

2008-2009 Annual Report



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The winter of 2008 - 2009 marked yet another year of growth and success. The Sierra Avalanche Center continues to function as a partnership between the Tahoe National Forest and a volunteer Board of Directors with 501(c)(3) not for profit organization status. This relationship continues to strengthen both operationally and financially while continuing to gain community support.

Some of the accomplishments from this past season include:

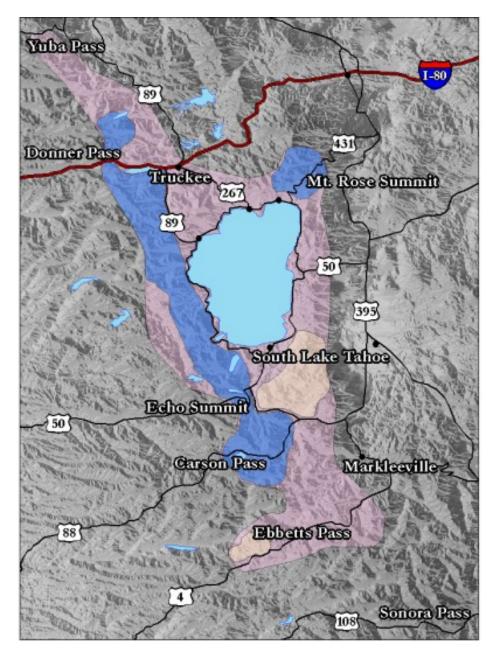
- The Board of Directors successfully raised \$73,547.98 to support the Sierra Avalanche Center's operating budget.
- The Tahoe National Forest provided \$12,575 in infrastructure support and \$5,000 for forecaster salaries.
- The advisory web page was accessed 241,282 times by 52,359 people from July 1st through April 27th.
- A new record of 5,113 page loads in a single day was set on March 4, 2009.
- The Sierra Avalanche Center issued 133 avalanche advisories and 1 early season snow condition report.
- The Sierra Avalanche Center provided outreach education to the Tahoe National Forest and at the Steep and Deep Avalanche Awareness clinic at Squaw Valley.
- The forecasters continued to strengthen their working relationship with the National Weather Service in Reno, NV in order to provide better mountain weather information for the creation of the avalanche advisories.
- The Board of Directors obtained sponsorship for the Sierra Avalanche Center from Thin Air Motorsports and Polaris Industries.

We would like to extend our gratitude to everyone who has put forth time and effort to support the Sierra Avalanche Center.

Brandon Schwartz and Andy Anderson Forecasters Sierra Avalanche Center Tahoe National Forest

Advisory Area

The advisory area of the Sierra Avalanche Center covers approximately 1,500 square miles of the Central Sierra Nevada Mountains of California and Nevada. The advisory area is bound by Hwy 49 Yuba Pass on the north and Hwy 4 Ebbetts Pass on the south. The advisory covers the avalanche terrain along the Sierra Crest and extends to the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada. Two inroads to the west side of the Sierra Crest exist within in the advisory area at Carson Pass and at Ebbetts Pass, in order to include the backcountry terrain surrounding the established boundaries of the Kirkwood and Bear Valley ski areas.



Map of the Sierra Avalanche Center forecast area.

Advisories

Between December 13th and April 25th, the Sierra Avalanche Center issued 133 daily avalanche advisories. The number of advisories issued for each danger level was 43 Low, 64 Moderate, 19 Considerable, 6 High, and 0 Extreme. Additionally, one early season snow condition report was posted on December 3rd.

After several feet of snow accumulated during the second half of December, three weeks of high pressure dominated most of January. A five week period of cold high intensity snow storms ran through February and into March. Typical spring conditions with periodic small storm events occurred during March and April.

Advisories were available 24 hours a day, 7 seven days per week on the web and by phone. The advisory web page was loaded 241,282 times this past winter. During the forecasting season from December 13th to April 25th, the advisory was viewed an average of 1,653 times per day with a record single day maximum of 5,113 page loads occurring on March 4th. The recorded phone message was accessed over 3,000 times. The total number of page loads increased by approximately 100,000 compared to last winter. An online archive of advisories can be found at:

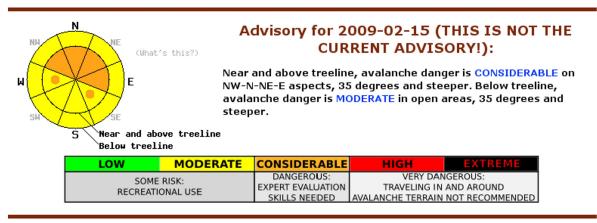
http://www.sierraavalanchecenter.org/phpBB2/.



