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Varsity Outdoor Club
VOCene #33, Feb 9 2016

** In This Issue:

** Special Features

- * Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival
* Ski trip at Brew!
* Williams Lake mountain biking beta?

** Upcoming Trips

** Message Board Highlights

**

** Special Features

- * Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival

An exciting program of local and international outdoor adventure films and world class athletes/speakers including: climbers, skiers, cyclists, and environmental activists. Music, food, door prizes, Q&As with directors, and live presentations about Mountain Culture and Sports.

February 12 - 20

Centennial Theatre (2300 Lonsdale Avenue), The Cinematheque (1131 Howe Street), Rio Theatre (1660 East Broadway), and Inlet Theatre (100 Newport Drive, Port Moody).

More info: www.vimff.org (https://webmail.alumni.ubc.ca/owa/redir.aspx?SURL=B6Z-QGIMiDP3jICFWk-rSht4UvrM6xQ8Re8CZCz0CruT7A8jLDHTCGgAdAB0AHAA0gAvAC8AdQBiAGMALQB2AG8AYwAuAHUAcwAXADEALgBsAGKAcwB0AC0AbQBhAG4AYQBnAGUALgBjAG8AbQAvAHQAcgBhAGMAawAvAGMAbABpAGMAawA_AHUAPQA3AGIANgA4ADUAMwAyADgANQAZADIAYgAxADcAMAAzAGEANAA2ADMANQA3ADkAMwAyACYAaQBkAD0AYQA4ADMAYQBiADIAMwA3ADQAYwAmAGUAPQAxAGQAMABiADEANAAYADIANQAYAA..&URL=http%3a%2f%2fu)

bc-voc.us11.list-manage.com%2ftrack%2fclick%3fu%3d7b685328532b1703a46357932%26id%3da83ab2374c%26e%3d1d0b142252) or (604) 984-4484 (tel:%28604%29%20984-4484) .

* Ski trip at Brew!

Jake Shore wants to go to Brew on the second weekend of reading break. If you're also stranded in Vancouver for reading break, you should go. Brew's really nice.

* Williams Lake mountain biking beta?

Julia Wakeling is looking for anybody with knowledge of mountain biking trails around Williams Lake for an access management plan. Her email is juliaiwakeling@gmail.com if you'd like to help her out.

** Upcoming Trips

----- THIS WEEK

(<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1149>) VOC Environmental Committee GAS Meeting · Wednesday, February 10th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1149>)

Description:

Hey VOC members!

Unfortunately, the proposed Garibaldi at Squamish (GAS) ski resort has passed the environmental assessment process. The VOC Environmental Committee was formed to combat the approval of GAS largely because of:

- loss of backcountry terrain,
- close proximity to Garibaldi Park,
- significant destruction of old-growth and rare ecosystems, and
- poor snow conditions and ski terrain in the proposed area.

The EA does not grant full approval of GAS, as the project will now be reviewed by the Mountain Resorts Branch of the ministry (MFLNRO) and will require approval before construction can proceed.

The project is still in its preliminary stages, and with your help we can stop its development. If you have any ideas on how the club can approach this issue, or are just generally interested, we encourage you to attend this meeting!

Thanks,

Devon

VOC Movie Night in the Clubroom: Reel Rock 10 · Wednesday, February 10th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1141><http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1150>)

Description:

Come join us in the clubroom while we watch Reel Rock 10! Please bring \$1-2 donation to cover the cost of purchasing the film to show within our group.

See the trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXNOTJFEBSQ>

THIS WEEKEND

Red Rocks Reading Week Climbing · Fri. Feb. 12th - Sun. Feb. 21st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1141>)

Description:

Segments stolen from previous trips:

The annual southern migration to get your rock climbing fix in Red Rocks Nevada over reading week! Woot! This is not beginner friendly, unless you find someone

who is willing to teach you. I.e. This will be an entirely self-sufficient trip, meaning you must organize your own transportation, partner, gear etc. However, myself and a couple other VOCers will be down there so the more the merrier! Climb sweet stuff like this: <http://www.supertopo.com/rock-climbing/Red-Rocks-Black-Velvet-Canyon-Epinephrine>

Logistics-wise, Red Rocks is about a 20 hour drive to Red Rocks from Vancouver, so in many ways it is easier to fly and rent a vehicle. I myself will drive down and enjoy the roadtrip with 2-3 other wonderful people!

