

VOCene # 33: Tuesday, February 24th, 2015

In this Issue:

Special Features

1. Donate in Memory of Steph and Neil or to Support Elena's Family
2. Want to get more involved in the club? Join the VOC Exec!
3. Call for Slideshow Presenters

The Usual Suspects

4. Recent Trip Reports
5. Upcoming Trips
6. Message Board Highlights

Special Features

1. Donate in Memory of Steph and Neil or to Support Elena's Family

It is not too late to donate to BC's Search and Rescue in memory of Stephanie Grothe and Neil Mackenzie. Please see the donation page here. Donations have been extended for another 5 days, but close soon!

You can also donate to support the family of the deceased Elena Cernicka to support her husband and their two young boys here. Donations close in about 6 days currently!

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2. Want to get more involved in the club? Join the VOC Exec!

Why should you consider running for an executive position for the VOC on March 25th? Executive positions are not only for the most experienced or extreme VOCers, but are also for anyone who seeks responsibility or wants to become more involved in the club.

Being on the exec increases opportunities to get to know other club members through executive meetings and get-togethers, and also through an increased awareness of the activities being hosted each week, which exec members are encouraged to support and attend. Your responsibilities as an exec member are what you make them, but the added responsibility of running two trips a year on top of your position-specific duties often offers the opportunity to increase your involvement and meet more people. Furthermore, being on the exec can be very fulfilling and provides you with the opportunity to make suggestions regarding changes that you feel could benefit the club.

The positions that are available are described more specifically (here), but are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Chair, VOCene Editor,

Trips Coordinator, Quartermaster(x5), Journal Editor, Public Relations, Archivist, FMCBC/ACC Rep, Huts Coordinator, Trail Coordinator, Climbing Wall Coordinator (new climbing wall in the fall!), and Swag Master. You must be a UBC student to run for an executive position. Execs meet once a week for meetings at a time that fits most exec members schedules. Execs must organize a minimum of two trips in a year in addition to their executive position responsibilities (e.g. Public Relations Rep organizes weekly slideshows when applicable)

Nominate yourself or others here

3. Call for Slide Show Presenters

Have you done an amazing trip either locally or somewhere else in the world? Do you want to share your experience? Then why not make a slide show and present it to the club!

We will have ongoing slideshows on Wednesdays at around 7 PM until the end of the semester. If you know someone who has done some great trip, you can also make suggestions and we can email them and ask for a slideshow.

If you or someone else is interested, send an email to Tianna at tianna.sturdy@gmail.com.

The Usual Suspects

4. Recent Trip Reports

Sphinx Bay turned Neve 2015

On Friday night Mike, Taylor and Tobias were beginning to wonder if they were at the right one of the two Tim Hortons in Squamish because our car was late for the agreed upon meeting time. Then Mike gets a text from me: "We just escaped downtown traffic, and are now really on our way." So they were about to get well acquainted with the inside of the Timmy's/Wendy's. Shortly before we arrived, they set off to drop Tobias and Mike off at the Diamond Head Parking Lot to start heading up to the Red Heather Warming Hut...

Early spring trudge to Elfin Hut

On a Thursday morning, Feb. 19th, a newly inducted VOC member Kelsey Miller (and myself) took off from Vancouver in her old boat of a Chrysler. We made the lovely morning drive along the Sea-to-Sky, and arrived at the Elfin/Diamond Head area parking lot after a few bumps and many missed potholes thanks to Kelsey's driving prowess!

TAYLOR MEADOWS 29-30 NOV 2014

I waited for my fellow trip member's car to arrive, all snugly packed with fancy equipment. I wore almost all the warm clothes I owned, uncertain of how cold it would be. This being my first experience being in snow (let alone hiking or camping in it), with my family back in Mumbai, India, experiencing the peak winters of 20 degrees Celsius at the time, I wondered if I would make it back to campus after being in below-zero temperatures and snow for two whole days of my first VOC trip...

5. Upcoming Trips

THIS WEEK

How to Become a Great Trip Leader (Fundamentals)! 📅 Thursday, February 26th-TENTATIVE

Ever led a trip before but you've felt that your skills could use refinement? Or wonder why some trip organizers consistently get full trips year after year and you wish yours did too? Or did you just attend the Becoming a Trip Leader discussion and wish to expand beyond the basics? Whatever your reason, there is a solution! Join me, Zack Wentz, an AMGA certified Single Pitch Instructor, to discuss the skills that make a good leader into a great leader! Topics covered will include: leadership attitudes, hard vs. soft skill development, decision-making, future development, and more! This is a fundamentals course in leadership development, so no prerequisite knowledge is necessary. Get stoked to keep the stoke going out there! Please note that this trip is tentative and may be scheduled for NEXT week instead. The event will start at 6:00 PM, location TBD. Please check the Trip Agenda for updates.

