

Alaska Mountain and Wilderness Huts Association

Our mission: *Include Alaska's back country in a worldwide tradition of places in which hikers and skiers can travel hut-to-hut, and provide warm comfortable huts in inspiring settings to foster camaraderie and promote wilderness education and stewardship.*

What the Huts Association Board Does

Rev. approved 3/12/01

Our board of directors believes a hut to hut system would be good for Alaska—as an outdoor education venue, for a sense of community, and for pure fun as a different option in the backcountry. The most important thing about us as board members is our belief in the huts concept, an acceptance of the mission (above), and an internal enthusiasm about the concept that translates into action:

- We develop and approve all policies, because we are the ones legally responsible for the organization.
- We actively plan an annual budget, and responsibly see that the organization sticks to that budget.
- We each give a substantial financial contribution to the association annually, as suits our own financial situations, to show to other potential contributors that we put our money where our mouths are.
- We participate in fundraising, each one of us, either doing somewhat less of the face-to-face asking for support or somewhat more of the background applying for funds or organizing events.
- We attend monthly board meetings and other outdoor and indoor Hut Association events, and we each serve on action groups or committees, with a guideline of dedicating an average of eight hours per month to the Huts Association.

We trust each other to act in the best interest of the organization, each in our own way, with the knowledge, support, and approval of the board as a whole. To ensure we remain focused, we continually remind ourselves and each other of basic questions about why we are here:

What skills do I have that this association needs right now, or in the future?

What do I expect to get out of my participation on the board?

What past board or group experience do I have that will be helpful here?

What are my weaknesses; how can I work around them to benefit the association?

What is it that motivates me to keep the organization going?

We welcome new board and association members. We include them in our community; listen to and respect their views; provide financial reports and any other “tools” to understanding the organization; and give straight answers to questions they have in carrying out their fiscal, legal, and moral responsibilities to the Huts Association.