Email faff only, no pre-trip is planned as this is an informal, self-organized trip. I might have an extra space in my vehicle, so if you are keen to do some multipitch and cragging up to 5.10b or higher, feel free to inquire about spaces! Also, if other drivers end up being keen, we might be able to accommodate people directly.

Elfin Lakes-Beginner Friendly Fun! · Sat. Feb. 13th - Mon. Feb. 15th
(<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1152>)

Description:

Let's go to Elfin lakes during reading break! So far it is set for the weekend (1 or 2 nights), because I think weekends work better than weekdays for most people. Weekends would be more busy at the hut. Weekdays might not working for people who are working.

Who needs lakes when you have snow?! At Elfin Lakes, a winter wonderland awaits (and a large hut, in case being cold is not your thing.) Included but not promised on the trip agenda include lots of snow, good views, wet extremities, star gazing and endless rounds of Cards Against Humanity. Some logistics:

Elfin Lakes: about 600m in elevation over 15 km. Parking lot to Red Heather=mix of uphill and flat areas, good for practicing downhill skiing on the way down. Red Heather to Elfin Lakes=some up and down, good for practicing skinning. Time: 5-7 hours

Drivers

-cars with snowtires and chains

-cars without chains (web trip report from Jan 19 says no snow on lowest parking lot. Parking in the lowest lot does not require chains, but sometimes it does snow down there I believe; however, forecast looks warm)

Sphinx Hut and the Garibaldi Neve · Fri. Feb. 12th - Mon. Feb. 15th
(<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1143>)

Description:

Last year Garibaldi Lake did not freeze for long and no one went up to Burton/Sphinx Hut for reading week. This year though it has been much colder. I would like to cross the Garibaldi Neve (Elfin-Garibaldi Lake, see Wiki page) and then spend a day (maybe more, maybe less) skiing around Sphinx Hut. This trip requires intermediate fitness because it is a 40km traverse, experience winter backcountry camping, AST1 or equivalent and preferably some knowledge of glaciers (G1 or equivalent).

Reading Break at UBC · Sat. Feb. 13th - Sun. Feb. 21st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1137143>)

Description:

This isn't a trip announcement at all. It's just to remind folks that UBC has a wonderful long holiday in February, and in the past we have had trips down to the

warm deserts to the south, beach traverses, trips to our huts, trips across and around Garibaldi Lake (if safe), and even Expeditions if you design them. But get onto it. These trips don't actually happen unless you make them happen. To find fellow participants, just ask on our notice board. "If you build it, they will come."

NEXT WEEK

AST-2 · Wed. Feb. 17th - Sun. Feb. 21st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1152>)

Description:

Overview

The VOC is once again partnering with Canada West Mountains to provide its members with discounted avalanche skills training (AST) courses, with the intent of helping mitigate the risks of backcountry winter activity. One AST-2 Course will be offered this year.

Note: All participants must be intermediate+ level skiers or snowboarders, i.e. able to handle various snow conditions - powder, crust, etc. Individuals who are interested in participating in a snowshoeing based should email me directly (Subject: AST @ ) (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/cdn-cgi/l/email-protection>) // !function(){try{var t="currentScript"in document?document.currentScript:function(){for(var t=document.getElementsByTagName("script"),e=t.length;e--;)if(t[e].getAttribute("data-cfhash"))return t[e]}();if(t&&t.previousSibling){var e,r,n,i,c=t.previousSibling,a=c.getAttribute("data-cfemail");if(a){for(e="",r=parseInt(a.substr(0,2),16),n=2;a.length-n;n+=2)i=parseInt(a.substr(n,2),16)^r,e+=String.fromCharCode(i);e=document.createTextNode(e),c.parentNode.replaceChild(e,c)}t.parentNode.removeChild(t);}}catch(u){}}() //), as discounted snowshoeing-based prices are also available for public courses for members (\$180).

Course descriptions

Courses must be filled before the course is confirmed to run. Students must provide their own ski or board gear for the weekend and must have avalanche (avy) kits. Avy kits can be rented for a cost from the CWM or can be borrowed from the VOC. Whistler backcountry passes are also necessary, as a portion of the course will take place at Whistler. This is included in the total cost of the course. The fee can be waived if you own a Whistler pass. More sessions can be run if there is sufficient interest

A) AST-2 course:

A more intensive course offered during reading week. These classes are conducted at a 1:8 instructor to student ratio. This course will explore travel on complex or challenging terrain and developing and implementing a system for assessing and evaluating potential avalanche slope. This course is for advanced backcountry aficionados.