Crown of an intentionally skier triggered avalanche on Silver Peak, Upper Pole Creak Drainage, CA. Photo credit Andy Anderson

Example Advisory:

This advisory was posted on 2009-02-15 and covers the Central Sierra Nevada Mountains between Yuba Pass on the north and Ebbetts Pass on the south. This advisory applies only to backcountry areas outside established ski area boundaries. This advisory describes general avalanche conditions and local variations always occur. The information in this advisory is provided by the USDA Forest Service who is solely responsible for its content.



A map of the SAC forecast area is available on our home page.

Yet another storm system is impacting the forecast area this morning. This system is stronger than the storms observed over the last 9 days and is taking aim at the northern portion of the forecast area. An additional 3 to 7 inches of new snow fell over the Sierra Crest last night with the greatest accumulations observed north of Lake Tahoe. Less new snow accumulated overnight in the Mount Rose area. High intensity snowfall is expected to begin around 10 am this morning and spread south through the forecast area as the day progresses. New snow amounts of 18 to 40 inches are forecast over the next 48 hours with the greatest accumulation rates overnight into Monday. Air temperatures in the upper teens and low 20s this morning are expected to warm into the low to mid 20s today. Ridgetop winds have shifted to southwest and south overnight and increased from moderate to strong in speed.

Yesterday, human triggered slab avalanches were widespread both above and below treeline. Intentional and unintentional skier triggered avalanches were reported from Becker Peak (Echo Summit area) photo, Silver Peak (North of Squaw peak) photo 1, photo 2, Deep Creek (North of Squaw Peak), and Carpenter Peak (Independence Lake area) photo 1, photo 2. An isolated natural avalanche was reported at the head of Deep Creek drainage. All avalanches that occurred were on N-NE-E aspects on slopes 35 degrees and steeper. Avalanches that occurred on Becker, Silver, and in Deep Creek were in wind loaded or wind affected areas with the failure layer at the base of the new snow that fell overnight February 13-14. Crown heights measured 10 inches to 2 feet. On Carpenter Ridge, avalanches failed on the rain crust / facet layer at the interface of the January 22-23 rain crust and the February 6 storm snow. Crown heights measured 3 to 6 feet. All reported avalanches were size D2, large enough to bury a person.

Today, continued instability within the snowpack will allow human triggered avalanches to continue, mainly above 7,000' on NW-N-NE-E aspects that are 35 degrees and steeper. The threat of isolated natural avalanches remains possible today, especially after the onset of high intensity snowfall later this morning. Snowpack failure within the recent storm snow and on the faceted snow crystals just above the January 22-23 rain crust is expected to continue. Ridgetop winds that have shifted and increased in speed during the overnight hours are expected to have allowed wind loading to continue and further enhanced slab formation in lee areas. The ability of humans to trigger avalanches may be more difficult today than yesterday, but the consequences of becoming caught in an avalanche will remain high. The greatest areas of snowpack instability are expected to continue to occur along the Sierra Crest where the greatest snowfall amounts have occurred over the past 9 days.

The bottom line:

Near and above treeline, avalanche danger is CONSIDERABLE on NW-N-NE-E aspects, 35 degrees and steeper. Below treeline, avalanche danger is MODERATE in open areas, 35 degrees and steeper.

