

MICHIGAN ICE FEST

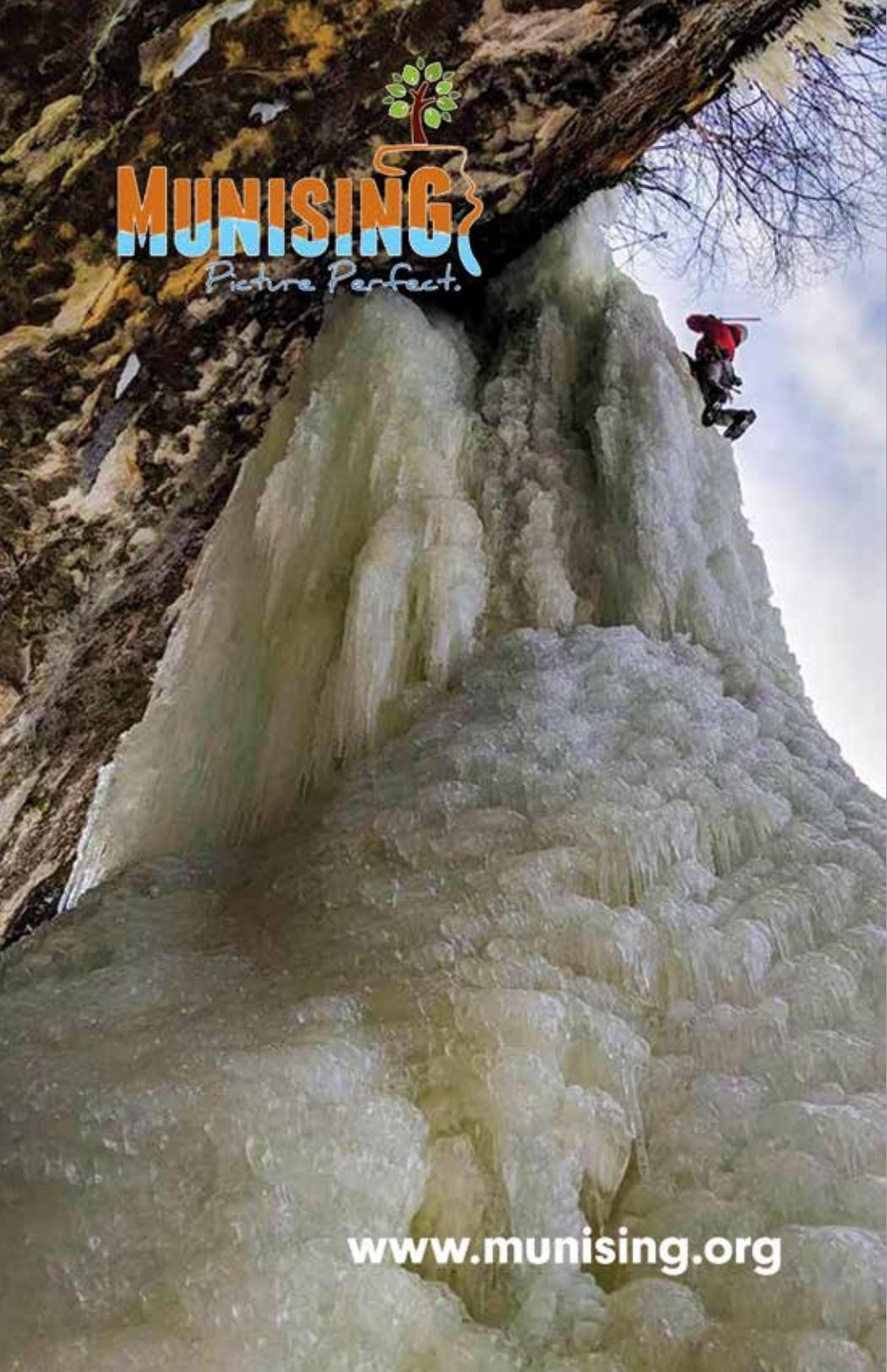
2020

PRESENTED BY:



February 12th - 16th

Munising, MI



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Cover: Tim Emmett exploring the wild ice on the Lake Superior Shore
📷 Mike Wilkinson

Contents: Hanging out with friends and meeting new ones is what Ice Fest is about.
📷 Jacob Raab



WELCOME TO MICHIGAN ICE FEST TWENTY TWENTY

They say hindsight is 20/20 and as we head into our 29th festival it's hard not to reminisce.

Twenty nine years ago ice climbing was barely a thing. In the words of Patagonia founder Yvon Chouinard, we were just "a handful of maladjusted geeks". We met in a bar, told some stories, and became a family.

Now we're sitting on the edge of a brave new world. Climbers will compete in the Olympics. Your Grandma is joining the ranks of the maladjusted geeks. Ice climbing is entering the mainstream.

Looking back brings us a lot of joy. We've helped thousands of people fall in love with ice climbing and, even though we've grown, our family has never stopped meeting at the bar.

But, looking back is no way to go into the future. As we add another generation to our family, we are excited to see what happens next. We hope you'll be there with us.

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Social & Environmental Initiative

One of the main goals of the Michigan Ice Fest has always been developing and enriching the climbing community of the Great Lakes region. We do everything we can to give back, and for our 29th year we've decided we can do more. Here's what we're working on:

BECOMING A CARBON NEUTRAL EVENT

Our climate is changing and people are the direct cause. Climbers are as much a part of the problem as everyone else, so it's time we became part of the solution. Over the next few festivals we have plans to reduce and offset all of the carbon emissions related to the festival, including travel, shipping and festival events.

WASTE REDUCTION

Festivals make a lot of waste, but they don't have to. Last year we partnered with Klean Kanteen to reduce the amount of single use plastic our parties produced. It was a huge success and inspired us to do even more for 2020. We're continuing our partnership with Klean Kanteen and working the NMU ECOREPS at Northern Michigan University to improve our recycling and waste reduction efforts.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Looking around at Ice Fest over the past many years, we realized that there were a lot of people not being included in the fun. Climbing is not an exclusive club. Anyone who wants access and membership in our community should be encouraged and welcomed with open arms. Unfortunately, this isn't always the case and barriers exist that leave many groups underrepresented. We are developing a partnership with Big City Mountaineers to help break down these barriers.

VERGLAS FOR VETS

American Vets have given a lot for us, the least we can do is giveback. Through a partnership with Veteran's Expeditions we'll be opening up classes to veterans and helping them take advantage of all the festival has to offer.

FREE KIDS PROGRAMS

For years the Ice Fest has offered a class for young people looking to break into the sport. The problem was that limited space created a first come, first served situation, leaving a lot of kids left out. This year, we creating a walk up climbing area for any kids 8-14 that are registered for the festival. All gear will be provided and, best of all, it will be free! That's right, it's included with their registration!

HEARTLAND GRANT

The flatlands are known for developing great climbers who take their skills to the greater ranges of the world. We are adding to that tradition by establishing an adventure grant to help fund the mid-western weekend warrior with a dream. The grant will be presented on stage and then the recipient will present their adventure at the following Ice Fest.

For more information on any of the programs, and more, check out our website
WWW.MICHIGANICEFEST.COM

Get the Most Out of Ice Fest

Sign up early. - Not only does it save you money, but our classes tend to fill up. You can register at michiganicefest.com. Book your lodging early too, it's a small town and rooms in town don't last long.

Show up early! Doesn't matter if it is a class, the demo, a presentation or for the free beer at the after parties. If you are late you will almost certainly miss out.

Prepare for anything. The weather on Lake Superior is unpredictable at best. Be ready for cold, snow and wind.

Take a course/clinic. This is a sure-fire way to increase your skills, gain some valuable knowledge, and get on some amazing ice, all the while being instructed by one of the country's best alpinist/ice climbers.

Use the Shuttles. Getting around the area can be tough if the weather is bad and parking along Sand Point is a real challenge during the Fest. The city of Munising offers shuttles throughout the weekend with buses running a loop from headquarters to Sand Point. Shuttles run 8am-5pm.

Chat with a professional athlete. Many of the world's best climbers are in attendance at Ice Fest and will be attending our after parties and socials. It is a rare opportunity to be able to socialize with a sport's elite athletes and the ability to share stories with them is priceless.

Enjoy Munising and Pictured Rocks. The ice climbing in the Munising area is immense. Try to get off of Sand Point Road and explore the backcountry where you will find solitude, incredible scenery, and the opportunity to climb on the shores of the world's largest freshwater lake!

Headquarters Our headquarters will be at the Central Community Center in Munising, located at 413 Maple Street. Most off-ice activities will take place here including: registration, class meeting spot, gear demos, gear sales, and shuttle pick up. Have questions about the festival? The Community Center is where you will find the answers. Maps, schedules and official Ice Fest memorabilia will also be found here.

Spectating & Photography If you are traveling up to Munising and looking to watch the climbers or exploring the possibility of catching the action on film- for your safety please do not walk under or around the ice while climbers are climbing. Ice can and will fall during the ascent and could easily injure a spectator/photographer. The best location for catching a glimpse of the climbers is along Sand Point Road. Take the shuttle from the Ice Fest Headquarters parking lot and the driver will drop you off right at the trailhead. A short but steep walk will take you to the base of the climbs. We ask that all photographers please remain at the bottom of the climbs at the demo area. If you are interested in improving your climbing photography, check out our rigging course.

Safety Climbing is a serious sport and safety is our primary concern. Climbing over a fresh water sea adds an extra element of both excitement and risk. When climbing along the lakeshore please make sure your group has the skills required for self rescue. Once you rap over the edge you have to be able to climb out or ascend the rope. If you don't have these skills, check out our free Lakeshore Safety classes.



Useful Phone Numbers

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore Visitors Center	906-387-3700
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore Headquarters	906-387-2607
Munising City Police	906-387-2275
Down Wind Sports Ice Conditions / Gear	906-226-7112

Peace & Solitude

Ice Festivals are busy. Believe us, we know. The same crowds that make the socials so much fun also fill up all of the classic and easily accessed climbs. While people are generally friendly and share the climbs, we often want something a little less... crowded. Fear not. There is plenty of ice to be had and even during the festival you can find a spot that's all your own. Peace and solitude are out there, you're just going to have to earn it.

✓ THE MOTHERLODE - WI3 - 9 METERS

Located a short walk past Eben Ice Caves, this set of curtains develop into an overhanging, tiered formation with hanging daggers guarding the top. This 70 foot wide curtain offers several interesting lines.

✓ CANDLESTICK MAKER - WI 5 - 35 METERS

An amazing freestanding pillar and one of the "must do" climbs on the West Shore of Grand Island. Start up the short headwall of ice that makes up the base of the pillar then follow the short remaining steps of ice above to a large birch tree.

✓ FALLEN FEATHER - WI 5+ - 25 METERS

A thin continuous dribble of a snot-cicle forming from the lip to the cold water below. Want to see it in action? Check out the Michigan Ice Film to see athlete Sam Elias on this one in some brutal conditions, then ask Sam about it!

✓ STEEP SEEP OF 3 - WI 3 - 7 METERS

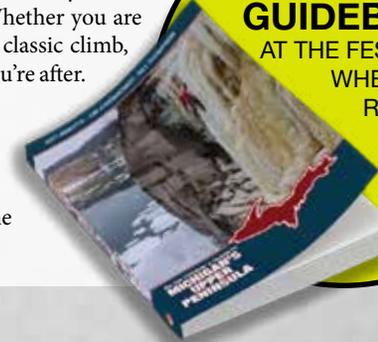
Marked by three large pine trees at the top, this curtain is steep and fat! For those leading, access from the bottom is quite easy as you will follow the sandstone cliff to the right before Intersection Falls.

GUIDEBOOK

A guidebook is the most valuable tool you can have for enjoying the festival! Whether you are chasing solitude or looking for a classic climb, this is the best way to find what you're after.

Released last year, this guide has the most up to date information on the Pictured Rocks area, as well as climbs throughout the Upper Peninsula.

GET THE
GUIDEBOOK
AT THE FESTIVAL OR
WHEN YOU
REGISTER
ONLINE!



