New, Newer and Newest

As we approach the final two months of 2012 the activity and final adjustments for the year do not slow down. First, thanks to all of you that responded to the Tequila’s fire on Sunday morning October 7th. This was an example of a building with light weight construction and laminated I-beams in the ceiling that failed rather quickly causing the ceiling to collapse in the rear of the structure. This fire became quickly a defensive fire and with our mutual aid partners was handled quickly and safely. The word from the owners is that they plan to rebuild with even a larger facility. Also means fire sprinklers will be added to the new building.

Last week we completed the new SCBA project with all apparatus in the department exchanging their old air packs for the new NexGen7’s. This is one more step in providing the best possible equipment for our firefighters regarding firefighter safety and survival. There are also new RIT bags on both Tower 1 and Truck 4. If you haven’t completed your initial training on the new system, please contact Lt. Kehoe as soon as possible. Captain Gross is evaluating equipment placement on Tower 1 with the addition of the new RIT bag and attempting to relocate some other equipment to facilitate ease of use on this apparatus. Please contact Captain Gross if you have any questions.

I have been attending meetings with all of the Fire Chiefs in Jefferson County with the new Jefferson County Emergency Manager. The new Emergency Manager is Assistant Chief Clint Fey from West Metro. This position, while under the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office, is being job shared with West Metro Fire Protection District. Chief Fey retains his rank and employment with West Metro but the job is being funded by the County and West Metro. What is beneficial for us is that there is a fire service professional managing Emergency Management for the entire County. One of the first topics we have been addressing is apparatus nomenclature and apparatus numbering within the County. There are nine dispatch centers in the County and with that there are 10-Engine 1’s. Some of the departments use no identifier prior to their apparatus number and some do. This makes it real confusing on mutual aid situations and for most dispatch centers. Beginning in January 2013 the Jefferson County Fire Chiefs have adopted some changes in radio terminology stan-
dardizing the nomenclature of various apparatus. The changes bring us into compliance with NIMS and standard ICS terminology. There are only two changes for Golden Fire. The first being the term Squad will be changed to Utility. Therefore we will be eliminating Squad 1 and Fire 1. The new designations will be Utility 1 (Squad 1) and Utility 2 (Fire 1). The second change is for Attack 4. All Type 1 through Type 3 engines will be designated as “Engine” and all Type 4 through Type 6 engines will be designated as “Brush”. Therefore effective January 1 Attack 4 will be changed to Engine 5.

Another possibility before the Jefferson County Chiefs is apparatus numbering. More than likely the County will be split into a metro group and a mountain group with Highway 93 being the dividing line. Departments in the metro group/east of Highway 93 will take on a two digit numbering system and those in the mountain group/west of Highway 93 will take on a three digit numbering system. It is a fairly simple system. More than likely Golden Fire will be assigned the 20’s series. Basically this means every rig will have their existing number with a 20 in front such as Engine 21, Truck 24, Engine 23, etc. A start date for this change has not been adopted yet as some dispatch centers haven’t been contacted about the change. This type of system is currently being utilized by Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties for the north and south metro areas.

Later this month we will be conducting interviews for a new Training Officer. As of today we are reviewing six of the thirty applications received and will be inviting a minimum of three individuals to the interviews in mid-November. The position was advertised as a “Training Officer” rather than a “Training Chief”. The rank will be assigned by the Fire Chief depending on qualifications of the selected individual and may be either a Captain or Division Chief.

Following the selection of a new Training Officer we will be into the December elections for Volunteer Assistant Chief and Captain. We have a good mix of applicants for both positions. Also in December we will be conducting the testing and evaluation for up to six Lieutenants. We have had thirteen members apply for Lieutenant and should have a very competitive process. All new Assistant Chief, Captains and Lieutenants will take on their new positions in January with an official swearing in at our annual Awards Banquet on January 25, 2013 at the Fossil Trace Golf Club. (Save the date)

The process for the 2013 Recruit Academy began on November 1. We will be conducting a joint recruit academy with Fairmount as per the new agreement passed by City Council. The Academy will start in mid-February and graduation is anticipated in early July. I am anticipating we will bring on four to six new personnel for 2013 and attempt to maintain a membership tally of 95 volunteers in 2013. To clear up any rumors, Fairmount has discontinued their process for hiring a new Training Officer. Their position will be filled internally. They also hired a new volunteer coordinator/recruiter who will work closely with our Training Division to manage the 2013 academy.

