-XXXX
Contact Backcountry Chair

SOCIAL

Chris Baldini..... 927-9356
social_chair@spokanemountaineers.org

SPOKANE MOUNTAINEERS

FOUNDATION

foundation@spokanemountaineers.org
Jeff Lambert 999-5100
foundationpres@spokanemountaineers.org
Tim Orton..... 720-373-0795
Vice-President
Annie Jensen 263-4709
Treasurer/Secretary
Carol Bjork..... 879-0996
Susan Nash..... 999-5708
Holly Weiler 921-8928

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Spokane Mountaineers
PO Box 1013
Spokane, WA 99210-1013



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