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I. Special Announcements

- 1) Final journal deadline

The final journal deadline is coming up soon: February 15th.

If you know you will write an article or have already submitted one, please update the wiki with the title and author name. When submitting, please remember to submit photos, and captions for your photos as well! Please include the location, names of people in the photo and who took the photo.

If you decide to change a trip report (TR) into a journal article, please don't just send the TR, but reread it, consider adding some information, give it a personal twist if it doesn't have one yet, maybe some background about the region the trip was, why you were on the trip (especially if you did that trip by yourself and with friends). If you need some ideas you can also ask people you

were on the trip with. If you're not sure, just read a couple of articles from old journals and you will get a hang of it, or you can send your article to the journal editor and she will send it back to you with some suggestions.

Also, if anyone is interested in some illustrations, comics, or simply some fun stuff, that would be great. Ideas can always be discussed on the message board!

Last but not least: HELP NEEDED!

So far only 3 people said they were interested in helping with editing. The first edition session will be Sunday January 30th at Kathrin Lang's (the Journal Editor) house at 11 am. She'll provide breakfast, coffee, tea, or just bring your laptop. If you are interested please email journal@ubc-voc.com.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=49224&t=49224>

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/VOCJ53>

2) Photo contest now open!

The annual and much acclaimed VOC photo contest is now open! The deadline for submission is February 15th at 4pm. You may submit a maximum of six photos.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=51587&t=51587>

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Photo_Contest_2010-11

II. Upcoming Events and Trips

1) Slideshow: Celebrating the North Shore Mountains, Jan 19 (Wed)

Rising nearly 1800m above Vancouver, The North Shore Mountains offer incredibly accessible mountain opportunities ranging from easy hiking and chairlift skiing to exposed scrambles, wilderness traverses and winter mountaineering. A lesser known and perhaps more unique attribute of the range, though, are its deep glacier carved valleys filled with temperate rain forests reputed to have once held the world's tallest trees. This one hour slideshow is in celebration of Vancouver's local mountains and seeks to explore their glory from sea to summit including a look at primitive canyons and the humongous trees found growing along them. Following the slideshow will be a short film of a solo winter climb of one of the range's highest and most adventurous peaks: Cathedral Mountain. Slideshow by Ira Sutherland, clubroom at 7pm.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=51659&t=51659>

2) Beginner Friendly Brew AND Sphinx Hut Trip, Jan 23-34 (Sat-Sun)

Due to the high demand for the trip to Brew Hut, we decided to split it into two separate trips! One group will be heading to Brew Hut and the other to Burton Hut (AKA Sphinx) for an action filled weekend in the mountains. Both huts offer some fabulous options for skiing in the alpine, right near the huts.

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

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=17013&t=17013>

3) Tele Lessons with Phil, Jan 24 (Mon)

After Tele School, you may want another lesson or two for more feedback and tips/cues/drills. Phil Hammer (EOS) is a CANSI Level 2 telemark instructor and is offering free tele lessons to help out the VOC (and to get more teaching experience). If we have too many for one group, another ex-UBC CANSI Level 2 instructor is willing to participate. So far two sessions have been scheduled, on Jan 24 and 31, both Mondays. For now, lessons will be held either at Mt. Seymour (free for girls on Mon) or Cypress.

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

4) Semi-Weekly Kayak Polo, Jan 25 (Tue)

For a while now, VOCers have been holding semi-weekly kayak-polo sessions at the UBC pool or the beach. 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. Please check the message board thread for updated information (which will be available soon).

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

Previous session: <http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=17002&t=17002>

5) Slideshow or Movie TBA, Jan 26 (wed)

Final lineup TBA: Memo Ruiz might give a slideshow on his adventures in Denali/Peru/Mexico. If he can't make it we'll show a climbing or mountaineering video (possibly The Asgard Project). Clubroom, 7pm.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=51539&t=51539>

6) Beginner Friendly Elfin, Jan 29-30 (Sat-Sun)

The theme is 'Intro to Backcountry Skiing/Snowboarding', back at the popular Diamond Head area, but this time we'll continue past Red Heather to stay overnight at the Elfin Lakes Shelter. This is an excellent beginner-friendly destination, and new-to-skiing folks are highly encouraged to come! One-way trip distance is 11km, and the cost is \$10 to stay in the shelter, and now \$10 to tent. It's one of the closest ski destinations to Vancouver, and there's a few nice peaks in the area where one can practice their headplants.

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Elfin_Ski_Jan29-30

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=16978&t=16978>

7) Todd's attempt on Garibaldi (advanced), Jan 29-30 (Sat-Sun)

If you've ever been to Squamish, you've probably seen the massive pyramid shaped mountain in the background as you arrive in town. That mountain is Garibaldi and basically any sort of mountaineer in BC has climbed it or wants to climb it (it's just too awesome not to climb it). Todd has tried to climb it four times now, all of which resulted in failure. Come join him on his fifth attempt! This is an advanced friendly trip.

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

8) X-Country Skiing at Cypress, Jan 29 (Sat)

Kathrin is organizing a x-country day trip to Cypress on January 29th, perfect for everyone who's busy but still wants to get out of town, into the mountains and into the snow.