Park Service Rules & Local Etiquette



Over the years, ice climbers have developed a great relationship with the National Park Service in regards to climbing within Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Not all climbing areas have good relationships with government agencies... But we do. Much of that has to do with climbers who have always been respectful of the Park Service regulations. The staff at Michigan Ice appreciates all climber's assistance in fostering this relationship. The following rules and regulations have been set forth to help preserve this beautiful area.

- Munising Falls is closed to climbing due to hazardous rock fall.
- Pets are not allowed at any climbing areas.
- Alcohol is not permitted at any of the climbing areas.
- No fires are allowed outside of designated campsites.
- If you have any questions please call the park service at 906-387-3700.
- There is no parking allowed along Sand Point Road. Please park in the designated parking lot at the end of Sand Point Road.
- Winter camping within Pictured Rocks is available only in the designated lakeshore backcountry sites and requires a permit. Overnight camping in parking lots is not permitted.

Ice Fest can be a busy time at Pictured Rocks. Classic climbs with easy access can be very popular this weekend. The social nature of the event is part of what makes Ice Fest great so please be kind, share your climbs and do your best to make everyone else's weekend as good as yours. We also have many classes going on throughout the weekend. We ask that you avoid the climbs where these are taking place. The locals love the ice climbers and we'd like to keep it that way.



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For more information check
our website or Facebook page*

Ice Cream/Shakes & Malts
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Vegan & Gluten-free options available
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Find us on
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fallingrockcafe.com
greatlakescoffeecompany.com

Ice Fest: A Brief History

Michigan Ice Fest boasts being the oldest organized ice festival in the country, and, somewhat proudly, our formal starting date varies depending on who you ask. Sometime around the birth of the internet, Kalamazoo climber Mark Riesch ventured north with four others to investigate rumors of ice along the south shore of Lake Superior. Having found ice in abundance, he authored the first Great Lakes Ice Climbing Newsletter in 1990, and compiled a mailing list to inform Midwest climbers of the amazing opportunities. Through the newsletter he also formally organized an Ice Climbing Festival. In 1991 the festival attracted 26 or so dedicated climbers to Munising and the rest is what they say is history!

After a few years Mark lost interest in putting on the festival, so local climber Bill Thompson took up the mantle. A natural born organizer, Bill grew the festival over the next 25 years into a contender for one of the best climber gatherings in the country. Adding classes, demos and so much more, he increased the accessibility of ice climbing turning it from a sport for a handful of dedicated cold lovers, to something that anyone and everyone can and should try out. The Ice Fest family grew steadily over the years, eventually leaving the bar and filling up the town.

In 2019, Munising hosted its 28th or 29th annual Ice Fest where 1034 participants ascended on a stormy and cold Munising, Michigan for what was undoubtedly the largest gathering of ice climbers in the Midwest ever! Climbers from at least 34 different states and 6 different countries were represented this year, as participants traveled from far and wide to enjoy the camaraderie and the chance to climb the beautiful ice formations at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore!

We have come a long way from those original 26 climbers and the path has been a twisting and turning one. We are proud of our heritage and the route ahead looks pretty stellar!

1979 Pictured Rocks is discovered as an ice climbing destination

1985 Dairyland Expeditions operates a guide service out of the park

1990 Great Lakes Ice Climbing Newsletter is formed

1980 First Ascent of HMR by Paul Kuenn

1989 Life's a Pitch (The Dryer Hose) was first climbed by Dave Sprygada

1995 Bill Thompson takes over as the organizer of Ice Fest

1991 Mark Reisch organizes the First Michigan Ice Fest with 26 participants



1995 Mark Wilford is the first professional athlete to attend the fest

2007 Sue Nott Scholarship was developed

2016 Michigan Ice Film is released



1998 First guidebook to the area is published

2016 Funded by Ice Fest, the Superior High Angle Rescue Team is founded

2019 1036 participants gathered for Ice Fest making it the largest gathering ever of ice climbers in the Midwest

2020 The best festival yet!



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Coffee Talks

Our new AM Coffee Talk programs are an opportunity where we invite Ice Fest participants to come in and start their day with a complimentary delicious cup of Gallery Coffee Company coffee and learn about hot topics and current issues in the climbing world. All of our presentations start at 8am & 9am and are finished by 9:45am just in time for climbers to head on out to the ice!

THURSDAY 8AM • VETERAN'S EXPEDITIONS

Nick Watson of Veteran's Expeditions talks about how ice climbing builds confidence, breaks down barriers, & allows vets to open up, all the while building a community.

THURSDAY 9AM • THE ICE OF ALGOMA WITH SHAUN PARENT

Shaun Parent lives on the East Shore of Lake Superior and is considered a pioneer of both rock and ice climbing in the area. Join him for an insiders look at the ice of Algoma

FRIDAY 8AM • CLIMBING PHOTOGRAPHY WITH AUSTIN SCHMITZ

Whether you aspire to be a professional photographer or just want to improve your skills, this presentation is for you! Austin is a passionate instructor and photographer with all the tips.

FRIDAY 9AM • CLIMBING ART WITH CRAIG MUDERLAK

Come visit this year's Artist on Ice, Craig Muderlak, and learn how our climbing environments inspires his art during this caffeine fueled talk.

SATURDAY 8AM • OVER THE ADVENTURE GAP WITH JAMES MILLS

Our parks and forests belong to all Americans, but not all of us use these resources equally. Minority communities across our country are much less likely to seek recreation and solace in our wilderness.

SATURDAY 9AM • CLIMATE CHANGE: A MOUNTAINEERS PERSPECTIVE WITH CONRAD ANKER

Join legendary mountaineer Conrad Anker for a cup of coffee and a unique view for a mountaineer's perspective of our changing climate.

SUNDAY 8AM • BIG CITY MOUNTAINEERS

Big City Mountaineers is a non-profit organization that provides transformative wilderness experiences for under resourced youth. Come learn about BCM and how to become involved!

SUNDAY 9AM • BIG ROCK & ICE TRIVIA WITH PHIL WATTS

Do you know the beta? Join local legend Phil Watts for coffee and Trivia that will test your dirt bag knowledge and test your climbing history. Prizes will be involved.



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Class
In the Northwoods"



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G20 PLUS



Angelika Ranier on Yooper Groove W14
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore
Munising, Michigan
Photo Nikki Smith



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LIFE'S A PITCH

A PODCAST FROM THE

MICHIGAN ICE FEST



Ice Fest 
is for Lovers.
MICHIGAN ICE FEST - MUNISING, MI

You're all packed up and heading north. The stoke is high. Munising is just a short 5-15 hours away... Ok, so that's a long drive. We get it. But don't despair, we can help. Podcasts are the perfect way to kill some time, learn something new, and, in the case of climbing podcasts, get really excited about climbing.

Our two favorite podcasts are the Enormocast, because it's awesome, and Life's a Pitch, because it's ours (and also awesome).

Life's a Pitch will focus on the stories that make Michigan Ice Fest so great, told by the people who lived them. From pro athletes to first timers, from remote mountain ranges to our hometown of Munising, this podcast will be a year round outlet for our excitement and love of climbing.



LEGENDARY GEAR RAFFLE

MORE GEAR, MORE CHANCES TO WIN

Our Legendary gear raffle is getting, well, more legendary. We have so much gear to give away that we've had to split the raffle over two nights! This year we'll be raffling off prizes from our sponsors on both Friday and Saturday after the slideshows, and best of all you'll have a chance to win on both nights!



Classes and Courses

Learn something new • Improve your skills

Climbing ice can be a really intimidating thing to try. Scaling frozen waterfall looks like an insurmountable challenge. How can anyone do that? The best way to shorten the learning curve, ease your fears, and have a great time is to get some professional instruction. We bring together the best athletes, guides, and instructors in the country to help you in your ice climbing adventure. All of the equipment is provided for your class and a shuttle will take you to your climbing area to make it as easy as possible. Classes run the gamut of skills and are perfect for climbers of every skill level. Our Intro to Ice classes are the perfect place to start. If you're an avid rock climber or an occasional gym climber, or if you've never tied into a rope and are want to have an adventure, this class is for you. If you've climbed ice before and are looking to take your skills to the next level our Intermediate Ice or Intro to Leading on Ice classes can speed your progress along. Want to escape the crowds and have an adventure? Sign up for a Backcountry Adventure class and enjoy a day out on the Pictured Rocks Lakeshore. We also have a ton of specialty classes and off ice classes, including many for FREE! Most of our classes fill up fast, so make sure you sign up early to ensure your spot.

BACK COUNTRY ADVENTURE GRAND ISLAND

Designed to introduce intermediate ice climbers to the back country formations of Grand Island National Recreation Area. Participants will be shuttled to the island to explore these amazing ice formations.

Due to the fact that the class location is an island in Lake Superior, if access isn't possible participants can transfer into a mainland Back Country class or receive a full refund.

MOVEMENT & EFFICIENCY

From the moment the first tool is placed and the first step is taken, there are many minute muscles that are triggered to keep you stable on the route.

Focus will be on finger placement on tools, grip relax technique, shoulder driving movement, leg driven movement, hip position, and foot placement. These components should be considered when making a single move. When the movements are broken down, efficiency takes over.

WOMEN'S MIXED CLIMBING

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore does not have rock that is conducive to mixed climbing, in fact it's illegal. So we are headed west for this new mixed climbing course! A crag in the Marquette area will be the setting to learn the essential techniques for transitioning from ice climbing to mixed climbing. Mixed climbing is ascending ice and rock, using techniques from both disciplines.



Join climbing chef extraordinaire Brittany Griffith as she shares some of her Patagonia Provisions culinary secrets. Why a cooking class at an Ice Fest? Who doesn't want to eat well on their next adventure? Stop by hungry and sample some of these amazing Patagonia Provisions creations!

GRAB A SNACK

FRIDAY & SATURDAY FEB 14 & 15 • 4PM
ICE FEST HEADQUARTERS
SATURDAY FEB 15 • 10AM
CURTAINS DEMO AREA



G 5

TECHNICAL MOUNTAIN
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Tech Talk: Backing Up A Rappel



by
**Karsten
Delap**

Much of the climbing around the lakeshore must be accessed from the top of the climbs. This of course adds to the adventure as one also has to get back to the top to retreat especially when the lake is not frozen. Care must be taken when descending into these climbs, and here are a few tips that can help with managing some of the main hazards.

Closing the system.

You can not always see the ends of your ropes when you lower them down the cliff. Some cliffs end in water. Some climbs have awkward stances that require a belay to start. One of the best ways to make sure you do not rappel off the end of your rope is to tie knots in the ends. The preferable knot is a barrel knot also known as double fisherman's. This will ensure that the rope ends can not pass through the device.



When tying the barrel knots you will want to tighten them both ways and ensure 6-12 inches of tail.

Extending the rappel.



Rappel extensions can set a climber up for success in many ways. They allow comfort in setting up the system; they can provide a method to clip into an anchor; they allow us to back our rappel up off of our belay loop; they can allow rappel/plaquette devices to be flipped into ascension mode.

Two simple ways to extend your rappel is to use a 48" sewn sling or an extension-specific device like a Petzl Connect Adjust. The 48" sling can be basketed through the belay loop and then an overhand knot tied for redundancy. The rappel device attaches to the end loop.

The Connect Adjust gets girth hitched through the belay loop and then a clove hitch to attach the rappel device.

Both methods mentioned above allow rappel devices with a plaquette mode to be flipped and you can then ascend back up the line.

Backing up the rappel.

Backing up the rappel is an essential part in managing hazards in the ice environment. The best method with the rappel extension is to put an autoblok on the belay loop with a locking carabiner. This allows hands free operation for things like clearing ice, managing slips, and of course if the climber happens to be hit by falling ice and lets go they are still on the system. The main thing to make sure of is that the autoblok does not hit the belay device, if this happens the hitch should be shortened or the rappel extension lengthened.



Karsten Delap gained AMGA Alpine Guide Certification in 2013, becoming the first guide in the Southeast to achieve this certification. He also successfully completed the AMGA rock guide program and Ice Instructor Course, as well as several avalanche and rescue certifications.

