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VOCene #22 ☺ November 17th, 2009

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I. Upcoming Events and Trips

- 1) Ski Movie 'Flakes' - Nov. 17

This is happening tonight! The VOC will be presenting a showing of the telemark ski film Flakes by Powderwhore. It will be shown in the Irving K Barber Learning Centre, Room 182 on Tuesday, Nov. 17th at 7:30pm. Admission will be by donation, with any proceeds going to the Canadian Avalanche Centre. Bring your friends!

"So we only get a paragraph to describe our latest film? I don't know if that's enough room to describe the 70 hours of HD footage we painstakingly condensed into one action-packed hour of powder-filled backcountry skiing. Now I've already wasted two sentences. Down to business: We spent last winter breaking trail into the backcountry with some of the top telemark skiers in the world like Nick DeVore, Andy Jacobsen, Jason West, Will Cardamone, Megan Michelson, JT Robinson, Dylan Crossman and many others. Our goal? To try and capture the joy and freedom that is powder skiing and bring that vision to you. We traveled from Colorado to Utah, and from Argentina to Alaska, searching for the most challenging and beautiful mountains to ski. After five years of two brothers putting out films, it's still tough to effectively capture our amazing experiences in a few sentences."

Trailer on youtube, more info on the message board:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcorGsIUPQ0>

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=45221&t=45216>

- 2) Leave No Trace Seminar - Nov. 18

This week, instead of a slide show the VOC is hosting the second in a series of monthly Leave No Trace seminars. Leave No Trace is a set of ethics and principles that are meant to be guidelines for low impact backcountry travel. In this session we will work through the principles and ethics to raise awareness, and gain/hone our LNT skills. There are many reasons why low impact backcountry travel is important ranging from the preservation of our wild places, to simply respecting fellow hikers. We will start with questions like "why should we do this?", and move into "how will we do this?". Whether you are a low impact buff, or you have no idea what this is about, there is something to gain from these sessions.

The seminar will start at 7PM in the VOC clubroom tomorrow, Wednesday November 18th.

More details on the message board and wiki:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=45065&t=45065>

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

3) Beginner Brew Hut Ski Trip - Nov. 21-22

The meeting for this trip is tomorrow, Wednesday November 18th at 6:00pm in the clubroom.

Early season is the time for hut skiing, and Brew the classic destination.

It seems to happen every year in the early season - keen new VOCers head into the gear room, get themselves a tele setup, and head on up to the Brew Hut. Back in the day, before GPS and before the hut was moved to the top of the ridge, this usually involved not finding the hut and sleeping in a snow cave. These days we seem to do a bit better, although epics have occurred.

This will be an overnight trip, up to the Brew Hut. We'll ski in on Saturday, and ski/climb Brew/enjoy the views once we're up there. Come down on Sunday. Guaranteed memorable. If you have never been backcountry skiing before, but are willing to suffer a bit in order to learn, this is the trip for you. There is also 'beginner' space available for those who are not really beginners, but perhaps not such good skiers or don't have much backcountry experience... call them 'moderates'?

More details on the message board and sign-up on the wiki:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=11075&t=11075>

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Brew_Hut_Nov_21_2009

4) Intro to Wilderness Survival - Nov. 21-22

The meeting for this trip is tomorrow, Wednesday November 18th at 6:00pm outside the clubroom.

This is a wilderness survival instructional trip that will take place the weekend of the November 21st, 2009.

The general idea is to drive into the backcountry and spend as much time as possible practicing skills, having discussions, and generally have a good time camping out. The focus will be on learning and practicing skills, so to maximize time there will not a self-propelled approach. This is not a competition or

anything like the reality shows on TV. We will not be practicing the ridiculous stuff that Bear Grylls does. In fact we will probably make fun of him a lot.

The goal of this trip is to learn how to prepare for, avoid, and practice skills for short term wilderness survival. For example getting stuck out overnight on a day trip due to bad weather, injury or whatever.

More details on the message board and sign-up on the wiki:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=11062&t=11062>

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

5) Intro to Wilderness Survival 2 - Nov. 21-22

This is a winter backcountry hiking and camping trip to Deeks Lake, near Lions Bay on the Sea to Sky Highway.

All organization is being done online, see the message board or wiki for details:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=11150&t=11150>

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Intro_to_wilderness_survival_2

6) Jared Stanley Memorial Lecture - Nov. 25

UBC student Jared Stanley passed away in January 2005 while backcountry skiing at Mount Seymour. This is the fifth annual lecture to honor his memory and remind us all to be aware of the risks we take in the backcountry.

Join North Shore Search and Rescue's Time Jones for a presentation and slideshow, followed by a showing of the new avalanche awareness film 'The Fine Line.'

Mode details on the message board:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=45631&t=45631>

7) Skiing Trip to Brew Hut - Dec. 5-6

It's dumping snow everywhere so let's get excited and ski up Brew Hut on another weekend!

Back in the day, before GPS and before the hut was moved to the top of the ridge, this trip usually involved not finding the hut and sleeping in a snow cave. These days we seem to do a bit better, although epics have occurred.

If you have never been backcountry skiing before, but are willing to suffer a bit in order to learn, this is the trip for you. There is also 'beginner' space available for those who are not really beginners, but perhaps not such good skiers or don't have much backcountry experience... call them 'moderates'?

More info on the message board and wiki:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=11155&t=11155>

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Brew_Hut_Dec_5/6_2009

8) Avalanche Skills Training Course - Dec. 12-13 or Jan. 16-17

Taking an avalanche course is a great idea for anybody who will be in the mountains in winter. On skis or snowshoes, with the VOC or without the VOC, no matter what this course will be of great benefit. The VOC is organizing four different avalanche courses; two in December and two in January. The courses are run by Canada West Mountain School, but are offered through the VOC for a significant discount!

This course is the AST1 course, which is the first level of training offered by the Canadian avalanche association. It is the first step towards being aware of and managing risks in the backcountry. Avalanche course students learn about some snow science basics, terrain, route finding, snow stability testing and rescue. The courses are being offered either at Mt. Seymour or a combination of Whistler and Mt. Seymour, and will cost \$170 or \$210 depending on whether you need a Whistler lift ticket. Spaces are limited, and it fills up quickly so make sure to sign up early if you want a spot. The payment deadline for the December courses has already passed, and is Dec. 14th for the January courses.

More info on the message board:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=10817&t=10817>

9) Avalanche Skills Training 2 Course - Jan. 23-24, 30-31

This is the next level for people who have already taken the AST1 course, or for those who feel they want more training than just a weekend course. This year's course is being done by Canada West Mountain School. The price is \$500 excl. backcountry passes to Whistler (add another \$80 for passes) and must be paid before December 14th. Payment can be made to any exec in the clubroom.

See the message board and wiki for details:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=10998&t=10998>

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/AST2_2010

II. Miscellaneous

1) VOC Photo and Video Contests

In addition to the annual VOC Photo Contest, this year we'll also be holding the inaugural VOC Video Contest. Details of the contests have yet to be decided, but remember to keep shooting photos and video of anything you deem worthy while you're out with the club! Around this time of year there are guaranteed to be some spectacular tele bails which could make some interesting clips!

CONTRIBUTIONS to the VOCene are welcome. Please send all inquiries 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>

