



# Rendezvous

Dear 2026 Rendezvous Attendee,

Welcome you to the 26th Annual Rendezvous! We're excited you made the commitment to attend and want to provide you with some fun and helpful information to make sure you fully enjoy your Rendezvous experience.

Rendezvous was first created by Dr. V. Kim Kutsch when he saw the need for an annual meeting where like-minded individuals, who are interested in offering patients the latest dental technologies, materials, and treatment modalities may come together to share ideas to advance the field of evidence-based, minimally-invasive dentistry at an affordable price. He combined this need with his love of the Early American Fur Trappers, aka Mountain Men, into what is known today as the most unique dental CE meeting in the world.

We offer world-class speakers in a very informal atmosphere at a venue with a group size that allows for questions and answers. We limit the number of attendees so that we can focus on making this the best CE event for you. Most speakers stay the entire weekend so that they may learn from other speakers and spend time with all attendees by joining in the fun and festivities. This allows people to get to know them personally and to ask questions in a more private setting. Some of our attendees have said that they learned even more over dinner than during the lecture.

The Mountain Man theme makes for a fun dress code! Many attendees wear bits and pieces of Mountain Man and/or Native American clothing and paraphernalia during class, but full outfits are donned come the Mountain Man Triathlon Competition, dinners, and the after parties. Fur Hats are all the rage and the most coveted of all door-prizes. Did we forget to tell you that every attendee receives a door-prize ticket when they arrive? Prizes range from Mountain Man Artwork to Native American Jewelry to Fur Hats and Clothing to Pendleton Blankets.

What is the Mountain Man/Woman Triathlon Competition you ask? Every year we gather, just like Mountain Men of old, to determine who among us is the best at Mountain Man events. In the past, we've had Tomahawk, Spear, and/or Knife throwing; Rifle, Handgun, and Shotgun, shooting at stationary and moving targets; and even snow shoeing. Each year we have both a men's and women's champion who each win a Montana Silversmith's Belt Buckle that is Custom Designed for that specific year...making them One-of-a-Kind. After a person has won a buckle, they are then invited to participate in the Champion of Champion's Competition for a year's worth of bragging rights. The competition is always outside and since its February in Central Oregon, you'll want to dress accordingly. There could be snow, rarely rain, and sometimes a little mud, but you can plan for it being COLD, so please plan your outfits for warmth and a little of everything. We have food and hot beverages available along with a campfire to help keep people warm while waiting their turn to participate.

This year we are implementing our two day schedule at the request of our members. So, there are a few changes to make note.

## Schedule of events:

1. Thursday: January 29th: 5:00 – 7:30 PM in the FivePines Conference Center Fireside Room. Informal welcome reception! Hors d'oeuvres and beverages provided. This is a perfect time to see old friends and make new ones! This year one hour of CE is available. Don't miss it!
2. Friday: January 30th:(breakfast, lunch, dinner provided) Classes are scheduled only in the AM to make time for the Mountain Man Triathlon and so people can take advantage of all the Central Oregon has to offer. We meet back at Five Pines for our dinner. Everyone turns out to in full



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Mountain Man/Woman Garb to see the Awards Dinner that night in full Mountain Man/Woman Garb to award the Triathlon Belt Buckles, the Mike O'Brien Award, and other awards of recognition. It will be our awards dinner and followed by trivia and music. With some coercing, maybe some Cowboy Poetry from Dr. BC Nelson (and any other volunteers).

3. Saturday: January 31st: (Breakfast, lunch, provided) is a full day of CE. Classes will adjourn at 4:00 PM. Attendees may wish to enjoy any of the fine restaurants throughout Sisters and Central Oregon. Bend is known for its breweries and distilleries so don't miss out if that interests you. In past years, we've gathered to go out together for dinner or watch a Mountain Man Movie on Saturday Night. You never know what fun spontaneously occurs!

A helpful hint we like to pass along to first-timers is that you won't see any suits and ties at Rendezvous. While it is a World-Class Event, it is also laid back and low key, so dress informally and comfortably. You will see jeans, cowboy boots, tennis shoes, sweats, leggings, yoga pants, etc., and Mountain man Garb. We want our attendees to be comfortable while listening to our speakers. Pack for cold weather; possible snow and/or rain and bring foot attire for possible mud at the Triathlon.

There's also plenty of free time to enjoy all that the Sisters, Oregon area has to offer: Downhill and/or Cross Country Ski at Hoodoo or Mount Bachelor, Rock Climb at Smith Rock's State Park, Shop in the quaint western town of Sisters, enjoy the Shibui Spa at Five Pine Lodge and Conference Center ([www.fivepinelodge.com](http://www.fivepinelodge.com)), enjoy a beer tour of Bend, Cross Country Skiing at Three Creeks Lake south of Sisters, and the list goes on and on. Should you desire to schedule anything at Shibui Spa, please call 1-(541)-549-6164 as soon as possible to schedule an appointment. They schedule their employees based upon clientele demand in the winter time so please help them to have enough opening for everyone!

We are honored that you've chosen to spend your Dental CE Dollars to attend this prestigious event and ask that you let us know how we can help make Rendezvous more valuable to you. We value you and all of our attendees so please take the time to fill out the evaluations so that we may always improve Rendezvous; now and in the future.

Sincerely,

*Your Rendezvous Planning Committee*