Brandon Schwartz - Avalanche Forecaster, Tahoe National Forest

Central Sierra Weather Observations for 2009-02-15:

0600 temperature at Sierra Crest (8,700 feet):	17 deg. F.
Max. temperature at Sierra Crest past 24 hours:	19 deg. F.
Average wind direction at Sierra Crest past 24 hours:	Southwest shifting to south.
Average wind speed at Sierra Crest past 24 hours:	54 mph
Maximum wind gust at Sierra Crest past 24 hours:	97 mph
New snowfall at 8,200 feet past 24 hours:	3 to 7 inches
Total snow depth at 8,200 feet:	104 inches

2 Day Mountain Weather Forecast starting 2009-02-15:

For 7000-8000 ft:

	2009-02-15:	Overnight:	The next day:
Weather:	Cloudy skies with snow.	Cloudy skies with snow.	Cloudy skies with snow.
Temperatures:	22 to 29 deg. F.	12 to 19 deg. F.	21 to 28 deg. F.
Wind direction:	s	S	s
Wind speed:	20 to 30 mph with gusts to 50 mph	20 to 30 mph with gusts to 50 mph	15 to 25 mph with gusts to 40 mph
Expected snowfall:	4 to 8 in.	4 to 8 in.	6 to 12 in.

	2009-02-15:	Overnight:	The next day:
Weather:	Cloudy skies with snow.	Cloudy skies with snow.	Cloudy skies with snow.
Temperatures:	20 to 25 deg. F.	10 to 17 deg. F.	17 to 24 deg. F.
Wind direction:	s	S	S shifting to SW in the afternoon
Wind speed:	40 to 60 mph with gusts 80 to 100 mph	40 to 60 mph with gusts 80 to 100 mph	30 to 50 mph with gusts 70 to 90 mph
Expected snowfall:	4 to 8 in.	4 to 8 in.	8 to 14 in.

For 8000-9000 ft:

Field Observations

The avalanche center's formal program of avalanche, snowpack, and weather information gathering improved again season. A marked increase in the number of observations provided by the public through the online submittal form to the website occurred during 2008-2009. These additional observations from the general public were used to increase the number of observations used in creating the daily avalanche advisories. Public feedback on the quality of the advisories was very positive.

Alpine Meadows, Central Sierra Snow Laboratory, Heavenly, Kirkwood, Mt. Rose, Squaw Valley, and Sugar Bowl submitted observations to the avalanche center on storm mornings with afternoon updates often submitted. Mountain Adventures Seminars, a guide service in Bear Valley, CA also shared its field observations with the avalanche center. This information, combined with observations submitted by the public, was an important supplement to the information gathered by forecasters Brandon Schwartz and Andy Anderson, as well as professional observers Steve Reynaud and Bill Jaskar.

The Board of Directors worked with Thin Air Motorsports to establish sponsorship of the avalanche center by Polaris Industries. Two brand new 2009 Polaris 800 Dragon RMK 155 snowmobiles were loaned to the avalanche center for the entire operating season. With these snowmobiles, the forecasters were able to make observations in high snowmobile use portions of the forecast area that are difficult to access on skis alone in a single day. These snowmobiles were also used to travel a cross country route between Carson Pass and Ebbetts Pass, allowing the forecasters to make field observations in both areas in a single day.



Forecaster Brandon Schwartz rides cross-country from Carson Pass to Ebbetts Pass, CA.

2008-2009 Season storm and snowpack summary

The 2008-2009 winter was another below average snow year across the forecast area. After a very warm and dry fall, snowfall remained meager until the last two weeks of December. Only 50-60 inches of snow fell from November 1st through December 20th. This snow only covered the shaded northerly aspects. Most areas still had bare ground exposed through the middle of December. During this time the snow that did remain on the high elevation northerly aspects quickly faceted due to cold clear nights and very little sun exposure. The first significant snowfall of the year occurred December 20th -26th. 47 inches of snow fell during this six day period. This brought the first widespread avalanche cycle to the forecast area as weak layers/interfaces within the new snow and the old facets failed. Crown heights ranged from one to four feet and overall size of these slides ranged from D1-D3. This Christmas storm brought December's snowfall total up to about 90 inches.