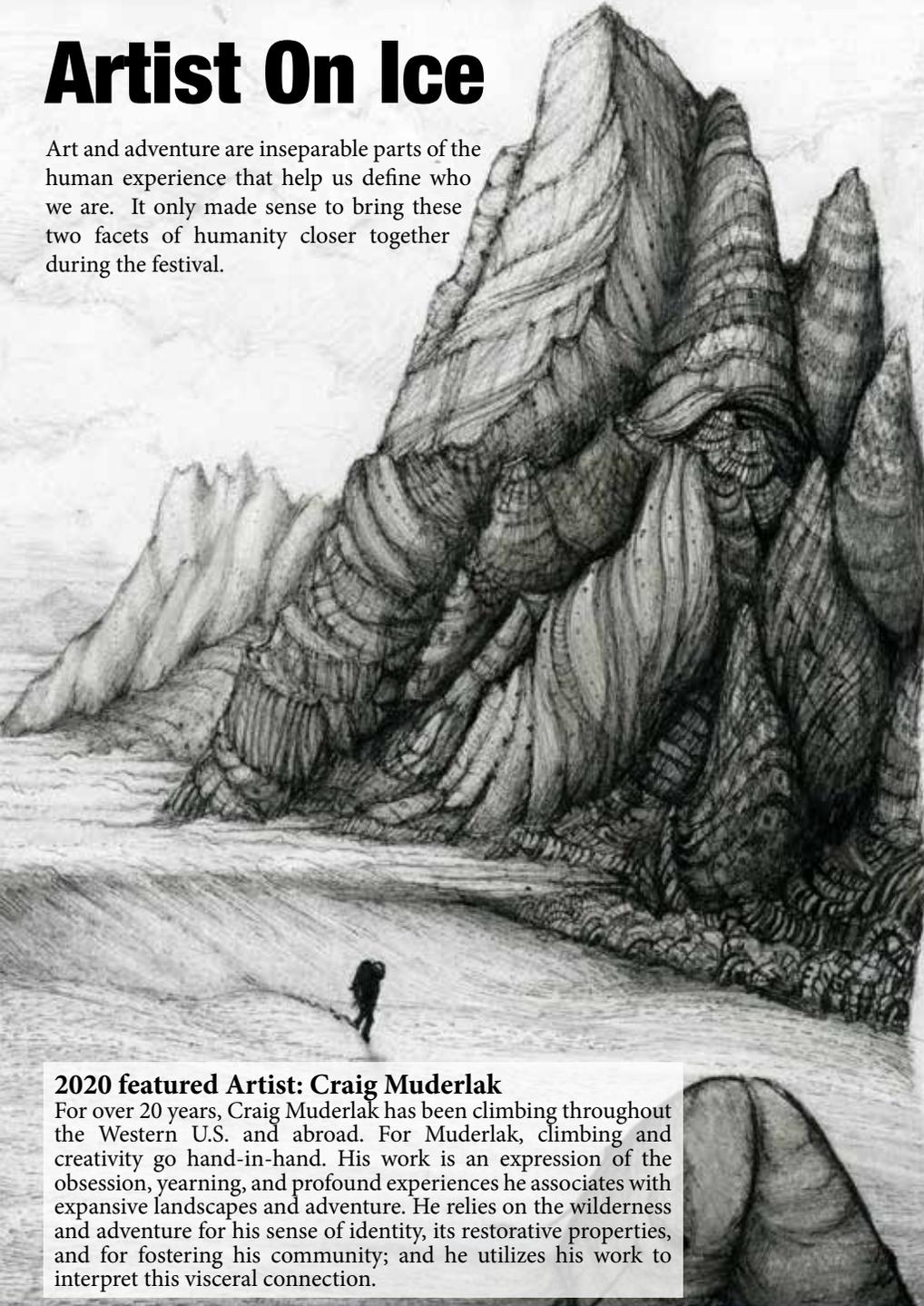
Michigan Ice will not be held liable for improper use of this, or any other technique. Always seek qualified, professional instruction, and remember best practices can and do change. You can find many qualified instructors amongst our athletes and guides and Michigan Ice Fest guides offer trips and instruction in both rock and ice techniques throughout the year.

A large advertisement for Fox Mountain Guides. It features a photograph of Karsten Delap, a professional athlete, climbing a rock face. He is wearing a red jacket, blue pants, and a white helmet. The advertisement includes the AMGA logo in the top right corner, the Fox Mountain Guides logo in the bottom left, and the text: "LEARN THE ART OF CLIMBING WITH PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE KARSTEN DELAP HEAD GUIDE OF FOX MOUNTAIN GUIDES foxmountainguides.com". A small credit "photo: fixedline media" is also present.

An advertisement for Pictured Rocks Bed & Breakfast. It features a large oval logo with the text "Pictured Rocks Bed & Breakfast" and a scenic view of a lake and mountains. To the right of the logo are three small images showing different rooms or views of the property. The text "YOU MAY NEVER WANT TO LEAVE" is at the top right. At the bottom, it says "PicturedRocksBedAndBreakfast.com • (906) 202-2502".

Artist On Ice

Art and adventure are inseparable parts of the human experience that help us define who we are. It only made sense to bring these two facets of humanity closer together during the festival.



2020 featured Artist: Craig Muderlak

For over 20 years, Craig Muderlak has been climbing throughout the Western U.S. and abroad. For Muderlak, climbing and creativity go hand-in-hand. His work is an expression of the obsession, yearning, and profound experiences he associates with expansive landscapes and adventure. He relies on the wilderness and adventure for his sense of identity, its restorative properties, and for fostering his community; and he utilizes his work to interpret this visceral connection.

SEE CRAIG'S ART
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American Alpine Club

The American Alpine Club has been a strong supporter of the Michigan Ice Fest for over a decade and this year we are partnering to create the AAC Ground School. These free half day classes will focus on developing the basic skills we need to be safe, successful climbers. Skills like belaying, repelling, equipment selection and more will be taught off the ice at our headquarters, but space is limited and preregistration is required.

In addition to the free ground school, we will be continuing our tradition of the AAC membership drive and raffle. More people become AAC members at the Michigan Ice Fest than almost any other event in the country, and we are really proud of that. Every person who joins or renews their membership during the festival will be entered into the Saturday night AAC drawing where they are guaranteed to win something. That's right, guaranteed to win.

There are plenty of perks when you join the AAC, but if you really want to know what the AAC is all about and why it's important, take a look around you. Look to the mentor who first showed you how to belay. The partner throwing you a high-five at the summit. Your local legends. The AAC is about all of these people. It's about community—about coming together. It's about the developing the legacy of climbing, and celebrating that legacy. Just like the Michigan Ice Fest, and that's why we make such great partners.



JOIN OR RENEW YOUR AAC MEMBERSHIP DURING ICE FEST AND YOU ARE GUARANTEED TO WIN DURING THE AAC RAFFLE AT HEADQUARTERS FOLLOWING THE SATURDAY NIGHT PRESENTATIONS



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MUTANT

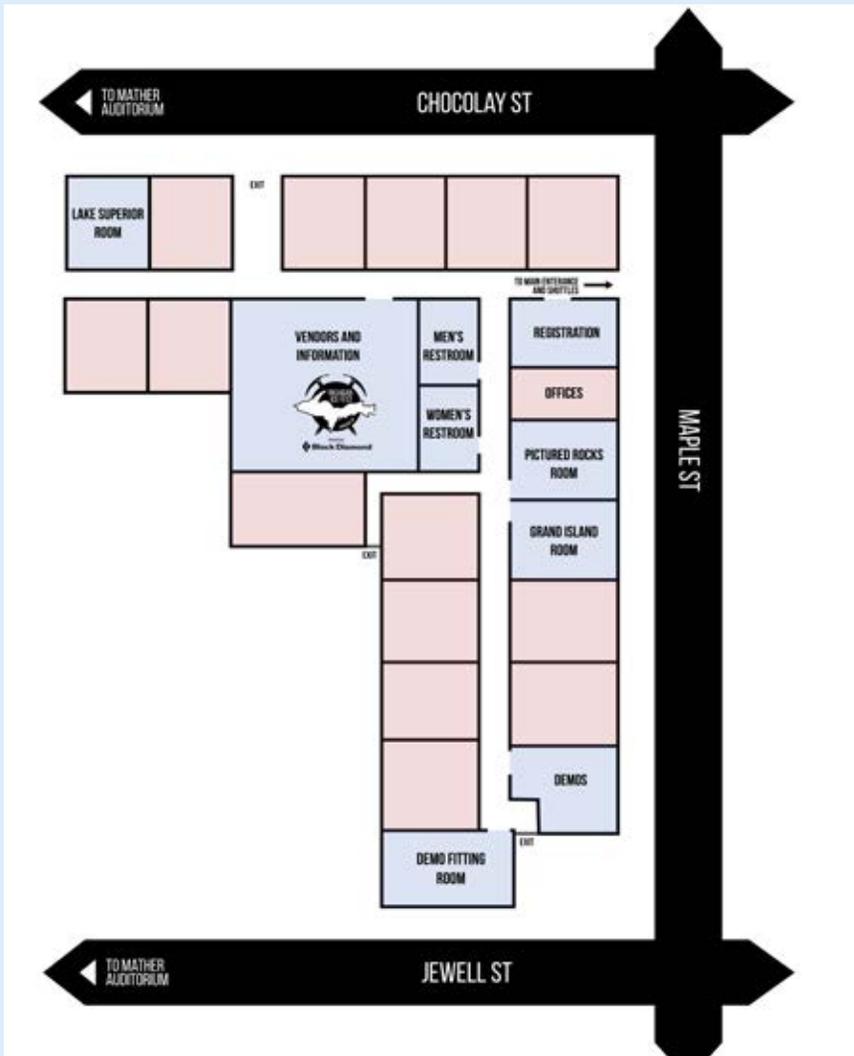
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Headquarters & Shuttles



Over the years the festival has grown, so to help alleviate the parking problem along Sand Point Road, the National Park Service has asked the Festival to offer a free shuttle to and from the demo area and the Sand Point Road parking area. The buses depart from the Central Community Center, stopping at The Curtains (demo area) and the Sand Point Road parking area. Please help us out by utilizing this free service!

Wednesday through Thursday
8AM - 5PM

Sunday
8AM - 4PM

BACKCOUNTRY SHUTTLES

Getting to the backcountry at Pictured Rocks is a committing day involving miles of skiing. At the fest we pull a sled behind a tracked ATV to speed things up. Shuttle availability and run times will vary so it's best to ask at headquarters and talk to the driver to confirm the details.



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HILAREE NELSON, LHOTSE

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SCHEDULE

Tuesday, February 11th

5PM - Community Center
Headquarters Officially Opens!
6:30PM - Community Center
Gear Pick Up for Wednesday
Backcountry Classes
9PM - Barge Inn
Climber's After Party

Wednesday, February 12th

9AM - Community Center
Wave #1 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
9:30AM - Community Center
Wave #2 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
10AM - Community Center
Demos Available
6PM - Community Center
All Demo Gear Must Be Returned
7PM - Community Center
Gear Pick Up for Thursday Backcountry
Classes
8PM - Mather Auditorium
FILM - Adaptive
Sponsored by Sterling Rope
9PM - Shooter's Brew Pub
Climber's After Party

Thursday, February 13th

8AM - Gallery Coffee
Coffee Talk: Veteran's Expeditions
8AM - Community Center
Wave #1 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
8:30AM - Community Center
Wave #2 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
9AM - Gallery Coffee
Coffee Talk: Ice of Algoma w/ Shaun Parent
9AM - Community Center
Demos Available
1PM - Community Center
Half Day PM Classes Meet
6PM - Community Center
All Demo Gear Must Be Returned

6:30PM - Community Center
Gear Pick Up for Friday Backcountry
Classes
6PM - Mather Auditorium
Slideshow - Nikki Smith
Presentation Sponsored by Grivel
7PM - Mather Auditorium
Slideshow - Graham Zimmerman
Presentation Sponsored by Petzl
8PM - Mather Auditorium
Slideshow - Sam Elias
Presentation Sponsored by Black Diamond
9PM - Gallery Coffee
Climber's After Party
Free Beer Provided by Ore Dock Brewing Co.

