



Spokane Mountaineers Newsletter

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# Dreary Late Fall...

Learn more about what is going on with the Spokane Mountaineers.



## President's Corner

Winter is finally here! At least, that's what the calendar tells us! Amidst rumors of an unusually cold and snowy "la nina" winter, we have actually seen unseasonably warm temperatures for this time of year, at least so far. Social media keeps populating memories of me on my snowboard at this time of year, which I have been quickly dismissing to avoid the FOMO. Are you guys doing your snow dances?!

Regardless of snow levels remaining low, the stoke levels here at the Spokane Mountaineers remain high! We are proud to announce that we have just opened up our applications for 2021 Ice Climbing Seminar and 2022 Mountain School. Mountain School is planning to return to a mainly pre-pandemic format for our classes. This means we plan on having our students interacting in different groups on a weekly basis, and additionally we hope to return to Mt. Athabasca in May for our traditional graduation climb.

In addition, we have our introduction to the Ice Climbing seminar scheduled for New Years weekend in Bozeman, Montana! We have decided to move this date up (from February) this

year in order to allow our newly skilled Ice climbers some more time to practice their skills before the season closes. We are incredibly excited to operate these courses once again this year, and confident we will have full rosters. If you are hoping for a spot, make sure you head to our website for the applications ASAP!

Now go do your snow dances so we can have a white winter! We are counting on you.

Happy Holidays,

Li Ciavola  
President - Spokane Mountaineers

## THIS MONTH'S TOP STORIES

### MEET JEFF NETT



Jeff grew up in Spokane, and was one of those who never left. After highschool he tried the college thing, but with young children left school and ended up learning his trade on the job. When Jeff's kids were older he went back and earned his bachelor's degree, mostly to justify his student loans. Jeff's kids all graduated high school and are in college. He also has two grandchildren and all live

in the area. Being a single empty nester he figured he could knock the PCT off his bucket list. After his thru hike, he landed in Coeur D' Alene and went back to work for DCI Engineers in downtown Spokane.

Jeff is a mechanical designer, mostly working in the heavy industrial field. It reminds him of climbing, at least from the creative and technical aspects.

He loves to get away from the city and explore the world at every opportunity. This usually includes climbing, mountaineering, snowshoeing, backpacking, cycling, canoeing, etc. (i.e. outdoor activities).

Jeff became a member of the Spokane Mountaineers in 2015 when he and his son signed up for Mountain School. He has stayed involved and volunteered as an instructor following completion of Mountain School. He has climbed a few of the Cascade volcanoes, Athabasca, Glacier Peak, and most recently Mt. Whitney. In 2015 he hiked the Wonderland trail with several other Mountaineers.

In reality, his PCT trip was not really planned and done on a whim. He had wanted to do it after hiking 50 or so miles of it with his Scout Troop, but with young children it always seemed out of reach. Once his youngest daughter graduated high school, he was single again and his debts paid off, he thought he would give it a try. When fellow mountaineer Caitlin Steven pulled a permit, Jeff decided it was the right time. That was the mindset Jeff went into the trip with, just to try, no pressure, no expectations, no deep questions to solve, just hike from town to town. That philosophy obviously worked as he completed the entire hike from Mexico to Canada.

Jeff says it was life changing in a lot of ways. The biggest lesson he learned was that anything is possible if you break it down into manageable steps and then don't quit when things are hard. For six months all he needed Jeff carried on his back, surviving with very little, yet he was actually happy. The things he valued out on the trail were friendships, a cool breeze, clean water, a forgotten Snickers bar, not material things.



Some of the lessons learned from the trip include:

- Don't think about the end, just the next objective
- Use the best gear you have
- Comfort usually comes with a weight penalty
- Who you are with is more important than a lot of other things
- Bring an extra meal or three
- Do not apologize for chasing crazy dreams
- Tell the people that helped you how much it means and that they were a part of your success
- Try your gear out before you go
- Stop and enjoy the pretty stuff, you may not make it back

I have some other adventures I'm thinking about, big and small.

## Activities

**Monthly General Membership Meeting** presentations are organized and conducted by Vice President, Li Ciavola. On November 15, Li hosted Jeff Nett, who provided a trip report of his fantastic thru hike on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). Jeff gave a little background on himself, experience with the Spokane Mountaineers and then talked about his journey on the PCT. He also showed some fantastic pictures he took while on the trail.



Please join us live from the Spokane Mountaineer website zoom link or on the Spokane Mountaineer Facebook page.

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## Key Announcements

2021 Ice Climbing Seminar and Mountain School 2022 applications are open now. Mountain School 2022 will be similar to how it was pre-pandemic, which will allow students to cycle through different instructors and get to know each other.