2009 started with a month of high pressure with a few small storms mixed in. This high pressure brought melt-freeze conditions to the forecast area in January. The low sun angles and cold nights limited the melting phase of this extended melt-freeze cycle and helped allow the shallow snowpack to gain some strength. After four weeks of dry calm weather, a subtropical storm moved into the forecast area on January 22nd. By January 26th this warm and wet storm dropped over two inches of rain up to 8700' and 29 inches of snow above 8700' across the forecast area. The drainage channels established by the long period of melt-freeze conditions leading up to this storm helped to prevent large deep wet slab avalanches. The fluctuating freezing levels and sustained wind loading by southwest winds resulted in another widespread avalanche cycle of wind slabs sliding on hard crust layers and near surface facets above 8700'. Wet slab avalanches and sluffs occurred due to rain on new snow below 8700'. Most of these slides ranged in size from D1-D2. This storm marked the end of precipitation for January. The month ended with a whooping 39 inches of total snowfall.

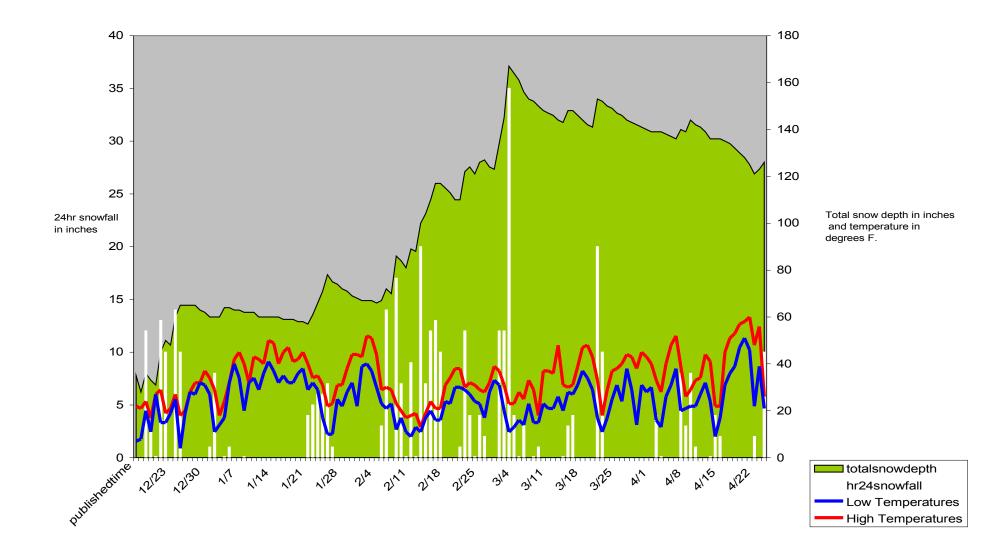
A return to high pressure followed until February 5th. During this high pressure the rain froze into a thick supportable crust, melt-freeze conditions returned to the southerly aspects, some near surface facets formed on the northerly aspects. After warming up enough to soften some of the snow surfaces during the day on February 5th temperatures quickly dropped and snow started falling. By February 7th seven inches of snow had accumulated in the north end of the forecast area and 17 inches in the south end. In the south end of the forecast area the easterly winds following this storm moved enough snow to create human-triggerable wind slabs on westerly aspects. This cold, light snowfall on top of a warm, wet snow surface with a very hard, thick rain crust below it started to facet. Over the next 11 days this faceting continued as the temperatures remained cold. They did not climb any higher than 24 degrees F. until February 18th. These facets would not have been a problem except for the fact that 95 inches of snow fell on top of them between February 9th and February 18th. Initially, the cold temperatures kept snow densities low and limited slab formation. Several soft slab avalanches occurred due to natural and human triggers with crowns ranging from one to five feet. between February 9th and February 18th. Near the end of this time period the new snow had consolidated into a more cohesive slab and some deep slab avalanches started to occur due to the failure of the facets sitting on top of the January rain crust. Around February 11th the Squaw ski patrol triggered a large deep slab (D3, 8ft. crown) with a large explosive trigger on this layer. On February 14th the first skier triggered

avalanche occurred on this layer (D3-R5, 3-6ft crown). After this stormy period ended on February 18th, temperatures started to warm up and the snow that had fallen since February 9th became even more cohesive. This snow gained strength much faster than the facets below it and soon human-triggered, deep-slab avalanches began occurring again on this layer. First a large intentional cornice drop triggered a deep slab on February 20th. The next day two skier avalanches occurred on this layer. The following day another skier triggered avalanche occurred on this layer that resulted in a fatality. Who knows how much longer this deep slab instability would have been an issue because on the night of February 22nd another warm, wet subtropical storm moved into the forecast area. By February 24th three to four inches of rain had fallen on the snowpack below 7500'. A mix of rain and snow fell between 7500' and 8500', and heavy wet snow fell above 8500'. This quickly overloaded the fragile snowpack, and a large, widespread avalanche cycle resulted. This cycle seemed to clean out most of the deep slab instabilities lurking in the forecast area. More cold weather and snow followed this storm through the end of February bringing monthly snowfall total up to 135 inches.