I'm STOKED/PUMPED/keen/interested, what's next?

Registration can be accomplished by stopping into the VOC club room during normal gear hours and informing the quartermaster that you wish to register for a given course (pick your date before going!). You must then pay the quartermaster in full (by either cash, cheque, or credit card) to reserve your spot in the course. Once your course is filled up (remember 8 or 16 must go) you will be contacted that the course is confirmed to pick up your avalanche kit. Return to the club room and get your swag and then you are good to go. If you are renting ski gear from MEC etc. it is best to get this sorted well in advance of the class to avoid problems of scarcity.

Once confirmed, there will be no cancellations, refunds or rebooking to a different date but you can sell your space to someone else if necessary.

Deadline to register is January 17th

See message board thread for more information

AST-1 Block D - New block! · Wed. Feb. 17th - Sun. Feb. 21st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1135091>)

Description:

Overview

The VOC is once again partnering with Canada West Mountains to provide its members with discounted avalanche skills training (AST) courses, with the intent of helping mitigate the risks of backcountry winter activity. This is Block D of four AST-1 blocks. Two sessions will be opened

Note: All participants must be intermediate+ level skiers or snowboarders, i.e. able to handle various snow conditions – powder, crust, etc. Individuals who are interested in participating in a snowshoeing based should email me directly, as discounted snowshoeing-based prices are also available for public courses for members (\$180).

Course descriptions

Courses must be filled before the course is confirmed to run. Students must provide their own ski or board gear for the weekend and must have avalanche (avy) kits. Avy kits can be rented for a cost from the CWM or can be borrowed from the VOC. Whistler backcountry passes are also necessary, as a portion of the course will take place at Whistler. This is included in the total cost of the course. The fee can be waived if you own a Whistler pass. Up to two courses (2 x 8 students) will be run per session, though more is possible if there is sufficient interest.

A) AST-1 course:

These classes are conducted at a 1:8 instructor to student ratio. Up to two courses will be offered each weekend. Courses will involve one weekday evening informational session followed by a weekend on the hills at Whistler and/or Seymour. This course will emphasize snowpack/terrain observation skills, as well as safe travel and rescue. No prior backcountry experience required, though skiing/boarding competence is.

I'm STOKED/PUMPED/keen/interested, what's next?

Registration can be accomplished by stopping into the VOC club room during normal gear hours and informing the quartermaster that you wish to register for a given course (pick your date before going!). You must then pay the quartermaster in full (by either cash, cheque, or credit card) to reserve your spot in the course. Once your course is filled up (remember 8 or 16 must go) you will be contacted that the course is confirmed to pick up your avalanche kit. Return to the club room and get your swag and then you are good to go. If you are renting ski gear from MEC etc. it is best to get this sorted well in advance of the class to avoid problems of scarcity.

Once confirmed, there will be no cancellations, refunds or rebooking to a different date but you can sell your space to someone else if necessary.

Deadline = February 5th

See message board thread for more details

Reading Week Skiing @ Brew · Thu. Feb. 18th - Sun. Feb. 21st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1157>)

Description:

ATTN: all skiers tentatively stranded in Vancouver for the second half of reading break:

Be not tentatively unstranded no more...

I'm hoping to organize a ski trip to Brew for at least a couple nights between Thursday and the last Sunday of reading week, more specific dates are flexible based on people's availability.

Location is flexible too. I vote Brew because it has a wood stove and it's not entirely a pain in the ass to get to.

Backcountry and AST 1 experience preferred, but that all depends on the ratio of inexperienced:experienced.

This is the first trip I've lead and I don't have a car, so I'd really love it if we could have at least one other (a) experienced trip leader and (b) car driver.

Are you both? Be my hero.

That also means that I don't have any experience orienting newcomers to backcountry skiing. So if you're totally inexperienced, meaning that you've never skied before and have no winter backcountry experience, this might be miserable for you.

Buuuuut if you're an experienced skier but inexperienced in the backcountry, or vice versa, than you'll probably be fine. But again, this all depends on that golden ratio.

** Message Board Highlights

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

Varsity Outdoor Club