Friday, February 14th

8AM - Gallery Coffee
Coffee Talk: Climbing Photography
w/ Austin Schmitz
8AM - Community Center
Wave #1 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
8:30AM - Community Center
Wave #2 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
9:00AM - Community Center
Wave #3 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
9AM - Gallery Coffee
Coffee Talk: Climbing Art w/ Craig Muderlak
9:30AM - Community Center
Demos Available
10AM-4PM - Curtains Demo Area
Walk Up Climbing at the Curtains
1PM - Community Center
Half Day PM Classes Meet
4PM - Community Center
Patagonia Provisions Cooking Demo w/
Brittany Griffith
5PM - Community Center
Slideshow - Garret Peabody
5PM - Community Center
Yeti Engraving with Conrad Anker
6PM - Community Center
All Demo Gear Must Be Returned
6:30PM - Community Center
Gear Pick Up for Saturday Backcountry
Classes
7PM - Mather Auditorium
Film - Gone Tomorrow: Kentucky Ice
8PM - Mather Auditorium
Slideshow - Steve House
Presentation Sponsored by Patagonia
9PM - Mather Auditorium
Legendary Gear Raffle Part One
9PM - East Channel Brewing Co.
Street Party

Saturday, February 15th

7:30AM - Community Center
Wave #1 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
8AM - Gallery Coffee
Coffee Talk: Over the Adventure Gap
w/ James Mills
8AM - Community Center
Wave #2 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
8:30AM - Community Center
Wave #3 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
9AM - Gallery Coffee
Coffee Talk: Climate Change - A Mountaineer's
Perspective w/ Conrad Anker
9AM - Community Center
Demos Available
10AM-4PM - Curtains Demo Area
Walk Up Climbing at the Curtains
10AM - Curtains Demo Area
Yeti Breakfast w/ Brittany Griffith
1PM - Community Center
Half Day PM Classes Meet
4PM - Community Center
Patagonia Provisions Cooking Demo w/
Brittany Griffith
4PM - Falling Rock Café & Bookstore
Mountain Books
Book Signing w/ Conrad Anker, Steve House
& James Mills
5PM - Community Center
Slideshow - Paul McSorley
Presentation Sponsored by Scarpa
6PM - Community Center
All Demo Gear Must Be Returned
6:30PM - Community Center
Gear Pick Up for Sunday Backcountry
Classes

7PM - Mather Auditorium
Film - Himalayan Ice
w/ presentation from the cast and crew
Sponsored by La Sportiva
8PM - Mather Auditorium
Slideshow - Conrad Anker
Presentation Sponsored by The North Face
9PM - Mather Auditorium
Legendary Gear Raffle Part Two
9PM - Community Center
Poster/ Merchandise Signing w/ athletes
9PM - Gallery Coffee
Climber's After Party with Live Music
Free Beer Provided by Ore Dock Brewing Co.

Sunday, February 16th

7:30AM - Community Center
Wave #1 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
8AM - Gallery Coffee
Coffee Talk: Big City Mountaineers
8:30AM - Community Center
Wave #2 Classes Meet for Gear Pick-Up
9AM - Gallery Coffee
Coffee Talk: Big Rock & Ice Trivia w/ Phil Watts
9AM - Community Center
Demos Available
10AM-3PM - Curtains Demo Area
Walk Up Climbing at the Curtains
4PM - Community Center
All Demo Gear Must Be Returned
5PM - Community Center
Ice Fest Headquarters Closes
Thanks for Coming to Ice Fest 2020!

Schedule is subject to change.
Most recent schedule can be found at Ice Fest Headquarters.



Ice Climbing – A Quick Intro

Choosing your route:

Guidebooks can be a great resource for giving you information about a route, but not all documented routes will come in consistently every year. Most ice climbing areas typically have some form of local insight into conditions for the area. It may be a Facebook page, a regional thread on Mountain Project, or just calling up the local gear shop and asking. Maybe the route you've been daydreaming about won't come in for a decade, but this year may be the year for some long-lost classic.

How to move on ice:

Each outing ice climbing gives you the opportunity to be a little more prepared for the next climb. The stronger the foundation is that you have built, the better you can climb and the higher you can go. While climbing, take your time to find good placements for your tools. Look for flat, less than vertical sections of ice, or small concave areas. These can provide great placements for tools. Stay away from swinging your tools at your maximum reach as it may be difficult to remove the tool if you decide to change the placement. Touch the tip of your ice axe against the ice about 4 inches below your max reach, this will aid you in accuracy for the swing. As you pull the tool back, try to keep your wrist, elbow, and shoulder inline. Think of hitting a nail with a hammer above your head. Your elbow should act as a hinge, with your hand holding the tool firmly but, not over gripping. Different tools will have a slightly different swing. Before ever leaving the ground, get to know how your tools swing. It's common to hear tools described as 'choppy' or 'flicky'. A 'choppy' tool will have a bit more shoulder and elbow movement, while a 'flicky' tool will more wrist and elbow movement. Think of it like chopping a piece wood vs throwing a dart. There is no right or wrong tool, it's just personal preference when it comes to styles of swings.

Trusting your tool:

Good placements can be determined by sound and visual cues. The best placements will have a combination of both cues. The sound the tool makes upon penetrating the ice gives a lot of feedback. A placement that makes little noise or a 'thwack' sound tells us that the ice is soft and can take the impact without fracturing, this is ideal. A deep thud sound indicates that the ice may be unattached or not fully adhered above or below you. Take warning and reassess. A short sharp sound (like bumping a chandelier or breaking glass) can tell us it is cold, dry ice, which can crack. Visually look for any cracks that may have been created from your swing. Typically, the cracks will be circular and may cause what climbers refer to as 'dinner-plating'. If the 'dinner-plating' effect has happened, clean the broken ice and start again.

All about feet:

Take the time to watch your feet as you kick the ice. Often climbers don't emphasize hanging their butt out far enough (the steeper the ice the more crucial this is). This position greatly increases a good motion for crampon placements. Look for pre-existing steps or any lower angle ice. Keep your front points perpendicular to the ice and your heels down. Gently kick the ice, hinging from the knee. This allows for your secondary points to engage the ice. This also helps to avoid standing on your toes and levering your front points out of the ice as you reach for the next swing. Make sure to keep your feet about shoulder-width apart. This wide stance will give you stability. Think baby steps, lots of small steps. Trust your feet, if you don't, find a different stance. Proper footwork will help aid in not pulling your way up the route.

Come meet Nate during the fest at
the Blue Ice booth in the Gearnasium
William Woodward



by
**Nate
Sackett**

Nate's passion for ice climbing is rarely surpassed. He has been climbing ice for 11 years and has been able to achieve more than 100 days on ice some seasons. He says he had an excellent mentor who taught him and continues to inspire him to climb. He has enjoyed continuing the tradition and mentors as many individuals as possible on their own ice climbing journeys. He's very grateful to his wife who still lets him get out as much as possible while she takes care of their two young kids at home.

Nate is the Sales & Marketing Coordinator for Blue Ice NA.

Putting it all together:

Squat, stand, swing. The most effective movement will be staggering your tools, that is, placing your axes one above the other. This will reduce the number of swings needed and increase the distance of upward progression. Each tool placement should allow for both feet to make a step up. Remember to stand up, this will help to keep your hips into the ice and your weight on your feet. When your hips are into the ice and an arm is straight you will be at a stable and comfortable stance (like a triangle). This will allow you to look around and map out your next set of moves. It's helpful to alternate between climbing quickly and then taking a rest.

Hopefully, those reading this are planning to or have already had the opportunity to climb in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It is one of the most fantastic places to ice climb and the Michigan Ice Fest is unlike any other. Remember ice climbing is all about keeping a cool head and not getting too pumped. After all, we're climbing frozen waterfall's, how sweet is that!?

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Conrad Anker

Conrad Anker is a climber's climber, at home on a faraway alpine wall or the sparkling ice of his home canyon, Hyalite, located in the Gallatin Range of southwestern Montana. Over decades in the mountains, he has come to value the rarefied air of Antarctica, the Himalaya and Montana equally; inspired by the value of immersion in other ecosystems and cultures, he's become more fully enmeshed in both the physical and communal landscape of his hometown of Bozeman. Conrad came to climbing by way of his family, learning a deep appreciation for the outdoors from his California childhood, an appreciation and respect that has deepened as climbing took him around the world.

That journey has taken him from the northern realms of Alaska and Baffin Island to the farthest southern reaches of Patagonia and Antarctica, where in 1997 he, with Alex Lowe and Jon Krakauer, climbed Rakekniven, a 2,500-foot wall in Queen Maud Land. That climb led to both a film and magazine piece by the National Geographic, an organization that Conrad continues to collaborate with. In Patagonia, Conrad climbed the three towers of the Cerro Torre group, ascending new routes on Torre Egger and Cerro Standhardt. Across the globe in Pakistan's Karakorum, Conrad climbed the west face of Latok II via the route "Tsering Mosong," Balti for "long life." For perspective, the route begins at the altitude of Denali's summit, then climbs 26 vertical pitches before topping at 23,342 feet. In Pakistan, Conrad and rock legend Peter Croft climbed Spansar Peak, a first ascent by way of a 7,000-foot ridge the pair ascended in a day with minimal gear.

"I've learned that these things—my family, my passion for climbing and for being a force for good in the local community and in the larger community—are the source of happiness for me," he says. "I know that life will keep changing and keep throwing new challenges my way, but my intent is always to embrace them and explore them and find a way to turn them into an experience that's rewarding. Even when we're suffering, whether it's in the mountains or because of something going on at home, trying situations are a way to understand our human condition. You have to try to rise above the adversity. I like doing that."



Max Lowe

MEET CONRAD!

MAIN STAGE PRESENTATION • SATURDAY 8PM • MATHER AUDITORIUM
COFFEE TALK - CLIMATE CHANGE: A MOUNTAINEERS PERSPECTIVE • SATURDAY 9AM • GALLERY COFFEE
BOOK SIGNING • SATURDAY 4PM • FALLING ROCK CAFE

Graham Zimmerman

PRESENTED BY:



Graham is an alpinist focused on climbing big hard routes in the great ranges and crags of the world. He has run over 30 expeditions and assignments to areas including Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Alaska, and Argentina. For his climbing exploits, Graham won the 2010 New Zealand Alpinist of the Year and was a finalist for the 2014 Piolet d'Or (alpine climbing's equivalent to an Olympic gold medal) and won the 2017 Cutting Edge Award from the American Alpine Club.

MEET GRAHAM!

SEE HIS
PRESENTATION

THURSDAY FEB 13TH • 7PM
MATHER AUDITORIUM

Sam Elias

Pursuing a better understanding of himself through the myriad of climbing disciplines, Sam Elias is one of America's most talented all-around climbers. From double-digit boulders and 5.14 ticks, hard mixed onsights and winter competition podiums, to free climbing El Capitan and summiting Mt. Everest, Sam has traveled the globe for the last 15 years, exploring, developing, and pursuing his craft with a soulful and artistic style.

Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, Sam has been passionately driven by climbing since 2005, when he moved to Kentucky's Red River Gorge to pursue it full-time. Currently based in Salt Lake City, Sam spends the majority of the year training for and chasing hard sport climbs around the world, and striving to find balance in his climbing life.

PRESENTED BY:



MEET SAM!

