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VOCene #12 - October 1, 2008

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I. Introduction to the VOC night, Thursday 7-9

New to the club?

Wondering how you get on your first trip?

How to borrow gear?

How to find new outdoorsy friends?

How to operate the web page?

How to get access to the climbing wall?

Learn how to navigate the VOC! Tomorrow from 7-9 will be an orientation evening in the clubroom. One orientation will begin at 7, and another once people come over from the debate. Everyone new to the club is welcome, as well as people interested in the VOC. For those who haven't found the clubroom yet, it's worth looking at the following map.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/map.php>

II. Upcoming Events and Trips

While this list may seem discouraging, there'll most likely be a last minute trip or two pulled together in the next few days. Two full trips, Intro to Hotsprings, and Indian Arm Kayaking, seem to indicate most people planned ahead for this weekend.

1) Deeks Lake Workhike, Oct 5th

This is a good opportunity to get a work hike in if you need to borrow gear for Longhike or other VOC trip. The main task is cutting back enthusiastic blueberry bushes, but there may be some tread work as well. Tools will be provided; all you need is lunch, hiking equipment, and preferably a pair of workgloves.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=5800&t=5800>

2) Mandatory Longhike Dryschool, Oct 8th

Longhike Instructors meeting is taking place at 5 while DrySchool commences at 6. For everyone planning on attending Longhike, this is mandatory. We'll be answering questions, making sure everyone knows what to bring, figuring out rides, and organizing instructional groups. Location is Woodward, room 6.

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Longhike_2008#Dry_School_.28Mandatory.21.29

3) Longhike, Oct 11-12

Longhike is our annual outdoor rock climbing school in Squamish. The trip includes a day of instruction, two meals, accommodation, and a lively party. This is especially great for beginners looking to learn how to rock climb and is one of the better times to meet new members. Longhike is also reaching back to its roots, with a planned hike on Saturday for those looking for an alternative to rock climbing. Scroll down to the miscellaneous section for more info. Tickets are down in the clubroom, going for \$50.

III. Miscellaneous

1) Alternative Longhike Activities

Want to meet new members? Don't want to climb but want to get out and hike instead? Or just want to come to the Saturday night party??

Due to multiple requests and demand for alternatives to intro-to-climbing we are now opening up Longhike ticket sales for hikers and just plain (or not so plain) party-ers! The hike will most likely be up the backside of the chief or something equivalent.

2) Memberships

September has ended, and unfortunately so have a number of memberships.

If you're looking to retain access to the website, and keep receiving the VOCene, drop by the clubroom to renew your membership.

3) Climbing Wall Hours

They're up! Please remember to use the wall only within the hours posted, otherwise the club gets in trouble. For belay tests, drop by during lunchtime or gear hours in the clubroom.

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

IV. Ms. Manners

Last week's Ms. Manners question was on the topic of when is it appropriate to call a trip beginner friendly. Sympathizing with potential participants, Trip Planner was concerned with trail severity, skills necessary, and fortitude required. Ms. Manners says beginner friendliness is outside of these factors, and instead would recommend summing those factors in an "output level" factor. On the correct use of the term "beginner friendly", Ms. Manners defers to the authoritative VOC glossary.

In short, a euphemism for a guaranteed epic. Beginner friendly means that the trip is not necessarily easy (in fact it may be quite difficult), but that any people on the trip with actual skills are obligated to be nice to the beginners. When the label beginner friendly is attached to a trip, the usual result is that many keen beginners are attracted to it and experienced people stay away (since they know what beginner friendly actually means). The result is usually a 10:1 beginner ratio which guarantees epic results. See related definitions for Sufferfest and

Death March.

[Source: <http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Glossary>]

This week's question is from Bailey.

Dear Ms. Manners,

I'm hesitant to make commitments. It compromises my ability to choose the best trip to go on. Whenever I say I'm a for sure go, a cooler neater trip to a better location comes up. Up to what level of commitment is it alright to pull out of a trip and hop on another? Is there any etiquette to follow? Are sport specific injuries such as, Now my finger hurts I don't feel comfortable belaying anyone I'm forced to going skiing acceptable? Could you recommend some sympathizable injuries or illnesses? No one like being called a bailer, especially me, how to I convince others that I'm simply choosing another option?

Bailey

Please help Ms. Manners out by sending questions and replies to vocene@ubc-voc.com. Replies by experienced bailers (they're out there) and by trip organizers, as well as drivers are most welcome.

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

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