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VOCene #3 April 28th, 2010

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I. Upcoming Events and Trips

- 1) Croquet Competition, April 29 (Thu) - rescheduled

Croquet is... Well, let's just say it's probably not what first comes to mind when you think of "croquet".

If you don't know what croquet is, just show up and try it out! Or just show up to watch and take photos. No specialized gear required. Meeting at the Norm in the SUB at 8pm. This event was rescheduled for Thursday (April 29th) due to rain, please check the message board for further updates.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=47812&t=47812>  
<http://www.buildering.net/node/931>

- 2) Ski trip, April 29-May 2 (Thu-Sun)

Bram is organizing a last minute 4 day ski trip. Thinking of the Ashlu-Elaho if the weather holds up as forecasted. Otherwise something like the Snowspider-Lizzie or Owl-Tenquile traverse. All options are ski traverses with max ~1200m ascent or so a day with overnight packs and tent. The first option predominantly involves glacier travel, the other two are pretty much non-glaciated. Somewhat reasonable speed would be good; avalanche and glacier travel experience required. If you're interested, drop Bram a line via email or on the message board ASAP (NOW!).

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=13052&t=13052>

### 3) Critical Mass, April 30th (Fri)

Critical Mass is happening again this Friday!

We meet as usual, 5:45-6pm in front of the art gallery (on the Georgia St. side) next to the Olympic Clock (NW corner). The mass leaves at 6-6:10, but don't be late since it is difficult to join in later (the route changes each time).

Let's resurrect the VOC tradition of riding Critical Mass together! If you don't know what Critical Mass is, you can read up about it ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critical\\_Mass](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critical_Mass)), or just join us and find out for yourself.

There has been some debate on the message board regarding Critical Mass - some VOC'ers have been turned off by bad experiences.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=13022&t=13022>

### 4) Whitewater Kayak Trip, May 2nd (Sun)

Whats better after exams are done than some whitewater paddling?

Caitlin is organizing a day trip to do some class III paddling, probably on the Capilano, or something in that range of difficulty.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=12945&t=12945>

[http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/WW\\_Kayaking\\_trip\\_May\\_2nd](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/WW_Kayaking_trip_May_2nd)

### 5) Bike Ride to Pie, May 2nd (Sun)

Phil is organizing a bike ride out to Savary Island Pie Company in West Van for a slice of pie. If the weather isn't too terrible then we'll continue onwards towards Lighthouse Park or Horseshoe Bay.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=13027&t=13027>

[http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Bike\\_ride\\_to\\_pie\\_-\\_May\\_2nd](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Bike_ride_to_pie_-_May_2nd)

### 6) Mt. Baker, May 1-2 (Sat-Sun)

Adrien, Len and Ryan are planning to climb Mt. Baker and looking for partners. They might be on snowshoes, skis, or possibly a combination. If you are interested in joining them, contact Adrien Thevent, or post on the message board thread (see below).

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=47695&t=47695>

### 7) Weekly Kayak Polo (Usually Tuesdays)

For a while now, VOCers have been holding weekly kayak-polo sessions at the UBC pool. Typically, half the time is spent practicing rolls, as there's always people that want to learn, and the rest of the time we play kayak-polo. The practices were recently moved to the beach, and are usually on Tuesdays 8:30-10:00pm (but this might change). Please check the message board thread, and if you are coming, write your name on 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](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Kayak_Polo_%40_the_Aquatic_Centre)

## 8) MEC Club Night, 10% off, May 4 (Tue)

That's right - after regular hours on Tuesday May 4th our very own Mountain Equipment Coop will be opening their doors to allow our members a chance to buy gear at 10% off the retail price. This event is for members of the VOC and ACC, in addition to getting a good price on gear it will give you a chance to see what these clubs are all about and how your free ACC membership works (did you know you get a free ACC membership as a VOC member?).

Be there at 7:00pm for a quick presentation about what MEC, the VOC, and the ACC can do for you, then shop 'till you've got all the gear you need, you run out of money, or 9:00pm - whichever comes first!

Please sign up in advance on the Wiki:

[http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/May\\_2010\\_MEC\\_Clubs\\_Night](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/May_2010_MEC_Clubs_Night)

## 9) VOC Summer BBQ, May 5 (Wed)

The traditional VOC Summer BBQ's are back! These are a great place to meet new friends, have trip meetings, or talk about ideas and plans for the upcoming month. Don't forget to bring your own hamburgers, weiners, roastable veggies or whatever along. Someone usually brings a barbecue. Frisbee, hacky sac, and slack lines are also encouraged.

Where: Jericho beach, on the lawn by the parking lot at the foot of Tolmie st.

When: First Wednesday of May, June, July, August and September, 6:30ish

[http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Summer\\_Barbeques](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Summer_Barbeques)

## II. Miscellaneous

### 1) Pick Up Your Free Copy of the VOC Journal! (last reminder)

The latest edition of the VOC Journal was released at the banquet. It's a bound book containing stories, exploits and photos from the VOC over the past year - the stories and photos you submitted (warning - contains nudity and explicit language). All paying members (i.e. students and others, but not alumni) are entitled to one free copy of the VOC Journal for the past year - so if you were in the club this past year there's a copy there for you! ☺ Stop by the clubroom during gear hours, pre trip meetings, or any other time it's open and pick up your free copy.

We're on the honour system - there's no list to cross your name off of, just a box full of journals on the desk and some more under the couch. ☺ If you'd like more than one, extra copies are available for \$20.

### 2) Ms. Manners

Do you have a question for Ms. Manners? If so, email it to to your friendly neighbourhood VOCene☺editor and he'll forward it to Ms. Manners for review. Remember, there's no such thing as a stupid question, so ask away.

Dear Ms. Manners,

Lately I've been having trouble of the sticky kind. When I go out backcountry skiing, I put on my skins as usual, but in no time huge blocks of snow build up on

the bottom and turn a leisurely trip into a suffer fest. I break off the blocks and a few minutes later find myself in the same situation. It's quite terrible. What can I do?

I hope to hear from you ASAP,  
Sticky Skins

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Dear SS,

This is a common problem in Spring. I'm told by the experts that the problem is caused by snow warming up to the melting point wetting the skins. Then, when your skins hit colder snow (such as in the shade), the wet skins freeze and snow and ice build up on them.

My sources tell me that there are several solutions to this problem:

1. Rub on Glop Stopper

☺☺ ☺This is a small block of wax that you rub onto your skins before heading out. It has the additional advantage of improving glide.☺

☺☺ ☺It is available, for example, at MEC (look for "Black Diamond Glop Stopper Wax").☺

2. Hot Waxing Skins

☺☺ ☺I recently read an article on hot waxing

skins:☺<http://www.spadout.com/a/breaking-down-the-glopping-frontier-hot-waxing-you/>

3. Stay Home!☺

☺☺ ☺(just joking)

Perhaps our readers have other suggestions?

Yours,  
Ms. Manners

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CONTRIBUTIONS to the VOCene are welcome. Please send all inquires or additions to: [vocene@ubc-voc.com](mailto: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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Varsity Outdoor Club