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Education: BS Parks Recreation and Tourism

Certification: AMGA/IFMGA Mountain Guide

Occupation: Owner/Guide at Alpine Logic LLC

Why do you want to run for the AMGA BOD?

I am running for the AMGA Board of Directors because I want mountain guides and aspiring mountain guides in the US to be able to make a sustainable wage practicing our craft. In order for this to happen we, as guides, need to recognize ourselves as true professionals. Until we do this we can not expect the public, land managers, or our government to recognize us as such. Two things must

happen in order for this to occur. First, we must unify our membership as a body of professionals. Second, as with every profession, we must require professional training of practitioners.

Everyone benefits from this progress - guides, clients, land managers, guiding companies, the public, and the AMGA.

The AMGA is a young organization that has made notable progress in a short amount of time. We are in the midst of formative years of our organization; an exciting and fragile time.

I believe that serious progress can be made on these fronts through clear communication and strong leadership. I am running for the Board of Directors to help affect significant progress for the profession of mountain guiding in the US.

What are your qualifications?

I am an IFMGA / AMGA licensed mountain guide, an active member of the AMGA Instructor Team, and have devoted the last 13 years of my life to becoming as well-rounded a mountain guide as possible. I have guided across the US and abroad, have been an employee for both large and small guiding operations in the US, and for the last six years have been the sole proprietor of Alpine Logic, LLC..

How will you work with the BOD?

By listening and communicating my thoughts and opinions well.

Would you give an example where you have shown good participative management skills?

I am an AMGA Instructor Team member, both instructing and examining in the Rock and Alpine disciplines. In this role I work closely with fellow Instructor Team members to teach, coach, and mentor aspiring guides in inherently dangerous, stressful, demanding, and highly variable mountain environments.

What do you consider one of your biggest failures and what did you do to overcome this?

My most significant failure was receiving an "incomplete" on my AMGA Ski Mountaineering Aspirant Exam. It was a wake up call. I reevaluated my own skills, trained incredibly hard for two years, and went on to perform very well on my subsequent exam.

What are the key strategic issues facing the industry, profession and the AMGA Board? How do you believe the board should respond?

- 1) The current shift in AMGA accreditation guidelines.
- 2) High cost of AMGA guide training and subsequent income level of those guides.
- 3) Reciprocation of guiding access for foreign IFMGA guides here in the US.

Without knowing exactly where the BOD is currently on these issues I cannot fully answer this question.

Describe an incident when you led through significant conflict on an important principle. How will this influence your participation on the Board?

I think that for every mountain guide in the US, myself included, going through the AMGA professional guide training program has been, and still is, contentious. The financial gain that one sees from being a certified guide in America ranges from none to slight, and when weighed against the cost of professional training simply doesn't make financial sense. Every guide that has pursued professional training is doing so because they believe it is the right thing to do. These are the professionals. I went through the training program despite the minimal benefit here in the US. This will influence my participation on the BOD by understanding and representing the interests of professional mountain guides here at home.

How will you handle the time commitments required for this role?

One of the things I value most about being a mountain guide is the enormous amount of flexibility I have in scheduling my life. I look forward to adding my obligations to the AMGA BOD to my existing commitments.