All of this being said it has been an active and productive year for Golden Fire. As we approach the holiday season I want to express my sincere thank you to our staff and our membership of volunteers. You all make what is Golden Fire today. Thank you.
Gratitude is a quality similar to electricity: it must be produced and discharged and used up in order to exist at all.” ~William Faulkner

Fire prevention month has come and gone for 2012. The theme this year was “Have 2 ways out.” We had seventeen opportunities to talk with the families of our community about the importance of having a fire escape plan and practicing it. Seventeen events put us in contact with hundreds of people who received a message about safety. Seventeen times we increased our positive relationship with the community. We had seventeen successful public education events because many of you gave of your time and talents to make them happen.

Thank you to everyone who drove or staffed a rig for public education. Thank you to everyone who gave a station tour. Thank you to everyone who donned your PPE and SCBA so that children could see what we will look like if we have to rescue them from a fire. While I am responsible for coordinating the public education program for GFD, you are the ones who make it work. A program is only an idea unless willing people give it life. I am grateful for you. Thank you!

NUMBERS FOR OCTOBER 2012

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Calls - 114</th>
<th>Hazardous Condition - 10</th>
<th>Mutual Aid Given - 0</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District # 1 - 61</td>
<td>Clear Creek Canyon - 2</td>
<td>Average Response Time - 04:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District # 2 - 48</td>
<td>Miller Coors Property - 1</td>
<td>Average Firefighters/Call - 6.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Response - 6</td>
<td>Out of City/Other - 0</td>
<td>Average Total Time/Call - 40:47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue/EMS - 60</td>
<td>Mutual Aid Received - 6</td>
<td>Est. Fire/Damage Loss - $630,155</td>
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Nominations for Firefighter of the Year & Jack Harvey Award Deadline

Don’t forget to submit your nominations for the 2012 Firefighter of the Year and Jack Harvey awards. The nominations must be received no later than 08:00 on Monday, December 3, 2012. All sealed nominations must be submitted to Chief Bales or given to Debbie Testroet.
For their actions as an engineer on Truck 4 at two structure fires. The Elm Cir. Condominium fire in September and the fire at Tequilas restaurant in October. More photos on pages 8 & 10.

**Anniversaries**

**12 Years**
- Bruce Peters 11/07/2000
- JJ Risch 11/07/2000

**9 Years**
- Joe Gross 11/04/2003

**7 Years**
- Adam Maiers 11/01/2005
- Eric Gettenberg 11/01/2005

**6 Years**
- Noah Creaven 11/07/2006

**2 Year**
- Jeannette Kehoe 11/29/2010

**Birthdays**

- Casey Daniel 11/14
- Brandon Daruna 11/16
- Jeff Hulse 11/21
- John Johnson 11/17
- Aaron McNally 11/29
- James Rudnicki-Vasquez 11/07
- Rocco Snart 11/17
- Mark Testroet 11/27
- Chase Whitaker 11/03
Happy month of Thanksgiving! I just wanted to share a short update as to where we are with Emergency Reporting, iPads in the trucks and basic overall reporting. It seems that most of us have settled in quite well with the new reporting software (Emergencyreporting.com) and the two programs that are being dubbed our “responder” programs, Active911 and Iamresponding.com.

Emergency Reporting has now fixed the “alarm time” issue. It is the same time as our dispatch time but now you no longer have to go in and enter those times. The other good thing with this is that it should sort them in the proper order now and make it easier to find your reports. It took quite a while to achieve this but it is currently working in our favor again.

There is still time to get with Chad Wachs or I to set up your account with Active911 for call alerting or as it is called in Droid land, Cadpage. Right now these programs are free but as they end their beta testing, it may have an associated fee for the app. We will let you know if and when that happens. I would like to use this moment to clear a few things up. We do not use this program to alert anybody as to who is responding to the station unless they purposely look on the iPad in the truck to view this information. We are still relying on I Am Responding to alert the staff at the station via the large TV monitor in Station 1 and Station 4. I Am Responding is still the primary alerting system as to who is responding for the calls.

