

FRIENDS OF



SAWTOOTH
NATIONAL FOREST
AVALANCHE
C E N T E R

PO Box 2669
Ketchum, ID 83340

November 15, 2004

Dear Friends:

With snow on Baldy and in the high country our minds can't help but think of the winter fun that lies ahead for us all. The Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center hopes to help make this season the safest and most memorable yet for you and your friends. ***We need your help to make this happen!***

This year, thanks to the tireless work of Director Janet Kellam (returning for her ninth season) and her staff, the Center will once again provide up to date weather advisories and snow-pack information for winter travelers and backcountry users ***free of cost***. In order to continue this life-saving service and help prevent additional avalanche fatalities, the Friends of the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center needs your help with its Annual Fund ***more than ever***. Approximately 50% of the Avalanche Center's budget is paid for by the Forest Service – the rest must come from private donations.

This year the Friends are working to raise \$30,000. This will:

- Help pay for our new forecaster Chris Lundy's salary and part-time forecaster Jake Amadon resulting in advisories 7 days a week from December into early April
- Perform outreach and avalanche awareness classes locally, in Twin Falls, Stanley and Fairfield, and teach regional snowmobile avalanche safety classes.
- Purchase a Power Point projector and screen for educational programs
- Print logo stickers with avalanche contact information

Thanks to support from Friends and Sponsors, the 2003-2004 season was a great success. Highlights include:

- The Avalanche Center engaged more than 600 people with avalanche classes during the 2003-2004 season
- A full season of avalanche advisories and educational programs was possible
- Advisory accesses were nearly 68,000, an increase of 36% over last year
- A Sawtooth Information Exchange email group formed to facilitate sharing of field observations
- The two weather stations maintained by the Avalanche Center on Titus Ridge and Lower Titus functioned smoothly providing valuable hourly downloads of information.

This year Polaris and Woodside RV are loaning two top of the line snow machines to help us teach classes and improve our advisories to the snow machine community as well.

As the snow begins to fly this winter, we hope you will make a tax-deductible contribution to the Friends of the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center. With your help we can make the backcountry a safer, more enjoyable place for everyone. Thanks in advance for your continued support, have a great season in the snow and we hope to see you at the Best of Banff Film Festival fundraiser this year!

Sincerely,

Louise Stumph
Co-Chair

Steve Butler
Co-Chair

Please turn over for avalanche class and event schedule

Save this Page!

2004-2005 Avalanche Classes and Events

<u>Time & Date</u>	<u>Class/Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
6-9 pm Tuesday, December 7th All day Saturday, December 11 th	Avalanche Basics (3Hr) Field Session	Hemingway Elementary
6-9 pm Tuesday, January 4th All day Saturday, January 8 th	Avalanche Basics (3Hr) Field Session	Community Campus, Hailey
7-8pm Tuesday, January 18 th	Avalanche Awareness (1Hr)	Community Campus, Hailey

These classes are co-sponsored by:
Blaine County Rec, CSI and The Friends of the Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center

February 5,7, 8 2005 ***Best of Banff Film Festival Fundraiser*** NexStage Theater
Co-sponsored by SV Ski Patrol & Friends of the Sawtooth Avalanche Center

Every Thursday, 3PM starting Dec 2nd
(except for holiday weeks) Beacon Clinics in the Ketchum Park and Ride lot
Sponsored by Backwoods Mountain Sports (726-8818)

Please contact the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center at 622-0095 for more information about classes, or check the Calendar of events in the local papers. We recommend the www.avalanche.org website and click on the Sawtooth home page, the Sawtooth education link and the National Avalanche Center link

OBSERVATIONS NEEDED: If you are out and about in the backcountry please phone in your observations to the hot line, especially if you see or trigger any avalanches. 622-0099

Friends of the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center Advisory Committee:

Glen Allison, Steve Butler, Lindy Cogan, Tina Cole, Ross Copperman, Mark & Martha Deffe, Rob King, Michael Kraynik, Matt Leidecker, Michael Malko, Tifney Mann, Beau Mills, Andy Munter, Kelly O'Neill, Nils Ribbi, Bob Rosso, Jeff Smull, Joe & Francie St. Onge, Bass Sears, Louise Stumph, Kay Tenney, Steve Wolper

The Friends would like to especially thank all of our avalanche advisory sponsors this year:
Blaine County, Ketchum Fire Department, the Sawtooth Society, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Sun Valley Mountaineers Club, Deer Creek Fund through the Idaho Community Foundation, Polaris and Woodside RV.