Welcome and Recognition

I would like to introduce Lt. Matthew Kasriel as the latest addition to the Golden Fire Department family. Lt. Kasriel will be taking on the duties of Assistant Training Officer and Academy Coordinator. Matt comes to us from Garden City, Kansas where he was a Lieutenant on their fire department. Matt also has been heavily involved in training and recruit academies working with Garden City Community College in the Fire Science Division and with the University of Kansas as an outreach instructor providing fire service training throughout the State of Kansas. He has a BS Degree from Oklahoma State University in Fire Protection and is pursuing his Masters Degree from Grand Canyon University Arizona. Matt began his journey with us on January 28th and has jumped right in on the Academy process. We look forward to having him as part of our team. If you haven’t, please take time to introduce yourself to Lt. Kasriel.

Congratulations to all the award recipients from our annual Awards Banquet held on January 26th. It was another great event and a special thank you to Debbie, Karlyn, Tom, Anna, Bob Pearce and Adam Simpkins for their roles in making it a success. There were a large number of awards and recognitions handed out which is not surprising based on the caliber of the people that make up this organization and the amount of activity that took place during 2012. A special congratulations to Captain Wes Polk for being named Firefighter of the Year for 2012, Engineer JJ Risch for being awarded the Jack Harvey Award and to Firefighters Zeljko Spiric and Dusty King for being awarded the Recruit of the Year.

A special congratulation goes to some of our most senior members who received a length of service award for 2012. Those with more than 20 years who were honored are:

- Wes Polk and Rocco Snart for 20 years of service
- Tom Young for 30 years of service
- Matt Finley for 35 years of service

(Continued on page 2)
Someone asked me how I remember all of the awards and keep track of them for an entire year. The truth is I don’t. What I do keep track of is your nominations and recommendations for awards such as Unit Citations, FF of the Year, Jack Harvey Award and anything else that is warranted of special recognition. SOG 402 for Service Awards and Commendations states that nomination for any award can be made by any department employee or volunteer members. Nominations for awards other than Firefighter of the Year and the Jack Harvey Award shall be made through the chain-of-command and presented to the Office of the Fire Chief for final approval. These nominations may be made at any time of the year. Awards such as Unit Citations, Safety Awards, American Fire Service Awards, or Appreciation Awards may be presented anytime during the year at a regularly scheduled Business Meeting or at the Annual Awards Banquet and that additional awards may be presented at the annual Awards Banquet. Please do not hesitate to nominate one of your fellow employees or members worthy of recognition.

In addition to the awards presented at the banquet, the annual “TOP GUN” awards are presented at the first Business Meeting in February. These awards are for those individuals who responded to the most calls, worked the most shifts, had a high number of training hours and approved work detail hours. The standard award has been for several years a blue coffee mug with our logo on it. Some of these folks should have a complete set by now. The top individuals in each category who received a TOP GUN award are:


WORK DETAIL HOURS (150 or more): JJ Risch 204, John O’Connor – 190, Aaron Giesick – 172 and Wes Polk – 150.

Again, it is up to you to nominate or recommend your peers for various awards and recognition. I will keep your recommendations and act on those accordingly and timely when necessary.
Recently, the Fire and Life Safety Division reviewed the maintenance inspection schedule. We have 957 inspections on the list and are finding more that have slipped through the cracks since the last evaluation. I suspect that as we are out and about on the current schedule, we will find our numbers pushing 1000. One of the purposes of the review was to see how we could balance out the inspections monthly over the course of the year. As businesses come in and were added on their first inspection, some months became loaded with more than others. In one case we had over 120 in one month and 43 in another. Now we have them balanced to within about 10 of the average of 80 inspections per month the math tells us it should be. However, because our fire code enforcement is via the educational approach first with quality over quantity, we have some occupancies that are inspected bi-annually, some annually, and even some semi-annually such as commercial cooking operations.

With the balance and the use of Emergency Reporting for inspections, we are well on our way to a more steady inspection schedule throughout the year. As would be expected, NFPA findings suggest the more frequent the inspections the less one finds repeat violations from inspection to inspection. If anyone has any questions or concerns about any occupancy in town, please let us know and we will get you answer or address any concerns founded on the basis of being a code violation. Why do I tell you about our inspections? Because our fire and life safety maintenance inspections are part of the recipe for fire fighter safety integrated into the 16 initiatives for “Everyone Goes Home”.

