

**FRIENDS OF**



**SAWTOOTH  
NATIONAL FOREST  
AVALANCHE  
CENTER**

**PO Box 2669  
Ketchum, ID 83340**

Dear Friends,

November 15, 2006

**2006-2007**

**Advisory Committee**

**Glen Allison  
Steve Butler  
Lindy Cogan  
Tina Cole  
Ross Copperman  
Matt Gervase  
Brandon Glanville  
Rob King  
Michael Kraynick  
Beau Mills  
Andy Munter  
Nils Ribi  
Bob Rosso  
Francie St. Onge  
Joe St. Onge  
Bass Sears  
Louise Stumph  
Kay Tenney**

This winter the Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center begins its 13th year of operation. Once again, **free of cost** current weather advisories and avalanche conditions will be posted daily for winter travelers and backcountry users. In order to continue this life-saving service and help prevent avalanche accidents and fatalities, the Friends of the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center needs your help with its Annual Fund. Approximately 50% of the Avalanche Center's budget is paid with funding from the US Forest Service; the remainder must come from private donations.

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

- \* Perform outreach and avalanche awareness classes in the surrounding communities.
- \* Help install and maintain a community avalanche rescue training facility accessible to the public on a daily basis.
- \* Provide special Avalanche Awareness Week programs in January & February of 2007.
- \* Help maintain the two Titus weather stations that provide hourly internet information.
- \* Help pay forecaster salaries. Avalanche advisories and educational programs could not be provided without our invaluable staff.
- \* Maintain a Polaris snowmobile on loan from Woodside Motorsports, allowing forecasters to access snowmobile areas in order to provide timely and accurate avalanche conditions for the riding community.

Last winter we were happy to experience a snowy and relatively stable avalanche season. Winter backcountry use increased dramatically from prior dry winters and so did advisory use and avalanche program attendance. The SNFAC counted more than 88,000 advisory accesses (20% increase over last winter) and more than 1,000 participants in a variety of educational programs., KECH radio had a daily 60 second spot at 7:50AM and local newspapers covered avalanche information and awareness throughout the winter. We received rave reviews from all who were able to use the Easy Searcher Avalanche Rescue Training Park. This winter the Avalanche Center is upgrading to eight possible search targets instead of four. Two avalanche fatalities occurred on lands just outside of the SNFAC forecast region, but no serious accidents took place locally.

We have everything in place, and are ready to get the job done, but we need your help!

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 support we can help make the backcountry a safer, more enjoyable place for everyone. Have a great season in the snow, and we hope to see you at the Best of Banff Film Festival fundraiser this year!

Sincerely,

Kay Tenney, for the Friends Advisory Committee

***Please turn over for local avalanche class and event schedule.***

**Save this Page!**

**2006-2007 AVALANCHE CLASSES AND EVENTS**

<u>Time &amp; Date</u>	<u>Class/Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
6-9 pm Tuesday, December 5th All day Saturday, December 9th	Avalanche Basics (3Hr) Field Session	Hemingway Elementary
6-9 pm Thursday, January 4th All day Saturday, January 6th All day Saturday, January 13 <sup>th</sup>	Avalanche Basics (3Hr) Field Session Snowmobile Field Session	Community Campus, Hailey
These classes are co-sponsored by: Blaine County Rec, CSI and The Friends of the Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center		
Every Thursday, 3PM starting Nov 30th (except for holiday weeks)	Beacon Clinics at the Avalanche Rescue Training Park on Sun Valley Road Sponsored by Backwoods Mountain Sports (726-8818)	

** AVALANCHE AWARENESS WEEK **

7-8pm Tuesday, January 30th	Avalanche Awareness Program (1Hr)	CSI Community Campus, Hailey
<b>Beacon training clinics at the Avalanche Rescue Training Park on Sun Valley Road will be offered Thursday and Saturday- check the avalanche advisory for details</b>		
6pm February 1,2,3, Thur, Fr, Sat.	<b>Best of Banff Film Festival Fundraiser and Super Raffle</b> Sponsored by Friends of the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center	NexStage Theater

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](http://www.avalanche.org) website and click on Sun Valley for the Sawtooth home page, the Sawtooth education link and the National Avalanche Center link

**Friends of the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center Advisory Committee:**

Glen Allison, Steve Butler, Lindy Cogan, Tina Cole, Ross Copperman, Matt Gervase, Brandon Glanville, Rob King, Michael Kraynick, Beau Mills, Andy Munter, Nils Ribi, Bob Rosso, Joe & Francie St. Onge, Bass Sears, Louise Stumph, Kay Tenney,

The Friends would like to especially thank all of our avalanche advisory sponsors this year:  
Blaine County, Blaine County Rec. and Galena Lodge, Ketchum Fire Department, the Sawtooth Society, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Deer Creek Fund through the Idaho Community Foundation, Sun Valley Telemark Series, Bureau of Land Management, Polaris and Woodside Motorsports