



To enlighten and entertain

Winter 2009

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Squaw Valley Institute Welcomes New Executive Director

Erin Casey has joined Squaw Valley Institute as the Executive Director. She will be following in the footsteps of Janet Zipkin. Erin comes with a diverse background in nonprofit work including fundraising and program management. Erin began her nonprofit career in Lake Tahoe as the Associate Director for the Tahoe Rim Trail Association. There she organized volunteer work days, developed volunteer training programs, organized fundraising events and more.

She then began working for the Muscular Dystrophy Association as the District Director for Reno. She currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Truckee Trails Foundation and the Truckee River Watershed Council. Erin has lived Truckee for over 5 years with her husband Steve and currently lives in Glenshire with her husband and 3 year old daughter Liv.

When asked about the opportunity to work for Squaw Valley Institute Erin replied, "I am excited and honored to be working for an organization with such a fantastic network of supporters throughout the entire region. I also love the programming provided by the Institute and would love to see it grow."

Erin would like to continue the direction set by the founding members, board of directors, focus groups and past Executive Directors into 2009 and beyond.

Erin hopes to grow the capacity for Squaw Valley Institute to offer programming in the area and expand to areas around Olympic Valley including Truckee, Kings Beach and Incline.



Of course, programming will still remain strong in Olympic Valley where the organization was founded and supported by so many loyal members, donors and sponsors. Casey also hopes to continue involving the community in decisions made on types of programs offered by forming new focus groups to assist in setting future direction for the Institute's programs. (See the focus group article for more information on becoming a participant in one of our new focus groups).

Erin will be working at our office in Olympic Valley Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Please stop by to welcome her or discuss our programs. You may also call her at 530-581-4138.



UPCOMING EVENTS 2009

Saturday February, 14 2009 9am-4:30PM Squaw Valley Ski Resort Poker on the Mountain



For skiers and riders looking for something fun to do on Valentine's Day, Squaw Valley Institute is offering an on-mountain poker rally with a total cash prize of \$1,000. Taking place from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, card stations will be set at various locations throughout the mountain. The prize money will be awarded at 4:30 PM at the big Après Ski Party at Bar One.

"This will be a great time on the mountain," said Erin Casey, executive director for Squaw Valley Institute. "We look forward to rewarding the winner or, in the event of a tie, winners." An entry fee of \$15 in advance on the website, or \$20 at the event is required per person. More than one hand can be purchased. To register, visit www.squawvalleyinstitute.org or visit the "starters" tent near the funitel on Saturday, February 14.

In addition to access to the poker rally, participants can visit PlumpJack where \$2 Pabst Blue Ribbon beers will be offered from 11:30-5:00 for participants only. Additionally, for participants only, 50%-off lunch at the Resort at Squaw Creek's European-themed *Ristorante Montagna* and Wine Bar will be offered with registration card. A live band will be playing on the sun deck outside of *Ristorante Montagna* during the afternoon.

There will be an awards ceremony at Bar One where the winner or winners will be announced. Please join us for a day of fun on the mountain. You may purchase hands online or on the day of the event.

February 14, 2009 8:30 PM PlumpJack Comedian Tom McGillen

For those looking for a date with laughter, Squaw Valley Institute brings comedian and actor Tom McGillen to PlumpJack Squaw Valley Inn for a one-night show on February 14, Valentine's Day. A no host bar opens at 7:30 PM and the show begins at 8:30 PM.



McGillen has appeared with top name comedians such as Jay Leno and Rodney Dangerfield, and on television on Showtime and Comedy Central. On the big screen, McGillen appeared in the movie 'Joe Dirt,' starring David Spade, Christopher Walken and Kid Rock.

In addition to musing about a dysfunctional family, the politics between men and women, and recent trips to Europe, his show includes a crazed cast of characters including Austin Powers, an Outback Aussie, and Barney Fife.

But it is Tom's three-character spoof of the 'Godzilla Movies' that garnered this quote, which appeared on the *Los Angeles Times*: "McGillen's Godzilla movie re-enactment is awesome, the best in the business, an amazing boisterously entertaining unforgettable parody of a badly-dubbed horribly acted monster movie."



Tom McClain



McGillen will be joined onstage by Tom McClain, with the event hosted by Tahoe local Rowie! Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For tickets, more information, or to become a member of Squaw Valley Institute, visit www.squawvalleyinstitute.org or call 530.581.4138. Further information on

programs and member benefits is available on the Website too.

Squaw Valley Institute thanks PlumpJack Squaw Valley Inn for sponsoring this event.

Tuesday March 3, 2009 7:00 PlumpJack Arlene Blum Breaking Trail: Mountains and Molecules

From leading expeditions to some of the world's highest and most challenging mountains to spearheading scientific research to protect human health and the global environment, Arlene Blum, biophysical chemist, author, and mountaineer has led an extraordinary life.



