

EXPEDITION NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF BLUMENFELD AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ©

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2017

First American Woman Summits K2, A Ride on the Time Machine, Why Dinosaurs Matter

EXPEDITION UPDATE

First American Woman Summits K2

In December 2014, we wrote about plans by Vanessa O'Brien to become the first American woman to successfully summit K2. On July 28, at the age of 52, she succeeded in her years-long goal. The summit team also included 11 other climbers, including six Nepali Sherpas.

Her successful summit was preceded by two unsuccessful attempts to make it to the top of "the savage mountain."

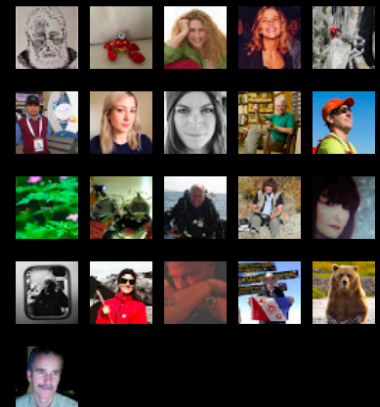
Due to her dual citizenship, O'Brien, an ex-Morgan Stanley banker from New York, is also the first British woman to successfully and safely summit K2. British woman Alison Hargreaves summited in 1995, but died on the descent at the age of 33.

SEARCH THIS BLOG

Search

FOLLOWERS

[Next](#)



Follow

BLOG ARCHIVE

► 2019 (12)

► 2018 (12)



Everest gets the most press. But K2 is the bigger prize, a hard-fought summit achieved this month by dual passport holder, British-American woman Vanessa O'Brien. (Photo courtesy Vanessa O'Brien)

Reportedly, only 18 women have survived the climb to the top of K2.

O'Brien is the Guinness World Record holder for being the first woman to set a speed

record to climb the Seven Summits, the highest peak on every continent, in 295 days. She successfully climbed Mt. Everest in 2010.

"It is said when you climb Everest, you are a mountaineer in the eyes of the world, but when you climb K2 you are a mountaineer in the eyes of other climbers," said O'Brien before her climb, according to a story by James Clash posted to Forbes.com (July 29).

The K2 2017 season has ended with 12 people summiting (six Nepali, one Pakistani, three Chinese, one Icelandic, and O'Brien, the one British-American) bringing the total to about 396 summits compared to about 8,250 for Everest, according to climbing blogger Alan Arnette, an Everest summiteer in 2011 and oldest American to summit K2 at 58 on his birthday July 27, 2014.

See Arnette's 2017 K2 climbing season coverage at:

<http://www.alanarnette.com/blog/k2/k2-2017-coverage/>

Read Jim Clash's exclusive interview with O'Brien at:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jimclash/2017/08/10/exclusive-interview-with-vanessa-obrien-first-american-woman-up-28251-foot-killer-k2/#1d2d70d176f9>

▼ 2017 (12)

- ▶ December (1)
- ▶ November (1)
- ▶ October (1)
- ▶ September (1)

▼ August (1)

First American Woman Summits K2, A Ride on the Tim...

- ▶ July (1)
- ▶ June (1)
- ▶ May (1)
- ▶ April (1)
- ▶ March (1)
- ▶ February (1)
- ▶ January (1)

▶ 2016 (15)

▶ 2015 (12)

▶ 2014 (12)

▶ 2013 (13)

▶ 2012 (23)

▶ 2011 (24)

▶ 2010 (27)

▶ 2009 (38)

ABOUT ME



JEFF BLUMENFELD, ED.,
EXPEDITION NEWS

[VIEW MY COMPLETE PROFILE](#)