Also perfect for everyone who has never been on skis before and would like to start with gentle hills, up and down, and not to forget, get a nice workout! Info and sign-up is on the WIKI , available Thursday January 13th.

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/X-Country_Skiing_at_Cypress

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=17107&t=17107>

9) Tele Lessons with Phil, Jan 31 (Mon)

See 3) above.

10) Slideshow: Mountaineering in the Cordillera Blanca (Peru), Feb 2 (Wed)

The Cordillera Blanca ('White Range') is a beautiful range of mountains in northern Peru. It has 33 peaks over 5500m, and reaches 6768m (22,200') in altitude. Yet it has some of the easiest access and logistics for any peaks of its size. You can have a mule carry your pack to basecamp, and you can get back to town for pizza and beer within a day of climbing a 6000er. Come learn about mountaineering in the Blanca, as James Murphy recounts tales from his expedition there in June 2008. Clubroom, 7pm.

11) Climbing at Cliffhanger (various)

When the rain starts, many VOC climbers keep the flame going by climbing indoors. You can use the message board to look for partners.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=50316&t=50316>

III. Miscellaneous

1) Avalanche course signup

Don't want to get hit by an avalanche this winter? Well, the easiest thing would be to stay in the city... but if you want to keep going on out into the mountains then taking an avalanche course would be a good start. Soon there will be meters of snow covering our favorite playground, and these courses give you the basic knowledge you need to start becoming aware of the special hazards so much snow poses - that way you can actually make decisions. Information on specific dates/prices is posted on the wiki, so find a date which works for you and pay as soon as possible - payment is the only way to secure your spot, and these courses fill up quickly.

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/2010_2011_Avalanche_Courses

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=15889&t=15889>

2) Rewards and incentives for trip organizers

In an effort to reward our dedicated members who spend time teaching and leading our beginner members on some of the most fun trips to some of the most beautiful places in BC, we have developed a partnership with ProMotive.com to offer discounts on backcountry brands. These discounts are open to members who we call VOC Trip Organizers. You may be thinking to yourself, "I have led trips for the

VOC! Am I a VOC Trip Organizer?" Or "how do I lead trips for the VOC to become a VOC Trip Organizer?" Well, in order to answer these questions, the exec has come up with a handy check list to determine if trips you have already led qualify you as a VOC Trip Organizer, or how help you lead your first trips to qualify you as a VOC Trip Organizer. See more info in the links below.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=49623&t=49623>
http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Discounts_for_VOC_Trip_Organizers

3) Looking for slideshow presenters

Every year we hold weekly slideshows at the clubroom (and sometimes in bigger rooms if it gets crowded). We're looking for people to talk about cool trips and adventures they've been involved in, basically show us your cool pictures and tell us about all the cool/hardcore stuff involved. After the slideshows we usually go for a beer at the Gallery upstairs.

Email Ignacio at rozada@math.ubc.ca if you want to give a slideshow. The format is very flexible and we've had a few instructional seminars too (how to build a harness, how to pack super light). We might even show some of the movies in our library, especially since we now have a new fancy projector, and a freshly painted wall (coming very soon).

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=49186&t=49186>

4) VOC T-Shirts on sale!

The VOC t-shirts have arrived and are now on sale! The t-shirts are 100% cotton and were printed by American Apparel, so they are high quality. This is a great present for your friends and family, or a way of showing your pride in being a member of the coolest club at UBC. The price is \$17 for a shirt (exact change only) or \$20 for a shirt + Voile strap (see below). The t-shirts are on sale by exec members - lunch time is a good time to drop by.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=51097&t=51097>

5) VOC Voile straps on sale!

Yes, Voile has made us a special, limited edition, of their popular "Voile Straps", with the VOC logo printed on them! These straps are invaluable in many situations. Just this weekend our beloved Public Relations guy, Ignacio, broke a binding while out backcountry skiing. The fix? Two long Voile straps to lash his boot to the ski, and he managed to ski out. They have been used in the past for to tie skis together, tie skis to roof racks, hold broken skis together, make a sled, and much more! They are one hell of a useful item. We have three sizes, and prices are lower than MEC! The VOC straps will be on sale during normal gear hours, get them while they last!

IV. 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,

I keep on hearing about this VOC journal and I've been told I should write something, but don't really understand why I need to take time from my busy schedule, which is already full with papers and other school assignments, to write a journal article for the VOC. What are the benefits of it for me?

Thank you,
Potential Journal Writer

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Dear PJW,

Yes, you should definitely write a journal article!

Here are a few reasons to do so:

1. The VOC Journal is an impressive work, published in book form. Don't miss out on the satisfaction of seeing your article in print. When else will you get a chance to see anything you have written published in a book? You might even get a photo of yours printed in color.
2. It's an excellent opportunity to brag about your achievements, decry your failures and epics, share your adventures and convey your musings about the great outdoors.
3. Partake in a long standing VOC tradition - did you know that the VOC Journal celebrated its 50th anniversary a few years ago?
4. It's an easy workhike - remember, the VOC rents out gear to its members for free, provided they do at least one workhike.
5. Say hello to procrastination: surely your assignments and homework aren't nearly as interesting as writing an article for the journal, right?

and last but not least: it will be fun!

Yours,
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>

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