
Summit Huts Association HUTMASTERS' JOURNAL

Winter 2006/2007 • Volume 16, Issue 1

A Newsletter & Update for Friends of Summit Huts

NEW FOR 2007: BEACON BASINS AT JANET'S AND FRANCIE'S CABINS



CONTENTS

By early 2007, visitors at Francie's and Janet's Cabins will have a new means to hone their search skills using avalanche rescue equipment; a Beacon Basin will be installed at each hut. Summit Huts is excited to be able to offer this unique opportunity to our hut visitors; currently there are roughly 50 Beacon Basins installed throughout North America and Europe and we are the first in the U.S. to install Beacon Basins at backcountry huts. Hut users are a great target group to encourage to be proficient with rescue equipment, and this is a very user friendly way to practice with beacons and probes.

So what exactly is a Beacon Basin? A Beacon Basin is a training tool developed by Backcountry Access (BCA) to simulate an avalanche debris field in which the user attempts to find buried avalanche victims (transmitters) using his or her avalanche beacon. Our

Beacon Basins will consist of four and six permanently buried transmitters that are wired to a central control panel, where they can be turned on and off remotely. The user decides how challenging a scenario they wish to work on, with one transmitter on being the easiest and all on being the most challenging. The buried transmitters are not actual beacons and will not work if removed from their wiring. There will be detailed instructions and a user log book at each cabin..

Thanks to Scott Toepfer and BCA for making this happen. For more information on Beacon Basins, including

locations, please visit www.bcaces.com/beaconbasin.

BEACON
BASINS.....1

LETTER
FROM THE
PRESIDENT.....2

OPERATIONS
UPDATE.....3

VOLUNTEER
HUT TRIP.....3

TREASURER'S
REPORT.....4

BCB
WRAP UP.....4

THANK
YOUS.....5

SHA
CALENDAR.....6



Control panel for an 11 transmitter system--Summit Huts will install a one 6 and one 4 transmitter system at Francie's and Jane's. A toggle switch controls how many transmitters are "on" (transmitting) at any time, thereby controlling how difficult a scenario the user is working on.



*Summit Huts
Association
Board of Directors*

Executive Board

President:

John Warner, DDS

Vice President:

Scott Toepfer

Treasurer:

Bill Souba

Secretary

Maggie Lifland

President Ex-Officio

Rich Rowley

Advisory Board

Wayne Brown

Tim Casey

John Cooley

Robbie Dickson

Scott Downen

B.J. Garcia

Jana Hlavaty

Tom Jones

Barbara Mertus-Munyon

Roanne Miller

Dan Munyon

Bob Pazik

Leslie Ross

Katie Royce-Salazar

Brad Sawtell

Paul Semmer

Jack Wolfe

Honorary Board

Brownell Bailey

George Beardsley

Al Cohen

Bob Craig

Kate Dernocoeur

Ben Eiseman

John Fielder

Greg Finch

Tom Glass

Cindy Gray

Rick Hum

Art Hyde, Jr.

Steve Johnson

Christopher Pizzo

Glenn Porzak

John Rutter

Frank Shafroth

Tim Tyler

John Wells

Staff

Hannah Taylor

Mike Zobbe

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Connections

The word “connections” has many connotations in the non-profit world. It is often thought of as “who can we ask for the next big donation”, “who do we know that can help us”, or how do we “connect” with our community. All of these connotations are helpful in the life of Summit Huts Association. However, lately I have been reminded of another simpler context for “connections”. That is, our connection with friends and acquaintances from the past and present. No agenda, no needs, no wants, just a positive reflection upon the people in our lives.

This fall I had the pleasure of re-connecting with Kate Dernocoeur. Kate is one of our major donors for Janet’s Cabin and I thought of her many times as I was helping with chores there. Kate sounded good and well. She is a gracious and selfless person who is Janet Boyd Tyler’s daughter. Janet Boyd Tyler is the namesake of Janet’s Cabin. My time at Janet’s Cabin this fall allowed me to reflect upon this wonderful person and reach out and reconnect with her.

Dr. Ben Eiseman and his lovely wife, Mary, were another form of “connection” for many of us at this years Backcountry Ball. Ben was instrumental in the early days of the Summit Huts Association both as a fund raiser and as an organizational whirlwind who helped us all in making sure our fledgling organization got off the ground. Ben was a great connector for us and introduced me to Mr. Chuck Froelicher in 1988, the then executive director of the Gates Family Foundation. I was privileged to reintroduce myself to Mr. Froelicher this past November and personally thank him for his and the Gates Family Foundation’s significant early support of the Summit Huts Foundation.

In conclusion, I believe that this is a time of year when we should all take time to reflect on all of the positive “connections” which have enriched our lives.

