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VOCene #34 - Jan. 17, 2008

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I. Trip Reports

1) Winter Longhike

Here is a TR from Natalie:

After everyone's patience at the pre-trip meeting and the expected chaotic doling out of rides I decided to keep the location at Falls Lake due to rain potential at Seymour.

Fortunately the roads were good and most cars got the trailhead more-or-less on time after an unplanned rendezvous at Timmy's. The usual carfaff was accompanied by the sound of skidoos.

One by one people snowshoed/ skied/ boot-packed-b/c-bindings-broke-off to Falls lake. As soon as we got off the main road the roar of engines was muffled by the snow and it altogether disappeared by the time we reached the lake. People got right to work and made good use of their shovels and by the time I arrived with the last couple of groups around one in the afternoon a bonified snow village was effectively under construction. Massive snow structures sprung up like mushrooms. Wind gusts whipped across the lake but the forest made for a nice cozy kitchen haven despite the unexpected clumps of snow sloughing off the trees overhead. After dark most of us gathered round for dinner while a group of igloo architects across the lake kept sawing away at massive ice blocks and digging out a ridiculously long tunnel; its only entrance. Singing, bottomless cookies, mulled wine and jokes were had, all contributing to the late Sunday start (with the exception of Fred Touche's car who left as soon as the sun came up). Some of us went skiing and drank in the early afternoon sunshine on Zoa while other slowly proceeded to the car. A quick tromp around

the abandoned snow village upon my return revealed the only casualties, a lone plastic water bottle and a glass maple syrup container. Well done. No one died, fun was had and the sun came out. Thanks to all who came.

Pics and more in the message board thread:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=1679&t=1679>

2) Letter Writing

A dozen or so people came out to the Phelix slideshow and letter writing night on Tuesday. Thanks to everyone who participated. We'll let you know how our meeting with Kevin Kriese goes after Monday.

II. Upcoming Events and Trips

1) Avalanche Courses, CLASSROOM SESSION TONIGHT (Jan. 17)

Two groups of the level one course start TONIGHT at Canada West Mountain School. 7-10pm, 47 W. Broadway. The on-mountain portion of these courses is of course this weekend.

A third level one course is being organized, possibly for the following weekend (Jan. 26-27). See the wiki and watch the message board:

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Second_Avalanche_course_2008

If you want to participate, the best thing to do is come to the clubroom and pay. If things don't pan out you'll get a refund.

A second group has been added for the level 2 course (Feb. 16,17,23,24). Sign up now in the clubroom.

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Advanced_Avalanche_course_2008

2) Skiing at the Waddington Hut, Jan. 19-20

Some people are planning to celebrate Matthew Carroll's birthday at the Waddington Hut.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=1728&t=1728>

3) Slide Show: Sea Kayaking in the Queen Charlotte Islands, Jan. 23

Tim Blair will be presenting a slideshow next Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 7pm in the clubroom.

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Slide_shows

4) Ski Tune Night, Jan. 24

I'll be doing a demo on how to wax and edge sharpen skis (possible simple base repairs) next Thursday. 5pm in the clubroom (probably going to around 7pm). Bring your skis and whatever waxing/tuning gear you have. We could also practice on the club skis, which probably need some love.

5) Tele School, Jan. 26

This year's telemark school is approaching! Sign up on the wiki:

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Tele_School_2008

III. VOCJ 50

The 2007-2008 issue of the VOC Journal (VOCJ) will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the journal. In celebration the journal will be bigger (higher page count) and brighter (more colour pages) and will feature

a retrospective section including articles by alums, spotlights on some gems from the archives, and profiles of key figures and events in VOC history. We'll send free copies out to all contributing alums and advertisers. This issue will take more resources (human and monetary) to put together, so we'll need a lot of help

To help, you can:

- submit an article
- submit photos
- suggest advertisers
- suggest alumni we can profile or contact to write an article
- suggest current VOCers we should harass to write articles
- skim the archives for retrospective vignettes
- sign up to write one of the suggested articles (on the wiki page)

The deadline is February 11, 2008, but the sooner the better! Early submissions (eg. NOW) are greatly appreciated by the editor.

Alumni can pre-order a journal for \$15. Contact Jeff Mottershead.

All this info and more is on the wiki page:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/VOCJ50>

IV. BOG Elections

Andrew Silversides sends along this message regarding the upcoming UBC Board of Governors elections and a fellow VOCer:

The AMS elections start next week! Long time VOC member Tim Blair is running for Board of Governors and I'd like to avoid being blatantly political but I think you should vote for him. More to the point he needs you to vote for him.

Tim looks to be the forerunner for the VOC old geezer award this year and you can find his name as far back as the Pemberton Ice Field Epic (circa VOCJ 1997). He has served on the VOC Exec, and is a strong advocate for conservation and the UBC Farm. Tim would like for you to vote for him because he would advocate for proper student consultation but I would like you to vote for him because he would serve the interest of the VOC in the upper AMS echelon, is generally good guy and throws great wine parties. Tim also has experience in sustainable community planning (eg. stormwater systems, building design and construction) as well as strong community connections (University Neighbourhood Association, Friends of Pacific Spirit Park, BC Nature, Federation of Mountain Clubs), which are very relevant to a position on the Board.

Vote Online From Jan 18th to the 23rd. Log into the SSC and click on Web Vote:

<http://www.students.ubc.ca/ssc/>

CONTRIBUTIONS to the VOCene are welcome. Please send all inquires or additions to: vocene@ubc-voc.com. To unsubscribe from the VOCene mailing list, sign in at <http://www.ubc-voc.com/member/update.php> and uncheck the 'want VOCene' box

UBC Varsity Outdoor Club
<http://www.ubc-voc.com>

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(This is no joke, no wimpy confirmation screens will appear, so don't mess around)

Varsity Outdoor Club