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**Training Notebook**

Matt Kasriel, Training Division Lieutenant

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Introduction

I am honored and excited to be the newest member of the Golden Fire Department serving as the Lieutenant in the Training Division. To give everyone a bit of background on myself, I grew up in the Chicago area and then moved to Stillwater Oklahoma to attend Oklahoma State University. During my time at OSU I was active as a volunteer firefighter while going to school. After graduating my wife and I moved to Garden City, Kansas where I served as a career firefighter, engineer, and lieutenant prior to taking the job here in Golden. I look forward to working with all of you and I am truly humbled to have the opportunity to be a part of such an outstanding organization whose membership displays such dedication and professionalism in the provision of services to this community.

My office door is always open so feel free to drop in for a visit. I am a lifelong student of the fire service and enjoy talking “shop” so if you are willing to share any training information or just want to talk about new techniques or tactics please stop in to chat. I am constantly seeking ways to improve myself and the services I provide to the internal and external customers of the department so if you have any ideas or suggestions please let me know. I look forward to serving you as well as the citizens of Golden. Thank you for all the hospitality you have shown during the start of my career here!
As some of you know, I recently had a structure fire response to my home in Golden. Although the fire was small and minor in destruction, the potential could have been devastating for me and my family. Fortunately for the quick response by the GFD, and some smart and heroic actions by my wife (unit citation??), the fire was put out quickly, the home was saved, and total destruction was diverted.

So how does something like this happen, you ask? Comfort and complacency! It’s good to know the difference between these two words. I’ll bet you use the word comfortable when you should be using complacent. In everyday life, most people stick to what is comfortable to them. Comfort is a condition or feeling of pleasurable ease, well-being, and contentment. It’s human nature to feel this way with something they have done before.

Complacency is to be content to a fault; self-satisfied and unconcerned. The difference here is that you can have your comfort everyday right now and it will make you happy. However, if you become complacent, you can become lazy and lose your drive.

Complacency strikes us all at different times in our lives. The good news is that complacency often comes after some success (getting out of academy, promotions, achieving a personal goal, etc.). The bad news is that it can spread quickly and reduce future success significantly. The best news is that it can be defeated.

Here are some steps to help you:

**Recognize it:** What do you see different in your habits and approach? Are you taking the little things for granted? Are you doing less of the things that led to past successes?

**Put it in context:** Complacency won’t likely occur until you have had some success! Complacency comes because of the success. So, recognize and celebrate the success first, then challenge the complacent thoughts and actions.

**Set new goals:** If past goals have been met and no new ones have been set, you have a problem. Now is the time to engage yourself to set new goals. Make sure the new goals are challenging enough to inspire the energy to combat complacency.

**Keep the purpose clear:** Goals are great, but it is the underlying purpose that will truly drive self-control and performance and be a natural cure for complacency.

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Create healthy competition: Human beings love competition – whether with themselves or others. You can combat complacency with creative competition.

Remember history and human nature: Complacency is a part of the human condition. Recognizing this helps you deal with it personally and overcoming.

In my case, how can I avoid another potential structure fire at my home in the future? My wife and I discussed some options and chose the one that’s best for us. We also decided that every year we’ll go over basic fire procedures and risks in our home so we don’t get complacent again. I challenge you to find an area in your life where you’ve become complacent. It may be personally or professionally, but be sure to ‘put out your own fire’ before it does any major damage.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Rocco Snart</td>
<td>02/04/92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wes Polk</td>
<td>02/04/92</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Kevin Milan</td>
<td>02/05/08</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Valerie Hastings</td>
<td>02/02/99</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>John Bales</td>
<td>02/01/00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Aaron Giesick</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Joe Anderson II</td>
<td>02/06/01</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Adam Simpkins</td>
<td>02/03/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephanie Tannery</td>
<td>02/03/04</td>
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7 Year
Phillip Cordova 02/07/06

6 Years
CJ Adkins 02/06/07
Tyler Hecox 02/06/07
John Johnson 02/06/07

Birthdays
Jason Fritch 02/03
Kevin Kirby 02/07
Ben Moline 02/04
Adam Simpkins 02/26
Anna Trzeciak 02/10

Sto lat!
Poem for a Volunteer Firefighter

Author Unknown

A firefighter’s life is one big surprise
Usually they laugh, sometimes they cry.
There’s always stress, toil and strife,
Hoping they are good enough to save one life.
Their families understand when they miss dinner,
If they run out of church, don’t think they are sinners.
Answering a call is top on their list,
Regretting each one they have ever missed.
They try and try, but can’t make us see,
The happiest people still work for free.
Jumping from bed, fighting the cold,
Knowing what to do without being told.
They rush to the station, jump on the truck,
Depending on skill never on luck.
Putting their life on the line for an unknown friend,
Hoping and praying it won’t be the end.
“‘The bravest people in the world,” the title is fitting,
They all do their best, never come close to quitting.
Next time you see them, all their lights blinking,
Take just a minute to think what they are thinking.