In this dramatic slide lecture Blum shares the best photos and stories from her memoir, *Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life*, illustrating both her scientific research and her mountaineering expeditions. Blum's most recent expeditions are primarily metaphorical, working with academics, industry, governments and NGOs to protect human health and the global environment from toxic chemicals.



Blum is the founder and executive director of the Green Science Policy Institute and a Visiting Scholar in Chemistry at UC Berkeley. Her past research contributed to the regulation of cancer-causing chemicals that were used as flame retardants on children's sleepwear.

Previously, Blum led the first American and all-women's ascent of Annapurna I, considered one of the worlds most dangerous and difficult mountains, Blum also led the first women's team up Mt. McKinley; was the first American woman to attempt Mt. Everest; made the first traverse of the Great Himalaya Range of Bhutan, Nepal and India; and hiked the length of the European Alps with her baby daughter on her back.

Tuesday March 9, 2009 7:00

PlumpJack

Peter Waldman

Middle East: Belief vs. Reality: A Primer on Today's Middle East

Peter Waldman is a senior writer at Condé Nast Portfolio, a monthly business magazine that launched in May 2007. Waldman joined Condé Nast Portfolio from the Wall Street Journal, where he worked as a writer and editor for 21 years. During his time at the Journal, Waldman worked in the paper's San Francisco and Atlanta bureaus. He also served as the paper's Middle East correspondent for six years, based in Jerusalem and Amman, Jordan, and as its Southern Asia correspondent for three years, based in Singapore.



Waldman's articles have won awards and citations from the Overseas Press Club, the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics, and Public Policy at Harvard University, the Society of American Business Editors and Writers, and the Society of Environmental Journalists.

In late 2000, as the days ticked down on the administration of Bill Clinton, Israel offered Yasser Arafat's PLO an historic offer to end the Arab-Israeli conflict once and for all: a Palestinian state in Gaza and most of the West Bank, resettlement and compensation for Palestinian refugees, billions in international aid, even a share of Jerusalem.

Arafat balked, the Second Intifada erupted in a hail of suicide bombings, Bush took office, then 9-11, Afghanistan, Iraq, Gaza... the list goes on. What happened? How did one of the most hopeful moments in the long struggle for the holy land morph- in just eight years- into one of the bloodiest?

How did discussions of a lasting peace between Arabs and Jews turn into discussions of a nuclear exchange between Israel and Iran? Peter Waldman, will speak about the triumph of ideology and fanaticism in the Mideast but also in Washington over reason.

Friday March 27, 2009 7:00

PlumpJack

Sarah Ferris

Bodhi Tree Foundation: Truckee Women in Humla, Nepal

Sarah Ferris is a registered nurse at Tahoe Forest Hospital where she works on the OB floor doing Labor & Delivery, Postpartum and Newborn care. After a 16 day trek in the Annapurna Circuit in 2006 with her husband and two children, Sarah decided to create a nonprofit called Bodhi Tree Foundation to support and promote community based activities that focus on maternal-child health in district of Humla, Nepal.

Humla, one of the most remote districts in Nepal, is located in the northwest corner in the mid-western region next to the Tibetan border. The population of 45,376 is served by one hospital that is hardly used due to lack of supplies and medical personnel. There are two doctors assigned to the entire district who are rarely in the region. After her experience, Sarah decided to organize a women's trek through the region to help with the issues of the region including literacy and infant mortality.

The journey was the first all women's trek through the region. They visited Katmandu, Bodhnath, and Bhaktapur before visiting Humla. In Humla the group organized and funded a 5 day training for 30 local women to learn about safe birthing and newborn care. They also distributed 300 clean delivery kits as well as children's medicines.



Join Squaw Valley Institute as Sarah and other local women who participated in the trek discuss the Humla area, its health needs, the trek and future planned treks to this region.



April 2009 7:00 PM
Date to be announced
Resort at Squaw Creek
Bill Tarr
Energy Policy and the New Administration

Bill Tarr Founded Aquillian Investments LLC, which is a specialized advisor for investors seeking comprehensive market research and prudent investment opportunities in clean technology, sustainable natural resource management, and health and wellness innovation.



As a founding partner, Bill is responsible for Aquillian's overall firm strategy, and guides business development, deal sourcing, and strategic partnerships. Before founding Aquillian Bill was a management consultant with Origo Global Business Partners. At Origo, Bill co-developed and launched the Social Enterprise Services business division, and managed a variety of sustainability oriented consulting projects for international foundations, corporations, and sustainable development think tanks.

Thursday May 28, 2009 7:00 PM
Resort at Squaw Creek
Andrea Ross
Journey's Within: Philanthropic Travel

With British parents, Andrea grew up in England listening to stories of colonial Africa and the Far East. At the age of eight she took her first solo trip to Australia to visit her aunt and she hasn't stopped traveling since.