John G. Warner
President, SHA

OPERATIONS UPDATE

MIKE ZOBBE, SHA OPERATIONS MANAGER

It's now December and another ski season is upon us. From the operations perspective, the great push in the months leading to get the huts ready for opening day are busy times, once December rolls around, it's time to take a little breather. This summer and fall were pretty typical for SHA, we had no major projects that we had to rush to complete like we did last year with the Francie's basement remodel.

After a week long delay due to a major snowstorm, helicopter day was on September 24. This year's edition of heli day featured a K-Max heavy lift ship that is capable of ferrying loads of up to 3500 pounds to the hut. We found it difficult to fill our cargo nets with enough wood to take advantage of the machine's capacity until we began to string two nets together. This made quick work of the wood pile, but meant that the crews at either end of the operation had to really hustle to keep up with the machine. As always, we owe so much to our volunteers who worked very hard in snowy conditions.

Another change in heli day this year was that we used Copper Mountain as a staging area instead of Climax mine property. We were a bit concerned that the extra distance between would increase the flight time (and thus the expense), but it turned out to be about the same turn around time and we came in under budget. Thanks to the folks at Copper Mountain for allowing us to use the ski area, we look forward to working with them again next year.

On July 13, 2007, Janet's Cabin will open for summer use for the first time in the history of the hut. It has been a two year process working with the Forest Service, Colorado Department of Wildlife and US Fish and Wildlife to make sure that we do it right. We are very excited to be able to provide this great opportunity for folks to use the hut and experience beautiful Guller Creek valley in the summer time. It will be a short season, only six weeks to protect the wildlife in the area during their critical times, but it will be a spectacular time to stay at the hut!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION HUT TRIP MOVED TO SATURDAY NIGHT

This year, the Volunteer Appreciation Hut Trip will be taking place on the night of Saturday, April 14, 2007 and we'll be headed up to Francie's Cabin for what we hope will be some incredible spring skiing. For the past few years, we have received feedback that the midweek trip to Janet's Cabin was not feasible for many people, especially when it followed so closely after the midwinter volunteer work days at Janet's and Francie's. It's taken a while, but we've paid attention!

The Volunteer Appreciation trip is open to anyone who has volunteered within the past year, and does not count against the Hutmasters' Quarters certificates that one earns as a volunteer. No manual labor is involved, this is a big thank you to all the volunteers who keep this organization running, we could not do it without you. Please contact us at the office to sign up.

TREASURER'S REPORT

BILL SOUBA, SHA TREASURER

The calendar says we are nearing the end of another year. We would like to thank all those people that have contributed of their time and money during the past year. The contributions of our hut users, volunteers, event participants, and donors, allow us to provide the high level outdoor experience you have come to expect. We could not do it without your support.

As you work your way through your holiday gift list and year-end planning, we hope you will consider an end of year gift to Summit Huts. Your cash contribution, made before December 31st, may be deductible for 2006 income tax purposes. Also, you may direct your donation to the Summit Huts General Fund or to our new Hut Development Fund. Donations to the Development Fund will be used for the identification and development of future hut sites in Summit County.

As we approach the lottery, bringing the first reservations for the 2007/2008 season, you will undoubtedly notice a few changes in the fee structure for the Summit Huts. Having not increased hut user fees in more than five years while watching costs increase yearly, the board of directors has approved a small rate increase effective for the 2007/2008 winter season. Janet's and Francie's Cabins will now be \$31/person/night, the Section House will be \$28/person/night and Ken's Cabin will remain at \$69/cabin/night for up to 3 people. This rate increase is necessary for us to continue providing a high quality hut experience for our users and also for the organization to remain fiscally sound.

Thank you again for a wonderful 2006. May 2007 bless you with deep snow, sunny days, and many safe trips into the Colorado backcountry.

SHA WRAPS UP ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BACKCOUNTRY

The 5th Annual Backcountry Ball was held at The Berghof Restaurant in Breckenridge on Saturday, October 21. The Backcountry Ball was well attended, no one appeared to be deterred by the snowy weather, distant satellite parking lots and many flights of stairs. There were many different interpretations of "hut evening wear", dressed up silk robes, flannel pjs, and plain old long underwear; we do appreciate the fact that by all appearances and aromas it seemed to be clean.

Despite the mainly dressed down appearance of the Backcountry Ball, Summit Huts did have some important business to attend to. For the third year, Summit Huts had an Honored Guest at the Backcountry Ball. This Honored Guest is someone who has made significant contributions to Summit Huts and/or to skiing in Colorado. In the past two years, Trygve Berge, Edna and Max Dercum, Freda Neiters, Olav Pederson, and Sigurd Rockne have been recognized. This year SHA recognized Dr. Ben Eiseman with an Honorary Lifetime membership for his many contributions to this organization. As noted in John Warner's letter, Dr. Eiseman was key in the initial organization of Summit Huts. We were very pleased Dr. Eiseman could be with us.

