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For Immediate Release

**Expert Panel Discusses ‘Conscious Travel’ at
Squaw Valley Institute Event**

Olympic Valley, Calif. – An expert panel comprised of Toni Neubauer, Ruth Ann Kocour, and Julie Conover will engage the topic of “Conscious Travel” during a Squaw Valley Institute forum taking place at Resort at Squaw Creek in Squaw Valley on August 26 at 7:00 PM. Discussion topics will include modernization, the tipping dilemma, picture taking, bargaining, how to dress, tourism and environmental considerations and giving. The panelists will also answer questions from the audience. A reception with no-host bar begins at 6:30 PM.

Toni Neubauer is president of Myths and Mountains and founder of READ Global, a nonprofit global organization dedicated to empowering communities by increasing literacy and access to education through the creation, advancement and leveraging of a replicable library-based model for sustainable economic development. She speaks five languages, holds a Doctorate in Educational Administration as well as a Masters in French Literature, and has visited 57 countries around the world, including copious travel to Asia and Central Asia.

Ruth Ann Kocour is based in Northern Nevada with vast experience of the region, its backcountry and people. When traveling beyond Nevada, she opts for the Himalayas and Central Asia where she has been part of international mountaineering expeditions including the 1997 American Cho-Oyu Expedition. Her explorations have taken her to Aconcagua, Argentina, the Baltoro Glacier to K2 in Northern Pakistan, the Wakhan Corridor of Northern Afghanistan, among many other countries.

Julie Conover is host, producer, and writer of the “Passport to Adventure” television show and an avid adventure traveler. She has traveled to the Caribbean, Mexico, Bali, Thailand, Italy, Switzerland, France, Germany, Australia and Fiji, among other places.

A \$10 donation is requested. Children and students with ID are free. For tickets, visit www.squawvalleyinstitute.org, or call 530.581.4138. Memberships are also available.

In October, [Squaw Valley Institute](#) brings Greg Mortenson, co-author of the *New York Times* #1 bestseller [Three Cups of Tea](#), to Lake Tahoe. Tickets are currently on sale for the October 18 event, which takes place at 2:00 PM at the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe. General admission tickets are \$30 for nonmembers and \$25 for members. VIP tickets are available for \$60. Squaw Valley Institute members at the Bronze level or higher will receive preferred seating. Doors open at 1:00 PM. An evening presentation by Greg Mortenson is sold out.

Squaw Valley Institute is a nonprofit organization dedicated to presenting programs having artistic, cultural and educational values. The Institute presents lectures, performances, forums, exhibitions and classes in the unique mountain environment of Squaw Valley, North Lake Tahoe, Truckee and surrounding communities.

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