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Content :

VOCene #18 - November 13th, 2008

In this VOCene:

I. Upcoming Events and Trips

- 1) Ski Tune Night, Nov. 13
- 2) Seymour Day Hike, Nov. 15
- 3) Needle Peak Scramble, Nov 16
- 4) VIMFF Fall Speaker Series, Nov 20
- 5) Brew Hut Ski Trip, Nov. 22-23
- 6) Black Tusk Meadows Ski Trip. Nov 22-23
- 7) Best of Banff Mountain Film Fest. Dec 4-6

II. Avalanche Course: AST 1

III. Telemark Lessons

I. Upcoming Events and Trips

- 1) Ski Tune Night, Nov. 13

Tuning skis is not very hard, but still many people don't do it themselves. This is your chance to see what it's all about. We'll cover edge sharpening and waxing, plus possibly some base repair and skin trimming/repair and any other related topics. VOC clubroom, 6:30 onwards this Thursday.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=1&i=40357&t=40357>

- 2) Seymour Day Hike, Nov. 15

Day trip hike up Seymour this Saturday. Lunch, jacket, and boots are all that are required.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=6548&t=6548>

- 3) Needle Peak Scramble, Nov 16

Little bit of scrambling, but mostly hiking up Needle Peak this Sunday. Beginners are welcome. More involved than the Seymour Trip.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=6608&t=6608>

- 4) VIMFF Fall Speaker Series, Nov 20

A speaker and a film describing some neat bike adventures:

Robbin McKinney 's GREAT BIKE JOURNEYS OF THE WORLD: Bike touring through various countries including Morocco, Thailand, Canada, as well as several in Europe.

Gwendal Castellanos LONG ROAD NORTH: Biking from the southern tip of Argentina to the Canadian Arctic.

http://www.ubc-voc.com/wiki/VIMFF_2008_Fall_Speaker_Series#2nd_Show

- 5) Brew Hut Ski Trip, Nov. 22-23

Early season is the time for hut skiing, and Brew the classic destination. It seems to happen every year in the early season - keen new VOCers head into the gear room, get themselves a tele setup, and head on up to the Brew Hut. This is

the classic telemark trip for new VOCers. It does seem to be full. Perhaps a few spots will open up?

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=6463&t=6463>

6) Black Tusk Meadows Ski Trip. Nov 22-23

The area around Black Tusk Meadows has excellent yo-yo ski terrain, both in the trees and in the alpine. This is an intermediate to advanced skiing trip for people with backcountry experience and avalanche training.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=6585&t=6585>

7) Best of Banff Mountain Film Fest. Dec 4-6

Tickets are selling fast... Hosted in Vancouver by the Alpine Club of Canada - Vancouver Section Tickets: \$15 available in Clubroom. More information, show times, and locations are on the website. Preliminary listing of films:

<http://www.accvancouver.ca/best-of-banff/listoffilms.htm>

II. Avalanche Course: AST 1

There is a beginner avalanche course being planned for Dec 13/14. Details are on the forum. These courses are run in groups of eight. The first eight people who register and deposit their money get to go. We then have a waitlist in case people back out, up until eight more people are interested at which point a second group is formed. If you can't make this one, there'll be another one after Christmas.

<http://www.ubc-voc.com/phorum2/read.php?f=3&i=6612&t=6612>

III. Telemark Lessons

For those curious about learning to ski, the following was written by Roland:

We don't have a formal set of tele lessons, but we do these things:

1) For those who have never skied, (typically Australians, very keen) we go out a couple of weekends and pick a non-threatening destination, likely Red Heather (Diamond Head) and wait for people if necessary (usually necessary).

2) We have one day of lift skiing with tele instruction, on a local mountain (Seymour or Cypress), we get some of our knowledgeable Members to instruct, and the learners get to buy lift tickets for themselves plus part of a ticket for their instructor. We try to get a deal on lift tickets.

3) Somewhat later we have an intro to backcountry camping, where you haul your tent and pack and go somewhere nice on skis. This is not to be confused with

4) Snow Cave Weekend, aka Winter Longhike, happens after the Christmas holiday, where people arrive with snowshoes, skis, boots, etc and spend hours digging caves, then sleep in them, but there's not a lot of time to ski.

If you want to perfect your tele technique, there's no substitute for putting in a lot of time on the slopes, and one way to do that is to buy a seasons pass to one of the local mountains, say Cypress, say Wednesday evening, because then you don't waste the valuable weekends lift skiing.

Manning Park in the spring is cheap (for a lift-serviced area), not crowded (almost deserted).

Awaiting Snow

...Roland Useful Person

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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