Andrea has been to England, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Southern Africa – where she worked as an assistant canoe guide for a safari company, Kenya, Tanzania – where she summited Kilimanjaro, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Belize, the South Pacific, China and Japan.

When Andrea and Brandon Ross moved to Cambodia in 2003 to start a tour company and a bed-and-breakfast, they discovered that nearly two-thirds of the population lacked access to clean water, contributing to serious health problems. Little by little, the Rosses are changing that. They launched *Journeys Within Our Community* (JWOC), a nonprofit that offers scholarships for university students, holds free English classes, provides micro-loans for small businesses, and builds village water wells. Puzzled by the recent fad of Americans doing construction work on volunteer vacations, JWOC instead hires locals, helping to solve unemployment problems, as well.

"You don't use someone with a Harvard degree to build a well," says Brandon. So far, JWOC has added more than 180 wells to the landscape around Siem Reap, helping nearly 4,000 Cambodians to escape water-related disease. Travel tip: For \$300, you can pay for the construction of a well that will supply about 20 people with water and then visit the families and communities it benefits.

Andrea continues to travel extensively through Southeast Asia to make sure the guides, drivers and hotels used by Journeys Within are up to standard. She loves to work with guests to plan their perfect trip. Join us as Andrea talks about the future of philanthropic travel and the current work her nonprofit and company are doing in parts of southeast Asia.

Thursday June 4, 2009 7:00 PM
Resort at Squaw Creek
Film
Bhutan-Taking the Middle Road to Happiness

Join Squaw Valley Institute and Squaw Valley Chapel as we view a feature documentary film featuring the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan and the governments effort to bring "Gross National Happiness" to its people.



Imagine a country where happiness is the guiding principle of government. Imagine a people who see all life as sacred and the source of their happiness, a place with an abundance of clean and renewable energy, a nation committed to preserving its culture. Imagine a kingdom where a king lives in a simple wooden cottage and judges his progress by the country's "Gross National Happiness."

Where is this Shangri-La? Bhutan. Join Squaw Valley Institute and Squaw Valley Chapel for this amazing documentary on Bhutan.

Thursday June 14, 2009 7:00 PM
Resort at Squaw Creek
Ruth Anne Kocour
Bhutan, Land of the Thunder Dragon

Ruth Anne Kocour, a photographer and author, has shared her adventures in books, articles and on radio and TV shows including CNN's International Hour and The Discovery Channel.



Her photos and stories have appeared in People, Harpers Bazaar, Health, Adventure West, Sunset, Nevada Magazine, Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Sacramento Bee, St. Petersburg Times, Reno Gazette, Tahoe Quarterly Magazine and Tashi Delek Magazine of Bhutan.



Her climbing has taken her to Aconcagua (Argentina), the Baltoro Glacier to K2 (Pakistan), along the Wakhan Corridor of Afghanistan, Denali, Mt. Elbrus (Russia), Mts. Kilimanjaro and Kenya, Nevado Illimani (Bolivia), Orizaba and Popocatepetl (Mexico), Torres De Paine (Patagonia), Bhutan, Ladakh, Kashmir and rural China. Ruth Anne is a supporter of the Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club and the Missouri Photo Workshop.

Since 2000 she's trekked Bhutan five times, visiting seldom-seen ethnic groups in Bhutan's most remote regions including Gangkar Puensum, the highest unclimbed mountain in the world. Join Squaw Valley Institute and Ruth Anne as she shares her experiences trekking through one of the worlds most mysterious countries.

As of 2009, Mortensen has established over 78 schools in rural and often volatile regions in Pakistan and Afghanistan, which provide education to over 28,000 children, including 18,000 girls, where few education opportunities existed before.

His work has not been without difficulty. In 1996, he survived an eight day armed kidnapping in the Northwest Frontier Province tribal areas of Pakistan, escaped a 2003 firefight with feuding Afghan warlords by hiding for eight hours under putrid animal hides in a truck going to a leather tanning factory. He has overcome two fatwas from enraged Islamic mullas, endured CIA investigations, and also received hate mail and death threats from fellow Americans after 9/11 for helping Muslim children with education.

Squaw Valley Institute is finalizing the date a location for this fantastic event. We will post the details on our website as soon as they are available. We will also begin online ticket sales in advance. We are currently seeking individual sponsorships of this event so that we may keep ticket prices down for our members and the public. Sponsors will receive VIP seating and an invitation to dinner with Greg before his talk. Please contact us if you are interested in becoming a sponsor.

Thank you and we hope to see you at this fantastic event!!!

**September/October 2009
Resort at Squaw Creek
Greg Mortensen
Three Cups of Tea and Beyond**



Greg Mortensen is the co-founder of the non-profit Central Asia Institute, founders of Pennies for Peace, and co-author of the #1 New York Times bestseller Three Cups of Tea which has been a New York Times bestseller since its January 2007 release, and was Time Magazine Asia Book of the Year.

