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Varsity Outdoor Club  
VOCene #17 , September 29, 2015

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Have you done anything interesting outside recently? Maybe gone on a climbing trip in South America somewhere, or summited Denali? Show us pictures! Run a slideshow (or maybe something more live action, depending on how GoPro-y your party was) for the VOC! Everybody likes seeing cool pictures alongside stories of some type 2 fun.

\*\* The Usual Suspects

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\*\* Recent Trip Reports

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\* Elliott Skierszkan reports on the Black Tusk trail run (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/2015/09/28/the-black-tusk-trail-race-25k-of-fun-but-wet-running>) .

\* Roughly two dozen VOCers hiked around the Elfin Lakes area (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/2015/09/27/elfin-lakes-beginner-friendly-overnighter>) .

\* Jeff Mottershead (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/2015/09/23/another-harrison-hut-fiasco-flood>) relates the latest Harrison Hut fiasco, an epic of marmots, flood, rocks, marmots again, human waste, washed-out roads, and an approximately 12-hour-long 'discussion' with the RCMP Call Center From Hell. Also, helicopters.

\* Fun times on Hornby Island (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/2015/09/22/hornby-island>) .

## \*\* Upcoming Trips

### ----- THIS WEEK

VOC Info Night! · Tuesday, September 29th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1031>)

#### Description:

Are you new to the VOC and/or wanting to know more about the club?

If so, come to MATH 100 at 6:30 on Tuesday, September 29th. There you can learn about what trips are typically run, how to rent gear, and much, much more. All are welcome.

Glacier Skills Course @ Wreck Beach · Thursday, October 1st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1055>)

#### Description:

Hey all G1 graduates, prospective G2ers, or anyone else interested in glacier travel! We've heard from y'all that you're super stoked to learn how to travel on glaciers this year! That's awesome; but unfortunately, due to a low snow year this past year, the glaciers are pretty sketchy right now. But have no fear; your solution is here! I know we're all mountain people, but why not learn these skills such as self arrest and crevasse rescue on Wreck Beach?!

Clinics will discuss crevasse rescue steps, self arrest, roping up for glaciers, and any advanced crevasse rescue skills you wish to learn. This event will be hosted weekly on Thursday evenings, so if you don't make it out now surely sign up again for next week! Get stoked to get safe out there!!

### THIS WEEKEND

Rock Party (formerly known as Long Hike) · Fri. Oct. 2nd - Sun. Oct. 4th  
(<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1017>)

#### Description:

Rectified by Rocks? Dazzled by Dance? The VOC welcomes you the annual Rock Party. This will take place in the beautiful Sunwolf ("resort") campground. There will be 4 levels of rock instruction and one uniform level of stoke on the dance floor. Rock instruction starts from never having touched rock indoors or outdoors to honing your trad skills. Everyone is welcome and you are responsible for signing up for the level which best fits your skill level and learning goals. See the wiki page ([http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Rock\\_Party](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Rock_Party)) for more information.

#### Rock Levels

1. Introduction to Rock Climbing
2. Anchors + Rappelling
3. Sport Lead Climbing
4. Traditional Climbing

We are renting a party tent, and there will be a DJ. We are also serving dinner (included in event ticket) and beer (at cost) to anyone that is of age. There is also a hot tub.

There will be a pre trip meeting September 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm (ANGU 098). At this

event we will go over what you need to bring and assign rock levels. We have also procured donations from Grandwalle climbing equipment which will be raffled off. Vivified by volunteering? To raise stoke for the event I have opened up the volunteer page ([http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Rock\\_Party\\_Volunteers\\_2015](http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Rock_Party_Volunteers_2015)) ! Help make the event happen. Last year one member volunteered for 6 shifts! Tickets go on sale September 16 and will be \$40 for tent space and \$60 for a cabin ticket (3 people per cabin).

Tickets can be purchased during gear hours at the club room or at the VOC booth during clubs day, imagine day and all those other days.

Edit 1: We have enough instructors so if you are a great rock climber and still want to go on this trip, buy a ticket. We are looking into making a rock 5 instructional group.

Rock Party Helps Build Trails! Workhike at Smoke Bluffs · Sunday, October 4th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1052>)

Description:

Call to all climbers, old and new!

It has been a tradition over the last few years that the VOC sends club members who have participated in Rock Party to help the Squamish Access Society. The Squamish Access Society is dedicated to "working on behalf of climbers to protect public access to the climbing areas of the greater Squamish region, to engage as responsible stewards of the climbing environment and to advocate for access to quality self-propelled recreation".

We need 10-12 volunteers to come and help clear vthe base of a new climbing area in the Smoke Bluffs. We will meet at the Smoke Bluffs parking lot at at 9:45 AM to volunteer our time from 10:00-12:30 on the Sunday of Rock Party. They will provide us with tools, but be sure to bring work clothes. We will be done around lunch, which will leave plenty of time for climbing in the afternoon!

Please sign up if you are interested! We paritcularly urge individuals who just received free knowledge from Rock Party to dedicate their time to this.

NEXT WEEK

Slideshow: The Map Wall Project - A journey through the high country of Southwestern British Columbia by Richard So · Wednesday, October 7th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1042>)

Description:

Come join us for our first slideshow of the year with an amazing presentation by our very own Richard So! Afterward, those who are keen, can stick around while we enjoy some beers and other beverages at a nearby pub.

