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VOCene #33 February 9nd, 2010

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I. Upcoming Events and Trips

1) Weekly Kayak Polo

Under the excuse of practising eskimo-rolls, VOCers are holding weekly kayak-polo sessions at the UBC pool. Typically, half the time is spent practising rolls, as there's always people that want to learn, and the rest of the time we play kayak-polo. The pool is warm so you don't need a wetsuit and beginners are always welcome. This usually happens on Tuesdays from 8:30 to 10pm, but please check the message board thread, and if you are coming write your name in the wiki page.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=10773&t=10773>

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Kayak_Polo_%40_the_Aquatic_Centre

2) Weekly Slide Show: Ski Mountaineering in Sphinx Bay - Feb 10th

Christian Veenstra is going to tell us about some of his adventures in Sphinx Bay. For those of you joining the Sphinx Bay Reading Week Trip, this slideshow will hopefully give you a little inspiration for things to do out there. There will also be an informal pre-trip meeting for the Sphinx Bay trip to figure out rides and all of that, after the slide show.

The slide show will be at 7:00PM, Wednesday February 10th, in the VOC clubroom.

3) Beginner Friendly Trip - Feb 13-14

Roland's itching to get out somewhere on a beginner friendly trip. He's not set on a specific destination but Red Heather (super easy), Brew (reasonably easy) and Phelix (easy for high output individuals) have all be suggested as possibilities.

Voice your opinions on the forum.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=12143&t=12143>

4) Vancouver Island Bike Tour - Feb. 25-26

Interested in trying out bike touring? There's a no experience necessary trip heading out at the end of the month doing a loop from Vancouver to Victoria to Duncan to Nanaimo and back to Vancouver. It sounds like this may be some FasterCard style touring so there won't be much load on the bikes.

Check the forum for details:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=12149&t=12149>

5) Beverly Creek Trail Marking - March. 6-7

Come help put up trail markers along the ski trail that goes up Beverley Creek from the Whistler Olympic Park nordic center. This will be a 2 day trip, camping out in one of the many open meadows along the way. Beginner skiers are welcome, as the terrain along the whole trail is quite flat and easy. Also, the first three carloads of people get free gas.

Wiki for sign up and details:

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Beverley_Creek_trail_marking#Sign_up

6) Hanging Lake Trail Marking - March. 27-28

Come help put up trail markers along the ski trail that goes from Whistler Olympic Park nordic center to Hanging Lake. This will be a 2 day trip, camping out near Hanging Lake. Once again, free gas for the first three cars.

Wiki for sign up and details:

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

II. Miscellaneous

1) VOC Photo and Video Contests

The annual VOC Photo Contest is coming up fast. The photo contest is broken down into six categories:

- * A) Landscapes ☺ Waterfalls, mountains, sunsets, etc. People are not the focus of the shot.

- * B) Action Shots ☺ Photos of people outdoors and in action, usually climbing, skiing, or mountaineering.

- * C) Flora and fauna ☺ Plants and animals only. A good place for macro's.

- * D) Club Activities ☺ Parties, longhike, winter longhike, glacier school, and all other club activities.

- * E) Portraits ☺ Portrait of a person. Preferably in an outdoor setting, and of someone in the club.

- * F) Misc ☺ Anything that doesn't fit in the other categories.

A final photo will be chosen as the best overall photo.

Judging: Photos will be judged by five members of the Executive ☺ judges TBA

Prizes: The photograph chosen as best overall entry will be given a full colour page in the 2009/2010 VOC Journal. Other categories will have prizes for first place, and acknowledgements for runners-up. All winners and runners up, as well as other notable mentions will replace the current pictures on the VOC homepage. The winners and prizes will be announced during the VOC Banquet.

Submission: Photos will be accepted only via the VOC gallery on the website. To submit your photo's click [Edit](#) on the photo you wish to submit, and under [keywords](#) add [a-contest2010](#) for category A pictures (landscapes), [b-contest2010](#) for category B pictures (climbing, skiing, mountaineering), and so on. Due to the large numbers of photos, this will be the only accepted method. If you've never used the VOC photo gallery, you can follow the instructions to get started.

Captions: Please ensure that you include the name of the photographer in the caption, as well as an actual caption. Having some kind of description is important because the judges would like to know what is going on in the photograph, as would the readers of the journal is the photo is a winner! (name is important because the person who took the photo isn't necessarily the person who posted it)

Note: If you submit too many photos, we will remove them from the contest. If a photo is not in the correct category, it will be removed from the contest. Due to the large number of submission, the judges will not move incorrectly categorized photos to the correct category.

Deadline for submissions: All submissions must be submitted via the photo gallery by March 3rd at 4pm, due to publishing deadlines for the VOC journal.

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!

2) VOC Journal Call for Submissions

It's that time of year again - the time when you recall your favorite VOC moments, craziest trips, wittiest ideas or anything else VOC that you're fond of, write them down and submit them to your journal editor for this year's VOC journal.

Submission deadline: February 20th

What to write about: Anything VOC-related: trip reports, epics (accidental or otherwise), outdoor adventures abroad, how to turn your wonderful life partner into a wonderful climbing partner, bizarre things you've found in huts, how to survive the shoulder season, philosophical musings on the beauty of nature, backcountry recipes, etc.

If you think you can't write, but you've got something to say: We can edit stuff up so it looks pretty good. Just pretend you're talking to a friend.

You can find more information, along with some writing tips and ideas for articles on the wiki:

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/VOCJ52>

3) Ms. Manners

Do you have a question for Ms. Manners? If so, email it to one of your friendly neighbourhood VOCene editors and it'll get forwarded Ms. Manners for review. Remember, there's no such thing as a stupid question, so ask away.

Dear Ms. Manners,

The school year is getting crazy and I want to know the etiquette of bailing on trips. Obviously I would never sign up for a trip if I didn't think I could go, but sometimes things pile up at the last minute and I have to bail. What's the etiquette about bailing on trips?

Sincerely

Bailtastic And Distraught

Dear BAD,

Bailing at the last minute sucks but is sometimes simply unavoidable. As a general rule of thumb, if you bail before the pre-trip meeting you're in the clear as someone on the waiting list can claim your potential car spot. After the pre-trip meeting though, you should consider yourself locked in. This is generally less of an issue with drivers whom rarely bail at the last minute because they understand the consequences to their passengers, but for some reason passengers bailing on drivers is more common. After the pre-trip meeting, if you've got a seat in a car, you are responsible for that seat, that means that if you bail, good form is to still pay the driver gas money for the trip (and food money to whoever is organizing your food group if they've already bought food for the trip). After all, if you had bailed before the pre-trip meeting another gas paying person would be sitting in that seat.

Sometimes bailing at the last minute just can't be helped, but you owe it to the other people still going to minimize the impact of your bailage.

Sincerely Ms. Manners

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>