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THIS WEEKEND

Chillwack River Valley Skiing (Beginner Friendly) 📅 Sat. Feb. 28th - Sun. Mar. 1st
The Chilliwack River Valley is a place rarely visited on skis by the VOC. Maybe that's for good reason; maybe it isn't. This is a trip to find out. But if it looks anything like this, it should be fantastic. We'll be exploring Flora Peak just north of Chilliwack Lake. We'll start on a trail, then break off around treeline and camp somewhere near Flora's west ridge. Sunday morning, we can head up to the summit, ski a few laps, or just hide in our sleeping bags. This trip is beginner friendly. Skiing will likely be a bit steep on the trail, and we will gain about 800m elevation on Saturday, depending on where we set up camp. If you have already done some hut trips, this should be a great trip to expand your skills. If you have neither skiing nor camping experience, you're in for type two fun, but you're welcome to join. Pre-trip meeting was last night, Monday February 23rd at 6:00 PM.

Day hike and food sharing up Mt. Elphinstone (Beginner Friendly) 📅 Saturday, February 28th

The plan right now is to cross to Gibsons by taking the 9:20 ferry from Horseshoe Bay. This means catching the 257 at 8am Georgia and Seymour, I'll be there by 7:40. It is 15.25 for the return voyage from Horseshoe Bay to Langdale.

Information on trailpeak says the hike is about 6 hours, this means there is the possibility to catch the 4:30 back to Horseshoe Bay or the 6:30 (if folks want to grab a beer or two at Persephone). This will be an easy day hike with steady elevation gain, here is the recommended gear list for a summer day trip, and this trip will be a great warm up for many more to come. There will not be a pre-trip meeting, but if you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask Reid (the trip organizer).

Whistler Telemark Festival - March 1 📅 Sunday, March 1st

It is still being organized, so more info will come later - but the main place to look is bctelemark.com. As in past years, it will include:

discounted lift tickets
free clinic session with CANSI instructors (or just skiing with a whole posse of telemarkers)
dual slalom race course
mass tele drop
various competitions (maybe old-time gear/costumes this year?)
apres party at the Whistler brewpub
swag
swag
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NEXT WEEK

Slideshow - Croatian Cycle Touring 📅 Wednesday, March 4th
Slideshow! Magda will show pics of her Croatian cycle tour, July 2014. This event will start at 7:00 PM in Buchanan A202.

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NEXT WEEKEND

Hotsprings for Optimists 📅 Fri. Mar. 6th - Sun. Mar. 8th
We, Anton and Toby, are trying to get to the Sloquet Hotsprings on the weekend of 6-8th March. From the description on the site and some guide books it looks pretty promising. Because the drive to the Sloquet Springs is rather long (5h) we are planning to drive to the "trailhead" (as far as we can go with the cars) on Friday, camp there, and then hike in on Saturday. Thus we should have lots of time at the Hotsprings on Saturday. Sunday we go back then. The trip is for optimists, because we won't promise you that we'll reach the Hotsprings (because it depends on the road conditions). But it'll be an adventure nonetheless. Pre-trip meeting will be Wednesday, March 4th at 6:00 PM in the clubroom.

6. Message Board Highlights

- a. Climbing season has arrived early with this beautiful sunny weather! Check out the Squamish Climbing FAFF thread!
- b. Trail running is awesome all year round! Check out the Trail Running FAFF thread!
- c. Spearhead Traverse anyone? Check out developing plans here! You also may be interested in the classic Neve Traverse.
- d. Overbags and liners to increase sleeping bag warmth? Follow the discussion here!
- e. VOC Art Trips/Exhibition/Artsy-Fartsy Gatherings for Artistic Mountaineers!
- f. Room for Rent It's a nice location with nice roomies, \$540/month, available in May.

7. Ms. Manners

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

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Ms. Manners is unfortunately swamped with conference planning and TAing, but will be around to answer your wonderful questions again asap! Please send questions to your friendly VOCene Editor, and your question can be featured in the next VOCene!

CONTRIBUTIONS to the VOCene are welcome. Please send all inquires or additions to the VOCene Editor.

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Varsity Outdoor Club