The stormy weather pattern continued through the first six days of March as another 66 inches of snow fell across the forecast area. Another widespread avalanche cycle occurred due to wind loading and storm snow weaknesses. This storm marked the end of the large Sierra storms for the winter. 201 inches of snow fell between February 6th and March 6th. This represented almost 55% of the entire winter's snow. Clear weather and high pressure returned to the forecast area after this storm. Gradual warming and gradual increases in sun intensity over the rest of the month helped to consolidate the snowpack. Two more moderate storms moved through the forecast area on March 16th and 17th about seven inches of new snow fell and on the 22-23 about 30 inches of new snow accumulated. Small avalanche cycles due to storm snow weaknesses and wind loading occurred during each of these storms. During the month of March 104 inches of snow occurred.

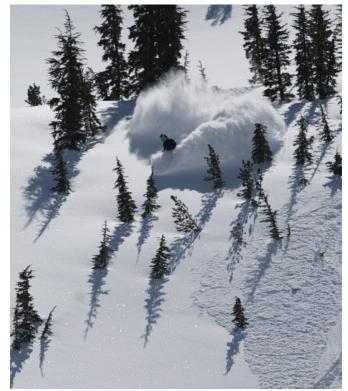
The spring conditions that prevailed in the last three weeks of March continued into April. A few small storms moved through and managed to bring a total of 42 inches of snow to the forecast area during the month. No significant avalanche activity occurred during these storms. The weather highlight of April came during the week of the 19th as the forecast area saw record high temperatures. Even with five days of continuous above freezing overnight temperatures, intense melting due to the April sun, and daytime highs in the mid to upper 50's above 8000' no significant wet snow avalanche activity occurred. It seems that the melt-freeze cycles in January and March, and the rain events in January and February had created enough drainage channels in the snowpack to quickly move the water produced by this late April heat wave through the snowpack and to the ground. During the last week of April a more active weather pattern returned to the forecast area with small storms and cooler weather through the end of the month.

By the end of April the forecast area had received about 380 inches of snow during the winter. This amount represents about 85% of average for the forecast area.



Board of Directors

The Sierra Avalanche Center operates as a partnership between the Tahoe National Forest and a Board of Directors with 501(3)(c) not-for-profit status. The mission of the Sierra Avalanche Center includes disseminating current snowpack stability information to the general public; providing educational information, knowledge, and understanding of avalanches to recreational users and groups; and facilitating communication in the region to reduce the impact of avalanches on recreation, industry, and transportation. The Board of Directors includes Justin Broglio (CEO), Don Triplat (Secretary), Randall Osterhuber (CFO), Dave Beck, Cameron Bordner, Larry Heywood, Jeremy Jacobson, Bob Moore, Chip Morill, Jason Oelkers, Todd Offenbacher, Dave Paradysz, and John Swanson. The Advisory Committee to the Board of Directors includes: Debby Broback, Phil Caterino, Hank Hennessy, and Jen Lees. The Board of Directors is the financial backbone of the Sierra Avalanche Center. Through soliciting donations from the public and organizing/marketing fund raising events, they are the major source of funding for the Sierra Avalanche Center. Money raised by the Board of Directors covers approximately 78% of the operational costs for the Avalanche Center. Through a collection agreement with the Tahoe National Forest, these funds pay for forecaster salaries and the costs of professional level continuing education. Additionally, the Board of Directors provides compensation for contracted professional observers and some equipment needs for the forecasters.



Board member Jeremy Jacobson takes a break from fundraising. Red Lake Peak, CA.