SEE HIS
PRESENTATION

THURSDAY FEB 13TH • 8PM
MATHER AUDITORIUM

Steve House

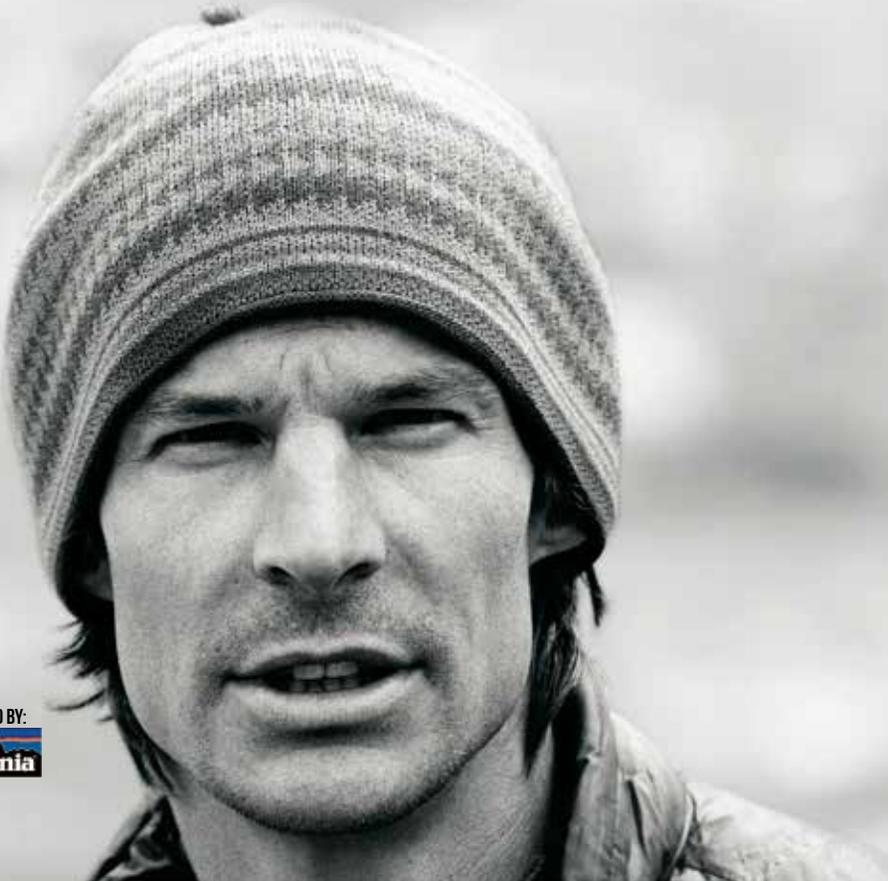
Steve House was born in Washington where he grew up with his father that quickly exposed him to climbing. House was just 8 years old when he rappelled off of a granite boulder for the first time. In his youth he honed his climbing skills with his buddies of the Cliffhangers Club. He recalls being two years behind where all the other club members were, but that didn't stop him.

Upon graduating high school, House lived in Slovenia as part of an exchange program. It was the mountains and the people there that really gave House his first taste of alpine climbing. He made himself available for climbing everyday to anyone that needed a partner. Once he returned to the States, House pursued the life of a climbing guide that provided a life of consistent opportunities to be in the mountains and on the cliffs.

House spent a good amount of time amping up his climbing career and portfolio with amazing alpine ascents in Alaska, the Canadian Rockies, and Pakistan. A life-threatening injury left him in a position where he decided to focus on other important things rather than becoming the best climber. House is now happily married and is a partner of Skyward Mountaineering. Along with his current alpine pursuits, House spends his time guiding, teaching, and writing about climbing.

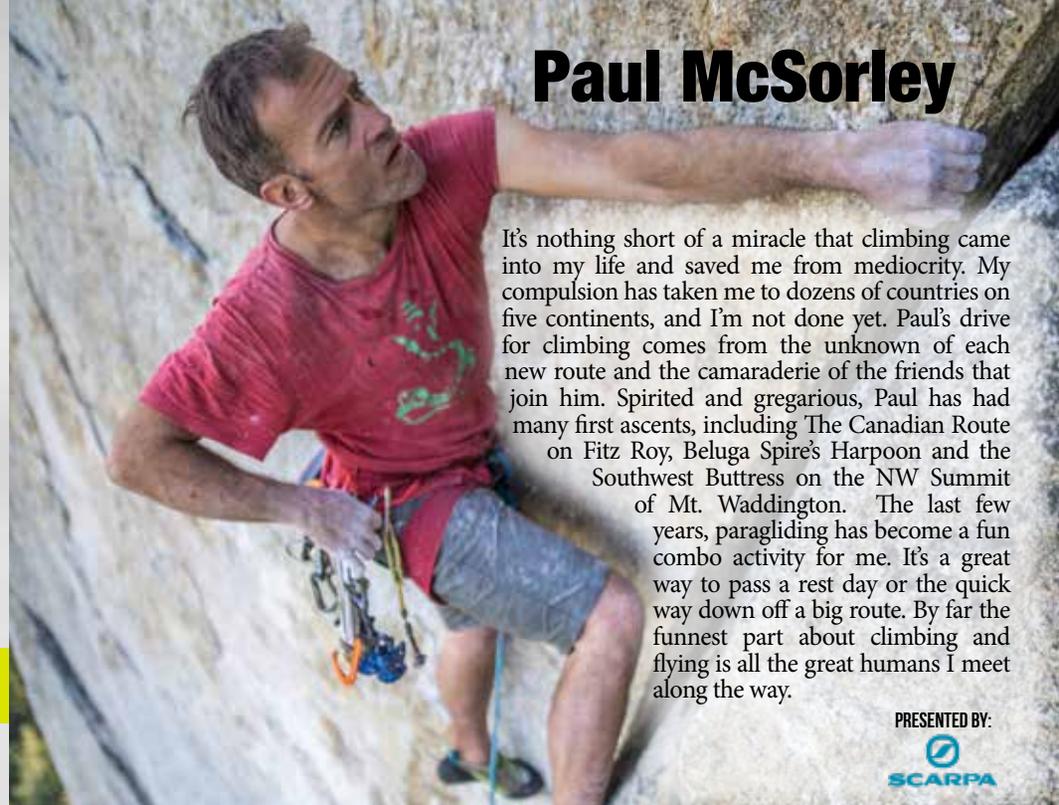
MEET STEVE!

MAIN STAGE PRESENTATION • FRIDAY 8PM • MATHER AUDITORIUM
BOOK SIGNING • SATURDAY 4PM • FALLING ROCK CAFE



PRESENTED BY:

Paul McSorley



It's nothing short of a miracle that climbing came into my life and saved me from mediocrity. My compulsion has taken me to dozens of countries on five continents, and I'm not done yet. Paul's drive for climbing comes from the unknown of each new route and the camaraderie of the friends that join him. Spirited and gregarious, Paul has had many first ascents, including The Canadian Route on Fitz Roy, Beluga Spire's Harpoon and the Southwest Buttress on the NW Summit of Mt. Waddington. The last few years, paragliding has become a fun combo activity for me. It's a great way to pass a rest day or the quick way down off a big route. By far the funnest part about climbing and flying is all the great humans I meet along the way.

PRESENTED BY:

MEET PAUL!

SEE HIS
PRESENTATION

SATURDAY FEB 15TH • 5PM
COMMUNITY CENTER



WWW.RAB.EQUIPMENT

Additional Guides and Athletes



CARLOS BUHLER

Carlos is one of the world's most successful expeditioners. Over the last 25 years he has been at the forefront of exploratory mountaineering. His climbing career spans forty five years with major ascents on five continents. He draws from experience gained on forty expeditions to Alaska, Canada, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Argentina, Uganda, Kenya, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Russia, and Tibet.

PRESENTED BY: LOWA



KARSTEN DELAP

Originally from the flat lands of Indiana, Karsten has found his obsession in the mountains. He has climbed extensively throughout the United States and his experience outside of the U.S. includes many peaks over 17,000ft in Bolivia and Ecuador, as well as major alpine objectives in Africa and Argentina. Karsten is an AMGA certified Rock and Alpine guide and spends his winters chasing ice and powder and the rest of the year traveling the world working for Fox Mountain Guides.

PRESENTED BY: LASPORTIVA



ANDY HANSEN

Andy is, by birth, a flatlander but his spirit resides in the untamed lands of the American West. Growing up in Wisconsin limited his ability to climb mountains. In his early 20's he took to rock climbing on the techy quartzite at Devil's Lake State Park. After learning how to climb he hit the road and eventually ended up in Las Vegas, Nevada where he began his career as a mountain guide.

PRESENTED BY: COLORADO MOUNTAIN SCHOOL



JAKE GAVENTA

Jake Gaventa hails from the hills of East Tennessee where he was introduced to rock climbing in high school by an inspired teacher. This love has lent itself to many years of vagabond alake Viewdventures to the mountains of Europe, Asia, Alaska, and (almost!) every range in the lower 48. He believes strongly in the power of positive outcomes people experience in the mountains. His passion continually fueled by being able to share these experiences with other.

PRESENTED BY: COLORADO MOUNTAIN SCHOOL



BRITTANY GRIFFITH

A committed lifer to the sport Griffith has climbed, led, and bolted some of the most challenging routes around the world, collecting once-in-a-lifetime stories that deserve a page of their own. While her skills beyond climbing are vast and venerable, her self-described "Gypsy Kitchen" cooking style deserves a mention, keeping her fellow climbers well-fed with what's on hand.

PRESENTED BY: PATAGONIA



KARN KOWSHIK

Karn is a mountain guide and climber from India. He is committed to putting up technical first ascents in his country, where the dominant style of climbing is the Siegfried Style, and climbers grapple with a severe shortage of resources. He is passionate about glaciers and climate change, and, through mountaineering, study how my country's glaciers have changed within our lifetimes.

PRESENTED BY: LA SPORTIVA



JACKSON MARVEL

Jackson was born and raised in Provo, Utah. He started climbing at the age of 15. That same year he also began ice climbing up Provo canyon several times a week. Now Jackson still spends his weekends climbing towers in the desert, an annual trip to Alaska or traveling to a foreign country for big wall climbing.

PRESENTED BY: BLACK DIAMOND



MATT SHOVE

Matt Shove is the founder and director of Ragged Mountain Guides. He has climbed, instructed and guided guests in mountain areas all over the United States since 2001. Matt is an AMGA Certified Alpine Guide and Certified Rock Instructor and has conducted on site safety for film crews, and has even done some stunt rigging for a well know reality television show.

PRESENTED BY: AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB

ARI NOVAK

Ari Novak is an ice climber and mountaineer based out of Bozeman Montana and has put up notable first ascents in Hyalite canyon and Alaska. In addition to ice climbing Ari enjoys ski mountaineering and all things winter. His passion for adventure has led him to climb and explore across Africa, the Middle East, Europe and Central America and recently in India. In his other life, Ari is a movie producer and is known for his work on Live Free or Die Hard, Cowboys vs Dinosaurs, and Shockwave.

PRESENTED BY: LA SPORTIVA



NIKKI SMITH

Nikki has been a climber and outdoor photographer for almost 20 years now and has worked for nearly all the major climbing companies at some point. She is an all around climber with more than 200 first ascents in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, and Mongolia. She has climbed all over the US and in 14 other countries. In addition to an impressive career in the Outdoor Industry, Nikki has written articles for Rock & Ice, Alpinist, Deadpoint, Urban Climber, The American Alpine Journal and other climbing publications.

PRESENTED BY: GRIVEL



KENDRA STRITCH

Kendra made history in 2014 when she became the first North American to win a stage of the UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour. This historic success arrived on the speed wall in Bozeman, Montana. In 2016 Kendra finished sixth overall in speed after three top ten results. Based in Stillwater, Minnesota, she began climbing in 2006, ice climbing in the winter of 2007 and joined the UIAA World Tour circuit in 2012. She enjoys all disciplines of climbing but you can tell there's a little extra passion for ice.

PRESENTED BY: USA ICE CLIMBING



JOEY THOMPSON

Joe lives in the Front Range with his wife Susan and is a member of the AMGA National Instructor Team and Colorado Mountain Schools Director of Guide Development. Joe became an IFMGA Licensed Mountain Guide in February of 2014. He holds Level 3 certification with both AIARE and the American Avalanche Institute.

PRESENTED BY: CAMP



JIM SHIMBERG

Shim has guided from his home base in New Hampshire since 1985, and has many first ascents on ice, rock and mixed terrain to his credit. Called the "Custodian of Cannon Cliff", Jim has cleared loose rock, developed trails and repaired poor anchors on the huge east face of Cannon Cliff, in Franconia Notch NH, for over 20 years.

PRESENTED BY: STERLING ROPE



ANGELA VANWIEMEERSCH

Angela grew up as a competitive ice skater in Detroit, where she danced across the horizontal ice until her late-teens. She hitchhiked, paddled, and sailed her way through North America from the Arctic Ocean to the Panama Canal. While hitchhiking through California, she heard of a place called Ouray, where people climbed frozen waterfalls. She was enamored. From the Ouray Ice Park to virgin ice in Zion to amazing alpine adventures in Alaska, Angela is once again dancing on ice, only this time she's moving upward on vertical icefalls.