On August 14th, 2008 (Pakistan's Independence Day), the Pakistani government announced that Greg Mortensen will receive Pakistan's highest civil award, Sitara-e-Pakistan ("Star of Pakistan") for his courage and humanitarian effort to promote education, and literacy in rural areas for the last 15 years.

In 1993, to honor his sisters memory, Mortensen climbed Pakistan's K2, the worlds second highest mountain in the Karakoram range. After K2 while recovering in a local village called Korpe, Mortensen met a group of school children sitting in the dirt writing with sticks in the sand, and made a promise to help them build a school. From that rash promise, grew a remarkable humanitarian campaign, in which Mortensen has dedicated his life to promote education-especially for girls- in remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan.



**Saturday November 14, 2009
Toast to Tahoe Skiing
Warren Miller and more**

Filmmaking legend, **Warren Miller**, will return to be the master of ceremonies at "**A Toast to Tahoe Skiing**," an evening of food, fun, fashion and ski, ski, ski that will get you psyched for your first turns of the season.

Join us for what we hope will become THE annual kickoff to Tahoe's winter season! The event will include a fashion show with both ski and local celebrities! There will be more to come on this event, so be sure to mark your calendar and check our website for details.



Thank you again to all those who made our First Annual A Toast to Tahoe event such a fantastic success. We hope to see you all again this year!!!

Also, please check our website for additional programs not yet confirmed for the year.



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Thank you to all of our 2008 and 2009 members and donors. If you have not renewed for 2009, you may now become a member online at www.squawvalleyinstitute.org or by sending in the membership form attached to this newsletter. We have recently changed our member database so please contact us if your name is not listed properly.

Please check our website for a list of member benefits which include admission to our events throughout the year!!



2008; A Banner Year for Programs

New levels of excitement, entertainment, enlightenment and diversity were reached in the Institute's program lineup in 2008—we are unique in this region. Nineteen separate programs were presented in all twelve months of the calendar.

Some of our speakers included adventurer Ruth Ann Kocour describing her treks as a single woman through Taliban and tribal-controlled regions of Pakistan, skiing and climbing legend Dick Dorworth discussing his newly published new book, explorer Doug Stoup describing his trek to the South Pole following Ernest Shackleton's intended route, scientist Robert Coats spoke on signs of climate change and how they affect Lake Tahoe, and Randall Osterhuber recounting some of the dramatic rescues performed by the Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team.



In the spring of 2008, inspired and funded by Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation, the Institute organized a three-part Civic Engagement Series. On three different evenings, expert speakers presented different aspects of the how, why and benefits of becoming engaged in your community. One of the speakers was California Secretary of State, Debra Bowen, who discussed potential changes to the election process in California.

Additional speakers included San Francisco's controversial Mayor Gavin Newsom who regaled a sold-out hall with stories of his youthful and tumultuous rise in politics and business, photographer Keoki Flagg and friends on their adventures in Africa, author John Daniel described his very unusual experiences from his latest book, Dr. Philip Lisagor contrasted military history and the great books, Bob Horvath spoke about the activities and adventures of the local Flying Doctors on their trips to remote villages in Mexico, Egil (Bud) Krogh told of his part in the Nixon White House and his jail sentence resulting from the "White House Plumbers" and the Watergate episode, and young philanthropists Jake Spero and Duncan Sisson showed slides from their 15,000 bicycle journey from Northern Alaska to the southern tip of South America.



To kick off the new 2008-2009 ski season, the Institute sponsored a huge gala celebration titled "A Toast To Tahoe Skiing" which was emceed by the one and only Warren Miller. Thank you again to all of our members, donors, sponsors and hard working volunteers for making 2008 such a great year!!

MEMBERSHIP ORDER FORM

Please see the membership insert or our website for membership benefit information.

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Sustaining \$50

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Platinum \$1000

Please call 530/581-4138 or mail this form with your check for the appropriate amount or credit card information to:

SQUAW VALLEY INSTITUTE
P.O. Box 3325, Olympic Valley, CA 96146
www.squawvalleyinstitute.org



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Squaw Valley Institute (SVI) was formed in March 2002 with encouragement and support from residents, businesses and North Lake Tahoe Resort Association. Thank you to our primary sponsors for your generous support of Squaw Valley Institute's vision and mission!

VISION: Squaw Valley Institute enhances the quality of life within the unique mountain environment of Squaw Valley, North Lake Tahoe, Truckee and surrounding communities.

MISSION: Squaw Valley Institute offers programs and activities:

- Having artistic, cultural, educational and entertainment value
- Bringing together visitors, residents and friends
- Fostering a sense of community.



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