Active911 has mapping attached to the call that works approximately 99% of the time in regards to accuracy. Occasionally some have noted it does not direct them to the correct place. That is why we have left the map books in the rigs and will be leaving the map books there for any back up mapping you would need.

We will also be adding three new iPads to Rescue 1, Attack 4 and Brush 1. I will let you know when that happens but we are looking to have them in before the end of 2012. With this new addition we will also be purchasing the EMS module that goes with the reporting software. I have obtained new information as to how it will enhance our HIPPA compliance along with privacy protection of our EMS narratives. We will be doing some training when this gets implemented on or around January 1, 2013.

As mentioned at the recent November Business Meeting, I will be working this next two months to get the maintenance and work requests automated through Emergency Reporting as well as the inventory module. The Training module will not be far behind this implementation as well.

Thank you to everybody for your continued support as we navigate our way into the 21st Century. I would like to thank Steven Parker, Fire Inspector for all his hard work implementing the Occupancy module. The Fire and Life Safety Department is completely automated in the field with their inspection app thanks to all Steven’s hard work. Happy Thanksgiving everybody!
Taking A Look Within...

One of the great things about being on a fire department is the camaraderie that can be found in nearly every firehouse throughout the country. You can come into the firehouse, see a lot of fellow brothers & sisters of the department, enjoy each other’s company, struggle through the tough times and celebrate the good times. This is one of the driving factors of why people are enamored by the fire service and stay with it for a long time.

However, Colorado, Golden, and GFD have changed and will continue to change. When you look at a modern fire department, you see people of both sexes, all races, varying ages, assorted educational backgrounds, many nationalities, varied sexual orientations, and differing faiths. Step outside the firehouse and the differences can be even more prevalent among the citizens of our community.

So, let’s examine this a little closer, this unique blend of people is typically referred to as diversity. Diversity is generally defined as acknowledging, understanding, accepting, valuing, and celebrating differences among people with respect to age, class, ethnicity, gender, physical and mental ability, race, sexual orientation, spiritual practice, and public assistance status (University of Florida, 2002). That is a very broad statement and we would argue encapsulates every person you encounter on a daily basis.

As a department, we live by the mission statement “…to enhance the quality of life for the Golden Community…” This mission statement is true both inside and outside the fire station. How we perform our duty is the main factor of achieving this mission. However, this mission can also succeed or fail based on how we treat each other, our community members, and how we are perceived.

So, how does our mission statement relate to diversity? We strive to “enhance the quality of life.” However, quality of life of the citizens of Golden or the members of GFD is not enhanced by making derogatory statements in the firehouse, on the truck, or in the community. We want to focus on the interaction between our fellow firefighters.

A derogatory statement is a statement that is detracting from the character or standing of something or someone. In other words, it is a put-down. When you make derogatory statements about something or particularly someone, you are degrading the quality of life and thus, failing to achieve our mission statement.

A few examples:

When cruising down Washington Street in the Engine and you see an attractive female, you quickly point out the attributes of her figure.

(Continued on page 7)
Driving the Rescue up the canyon and a car only partially pulls off the road, making you have to slow down and pass in the opposing lane and conclude “what a retard.”

Sitting on the balcony watching the world roll by and you make reference to the lack of rain and comment “why does that idiot have a towel wrapped on his head?”

Watching the big game in the day room when the quarterback throws an interception and you reflect “that is gay.”

These statements, while not directed at a particular person within earshot, can have a tremendous impact on their self-confidence, comfort level, or feeling of acceptance around their fellow firefighters.

You just degraded a female. How does that make the female firefighter in the other seat feel?

You just made a reference to someone’s intellect and the firefighter riding in the back seat gets reminded again what his or her sibling hears every day at school.

Do you know the religious practices of every person around you?

The firefighter sitting next to you has been ignored and rejected by their family for years because they are gay.

Each of these statements, while made quickly in the moment, are unprofessional and can have a compounding effect on anyone within earshot. These statements slowly chip away at someone’s self-confidence and makes him or her uncomfortable. These statements make someone feel like an outcast. These statements make people grow distant from a supposedly supportive group. These statements make people quit the fire service. These statements drive people into depression. These statements cause people to commit suicide. This is not an enhancement to the quality of life.