Sierra Avalanche Center – Financial Summary

The Board of Directors successfully raised \$73,547.98 from the local community this season. These funds were used to pay 78% of the operating costs of the avalanche center including \$47,280.64 towards salaries for two Tahoe National Forest avalanche forecasters. The remaining 22% of this year's operating funds came from the Tahoe National Forest in the form of \$12,575 in infrastructure support and \$5,000 contributed to forecaster salaries. A complete itemized budget is listed below.

The Board of Directors of the Sierra Avalanche Center raised funds for the season through several different avenues including private donations, online donations, resort donations for the SAC Ski/Ride Days, and advertising.

The "Ski Days" continue to serve as the primary fund raising events for the Sierra Avalanche Center. The Board of Directors used their connections in the Tahoe ski industry to partner with seven ski resorts for these Ski Days. Each resort donated between 250 and 500 lift tickets for a specific day. The Board of Directors set a fixed public donation amount necessary to receive a lift ticket for the Ski Day as a thank you gift.

To facilitate the distribution of these tickets to the donors, SnowBomb.com donated its services as an e-lift-ticket provider. The public donated by selecting the specific ski day that he/she wanted to attend by clicking the appropriate icon on the SnowBomb.com website. After the transaction was confirmed, he/she was able to print an e-lift-ticket from the website. SnowBomb.com retained \$1 from each lift ticket sale to help cover their credit card processing and other administrative fees. All remaining funds went directly to the Board of Directors.

The "Support the SAC: Ski/ Ride Day" at each resort featured Question & Answer sessions with Tahoe National Forest avalanche forecasters and a Meet & Greet of the volunteer SAC Board of Directors. Skiers and snowboarders could inquire about avalanche conditions and anything else related to backcountry travel and recreation.

Backcountry ski gear was donated by several companies and used as raffle prizes at each SAC Ski/Ride Day throughout the season. The Board of Directors sold raffle tickets for \$2 each throughout the day. All of the proceeds from the raffles went directly to support the Sierra Avalanche Center. In the afternoon, skiers and snowboarders gathered around anxiously as the lucky raffle winners claimed new backcountry gear.

Several local clubs, organizations, and foundations made cash donations to the avalanche center. The El Dorado Nordic Ski Patrol, North Tahoe Snow Travelers, Stanford Alpine Club, Tahoe Adventure Film Festival, Tahoe Backcountry Ski Patrol, and Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue were all significant contributors.

The Board of Directors encouraged donations from the general public via the website, by mail, or in person. The Board of Directors accepted cash, checks, and donations via credit card or electronic transfers through a PayPal donation link on our website. Through these avenues, the Board of Directors received 70 individual donations from the general public that totaled \$6,899.00. The average donation amount was \$99.99.

On a smaller scale, the Board of Directors raised awareness for each of the SAC Ski/Ride Days and the possibility of online donations through donated advertising received from local newspaper stories, radio and TV public service announcements, local utility bill mailers, and through several online communities (i.e. – forums and discount websites).

Ski Resorts – SAC Ski/Ride Days Fundraisers – Details

- Alpine Meadows Ski Resort
 - Donated 250 adult all day lift tickets to be used by the Sierra Avalanche Center as fundraising incentives.
 - Funds raised \$8,750.00
- Heavenly Mountain Resort
 - Donated 200 adult all day lift tickets to be used by the Sierra Avalanche Center as fundraising incentives.
 - Funds raised \$9,000.00
- Kirkwood Mountain Resort
 - Donated 300 adult all day lift tickets to be used by the Sierra Avalanche Center as fundraising incentives.
 - Funds raised \$8,228.00
- Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe
 - Donated 500 adult all day lift tickets to be used by the Sierra Avalanche Center as fundraising incentives.
 - \circ Funds raised \$910.00
- Northstar-at-Tahoe
 - Donated 300 adult all day lift tickets to be used by the Sierra Avalanche Center as fundraising incentives.
 - Funds raised \$12,000.00
- Sugar Bowl Resort
 - Donated 500 adult all day lift tickets to be used by the Sierra Avalanche Center as fundraising incentives.
 - Funds raised \$17,220.00

Fundraising partners and the services they provided:

SnowBomb.com

• Primary e-ticketing partner. Donated their service to facilitate online lift ticket distribution for the SAC Ski/Ride Days. Through these services the Sierra Avalanche Center raised \$56,108.00.