PRESENTED BY: RAB



JON WALSH

Attracted to the intricate complexities of mountain travel, Jon first got a taste for the alpine by way of ski mountaineering in Chamonix. A fan of the less travelled routes, Jon is unafraid of a good slog and is the most dependable partner when it comes to trying some new, seemingly unclimbable objective. Where others see barriers, Jon sees possibilities. While others call it suffering, Jon chalks it up to just part of the process, learning something new on every outing.

PRESENTED BY: STERLING ROPE



MARK WILFORD

Who's the one guy you can guarantee you'll see at the fest? Mark of course! A long time supporter of the festival, Mark is considered one of the most proficient and diverse alpinist/rock climbers in the world. With more than 30 years of experience, he has accumulated a long resume of bold rock ascents, alpine solos, Alaskan climbs and Himalayan expeditions. Although he has participated in sport climbing and ice-climbing events, Mark is considered a staunch traditionalist when it comes to the style and ethics of climbing. "Whatever that means these days," he jokes. "I just like to climb. I just love climbing."

PRESENTED BY: STERLING ROPE



Heartland Grant



The Heartland Grant is designed to help Midwest climbers and weekend warriors chase their ice climbing dreams. Our community is rich with dreamers and extraordinary climbers and it's time we foster that.

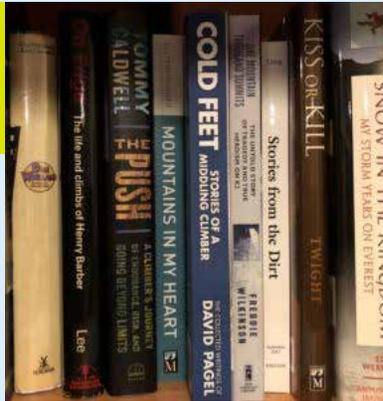
We'll be giving out \$1,000 in cash to make those dreams reality. We think you can do great things, prove us right.

NEW FOR 2020!

For More information, including the 2020 winner, check out MICHIGANICEFEST.COM

Mountain Book Programs

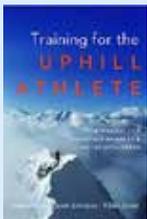
Come celebrate mountain literature where Michigan Ice Fest brings together writers/athletes and of course, our book loving participants! Our programming will take place Saturday at the Falling Rock Cafe. Come grab a snack and a cup of coffee and meet our featured authors!



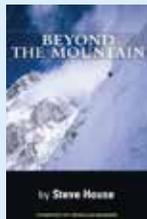
SATURDAY • 4PM • FALLING ROCK CAFE



Conrad Anker



Steve House



Steve House



James Mills

Michigan Ice Fest

February 12-16 2020

Climb Big Ice

Gallery Coffee Co

Drink Great Coffee

the rest of the family





PROTON
LT
HOODY

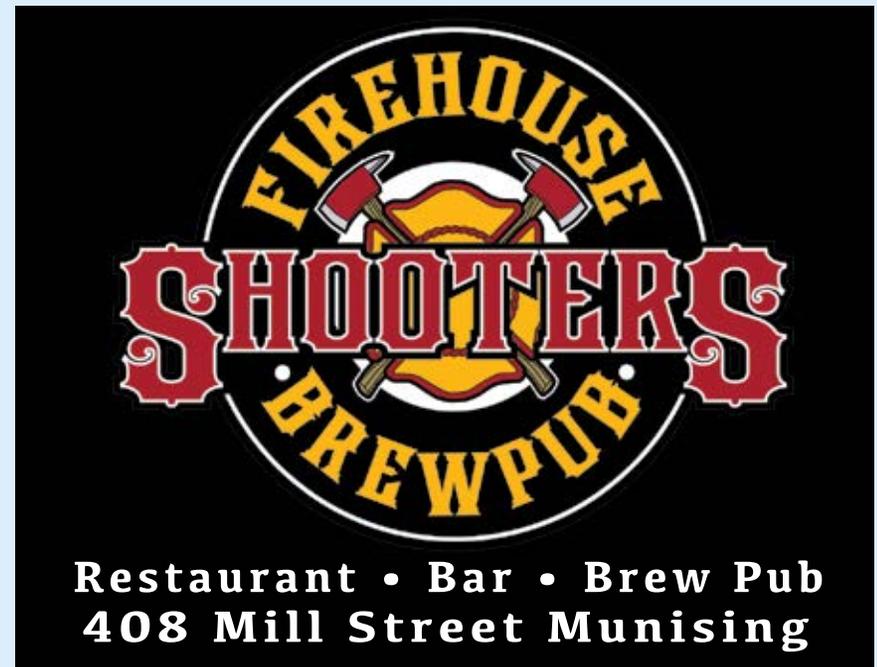
BREATHE

Breathable insulation combined
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DESIGNED FOR CLIMBING



Arc'teryx Equipment | Vancouver,
Canada | arcteryx.com

Did you know that the Michigan Ice Fest has it's own Youtube Channel? Head on over to Youtube where you will find safety and informational videos on all things Michigan Ice! These educational videos will help to get you prepared to come up for an amazing Ice Fest weekend. Learn how to ascend a rope, put on crampons, how to swing an ice axe or new product reviews. Subscribe to the channel and keep updated on what is new and exciting in the ice climbing industry!



#Photo Contest

Over the years we have seen some incredible photos of Ice Fest and the climbing at Pictured Rocks - and we think that it's a shame not to reward such creativity. Based on how much fun we had with last year's photo contest we are going to give it another shot!



2019 finalist : John Miller

Here's how it works:

1. During the weekend of Ice Fest (February 12th -16th) snap some photos. Photos of climbing, socials, approaches, whatever as long as you feel it represents your Ice Fest experience.
2. Post your photos to social media (Facebook or Instagram) with the hashtag **#michiganicefest2020**. You can enter as many times as you want. Please make sure your privacy settings allow us to see your photos. If we can't see them, you can't win.
3. When the event is over, all of the photos tagged with **#michiganicefest2020** will be judged by a panel of Ice Fest staff. Photos will be judged based on some seriously strict criteria like exposure, composition, creativity, and coolness.
4. The panel's ten favorite photos will be shared on the Michigan Ice Fest Facebook page and the photo with the most likes at the end of one week will be the winner. You must attend the Ice Fest to be eligible and photos need to be taken during the event.

Pretty easy. It doesn't cost you a dime and we know you're posting all of your sweet Ice Fest shots anyway, so you might as well try and win something. The prize will include a registration for the 2021 Michigan Ice Fest and a class of your choice at next year's event. On top of this already stellar prize, we are throwing in gear and clothing from some of our event sponsors. So when you get to Munising make sure you pull out your phone or camera and take your best shot at winning the Michigan Ice Fest 2020 photo contest!

WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR CLIMBING PHOTOGRAPHY?

Use the scenery - often the coolest thing about climbing is the location, especially in Pictured Rocks

Capture Faces - Butt shots get old

Get Creative - No one wants to see the same photo over and over. Change it up with a different perspective or unique take on the situation.

If you want to expand your photo skill set check out our

CLIMBING PHOTOGRAPHY COFFEE TALK • SATURDAY 8AM



YETI BUILT FOR THE WILD.



CLIMB ALL DAY, PARTY ALL NIGHT!

Ice Fest is a social event - Always has been, always will be. We love seeing our friends, having a beer, and sharing our adventures from the past year. That's one thing that will never change, but this year will see the end of an era: for the first time in 29 years we won't be socializing at the restaurant/bar where it all began.

Fear not friends, the party will continue! We're moving our Thursday and Saturday parties to the newest space in town: Gallery Coffee (it may be a coffee shop by day, but our official beer sponsor Ore Dock Brewing will be pouring into the night)! We'll even be featuring live music and dancing on Saturday night.

Last year we introduced our first ever Street Party at East Channel Brewery on Friday night and it was a huge hit. Don't miss the good times under the tent and for a smaller, more intimate social join us a Shooter's on Wednesday night.

TUESDAY	9PM	BARGE INN
WEDNESDAY	9PM	SHOOTER'S BREW PUB
THURSDAY	9PM	GALLERY COFFEE <small>FEATURING FREE BEER FROM ORE DOCK BREWING</small>
FRIDAY	9PM	STREET PARTY <small>AT EAST CHANNEL BREWING</small>
SATURDAY	9PM	GALLERY COFFEE <small>FEATURING LIVE MUSIC & FREE BEER FROM ORE DOCK BREWING</small>

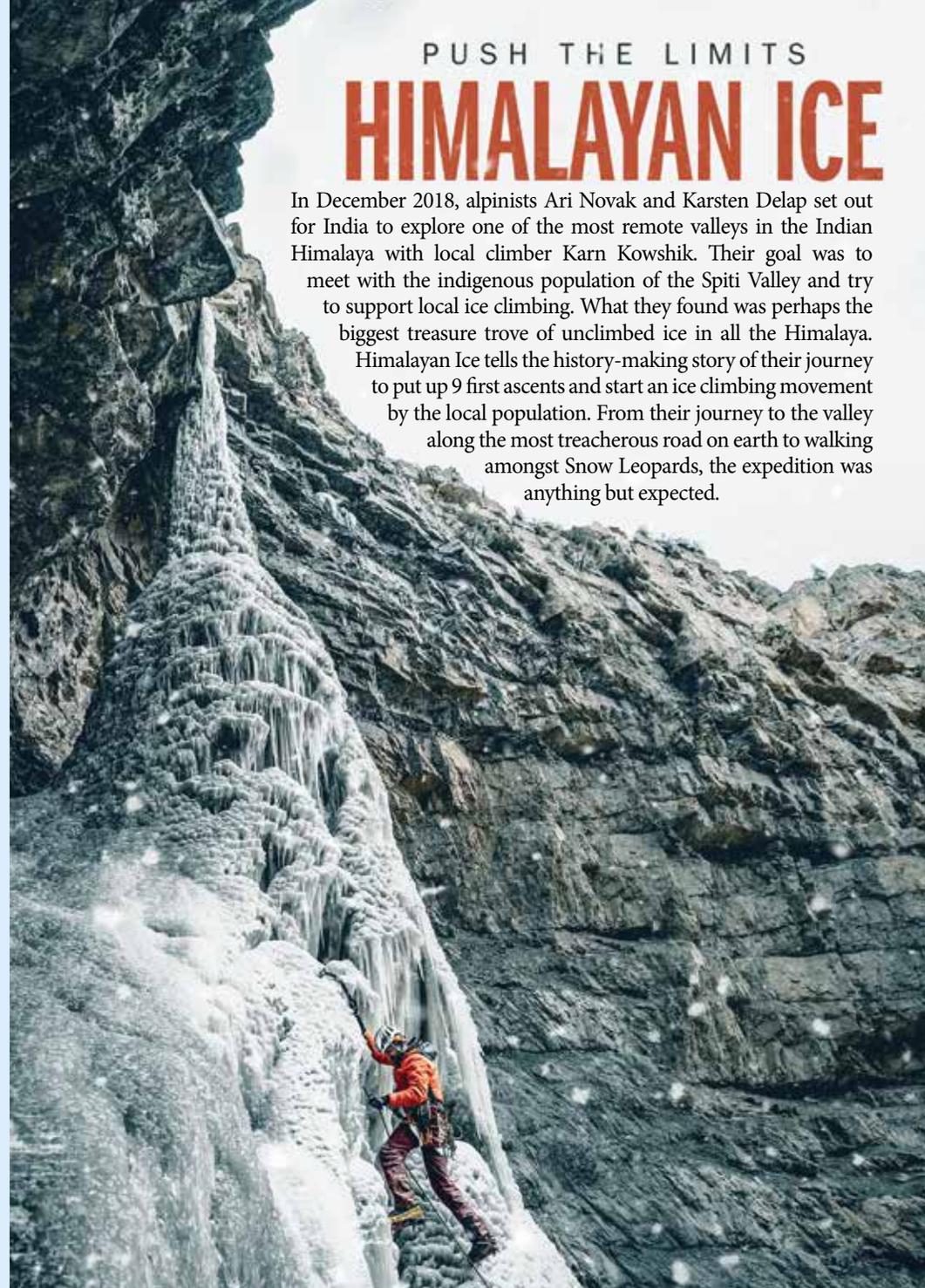
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PUSH THE LIMITS HIMALAYAN ICE

In December 2018, alpinists Ari Novak and Karsten Delap set out for India to explore one of the most remote valleys in the Indian Himalaya with local climber Karn Kowshik. Their goal was to meet with the indigenous population of the Spiti Valley and try to support local ice climbing. What they found was perhaps the biggest treasure trove of unclimbed ice in all the Himalaya. Himalayan Ice tells the history-making story of their journey to put up 9 first ascents and start an ice climbing movement by the local population. From their journey to the valley along the most treacherous road on earth to walking amongst Snow Leopards, the expedition was anything but expected.