### **Plan now for Spring Kinnikinnick for release in March.**

Some of the activity chairs are planning now for the spring schedule. Watch for planning meetings from all groups. They are looking for trip leaders. After Jan 1 new events will be entered in the new web sites. Please get events entered and approved with the activity chairs and submit any trip reports to [eitorial@spokanemountaineers.org](mailto:eitorial@spokanemountaineers.org). Any activity leader having difficulty putting an event into the website can reach out to the activity chair(s) or send event details to [ecomm@spokanemountaineers.org](mailto:ecomm@spokanemountaineers.org), and they will assist you with the event entry.

### **Outdoor Partnerships**

The last of the Volunteer trail work for the season occurred at the Wilson Ranch (building new trail) and finalizing tree trail work i continued with many of the same partnerships as in the past. This included work at Waikiki Springs with the INLC and work at the Wilson Ranch with the DHC among others.



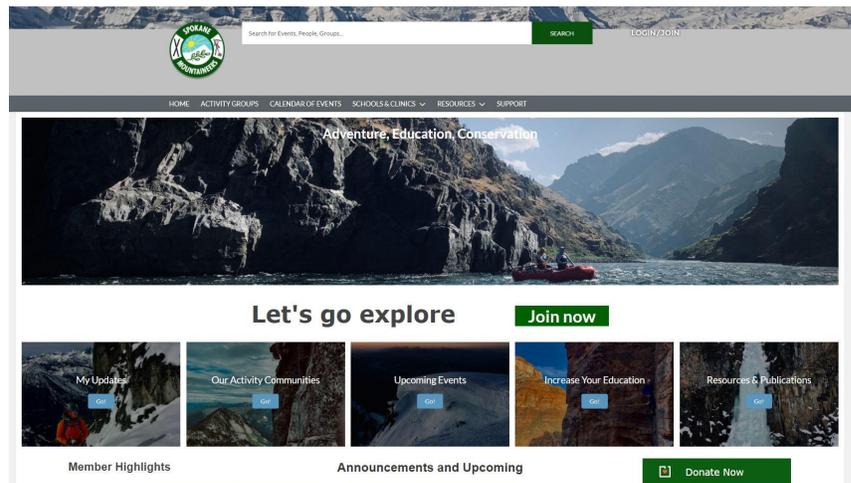
## **New Web Site and Membership Management tools coming soon.**

As reported in the November newsletter the club has been working hard on a replacement web site. Our move out of our development sandbox and user acceptance training occurred in November, but account activation did not proceed as planned. We are targeting that your account will be migrated by the end of December and the site live for all members January 1. Watch for an email that your account has migrated to the new site.

## **Reminder. All current accounts will be transferred.**

When the transfer occurs you will receive an email to log into the new system.

Please watch for the email from **The Spokane Mountaineers** titled **“Welcome to The Spokane Mountaineers”**. The email is generated from our platform hosted by salesforce.com



The email has a link in it that you will need to click on to finish the activation process. You will be prompted to read and accept our **Terms and Conditions containing the Liability Release and Privacy policy.** ([click to review](#))

Once accepted, you will be directed to enter a new password and you will be logged into the site. You will know this is successful and complete because your name will appear in the upper right side of the page.

As you begin to use our new site, we want you to review and set up your profile and settings. This is found in the down arrow that reveals a menu.

- Home
- My Profile
- My Settings
- My Messages
- My Account
- Contact Support
- Logout

A few highlights to manage:

- **My Profile** allows you to edit your preferred contact method. Please choose on how you want other members and leadership to be able to reach out to you. (Mountaineers Community Direct Message, Phone or Email).
- **My Settings** is set with a default that allows phone numbers and emails to be restricted from other members view unless you allow it. Messaging within the site is allowed with the restriction set. Also email notifications are set as a default to on.
- **My Account** shows the status of your membership and manages anyone attached to your household. Household is a new feature and better allows us to manage joint memberships and families at the same location.

As you connect to the site for the first time. Take a few minutes to locate **Activity Groups** and **Join** the group(s) you want to follow. Also take a moment to decide how closely you want to follow each group by editing your notifications:

- Every Post
- Daily Digest (all activity consolidated once a day)
- Weekly Digest : (all activity consolidated once a week) Default setting
- Limited

### **Membership Renewal in 2022 from the Membership Committee.**

If your membership is due to expire prior to December 20, please renew in our current system. If not, please hold off until your account is transferred to the new site.

Reminder.

Currently, the only **complete** online checkout and payment process available is using a PayPal account.

If you wish to pay by **Credit Card or Check**, please continue the renewal check-out process. When you get to the PayPal site, select "Cancel and return to Spokane Mountaineers." It will cancel the payment but maintain your account information for us to activate.

Then send an email to [membership@spokanemountaineers.org](mailto:membership@spokanemountaineers.org), and we can issue you a PayPal invoice to your email that can be paid by credit card checkout on PayPal. We can combine multiple renewals on a single invoice.

If you wish to pay by check, send the completed membership application to PO Box 1013, Spokane, WA 99201-1013. Please be sure to include the email account you are paying to renew or activate. ([membership application](#))



Spokane Mountaineers.  
PO Box 1013, Spokane, WA, 99210