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The Map Wall Project - A journey through the high country of Southwestern British Columbia

Join Rich So as he presents some of his favourite trips in the high country of Southwestern British Columbia. Rich's adventures of choice are long obscure mountain hikes, scrambles and ski trips to places ranging from the granite ridges above Princess Louisa Inlet to the open country of the South Chilcotin, the rarely visited summit of Mount Judge Howay and points beyond. Despite the enormous amount of suffering he puts himself (to say nothing of his unsuspecting trip partners) through, Rich always comes away with incredible photos of smiling, happy people and the wonderful terrain in our backyard.

Born and raised in Vancouver, Rich So didn't discover the outdoors until university when he joined the Varsity Outdoor Club, where he learned to ski and climb. After a few years, he assembled two collages of topographic maps, collages that now cover his walls. Rich is out exploring the mountains around Vancouver on

foot and by ski every chance he gets. See more of what Rich has been up to and get some ideas for trips at Rich's blog ([www.richso.blogspot.ca](http://www.richso.blogspot.ca) (<http://www.richso.blogspot.ca/>)).

Thanksgiving in Jasper · Thu. Oct. 8th - Mon. Oct. 12th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1046>)

Description:

Hi everyone! It's the first time I try to organized a trip (I'm also new in VOC) and I'm making this trip tentative since I barely know the area so I need the help of you for a good organization.

The idea is get a car or two, as I don't have any I'm thinking in renting but if any of you can provide one would be awesome. Then start driving Thursday 8th asap (but probably for me couldn't be possible before 12-1 pm, let's see when we are closer to the date) and get to Jasper area at night.

Next day start a two or three days hike, which would depend on conditions. Tonquin Valley loop looks awesome. But if there is already snow we should go for low elevation hikes. I don't worry as I think everything there is so beautiful. And driving back to Vancouver trying to sleep Monday 12th in our beds.

Trip dates are flexible, so we can find the best solution for everybody who is interested in the trip.

Who joins??

NEXT WEEKEND

Hot Springs Trip! (RockParty recovery weekend) · Sat. Oct. 10th - Sun. Oct. 11th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1015>)

Description:

We will go to some hotspots near Pemberton which shall not be named. This will be the weekend after RockParty. We can relax and recover from the crushing we did the previous weekend.

We'll drive as far as possible down sketchy logging roads, and then we'll hike to the springs, where we'll camp. The water will be hot. Clothing will be an option. Refreshments will be shared. It'll be unforgettable. Join us!

The Unorganized and Chaotic Thanksgiving Climberama · Sat. Oct. 10th - Mon. Oct. 12th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1041>)

Description:

Let's go climbing for Thanksgiving! I don't know where, but if the weather is good in Skaha I'd like to go there.

This trip and the message board will just be a place holder for people to get together and share plans.

Harvest Hustle & Post Run Feast · Saturday, October 10th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1045>)

Description:

TL;DR - this event features a hilly-as-heck North Shore trail run, followed by a potluck chez moi. This event is NOT beginner-friendly, and experience running on technical, steep trails would be preferable!

Part 1: Run

- runners will meet at Old Buck Trailhead, near the base of Seymour in North Vancouver

- before starting, we will split into 2 pace groups. I will lead a fast-ish group, and my super cool mom (a seasoned ultrarunner) will take a slightly slower group.

- I have been using strava maps of my own runs to estimate the distance... I'm guessing that it will be about 18.5+ km. Sounds short, but trust me, it'll be a toughie!

For anyone who knows the North Shore trails well, the tentative route is as follows:

Old Buck --> Bridle Path --> Sticks & Stones --> Bridle Path --> Mary Kirk --> Baden Powell (Seymour Grind) --> Good Sir Martin --> Penny Lane, Rapid Transit, etc. --> Baden Powell (down through Hyannis) --> Fisherman's Trail --> Mystery Creek Climb --> Ridgerunner --> Greenland --> NS High School League Trail --> Forever After --> Dale's Trail --> through Mushroom Parking Lot to Incline Trail (then cross Mt Seymour Rd) --> Old Buck Connector --> Old Buck to parking lot  
Don't worry, you don't have to memorize this because you will have a leader :)

#### Part 2: Feast

If there is sufficient interest, I'd love to host a potluck feast at my house after the race! Sadly, I can only have a max of 10 runners over because our house is pretty small. Bring something to share, and I'll pop it in a cooler in my car while we run. There are showers at Parkgate Rec Centre (right near Old Buck Trailhead) if you feel like washing up after the run.

NOTE: there will be NO pretrip meeting for this event. The cutoff for entry is Oct. 3 (one week in advance). After that date, all details will be provided in emails and such.

IF YOU ARE SIGNING UP AS "COMMITTED": please specify "Run" or "Run & Feast"!

Email me if you have any questions!

Happy Trails!

#### \*\* Message Board Highlights

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-Become a member of VOC's Centennial Organizing Committee (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum5/read.php?1,114298>) !

-Cora needs trip partners (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum5/read.php?1,114387>) for traveling around in New Zealand.

\*\* Ms Manners

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**(This is no joke, no wimpy confirmation screens will appear, so don't mess around)**

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**Varsity Outdoor Club**