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Varsity Outdoor Club
VOCene #34, Feb 16 2016

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** 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?URL=uPRDC9CwS4cxPiqed_GyPmu9omCdL8zGEhisUkTvUNatXcklJTfTCGgAdAB0AHAA0gAvAC8AdQBIA GMALQB2AG8AYwAuAHUAcwAxADEALgBsAGkAcwB0AC0AbQBhAG4AYQBnAGUALgBjAG8AbQAvAHQAcgBhAGMAawAvAGMAbABpAGMAawA_AHUAPQA3AGIANgA4ADUAMwAyADgANQAzADIAYgAxADcAMAAzAGEANAA2ADMANQA3ADkAMwAyACYAaQBkAD0AMwBmADcAOAAzAGIAMQA3ADcANwAmAGUAPQA5AGMAZAA4AGQANwA5ADEAYgBiAA..&URL=http%3a%2f%2fubc-voc.us11.list-manage.com%2ftrack%2fclick%3fu%3d7b685328532b1703a46357932%26id%3d3f783b1777%26e%3d9cd8d791bb) or (604) 984-4484 (tel:%28604%29%20984-4484) .

**** Upcoming Trips**

ONGOING

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.

Reading Break at UBC · Sat. Feb. 13th - Sun. Feb. 21st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1137>)

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."

THIS WEEK

AST-1 Block D - New block! · Wed. Feb. 17th - Sun. Feb. 21st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1135>)

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 opene

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

AST-2 · Wed. Feb. 17th - Sun. Feb. 21st (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1091>)

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

THIS WEEKEND

Reading Week Skiing @ Phelix/Harrison/???? · 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 Phelix or Harrison or possibly somewhere else (Brew's full and I don't wanna traverse a glacier for Sphinx) 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.

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.

Sphinx Hut and the Garibaldi Neve · Fri. Feb. 19th - Sun. Feb. 21st
(<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).

NEXT WEEK

Help Create the VOC Centennial Coffee Table Book! · Thursday, February 25th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1147>)

Description:

As part of the 100th year of the VOC's existence in 2017, we would like to produce a Coffee Table style book which will assemble great stories, images and anecdotes of the VOC's ten decades.

The production of this book will require lots of volunteer input! If you would like contribute your skills to this project, come to this meeting! Our agenda will be to brainstorm a vision for the book and figure out how exactly we're going to make this a reality!

North Face Pre-Sale! · Friday, February 26th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1161>)

Pasted from the North Face's email:

"
SPECIAL LIMITED PRE-SALE ACCESS TO " THE NORTH FACE SALES AGENCY SAMPLE SALE " FEB 26, 2016 - 4pm-8pm.

ONLY RSVP NAMES WILL BE PERMITTED ACCESS TO THE FRIDAY FEB 26th PRE-SALE.

In support of the UBC Outdoor Club special pre-sale access on Friday Feb 26, 2016 from 4pm - 8pm is available for a limited number of members.

Looking for 45%-65% off The North Face Gear? Who isn't!

Here's a sneak peak at some of the gear that you'll get first choice on, plus racks and racks of other amazing deals on The North Face Sample Gear all at 45% to 65% off!

Tents: Kaiju 4 , Kings Canyon 2 , VE25 , Bastion 4 , Talus 2 , Mica FL 1, Mountain 25 , Simple Bivy , Backpacking Bivy

Equipment: Rolling Thunder 38 , Rolling Thunder 30 , Rolling Thunder 22 , Rolling Thunder 19 , Overhead , Base Camp Duffel XL , Base Camp Duffel L , Base Camp Duffel M , Base Camp Duffel S, Patrol 24 ABS Pack , Matthes Crest 85 , Refractor Duffel Pack , Recon Charged

Sleeping Bags: Youth Dolomite 20/-7 , Dolomite 20/-7 , Dark Star -20/-29C

Apparel: Freethinker GORE Jackets , Down Jackets and vests , Dryzzle GORE Jackets , Venture Fastpack Jackets , Thermoball Full Zip Jackets, Cipher Hybrid Jackets, Apex Bionic Jackets, Apex Pneumatic Jackets, Kilowatt Jackets

PLUS ...

Samples of Footwear, Sleeping Bags, Tents, Jackets, Pants, Rain Wear, Fleece, Clothing, Ski and Snowboard Apparel, Hats, Gloves, Luggage, Youth & Toddler Apparel and much more.

PUBLIC SALE STARTS SATURDAY FEB 27 @ 9AM - 5PM, SUNDAY FEB 28 @ 9AM - 3PM.

There are no exchanges, returns or warranty for samples.