The Backcountry Ball is SHA's only fund-raiser of the year, and it was a successful on that front as well, raising over \$13,000 for the organization, including over \$5,500 for our Educational Scholarship Fund. Thanks to everyone who helped pull this off again this year, especially to our presenting sponsor, the Breckenridge Ski Resort, also to Alpine Bank, Jeffrey Bergeron, Breckenridge Brewery, John & Neide Cooley, Krystal 93, Maggie Lifland, Roanne Miller, Dan & Barb Munyon, Rich & Maryann Rowley, Summit Daily News, Dr. John G. Warner, DDS, the many auction donors, and last but not least, the volunteers who ran the evening without a hitch. Hope to see you all again next year!

FRIENDS OF SUMMIT HUTS

DECEMBER 1, 2005 - DECEMBER 1, 2006

The generosity of all our contributors is key to the success of our organization. We apologize if we missed anyone. Please notify us of any errors or omissions.

Life Hut Tripper (\$1000 or more)

John & Neide Cooley
Maryann & Rich Rowley
Jane Alexandra Storm
Jack & Wendy Wolfe

\$500-\$999

Breckenridge Lands, LLC
Brownell Bailey
Mark & Colleen Richmond
Dr. John G. Warner, DDS

\$250-\$499

Charles & Kathleen Cannon
Gary & Janet Freese
Cindy & Brett Gray
Maggie Lifland
John & Debra Lowrey
Peter Macdonald

Hut Tripper (\$100-\$249)

Bruce Anderson & Lynne Gertz
Joan Bothner
Tor Brunvand
Peter Clarke
Larry & Janet Crispell
Pete Cvietusa & Debbie Efrid
Kate Dernocoeur
Lee & Deb Edwards
Juli Goodhue
Reggie & Pam Gray
George & Melissa Gruber
Tim Guenther
Constance Hauver
Richard & Jennifer Heth
Kip Hughes
Frank & Myra Isenhard
Tom & Mae Jones
Sarah & Thomas Kaesemeyer
Sandy & Jerry Kucharczyk
Amy Lange
Lois & Dave Lenorovitz
Roanne Miller
Turk Montepare & Deb Crook
Stu Perlmeter
Adam & Anne Poe
Mark & Helene Roback
Robert Rust
Paul & Marti Semmer
Cheryl Shaw
Jim & Rosanne Shaw
William & Elizabeth Slaughter
Scott & Deb Sodergren
Bill & Lisa Souba
Renee Steeve
Summit Daily News
Giles Toll

John Tyler
Frederick & Nancy Wolfe

Hut Nut (\$50-\$99)

Kate Brewer
Cathy Cloutier
Dan Connell
Marsha & Cary Cooper
Mark D'Augelli
Paul Dickinson
Kendra Driemeyer
Ellen & Robert Gordman
Jana Hlavaty
Dave Newkirk & Susan Lazo
Lee Rimel
Steve & Laura Rossetter
Frank Shafroth
Gary Soles
Pat Spitzmiller
Lane Wyatt
Brian York

Family & Individual (\$25-\$49)

Peter Antos-Ketcham
Meta Barton
Scott Beattie
Daniel Bednarksi
TK Boyd
Ruth Buchheit
Drina Burns
Hazel & Patrick Chaffee
Betsy Cochran
Colin & Jen Crotty
Amy Delaplaine
Robbie & Andrea Dickson
Edgar Downs
Maggie Ducayet
Ellen Dumm
Judy Fetzer
Ann & Tim Gagen
Debra Ganter
Kim & BJ Garcia
Julie & Lee Gelman
Leigh Girvin
Sharyn Grace
Ken Gross
Rick & Linda Hague
Helen Hertzog-Mang
Leo House
Rick Hum & Karen Ortiz
Mike & Alice Israel
Terri Johnson
Linda & Bruce Johnson
Bill & Loretta LaVelle
Fran Lazarus
Brian & Vi Mauldin
Ket McSparin
Eddie & Susan O'Brien

Robert Parker
Bob Pfeiffer
Dee Phelps

Anita & Steve Poole
Jeff Poole & Julie Spivey
Todd & Barbara Rankin
John Roberts
Sandra & Randolph Rolf
Leslie Ross
Katie Royce-Salazar
John Rynes & Mary Lou Johns
Brad Sawtell & Heide Andersen
Melissa Stabile
Ambur Stevens
Joe Stevens
Candace Suechting
Scott Toepfer
Merle & Jill Turner
Bryan & Sue Whitcomb
Karen & Steve Wilkinson
Larry & Pamela Willhite
Jane Wingle

