

## MEET YOUR SPORTSMAN VALLEY NEIGHBOR

In a small cabin about halfway up the road towards the lookout on Forrest Drive from the back gate. A small man accomplished a small part in the development of Sportsman valley property owners' association. **Kurt Staudenecker** purchased his land in late 1960 or early 1961. With the dry conditions in the forest, he was able to purchase lumber from a sawmill on the top of Kenosa Pass. They delivered the rough sawn lumber to his building sight in SVPOA. He built his chalet in 1961, the first cabin to be built except for the old log cabin that was built near the main gate in the 1800's. Except for the packrats, he has been a part time resident for the last 60 years. Along with his son, Mike, they have been sanding, staining and finishing the outside as time permits. Kurt's thoughts are that most people his age die at home, so he says he is always on the go and never at home. He celebrated his 90 birthday in May of 2022.

He is still a very active member of SVPOA. May of 2020 found him on forest Drive cutting up trees that had fallen across the fence and the road going up the hill. He not only cut-up the trees but stacked them in small piles for others to take to their cabin for firewood.

Spring of 2021 came in with a lot of high wind, it tipped a very large pine tree, about a 15-foot root ball in diameter out of the ground, landing parallel to his cabin. It will take many hours with his chain saw to remove this 75-to-100-foot pine tree parallel to his cabin.

After 61 years his cabin chalet is like it was when new. Kurt now calls Leadville, Co. home (in the winter months).

Written by Larry O. Baker July 2022.