



Ridge Explorations LLC



NEWSLETTER OF RIDGE EXPLORATIONS FALL 2013

- **Ridge Explorations (REX) is back again** at Crystal Mountain committed to avalanche education.
- **UPCOMING AVALANCHE EVENT! FOR SERIOUS AVALANCHE STUDENTS.**

What: Northwest Snow and Avalanche Workshop (NSAW) 2013
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/468315>

When: November 3rd at 9am

Where: Husky Union Building South Ballroom on the U of W campus

- **Level 1 Refresher** field trips are available if you want to keep your skills honed. Continue your training. Add some more mileage with a professional guide and build avalanche savvy.

- **This year we are continuing to promote our class for downhill skiers called Avalanche Safety and Rescue** (formerly Sidecountry Safety). We teach basic knowledge and skills needed to venture safely into the remote parts of ski resorts, or into basic lift accessed backcountry terrain. As skiers and snowboarders become more experienced, they look forward to the challenges of getting away from the groomed runs. This workshop includes a two-hour slideshow lecture and discussion **and a two-hour on-snow**

Sidecountry skiing ---

- Away from groomed runs
- Away from the crowds
- Fresh powder
- Getting lost
- Danger from Avalanches!
- Away from help

training session covering transceiver and rescue skills. This will be a great intro for your friends and family. Tell them to look at our website for details.

- **REX guide, Willi Prittie** is a TV star now. ☺ Willi was featured on the National Geographic Channel, "Ultimate Survival Alaska," a wilderness travel reality show. How "real"...is up to you to decide. Here is a link to see more about it.
<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/channel/ultimate-survival-alaska/>



- **Ridge Explorations summer sailing.** I spent a lot of time on salt water. REX staff has been doing some team building sailing trips. Also, I teach private sailing lessons with boat owners and I teach classes for the **Seattle Sailing Club** on Shilshole Bay using keelboats from 24 feet to 40 feet. It would be fun to have some of my adventurous avalanche students join me for sailing adventure instruction. Here is a blurb about the club.

"Seattle Sailing Club has been the Pacific Northwest's home of affordable sailing since 1968. Club membership gives you access to our awesome fleet of 24 sailboats from 22-40 feet, and a community of great people. Our experience teaching sailing is second to none: Coast Guard

Licensed and ASA Certified instructors provide a safe, fun, and supportive environment whether you're a beginner or you've been sailing for years."

- **A lesson about Risk Management** taken from the sinking of a sailing ship. Risk assessment, margins of safety, denial and acceptance, all are topics to consider on the water or the snow. The following link will take you to a story of the sinking of the wooden sailing ship replica of the *HMS Bounty*, which sank in Hurricane Sandy last year. There are lessons that can be carried over to parties traveling in avalanche terrain. Captains or ski trip leaders should seek all relevant information in order to make the best decisions (<http://www.woodenboat.com/lessons-bounty>).
- **Clarke's Whistler Highcamp is now taking reservations for your Ski Whistler Winter Getaway.** Ridge Explorations team-member, Damian Clarke, office manager, invites you to visit www.whistlerhighcamp.com for more information on Whistler condo rentals.
- **As the snow flies, I will look for you on the trail.** And remember when stability is the question, terrain is the answer. Take knowledge to the mountains. And take care.

Don Langlois, owner and director of Ridge Explorations and REX Staff