So, what can be done around the firehouse to respect diversity? Respect Diversity by being kind and professional. Get to know your fellow fighters. Ask questions & discuss differences in a non-confrontational manner. Think about what you say and who you are saying it to. When you say something offensive, own up to it and apologize. When you hear something offensive, address it in a professional manner. Basically, set high morals and strive to achieve them. You won’t always reach them, but you will grow by trying. Each human is inherently deserving of love and compassion. Even more than that, treating citizens with love and kindness is a part of our job. But it doesn’t end there. We must treat each other with love and kindness as well.

Several of these topics, particularly religion and sexual orientation, are highly contentious topics and are generally driven by individual moral compasses. People have strong beliefs on these and many other attributes of life. It is not expected that everyone within the firehouse will have the same moral beliefs and understandings, but it should be a goal of the department that everyone has respect for each other and all members act professionally. For example, you don’t have to accept someone’s religion, but you do need to respect it.
The makeup of GFD has changed. It is more diverse than ever. But we all still want to enjoy the brotherhood and sisterhood of the fire service; it is a key motivator and source of enjoyment for most fire fighters. The brotherhood is the essence of a successful department and a successful department puts the wet stuff on the hot stuff and helps the citizens of Golden whenever the tone drops. So moving forward, respect the diversity of GFD, welcome all who sacrifice to join the brotherhood and commit themselves to making the department strong. Long live the brotherhood!

Through kindness, understanding, and respect of others, we truly feel we can “…enhance the quality of life…” for everyone.
Buy ONE item regular price, get any of the following items in the stated sizes for the prices listed below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Regular Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Long-sleeved T-shirt (L and XXL only)</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>$10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workout Shorts (XXL only)</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>$20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweatpants (XL and XXL only)</td>
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<td>$15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crew neck Sweatshirt (any size)</td>
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REGULAR CLOTHING PRICES

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Short-sleeved T-shirt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ball cap</td>
<td>$15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter beanies</td>
<td>$10</td>
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Prices are valid for retirees Contact: Lt. Kehoe for more information 303-215-8888
On October 7 at 01:20 Golden Fire Department was dispatched to a possible structure fire at 17535 S. Golden Rd., Tequilas Restaurant. Upon arrival Battalion Chief Burrell saw heavy smoke from the roof. Chief Burrell immediately requested an aerial apparatus from Pleasant View. Engine 1 established a 5 inch supply line and initiated an interior attack. Truck 4 was the next Golden unit to arrive on scene and also established a 5 inch supply line and set up for aerial operations. Additional units were requested from Fairmount and West Metro for support. Due to the dense smoke and excessive heat the interior crews were pulled out of the structure and all units began a defensive attack. After extinguishment Fire Marshal Stricker determined the fire to be accidental in nature and originated in the kitchen cooking area. After five hours, 10 apparatus and 23 fire personnel cleared the scene. Damage from the fire was estimated at $785,230.00.

On November 5 at 16:20 the Golden Fire Department was dispatched to a motor vehicle fire on westbound I 70 just past C 470. Upon arrival Battalion Chief Burrell reported visible flames under the rear of a suburban that was pulling a travel trailer. Engine 1 was the first unit on scene and used a pre-connected 1 3/4" line to knock down the fire. The fire was quickly extinguished and was contained to the vehicle and front left side of the trailer. The fire caused approximately $11,000 worth of damage to the vehicle and travel trailer.
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<td>Work Detail Battalion 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Detail Battalion 1</td>
<td>TBD 18:30 Station 1</td>
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November 2012
Old Golden Christmas Walk is scheduled for Friday, November 30. Each year GFD supports this event with equipment and manpower. We need crews to man both Rescue Trucks and the Tower.

There are also four parades this year: December 1, 8, 15 and 22nd. The department normally has the old Parade Pumper and another truck in all the parades. We will need drivers and additional personnel for these events. It is also a family time and an opportunity to sign your kids up to ride in the trucks.

Please see “When-to-Work” to sign up for these holiday events. Any questions please contact Matt Finley, 303-880-1265.