NUMBERS FOR JANUARY 2013

<table>
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<th>Total Calls - 101</th>
<th>Hazardous Condition - 4</th>
<th>Mutual Aid Given - 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>District # 1 - 55</td>
<td>Clear Creek Canyon - 1</td>
<td>Average Response Time - 04:30</td>
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<td>District # 2 - 40</td>
<td>Miller Coors Property - 0</td>
<td>Average Firefighters/Call - 5.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Response - 3</td>
<td>Out of City/Other - 3</td>
<td>Average Total Time/Call - 40:47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescue/EMS - 52</td>
<td>Mutual Aid Received - 1</td>
<td>Est. Fire/Damage Loss - $19,400</td>
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2012 Golden Fire Department Awards Banquet January 26, 2013

Recruit of the Year
Dustin King
Recruit of the Year
Zeljko Spiric
Recruit of the Year
JJ Risch
Lieutenant
Firefighter of the Year
Wes Polk
Captain

Years of Service Awards

35 Years
Matt Finley
Engineer
30 Years
Tom Young
Captain
20 Years
Wes Polk
Captain

20 Years
Rocco Smart
Assistant Chief
15 Years
Kevin Milan
Engineer
10 Years
Steve Oliveri
Firefighter
5 Years
CJ Adkins
Lieutenant
5 Years
Nicholas Bunting
Engineer

5 Years
Jason Flickner
Firefighter
5 Years
Daniel Glynn
Firefighter
5 Years
Tyler Hecox
Firefighter
5 Years
John Johnson
Engineer
5 Years
John O’Connor
Captain
On February 22nd of last year during a wind storm, Engine 1 was out on 6th Ave. during 85-90 mph winds when the hose bed cover and a significant amount of the hose load including the 5 and 3 inch hose were taken off the truck by the wind. In an effort to prevent any further damage and also in regards to providing highway safety the crew of Engine 1 was able to secure the hose and hose bed cover preventing further damage while maintaining a safe operating corridor on Highway 6 for their personnel and vehicle traffic along the roadway.

For the research, salesmanship and implementation of the Emergency Reporting System that still continues to grow and improve.

For the research, specifications, follow through and completion of the new Pierce Truck 4 apparatus now in service at Station 4.

On June 26th, the West Strike Team was activated for Type I Engines to assist the Colorado Springs Fire Department (CSFD) at the Waldo Canyon Fire. GFD Engine 2 responded to become part of this strike team. Engine 2 was eventually assigned to CSFD Station 6 and designated Engine 61. During the next 96 hours Engine 61 responded to various calls within the City of Colorado Springs. They stayed until secured late Saturday afternoon when they cleared the Waldo Canyon fire and returned to the City of Golden.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Citation 1</th>
<th>Unit Citations 2</th>
<th>Unit Citation 3</th>
<th>Unit Citation 4</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For actions taken during a difficult trench rescue in Golden Gate Canyon.</td>
<td>For their quick and decisive actions taken during the rapid extinguishment of this structure fire at 215 Cheyenne.</td>
<td>For their work on extrication, water rescue, and technical rope rescue of a patient involved in a motor vehicle crash in Clear Creek Canyon.</td>
<td>For their quick efforts in containment to one townhome unit through the proper deployment of a transitional attack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevor Williamson</td>
<td>Jason Flickner</td>
<td>Adam Maiers</td>
<td>Jeanette Kehoe</td>
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<td>Seven Parker</td>
<td>Jason Mulari</td>
<td>Jeanette Kehoe</td>
<td>Ben Moline</td>
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<td>Kevin Kirby</td>
<td>Truc Nguyen</td>
<td>Tina Gustafson</td>
<td>Ashleigh Andrews</td>
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<td>Alex Baumeister</td>
<td>Tony Stephenson</td>
<td>Noah Creaven</td>
<td>JJ Risch</td>
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<td>Brandon Daruna</td>
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<td>Ben Moline</td>
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<td>Colin Winter</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marina Valenzuela</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
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<td>Work Detail Battalion 3</td>
<td>Business Meeting 19:00 Station 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>IADRS Swim Test 09:00-11:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Detail Battalion 3</td>
<td>Fire Alarm Control Panel Awareness &amp;Operations 18:30 Station 1</td>
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<td>Orientation Expectations &amp; Guidelines FFPD Station 1 18:00</td>
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<td>Work Detail Battalion 1</td>
<td>Multi Company Operations 18:30 Station 1</td>
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<td>Fire Behavior Fairmount Training Center 18:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Detail Battalion 1</td>
<td>CPR Recertification 18:30 Station 1</td>
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<td>Building Construction Fire Extinguishers FFPD Station 1 18:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
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On the Scene With the Golden Fire Department

Golden Fire Department
911 Tenth Street
Golden, Colorado 80401