Heavenly Professional Ski Patrol

• Pending cash donation from their annual fundraising party.

- Porters Tahoe
 - Cash donation of \$2,000. Product donation of \$1,000 for giveaway during SAC Ski/Ride Day fundraisers.

Thin Air Motorsports and Polaris Industries

• Full season loan of two Polaris Dragon RMK 800cc 155" snowmobiles. Donated all cost of service labor incurred during operating season. Estimated product and services value \$22,000.

Backcountry Access

• Product sponsorship. Donated product for giveaway during SAC Ski/Ride Day fundraisers. Estimated product value \$3,000.

Black Diamond

• Product sponsorship. Donated product for giveaway during SAC Ski/Ride Day fundraisers. Estimated product value \$270.

Mountain Hardware

• Product sponsorship. Donated product for giveaway during SAC Ski/Ride Day fundraisers. Estimated product value \$1085.

The Real Graphic Source

• Product sponsorship. Donated printing services to advertise SAC Ski/Ride Day fundraisers. Estimated product value \$500.

Pacific Crest Snowcats

• Product sponsorship. Donated product for giveaway during SAC Ski/Ride Day fundraisers. Estimated product value \$600.

Patagonia

• Product sponsorship. Donated product for giveaway during SAC Ski/Ride Day fundraisers. Estimated product value \$500.

Voile-USA

• Product sponsorship. Donated product for giveaway during SAC Ski/Ride Day fundraisers. Estimated product value \$570.



Sierra Avalanche Center Board Member Todd Offenbacher taking a break from fundraising in an undisclosed location.

Board of Directors Profit and Loss 2008-2009

Sierra Avalanche Center	
Profit & Loss	
November 1, 2008 through April 28, 2009	Nov 1, '08 - Apr 28, 09
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
CD Interest Earned	242.91
Donation	
Alpine Mdws lift ticket sales	8,750.00
Alpine Mdws Ski Day cash	204.00
Donation thru mail	7,039.07
Heavenly lift ticket sales	9,000.00
Kirkwood lift ticket sales	8,228.00
Kirkwood Ski Day cash	264.00
Mt. Rose Ski Day	910.00
Northstar lift ticket sales	12,000.00
Online donation thru PayPal	5,649.00
Sugar Bowl lift ticket sales	17,220.00
Sugar Bowl Ski Day cash	168.00
Donation - Other	3,873.00
Total Donation	73,305.07
Total Income	73,547.98
Expense	
Bank service charge	181.90
Business Trade Fair	1,000.00
Chamber of Commerce	110.00
Field Observations	4,800.00
Filing Fees	-62.81
Forecaster equipment	1,000.00
Insurance	2,178.00
Non-profit status fee	
Tax status filing fee	
Tax preparation	654.90
Tax refund	111.74
Total Tax status filing fee	766.64
Non-profit status fee - Other	25.00
Total Non-profit status fee	791.64

Office Supplies	7.10
Payroll	47,280.64
Processing fee	2,647.40
Refund	-1,310.40
Returned check	
Return item fee	4.00
Returned check - Other	100.00
Total Returned check	104.00
SAC Logo wear	50.00
Snowmobile equipment	185.85
TD Chamber of Commerce	115.00
Travel/Training	1,829.06
Website server fee	500.00
Total Expense	61,407.38
Net Ordinary Income	12,140.60
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	3.93
Total Other Income	3.93
Net Other Income	3.93
Net Income	12,144.53



Tahoe National Forest Winter Sports Specialist Hank Hennessy on the job.



Cathy Jo Johnson Genti Cuni Esther Kim

James and Kelly Conley Sam Christian Thomas Springett Demetri Mouratis Bruce Farrenkopf John Venturino

Andersen Yun Genevieve Evans Konrad Motzek

Petzl **Richard Herms** Don Cross Jason McLachlan David Rector

(\$20 - \$99) Makin It Happen, LLC Dave Erskine Alex Herrera Jill Fuss Joyce Caires

Louie Fielding

Scott Clark

OW

James G Marsden Dean Bosche

Ann Hafner Mark Hamilton **Rick Nolting** Cameron Stewart Jennie Markoff