

Mountainfilm Hosts 10th Mountain Division Soldiers for July 4 Parade
WWII Vets & Active Duty Reps to Attend Benefit Screening of "Fire on the Mountain"

Telluride, Colorado (June 22, 2009) – The pageantry of Telluride’s annual 4th of July parade will be augmented this year by the addition of several [10th Mountain Division](#) soldiers, both current and retired. Among the WWII Army veterans attending will be New York-based artist [Jacques Parker](#) who chronicled the saga of the 10th in combat with drawings and paintings.

The 10th Mountain Division soldiers will come to Telluride compliments of Mountainfilm in Telluride in conjunction with a fundraising event at the Sheridan Opera House on July 6th that will include a screening of George and Beth Gage’s acclaimed film, “Fire on the Mountain.” The film profiles the Army’s legendary ski squadron and its daring mountain expeditions against Axis forces in World War II, and focuses on its post-war accomplishments, as well. The film premiered at the Mountainfilm festival in 1995 and won its Grand Prize.

A mix of untrained college boys and prewar America’s best skiers and mountaineers, the 10th Mountain Division soldiers were forged into this country’s first and only alpine military unit in the high country of Colorado and later fought with great distinction in the liberation of Italy. For all the heroism of this much admired fighting force, however, the WWII veterans are equally remembered for the nobility of the lives they lived in the decades after the war. Their efforts have had dramatic and positive impacts on the Colorado landscape and on American skiing, recreation and environmentalism.

“In combat and in civilian life, the men of the 10th Mountain Division have embodied again and again the indomitable spirit that Mountainfilm celebrates,” said Mountainfilm executive director Peter Kenworthy. “We are delighted and honored to welcome them to Telluride and thank them for helping to make a great parade even greater, and for helping to support Mountainfilm’s efforts to educate and inspire.”

Before and after riding Telluride’s Colorado Avenue on the Fourth aboard a Telluride fire engine, the men of the 10th will meet and greet holiday celebrants at 137 W. Colorado Avenue where Parker will also be signing his famous 1943 ski trooper poster.

For tickets to the Mountainfilm fundraiser and further information about the event, please visit www.mountainfilm.org or call Jenny at (970) 728-4123 x 11.

About Mountainfilm: For 30 years, Mountainfilm has been committed to bringing ever-increasing levels of artistic excellence to its mission of educating and inspiring audiences about critical issues. The festival began as a venue to showcase climbing movies. It has grown to be a major proponent of adventure, awareness and activism. Celebrating indomitable spirit, Mountainfilm has the power to change lives. To learn more, visit our [website](#). To join the conversation, please visit our [blog](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), and join us on [Facebook](#).

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