**WATCH THE FILM
& MEET THE CAST**

HIMALAYAN ICE
PRESENTED BY
LA SPORTIVA

SATURDAY • FEB 15 • 7PM
MATHER AUDITORIUM

Micro to Macro

The Macro Puff™ Hoody

We took the concept of our Micro Puff® Hoody, increased the amount of PlumaFill insulation and designed a jacket for colder conditions. It has big warmth that packs down for cold-weather missions.

Micro Puff



Macro Puff



patagonia

Photos: Getty Images © 2019 Patagonia, Inc.



GONE TOMORROW

THE STORY OF KENTUCKY ICE CLIMBING

a film by Wilkinson Visual

Ice climbing in Kentucky?! This adventure documentary takes the audience for a bourbon-fueled ride deep into the bushy hollers of Appalachia with a crew of harmless misfits as they race to search out and climb new ice routes before they're gone, with a few surprises along the way. When most folks think of Kentucky, horses and bourbon are probably the first two things that come to mind.

What most people don't know, is that nearly every winter for just a brief moment, their exists more frozen waterfalls than anywhere else in the lower 48, maybe even the whole world.

For the last 40 years, small groups of dedicated adventurers have been searching out and climbing this ice with a determined passion, because they know if it's climbable today, it'll probably be gone tomorrow.

WATCH THE FILM

GONE TOMORROW
PRESENTED BY
WILKINSON VISUAL

FRIDAY • FEB 14 • 7PM
MATHER AUDITORIUM

Guided Climbs and Tours



Want to do some climbing outside of the festival weekend, but don't have the skills or equipment? Just need a climbing partner to show you around the area? Want to explore what the U.P. has to offer in the summer?



Michigan Ice Fest offers a guide service to help you out with any of your vertical needs in Northern Michigan. Offering both winter and summer guided climbs, lessons and group adventures, we can accommodate whatever goals you have. Want to climb exciting ice over Lake Superior? We can do that. Want to learn how to climb safely? We offer Intro to Ice and Intro to Rock classes. Just want some great photos and an experience you'll never forget? No problem.

Join us for an adventure,
any time you want.

Guide apparel provided by 

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PRIVATE GUIDING GO TO
WWW.ICECLIMBMICHIGAN.COM



SHIELD
THE CROSS-MOUNTAIN BENCHMARK

Julbo



klean kanteen

What's on your bottle?

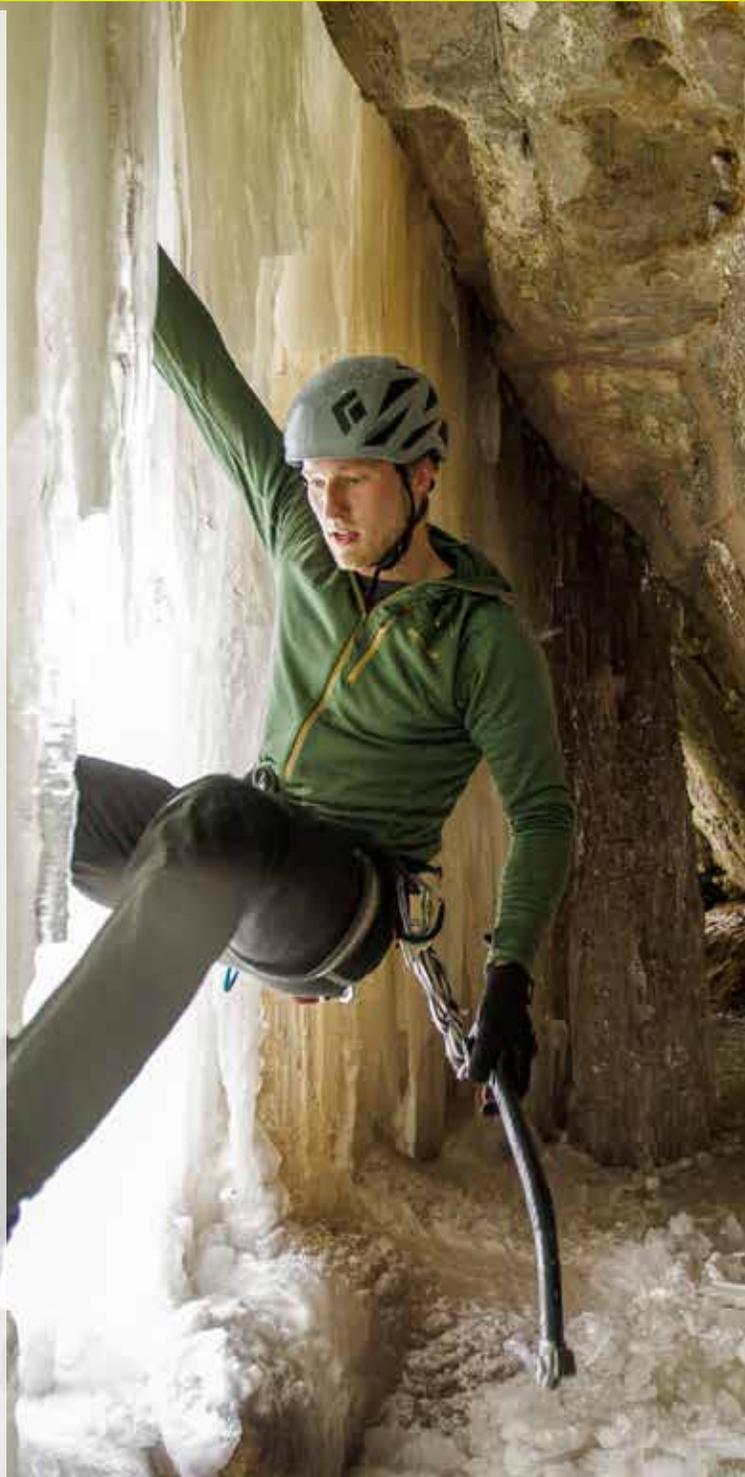
Our Klean Coat™ is a chip resistant powder coat finish that starts a new conversation around what is truly safe and clean for water bottle finishes.

Off Ice Fun

We love climbing, and would love to climb all of the time. Unfortunately, though we hate to admit it, we get tired. Sometimes, we just need a break. But even when we're not climbing, we want to do climbing stuff! So at Ice Fest we are offering tons of off ice activities to keep you stoked while you recover.

Since the beginning one of the highlights of the Ice Fest has been the evening slide shows. We've featured the best climbers in the world and heard some incredible stories. As the festival has grown we've been lucky enough to get more pro climbers to come and share their experience. We've moved our main stage from a small room above a bar to beautiful historic theater that seats nearly 1,000 people. We've also created an intimate second stage at our headquarters so we can offer even more opportunities to hear gear stories from our Athletes.

In addition to slideshows, we try to offer a variety of events covering a wide range of interest. From cooking and art, to podcasting and literature, we want to show off all of the facets of our sport. Climbing isn't just something to do, it's a lifestyle with rich and diverse opportunities for self expression. Come see for yourself at our off ice events.



WEDNESDAY

8PM FILM: ADAPTIVE
MATHER AUDITORIUM - PRESENTED BY STERLING ROPE

THURSDAY

8AM COFFEE TALK:
VETERAN'S EXPEDITIONS
GALLERY COFFEE

9AM COFFEE TALK:
ICE OF ALGOMA W/ SHAUN PARENT
GALLERY COFFEE

6PM NIKKI SMITH
MATHER AUDITORIUM - PRESENTED BY GRIVEL

7PM GRAHAM ZIMMERMAN
MATHER AUDITORIUM - PRESENTED BY PETZL

8PM SAM ELIAS
MATHER AUDITORIUM - PRESENTED BY BLACK DIAMOND

FRIDAY

8AM COFFEE TALK:
CLIMBING PHOTOGRAPHY W/ AUSTIN SCHMITZ
GALLERY COFFEE

9AM COFFEE TALK:
CLIMBING ART W/ CRAIG MUDERLAK
GALLERY COFFEE

4PM COOKING DEMO
W/ BRITTANY GRIFFITH
HEADQUARTERS- PRESENTED BY PATAGONIA PROVISIONS

5PM GARRET PEABODY
HEADQUARTERS

5PM YETI SIGNING
W/ CONRAD ANKER

7PM FILM: GONE TOMORROW:
THE STORY OF KENTUCKY ICE CLIMBING
MATHER AUDITORIUM

8PM STEVE HOUSE
MATHER AUDITORIUM - PRESENTED BY PATAGONIA

9PM LEGENDARY GEAR RAFFLE PT. 1
MATHER AUDITORIUM

SATURDAY

8AM COFFEE TALK:
OVER THE ADVENTURE GAP W/ JAMES MILLS
GALLERY COFFEE

9AM COFFEE TALK:
CLIMATE CHANGE - A MOUNTAINEER'S PERSPECTIVE W/ CONRAD ANKER
GALLERY COFFEE

10AM YETI BREAKFAST
W/ BRITTANY GRIFFITH
CURTAINS DEMO AREA

4PM COOKING DEMO
W/ BRITTANY GRIFFITH
HEADQUARTERS- PRESENTED BY PATAGONIA PROVISIONS

4PM MOUNTAIN BOOKS
BOOK SIGNING
FALLING ROCK CAFE & BOOKSTORE

5PM PAUL MCSORLEY
HEADQUARTERS- PRESENTED BY SCARPA

7PM FILM: HIMALAYAN ICE
W/ CAST & CREW
MATHER AUDITORIUM - PRESENTED BY LA SPORTIVA

8PM CONRAD ANKER
MATHER AUDITORIUM - PRESENTED BY THE NORTH FACE

9PM LEGENDARY GEAR RAFFLE PT. 2
MATHER AUDITORIUM

9PM POSTER SIGNING
HEADQUARTERS

SUNDAY

8AM COFFEE TALK:
BIG CITY MOUNTAINEERS
GALLERY COFFEE

9AM COFFEE TALK:
BIG ROCK & ICE TRIVIA W/ PHIL WATTS
GALLERY COFFEE



BLUE ICE



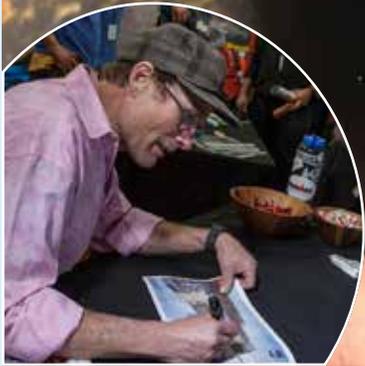
tools for alpinism

CHAMONIX 2008 | SLC, UT 2016
btueice.com

YETI SIGNING

with Conrad Anker

Friday • 5PM • Community Center



Gear Demo

Ice climbing gear is really expensive and getting set up can seem like a daunting task. It's really hard to break into this sport when the cost is so high and you have to know so much just to try it out. We feel like those things shouldn't be a barrier to people experiencing something we love so much.

We demo more equipment than any other climbing event in the country. You not only can try climbing without the investment, but you get to try out all of the best gear from the best brands in the industry. It's at the heart of the festival. Many people demo gear for a year or two, fall in love and then buy their own gear. That's also why our partner Down Wind Sports offers a discount throughout the weekend.

On top of gear, we feel everyone should have the opportunity to climb whether they can rig their own ropes or not. At our demo are we set up a bunch of ropes and staff them with trained belayers so you can get in all the climbs you want in a secure, supportive atmosphere. This demo has become such an important part of the event that we have expanded beyond Saturday and Sunday to include Friday as well.

