

**FRIENDS OF**



**SAWTOOTH  
NATIONAL FOREST  
AVALANCHE  
CENTER**

**PO Box 2669  
Ketchum, ID 83340**

Dear Friends,

November 28, 2007

**2007-2008**

**Advisory Committee**

**Glen Allison**

**Steve Butler**

**Lindy Cogan**

**Tina Cole**

**Ross Copperman**

**Matt Gervase**

**Rob King**

**Michael Kraynick**

**Beau Mills**

**Andy Munter**

**Nils Ribbi**

**Bob Rosso**

**Francie St. Onge**

**Joe St. Onge**

**Bass Sears**

**Louise Stumph**

**Kay Tenney**

This winter the Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center begins its 14th 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 \$40,000. 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 2008.
- \* 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 two Polaris snowmobiles on loan from Idaho Dept. of Parks and Rec. allowing forecasters to access snowmobile areas in order to provide timely and accurate avalanche advisories.

Last winter turned out to be a short one, starting late and ending early. This combined with a month-long January dry spell producing a significant drop in winter backcountry recreation use as reflected in the decreased use of the avalanche advisory and in the reduced attendance of our educational programs. The SNFAC counted more than 69,000 advisory accesses and more than 350 participants in a variety of educational programs. One serious accident and burial occurred in Apollo Creek above Baker Creek; the individual was successfully uncovered, life-flighted to Boise, and is all right.

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, which was upgraded to eight possible search targets instead of four and initially installed at the City of SV 5 Acre Parcel and then transferred to Baker Creek trailhead.

**Look for the newly designed AVALANCHE SAFETY brochure!!! 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!**

## 2007-2008 AVALANCHE CLASSES AND EVENTS

| <u>Time &amp; Date</u>                     |           | <u>Class/Event</u>       | <u>Location</u>              |
|--|-----------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6-9 pm Tuesday, December 4th               | (Ketchum) | Avalanche Basics (3Hr)   | Hemingway Elem. Lobby        |
| All day Saturday, December 8th             |           | Optional Field Session   |                              |
| 6-9 pm Thursday, January 8 <sup>th</sup>   | (Hailey)  | Avalanche Basics (3Hr)   | CSI Community Campus, Rm 301 |
| All day Saturday, January 12 <sup>th</sup> |           | Optional Field Session   |                              |
| All day Saturday, January 19 <sup>th</sup> |           | Snowmobile Field Session |                              |

These classes are co-sponsored by:  
Blaine County Recreation, CSI and The Friends of the Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center  
No sign up needed, just show up for classroom sessions. You must attend the classroom to go into the field.

## AVALANCHE AWARENESS WEEK

7-8pm Tuesday, January 28th                      Avalanche Awareness Program (1Hr)                      CSI Community Campus, Hailey

**A beacon training clinic at the Avalanche Rescue Training Park on Sun Valley Road will be offered  
Saturday, Feb 2 from 1 to 3pm - check the avalanche advisory for details**

6pm Jan 31, Feb. 1, 2    Thur, Fr, Sat.    **Best of Banff Film Festival Fundraiser and Super Raffle**    NexStage Theater  
Sponsored by Friends of the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center

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; click on Sun Valley for the Sawtooth home page, the Sawtooth education link and the National Avalanche Ctr. link

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

Glen Allison, Steve Butler, Lindy Cogan, Tina Cole, Ross Copperman, Matt Gervase, Rob King, Michael Kraynick, Beau Mills, Andy Munter, Nils Ribbi, 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, The Wattis Dumke Foundation, Sun Valley Telemark Series, Bureau of Land Management, Polaris and Woodside Motorsports