

FRIENDS OF



**PO Box 2669
Ketchum, ID 83340**

2008-09

Advisory Committee

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

Dear Friends,

Dec 1, 2008

This winter the Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center is working hard to provide the best, most current, snow and avalanche information ever. This is the 15th year of providing numerous classes and daily information for winter travelers and backcountry users.

In this time of economic challenge, we all are feeling the impacts. We need your support as much as ever and hope the Avalanche Center can continue to provide such an excellent service for our community. Approximately 50% of the Avalanche Center's funding comes from the Forest Service, the remainder must come from private donations, partnerships and grants. With your help, we will be able to continue our avalanche programs and daily advisories.

This year the Friends are working to raise \$40,000. This money will:

- * Perform outreach and public education avalanche awareness classes including a new "Know Before You Go" Awareness program for 7th graders.
- * Help install and maintain the community avalanche rescue training facility, accessible to the public on a daily basis.
- * Provide special Avalanche Awareness Week programs in January of 2009.
- * Help maintain the two Titus weather stations that provide hourly information.
- * Maintain two Polaris snowmobiles on loan from Idaho Department of Parks & Rec., allowing forecasters to access snowmobile areas.
- * Record special 60 second radio spots for daily avalanche information on KECH

Last winter proved to be an avalanche prone winter for the communities of the Wood River Valley. Fortunately no one was injured, although there were definitely close calls and some damage to homes. We feel the efforts of the Avalanche Center were instrumental in helping alert people to conditions and better understand how to live and play in avalanche country. Last year we set a new record for advisory use, nearly 100,000 internet accesses and hotline calls. This winter we expect to see even more people seeking winter recreation in the backcountry.

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,

**Check the Advisory:
SawtoothAvalanche.com
622-8027**

Kay Tenney, for the Friends Advisory Committee

Please turn over for local avalanche classes and special event schedule.

Save this Page!

2008-2009 AVALANCHE CLASSES

<u>Time & Date</u>	<u>Class/Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
6-8:30 pm Tuesday, December 2 nd (Ketchum) All day Saturday, December 6 th	Avalanche Basics (2.5Hr) Optional Field Session	Hemingway Elem. Lobby
6-8:30 pm Tuesday, January 6 th (Hailey) All day Saturday, January 10 th	Avalanche Basics (2.5Hr) Optional Field Session	Hailey Community Campus, Rm 301
6-8:30 PM Monday, January 12 th (Hailey) All day Saturday, January 17 th	Avalanche Basics for Snowmobilers Optional Snowmobile Field Session	Woodside Motorsports

These classes are co-sponsored by:

Blaine County Rec, , Woodside Motorsports and The Friends of the Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center

❄️ AVALANCHE AWARENESS WEEK ❄️

7-8pm Tuesday, January 27th Avalanche Awareness Program (1Hr) Community Campus rm 903, Hailey

A beacon training clinic at the Avalanche Rescue Training Park on Sun Valley Road will be offered Saturday the 31st from 1 to 3PM- check the avalanche advisory for details

6pm Jan 29,30,31 Th,Fr, Sa **Best of Banff Film Festival Fundraiser and Super Raffle** NexStage Theater, Ketchum
Sponsored by Friends of the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center

New This Winter!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21 7-9PM

The NexStage Theater - Main Street, Ketchum

❄️ A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH LEADING U.S. AVALANCHE PROFESSIONALS ❄️

Does Avalanche Research Help You, Joe Backcountry?

Karl Birkeland, PhD.	Bozeman	FS National Avalanche Center
Ian McCammon, PhD.	Salt Lake City	Avalanche Researcher
H.P. Marshall, PhD.	Boise	Boise State University
Christine Pielmeier, PhD.	Davos	Swiss Institute for Snow Research

For more information about classes

Check our website WWW.SawtoothAvalanche.com and check the Calendar of Events in the Idaho Mt Express.

Or contact the Sawtooth NF Avalanche Center at 622-0095

The Friends would like to especially thank all of our Avalanche Advisory Sponsors this year:

Blaine County Search and Rescue, The City of Ketchum- Ketchum Fire Department, the Sawtooth Society, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Smiley Creek Lodge, The Wattis Dumke Foundation, Sun Valley Telemark Series, Twin Falls Bureau of Land Management