Event Sponsor

Breckenridge Ski Area

Grants

The Summit Foundation

In Kind

Alpine Bank
Jeffrey Bergeron
Breckenridge Brewery
Breckenridge Ski Area
Krystal 93

Lifetime Members

Kenneth Adams
Arrow Insurance
Breckenridge Lands, LLC.
Brownell Bailey
Tim & Patti Casey
John & Neide Cooley
Chuck Lenzmeier
Rob Neyland
Don Nilsson
Hattit Potts
Jane Alexandra Storm
Daniel Ritchie
Rich & Maryann Rowley
Valerie Williams
Jack & Wendy Wolfe

Honorary Lifetime Members

Trygve Berge
Edna Dercum
Max Dercum
Dr. Ben Eiseman

Freda Langell Neiters
Olav Pederson
Sigurd Rockne

Volunteers

Tony Berge
Ruth Buchheit
David Bumgarner
Tom Castrigno
Lee Cohen
Judy Conway
Deb DeCrausez
Robert Deering
Paul Dickinson
Robbie Dickson
Kerrie Donham
Mark Fentner
Andrew Fox
David Fox
Kim Garcia
Fred Genske
Peg Gibson
Shelly Grail
Brett Gray
Cindy Gray
Jeremiah Greif
Ken Gross
Rick Hum
Alice Israel
Mike Israel
Bailey Jefferson
Dave Jefferson
Lauren Jefferson
Sharon Jefferson
Doug Johnson
Philip Key
Jerry Kucharczyk
Sandy Kucharczyk
Mark Lain
Maggie Lifland
Matt Livingston
Fred Marmsater
Shireen Marshall
Peter Martin
Bob Mayer
Ket McSparin
Erin Meinhart
Roanne Miller
Doris Molinero
Morris Molinero
Dominick Morone
Wendy Morone
Dan Munyon
Lin Murphy
Anita Poole
Jeff Poole
Steve Poole
Maryann Rowley
Rich Rowley
Lisa Souba
Julie Spivey
Renee Steeve
Scott Toepfer
Leah Venturoni
Thomas Volekhausen
Lawrence Walsh
Carre Warner
John Warner
Andrew Warren
Jack Wolfe

Summit Huts Association Winter 2006/2007 Newsletter



PO Box 2830
524 Wellington Rd..
Breckenridge, CO 80424

Phone: 970-453-8583
Fax: 970-453-9860
Website: www.summithuts.org
E-mail: summithuts@colorado.net

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Breckenridge, CO
Permit No. 88

PLEASE FORWARD: ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

Summit Huts Baseball Caps



100% Cotton
Available in
Black, Pink & Tan

Logo Colors:
Black cap logo is Red, White and Black
Pink cap logo is Pink, White, and Black
Tan cap logo is Red, White, and Black

\$20.00 each

Hut Reservation Information

Availability: www.summithuts.org Hut Reservations: 970-925-5775

Check out the web page for hut availability, volunteer opportunities, photo albums, and other good information. Hut rates for the 2006/2007 season will not change at Summit Huts. Rates are \$28/person/night at Janet's & Francie's cabins, \$26/person/night at the Section House, and \$69/night (up to 3 people) for Ken's Cabin. Rates at the 10th Mountain Division Huts are \$28/person/night. Rates at other hut systems range from \$26-\$36/person/night.

SUMMIT HUTS CALENDAR JANUARY - JULY 2007

JANUARY 6 - 8
LEVEL 1 AVALANCHE COURSE
FRANCIE'S CABIN

JANUARY 20 - 22
LEVEL 1 AVALANCHE COURSE
JANET'S CABIN

FEBRUARY 15
VOLUNTEER WORK DAY
FRANCIE'S CABIN

FEBRUARY 24
VOLUNTEER WORK DAY
JANET'S CABIN

APRIL 14
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION
HUT TRIP
FRANCIE'S CABIN

APRIL 30
SECTION HOUSE
& KEN'S CABIN
CLOSE FOR WINTER

MAY 13
JANET'S & FRANCIE'S CABINS
CLOSE FOR WINTER

JULY 1
FRANCIE'S CABIN
OPENS FOR SUMMER

JULY 13
JANET'S CABIN
OPENS FOR SUMMER



Summit Huts Association operates Janet's Cabin, Francie's Cabin, The Section House & Ken's Cabin under special use permit with the Forest Service, USDA. SHA is an equal opportunity provider.

This newsletter copyright
Summit Huts Association.
All rights reserved.