



SUN VALLEY’S CELEBRATED KNOB HILL INN SET TO REOPEN DECEMBER 15 FOLLOWING MAJOR RENOVATION

A \$750,000 project enhances guestrooms, lobby, event space and more



Caption L-R: Guestrooms at Knob Hill Inn received full cosmetic upgrades; the grand lobby was renewed with a dual purpose: to welcome guests upon check-in and to also invite them to linger après ski

Ketchum, Idaho (November 30, 2011) – On the heels of a \$750,000 renovation, Sun Valley’s Knob Hill Inn will welcome guests to experience its enhanced European charm and luxurious guestrooms, along with unparalleled views and an unbeatable location, when it reopens on Thursday, December 15. The extensive remodel has brought the celebrated Sun Valley hotel back to the forefront of Ketchum’s ski-lodge properties.

“As an Idaho native with strong ties to the Sun Valley community, I have a personal dedication to this iconic property,” explains John Oppenheimer, co-owner of Knob Hill Inn as well as founder and CEO of Columbia Hospitality. “I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to play such an integral role in making Knob Hill Inn an inviting community gathering place for locals and the destination of choice for those who visit Sun Valley, one of America’s most celebrated recreation destinations.”

Spearheaded by Seattle-based interior design firm Cynthia Mennella Design and Ketchum-based General Contractor Carter Ramsay of Ramsay Solutions Inc., the inspiration for the renovation was developed by juxtaposing modern design elements with traditional Alpine chalet architecture, transforming the existing property into a sophisticated and comfortable environment.

“Being mindful of Sun Valley’s four distinctive seasons, it was important to blend color, values and tones to create a timeless, seasonal appearance,” said Interior Designer Cynthia Mennella. “The earth-centric color scheme, composed of subtle natural hues, smoky gray beams and wood tones, is accented

by rich textures and natural fibers, including reclaimed wood and locally-sourced stone.” Highlights of the renovation include:

- The Inn’s grand lobby has been renewed with a dual purpose: to welcome guests upon check-in and to also invite them to linger near a double-sided fireplace constructed of Boulder Mountain flagstone flanked by cozy chenille-covered chairs with leather ottomans. A large silver gray area rug made of sea grass and natural fibers provides a warming effect over a dark gray slate floor.
- Guestrooms have been updated with full cosmetic upgrades. New frameless glass showers and brushed nickel fixtures in the bathrooms play to the modern comfortable design aesthetic. Each room also boasts amenities such as Keurig coffeemakers, iHome Clock Radio and iPod docks and L’Occitane En Provence Toiletries.
- The focal point of the enhanced dining area is an accent wall, created from horizontal stacked slate, as well as a custom chandelier, created by local artist Kurt McAuley, out of branches and natural fibers, that floats below each barrel vault on the ceiling.
- A double-sided ribbon fireplace, appointed with Boulder Mountain stones, sourced from the neighboring town of Hailey, opens to both the lobby and lobby bar, creating an open, comfortable atmosphere for relaxing après ski.
- A custom designed sliding barn-style door was installed between the main dining area and the Fireplace Room, providing the option of a private dining space. A communal dining table made of reclaimed wood sits in the Fireplace Room and can seat up to 50 guests at once, or can be reconfigured into four separate tables.

Built in 1992 and designed to invoke rich European alpine architecture, the Inn is situated within walking distance of downtown Ketchum and offers unparalleled views of world-famous Bald Mountain, and the majestic Sawtooth and Boulder Mountain ranges.

Knob Hill Inn was purchased in August 2011 by a group of investors including Fred Crosetto, CEO of Ammex Corp. in Kent, Wash.; Eric Bensussen, President and co-founder of BDA, Inc. in Woodinville, Wash.; Robert Cimino, CEO of Plaza Provision Company in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and John Oppenheimer, CEO and founder of Columbia Hospitality, together with his brothers Doug and Skip Oppenheimer. Shortly after the acquisition, Columbia Hospitality was selected to manage the hotel.

Knob Hill Inn

Situated in the heart of Sun Valley, Knob Hill Inn pairs European alpine charm and distinctive service with unparalleled views of world-famous Bald Mountain, and the majestic Sawtooth and Boulder Mountain ranges. Its central location, within walking distance to downtown Ketchum, offers instant access to the outdoor recreation for which the iconic ski town is known, including skiing, snowshoeing and ice skating in the winter and in the warmer months, fishing, golf, hiking, biking and more. The recently renovated hotel offers 29 graciously appointed guest rooms, event spaces and outdoor garden terraces. The Grill at Knob Hill, located in the hotel, provides guests a casual and comfortable, yet

sophisticated venue to enjoy distinctively Northwest cuisine. For more information on Knob Hill Inn, please visit www.knobhillinn.com.

About Columbia Hospitality

Columbia Hospitality, Inc. (Columbia), a Seattle-based hospitality management and consulting firm specializing in luxury hotel and resort management, was founded in 1995 by John Oppenheimer. Columbia's growing portfolio of premier properties, including boutique hotels, award-winning resorts, event venues and conference centers, offer world-class service in exquisite settings. Columbia creates memorable experiences for guests and team members while achieving phenomenal results for owners. The company's continued success has led to an international expansion of the consulting division and more than 100 hospitality development projects worldwide. For more information about Columbia and a full list of properties visit www.columbiahospitality.com.

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