ONLY RSVP NAMES WILL BE PERMITTED ACCESS TO THE FRIDAY FEB 26th PRE-SALE."

There is no signup for this trip. Instead, just sign up through eventbrite at this URL:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/pre-sale-access-fri-feb-26-the-north-face-sales-agency-sample-sale-tickets-21616858606>

The password is available to active VOC members in the message board URL associated with this trip.

NEXT WEEKEND

Right Hand Man Stage Play · Thu. Feb. 25th - Sun. Feb. 28th (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1160>)

Description:

Multi media stage play about ice climbers, by UBC Master's Playwright candidate Stacey Kaser.

A taut psychological drama. An ice climber recalls his marriage to a prominent environmentalist, and the tragic accident that killed her. Featuring Robert Garry Haacke, Pippa Johnstone, and Caitlin Fysh.

Performances Feb. 25 - Feb. 27 at 7:30 PM, Feb. 28 2:00 PM

Dorothy Somerset Studio, UBC

6361 University Blvd.

FREE ADMISSION (Donations gratefully accepted)

<https://www.facebook.com/events/952873108128492/>

Le Garibaldi Nevé - The Second Coming · Fri. Feb. 26th - Sun. Feb. 28th
(<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1146>)

Description:

The Garibaldi Nevé has been described as THE classic ski traverse of the coast mountains. It is a ~40km traverse that takes you from Elfin Lakes to Garibaldi Lake, and out via Rubble Creek. Going this route, total elevation gain is 1460m. The route involves glacier travel and passing through avalanche paths. Therefore, having taken an avalanche course and having crevasse rescue skills is important. Saying this, if there is a high experienced-to-inexperienced ratio, I would consider having people come along who do not have these skills. I would feel comfortable with something like a 3:1 ratio. So even if you dont have AST-1 or glacier knowledge, sign up anyways and we will see what kind of numbers we get! Moderate slopes and well-graded switchbacks will be the most difficult skiing. You should have at least been on backcountry skis before, and summer backpacking experience will be very helpful. I would say if you are comfortable skiing blue runs, and have the ability to survive on black runs, you should be fine in terms of skiing ability.

The gear list is here (http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/Gear_lists#Winter_Overnight) , and you'll need all the personal items on it. We will also bring harnesses. I highly recommend helmets for skiing down through the trees.

It will only run if the avalanche forecast is Moderate or lower and the weather is clear.

Annual Snow Lover's Getaway - Beginner Friendly! · Sat. Feb. 27th - Sun. Feb. 28th
(<http://www.ubc-voc.com/tripagenda/details.php?tripid=1142>)

Description:

Important date change: Snow Lover's will be take place the Feb 28-27.

It's time again... for Snow Lovers Getaway!!!

Spend the beginning end of your Reading Week some time getting down with some sexy snow out at Manning Park Resort.

Saturday we'll have a group lift-ticket discount to practice skiing on the slopes. Sunday, groups can put their new ski skills to the test on some of the local backcountry trails. Ambitious groups could even turn this trip into a multiday touring adventure of the region (with the break and all).

Updated Info!

Lift tickets are \$40 in advance. A sign up sheet will be available in the clubroom starting Feb 3. You must pay before you can come on the trip.

Pre-trip meeting will be held one week before the trip, as I need to confirm numbers with Manning at least one week prior to get our discount. Pre-trip is Feb 17th at 6pm in the clubroom.

This trip IS beginner friendly! Part of the purpose of skiing at the resort is to

build up your ski skills to help you tackle the back country. We will discuss this more at the pre-trip, but car groups may decide to split by skill level and attempt various routes on Sunday.

As always feel free to emails me with questions or post on the message board.

**** Message Board Highlights**

-The yearly discounts on Slipstream First Aid courses (<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum5/read.php?1,116427>) are up!

**** Ms Manners**

Ms Manners is the VOC's resident expert on mountaineering and outdoors etiquette, and answers questions from VOCers once a week in her advice column, here. Do you have a question for Ms Manners? Email the VOCene editor and it will be forwarded on to Ms Manners, with a reply posted the following week.

Hey Ms Manners,

It's cold on the glaciers! I really need a sleeping bag, and a tent, and maybe a new rain jacket for all of the skiing and glacier trips I want to do. Any advice for a poor student?

Cheers,
Cold At Night

Hey Cold,

Good news--The North Face is having a presale and they've invited the VOC, which could help solve your equipment problem. It should be 45-65% off on brand new equipment, which is a pretty good deal.

Beyond that, the Spring Gear Swap is coming up!

Good luck,
Ms Manners

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[Click here to delete this document](#)

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

Varsity Outdoor Club