Demo Gear is available each morning and Open Climbing at The Curtains takes place Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

See the schedule on pg 30 for details.



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Our Volunteers

Putting on an event like Michigan Ice Fest takes a lot of hands. Everyone sees Bill on stage, but it's easy to miss the thousands of hours by so many people throughout the year that really make this work. It's a lot of work and it gets done through the love and stoke of a small army of staff and volunteers. So we want to say a special thank you to everyone who gives a part of themselves to make Ice Fest as great as it is. Your talents, dedication and passion are more than we deserve and everything we need. Thank you.

You can spot our staff and volunteers by the hats they're wearing. If you need something, don't hesitate to ask. If they can't help, they will find someone who can. Making your Ice Fest experience as good as it can be is our major goal. If you're having a good time, let them know. Let them know you appreciate their hard work as much as we do. And maybe buy them a beer, they aren't getting paid after all...



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7 Days A Week • 11A-9P

eh!burger
Share. Follow. Enjoy. 



Volunteer Profile: John Highlen

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in southeast Michigan in the rural area around Milford.

Where do you live now?

We now live in Deerton, halfway between Marquette and Munising, where we have 160 acres of woods to work and play in.

What do you do for a living?

After graduating from Michigan Tech, I spent 30+ years as a mechanical engineer, mostly in the aerospace industry. I'm now in the process of transitioning to being self-employed as a writer, conservationist and road crew for my wife's art studio.

How did you get into climbing?

I got into climbing by joining the Ridge Roamers outdoors club at Michigan Tech in 1980.

Who's is the famous climber you would most like to meet?

The famous climber I would most like to meet is Colten Moore... Wait a minute, I've already met Colten. Tim Emmett. I've heard Tim's presentations, but I've never actually met him. He seems like he would be fun to visit with.

How long have you been volunteering?

I've been volunteering for Ice Fest for just a few years, but I've been in numerous volunteer positions for more than 40 years.

What are your responsibilities at the Fest?

My Ice Fest responsibilities are pretty much whatever needs to be done.

Why do you volunteer for the fest?

I volunteer for Ice Fest because it's fun to be involved in. I enjoy talking with other climbers and outdoors lovers and I enjoy helping people that are new to the sport.

If you could only have one, would you choose pizza or beer?

If I could only choose one, pizza or beer...depends on the beer. Actually, it depends on the pizza, too. Is this a trick question...?

If you could travel anywhere- where would that be?

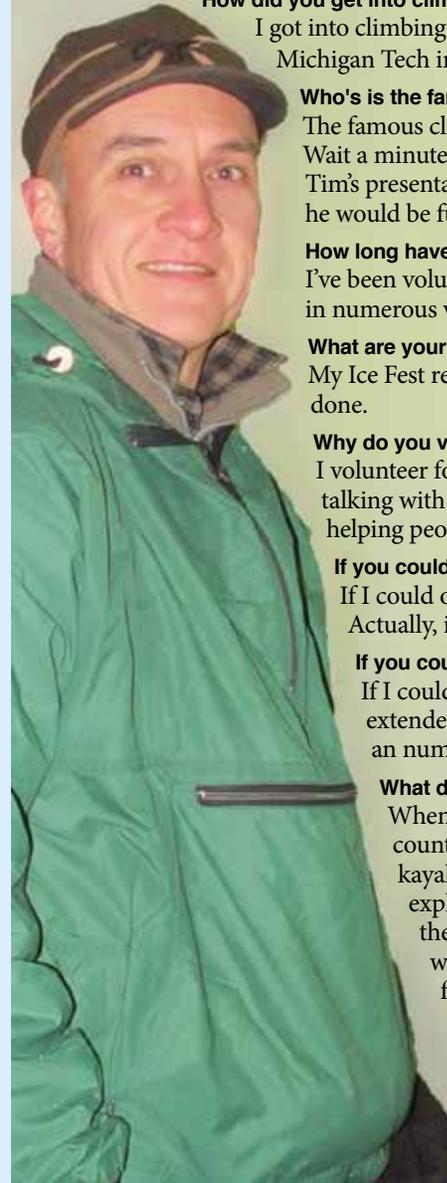
If I could travel anywhere, I'd love to go back to Alaska for an extended visit. My wife and I spent a couple of months there a number of years ago, but it wasn't enough!

What do you do when you're not volunteering for the fest?

When I'm not volunteering for Ice Fest...Well, there's cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, hiking, camping, canoeing, kayaking, fly fishing for trout, deer and elk hunting, exploring, conservation work for Trout Unlimited and the Alger County Conservation District, church work, working on our property and spending time with my family. Other than that, I pretty much just sit on the couch and watch TV.

What's your claim to fame?

My claim to fame is being a dad and a grandpa.



When It's All Said and Done

So you have come up and have gotten your first taste of climbing ice. The white snow, the beautiful ice, the amazing lake combined with the adrenaline of crushing your first ice climb, and now it is all you can think of- you are officially addicted. What do you do now? Don't worry, there are many Midwest climbers in your boots looking to get the next fix. The following are just a few suggestions on how to keep your stoke high and come on back to the Upper Peninsula for some more climbing!

HIRE A GUIDE

The easy button for sure! People who can't make the festival due to scheduling issues, but still want to experience ice climbing, or people who want a trip that is a little more intimate, can reach out to our guide service. Michigan Ice Fest Guides offers winter ice climbing as well as summer rock climbing adventures. Having guides throughout the Upper Peninsula we have an intimate knowledge of all of the available climbing areas and can create fun, memorable experiences throughout the peninsula.

FIND A PARTNER

I-75 through Michigan and US 41 through Wisconsin see a steady stream of traffic all winter long of climbers making the pilgrimage north (how do we know? It's the stickers!). Why not hop on the Michigan Ice Fest Facebook Page and send a call out for interested partners and split the gas!

BUY THE GUIDEBOOK

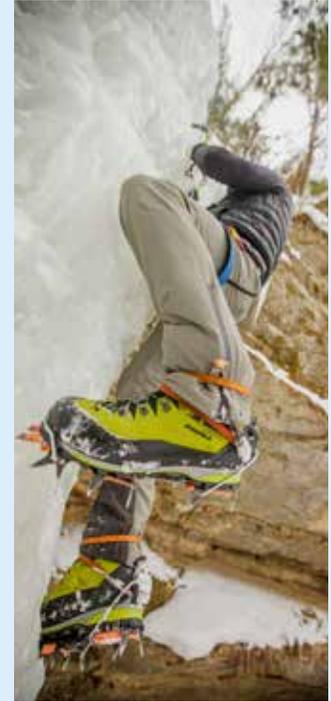
Keep in the desk drawer at work and secretly plan your next excursion to the great white north! The best way to find some amazing climbing is with the latest edition of the guidebook!

CONDITIONS REPORTS

At Michigan Ice we take pride in being your go to site for current ice climbing conditions for Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore as well as climbs throughout the Upper Peninsula. Planning a trip to Pictured Rocks? We have you covered for all the latest snow and ice conditions on all of your favorite climbs. Check back often for updates, pictures, and trip reports!

SIGN UP FOR ICE FEST 2021!

We usually open our registration in May, so keep an eye on our Facebook page and website and sign up so you can start planning your trip. Signing up early gets you some swag and first shot at all of the new classes.



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Walker Mackey at camp during a Christmas Day ascent of 14,259' Longs Peak, Colorado. Photo: Max Seigal

bigagnes.com

Sponsors

The Michigan Ice Fest would not happen if it weren't for the gracious support that we have received over the years from our friends in the outdoor community, as well as the small businesses that make up Munising, Michigan. Please take some time to visit our sponsors that have made the Michigan Ice Fest the longest running ice climbing festival in the country!



Located at 209 Maple Street, Munising, MI



Located at 120 East Superior Street, Munising, MI

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| Down Wind Sports | Falling Rock Café | Northstar Hotel | Scotty's Motel | Taco Primo |
| East Channel Brewery | Gallery Coffee | Pictured Rocks Inn & Suites | Shooter's Brew Pub | Terrace Motel |
| Eh Burger | Holiday Inn | Pictured Rocks Bed & Breakfast | South Bay Outfitters | |

Thank You

Seeing is believing, and when it comes to Ice Fest, that couldn't be more true. When we tell people about our Ice Fest Family they find it hard to believe. How could more than 1,000 people who's only shared interest is climbing up frozen waterfalls get together and become so much more than a group of strangers. But then they come, they see, and they believe.

It's not the climbing that makes Michigan Ice Fest so special. It's not the small town vibes, or even the programming. It's you. The people who come are everything. It's a special thing to bring people together these days. Division and selfishness are the hallmarks of every headline you read. But for one glorious week in February, in a small town in the UP, that all disappears. We find our kindness, share without question, and treat everyone like family. It's hard to believe.

We've seen it. Thank you all for making us believers.

Thank You
Bill Thompson &
Matt Abbotts
Ice Fest Organizers



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SISU Shot

Sisu /sē-soo/ - a Finnish word that cannot be translated properly into the English language, loosely translated to mean stoic determination, bravery, resilience, perseverance and hardiness. A trait common with Midwest climbers.

ABOUT THE SHOT

Hardcore climbers: those people who ascended bold, visionary lines in remote regions, not for the glory or rewards but for the love of the ascent. Legendary climbers Carlos Buhler age 66 on the sharp end and John Roskelley age 70 on the belay.

Tallyn Donati 📷
Winner of the
#michiganicefest2019
Photo contest



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The Upper Peninsula's Premier Year Round Outfitter



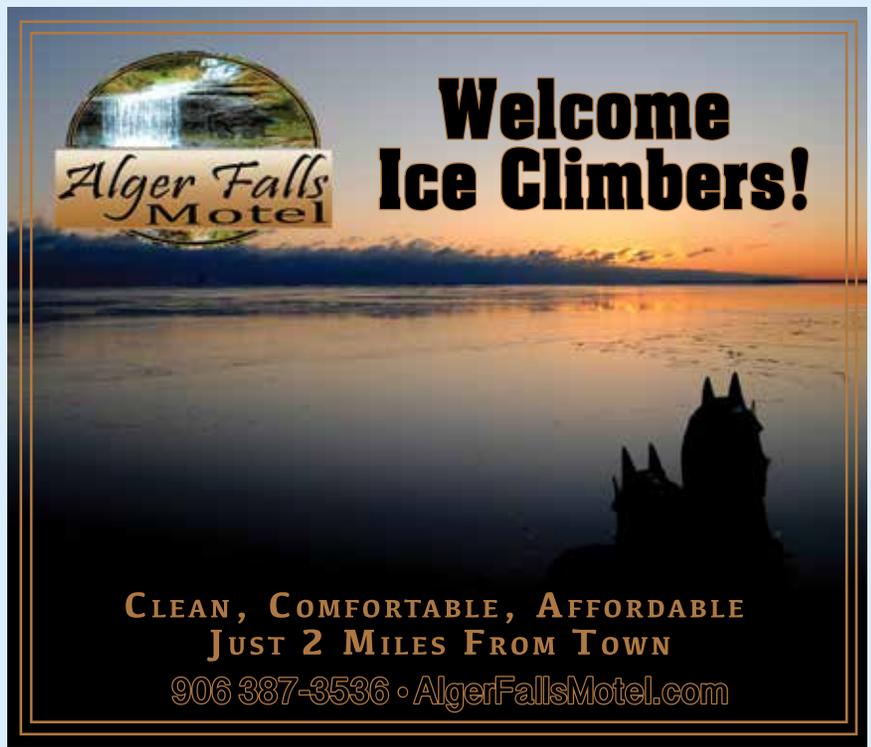
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LIVE.CLIMB.REPEAT.

SIX DECADES OF INNOVATION

Black Diamond's heritage goes back to 1957, when we started selling hand forged climbing gear from the trunk of a car in Yosemite Valley. Today, we are still committed to engineering the most innovative equipment in the world to keep you sending.

BD Athlete Jackson Marvell  Andy Earl

[BLACKDIAMONDEQUIPMENT.COM](https://www.blackdiamondequipment.com)

 **Black Diamond**