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I. Upcoming Events and Trips

Now is the time to start planning the perfect post-exam liberation slog into the mountains!

- 1) Make your own alpine harness night, April 20(Wed)

Veenstra will be running a workshop on making your own lightweight alpine harness on the cheap. This is tomorrow!

http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda_details.php?tripid=35

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=53190&t=53190>

- 2) Easter Weekend Beginner-Friendly Skiing Trip to Spinx-not-Brew Hut, April 23-25 (Easter)

Caroline's trip that was originally headed to the Brew Hut is now headed to the Sphinx (Burton) Hut. Tonnes of beautiful terrain up there!

http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda_details.php?tripid=32

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=18778&t=18778>

- 3) Easter Week-end trip to Mamquam

Anne V. has initiated an intermediate friendly trip to climb Mamquam over Easter

break. She's looking for a small, rad group. Check it out!
http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda_details.php?tripid=47
<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=18840&t=18840>

4) McBride Traverse (fast & light), April 22-25 (Easter)

This fast-and-light crossing is definitely at the mercy of the weather forecast.
http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda_details.php?tripid=31
<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=18502&t=18502>

5) Easter Plan B, Leavenworth Climbing

Skyler is aiming to establish a backup plan of climbing in Leavenworth, in case the weather on the coast is crap for skiing.
<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=18740&t=18740>

6) Jonathan's goodbye at Skaha, April 22-24 (Easter)

Jonathan D. is organizing a last hurrah with the VOC climbing at Skaha over Easter. The trip is beginner friendly, but not instructional.
http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda_details.php?tripid=36

7) Harrison Hut Mission, April 22-25 (Easter)

This trip may or may not still be happening. If it does, it may appear on the message board.
http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda_details.php?tripid=20

8) MEC club night (10% off), April 26 (Tue)

Every now and then MEC hosts a special club night for the VOC, offering 10% off! Please RSVP for this event.
http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda_details.php?tripid=1
<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=52977&t=52977>

II. This week in the VOC

1) Past trips and events

-Spearhead traverse: 15 VOCers headed out to ski tour from Blackcomb to Whister this past weekend. 10 turned around after bad visibility the first day, and 5 more completed the traverse. They had an exciting time! Read about it here:
<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=18660&t=18660>

-Chris Yuen led a beginner-friendly trip up Mt. Unnecessary. A sketchy final slope kept them from the summit, but a good day was had. TR here: <http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=18686&t=18686>

-Some VOCers had some daytrip fun at Bombtram Mt. on the Coquihalla.
<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=18827&t=18827>

2) From the exec's desk

The VOC has obtained some steel weatherproofing flashing as a replacement for the Brew hut, which lost some of its trim to the legendary Brew weather. In true VOC style, the flashing came from a scrap pile. Keep your ears peeled for a work-hike opportunity this spring/summer to head up and install it!

III. Miscellaneous

1) 2010 journals available for pickup

If you haven't grabbed your VOC Journal yet, you are really missing out! This year's journal is packed with epicness, hilarity, and thought-provoking discussion about the outdoors, the VOC, and everything in between. The cost of the Journal is included in your membership fee, so you owe nothing for your first copy. If you'd like more than one, extra copies are available for \$20.

2) Rewards and incentives for trip organizers

Woohoo, prodeals for VOC Trip organizers! In return for leading trips, you now get not only immense satisfaction, but cheap gear too!!

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

3) VOC T-Shirts and Voile straps on sale

The colourful and inspiring VOC t-shirts have been a hit! We still have a few left, so why don't you come over to the clubroom to get one for yourself or as a gift? We also have lots of VOC Voile straps on sale, very useful in many situations.

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 was skinning uphill this past weekend and having a great conversation with the person behind me, when I just couldn't contain a fart anymore. It was audible - and smelled horrible - but I didn't say anything, hoping that somehow saying nothing would undo the last ten seconds of my life . There was a pause in the conversation, but no verbal acknowledgment of what had transpired. We continued chatting but things got totally awkward after that - like we just didn't get along anymore. What is the correct etiquette for passing gas while being followed closely from behind?

Sheepishly,

Bean Eating,

=====

Dear Bean Eating,

With all those quarantining layers coming off, springtime is a particularly difficult time for the flatulent VOCer. Especially so if you are skiing uphill, following a narrow skin track where your victims have no easy escape to either side. I can assure you that you are not alone however, as uncontrollable farting is something that Ms. Manners has many years experience with.

Unfortunately, your options are few. One method of escaping embarrassment is to

pick the downwind side of the skin track and pretend you are so hardcore you need to break a new, parallel trail. If you are talking, this sometimes has the bonus effect of making whoever you are talking to feel really special. Another idea is to pretend you need to stop for a drink as soon as you feel a fart-storm emerging. If somebody stops with you, stall for as long as you can until the end of the group arrives. Then bring up the rear and gloriously pass gas into the uninhabited abyss behind you. If you are trying to build a reputation for speed, take care to create the appearance that you are in the back of the group in order to help beginners, rather than because you are moving slow. Of course, there is always the option of either announcing your farts loudly to all around, or acting so nonchalant about them that the world simply accepts you for who you are.

Also, "fart" is ski wax in French, but I'm not sure how this helps

In Solidarity,
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

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