



# CRYSTAL PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT APRIL 2009 MONTHLY UPDATE

*To the residents of Crystal Park, the Crystal Park Volunteer Fire Department continues to make great progress every month in growing its capabilities to serve you. Many of you may have seen, and even participate in, the Crystal Park web discussion forum. Since there unfortunately continues to be erroneous and faulty information on this site, as well as correct information in some cases by those responding in an attempt to correct incorrect information, I ask all of you to simply contact members of the Department, Chief Welsch or myself if you would like to discuss any issue and get the facts. The CPVFD volunteers are responsible for bringing to Crystal Park tens-of-thousands of dollars that otherwise would never have been seen, and most importantly, would never have been funded by the community. The growth of the CPVFD has been tied to grants and donations, the expansion of our capabilities is linked to these two resources. One major issue that has now come to our attention is the multi-use building. The members of the CPVFD were asked 2-years ago by the HOA Board to take on the construction of the Shelter-in-place since this exceeded the Forestry Committee's volunteer commitment. We were asked to take this on with a lot of CPVFD volunteer time and we came through, with the support of the majority of the communities Membership, in getting this facility funded and constructed. We are under budget and we're almost complete. Please come by and see the facility that serves the community as a Shelter-in-place, Alternate Maintenance Facility and yes, home for the CPVFD ...all of which the Board and Membership have always known to be the case. Chief Hennessey ([jhennessey@crystalparkvfd.org](mailto:jhennessey@crystalparkvfd.org))*

**1. Training:** Training continued with three CPVFD volunteers in EMT-Basic training. In addition, EMS In-Service training was attended at MSFD and our only EMT-B is currently in IV Training. Training for Basic Structure Firefighting has completed and congratulations to 3 new Firefighters in Crystal Park: Adam Sand, Kim Krausfeldt, and Susi Hennessey. Next training that is free of charge is High Angle Rescue training starting 24 April; we have 8 volunteers attending and the \$1500 cost is being paid for by MSFD. Again, much of the cost of the training is through grant funding or from the volunteer paying for it themselves to better serve the community. Lastly, we have completed all refresher training for our Wildland Firefighters (we have 9 "red carded" FFs this year!!).

**2. Grant Update:** Submitted a new grant to the State of Colorado for Emergency medical Equipment that will stretch the \$700 EMS PPE budget to \$7000. We conducted two interviews already with the Boards and received approval for the 10% cost share vice 50%. We have two additional panels to go through but we are confident we will get the grant.

**3. Incidents:** We responded to 3 incidents since the last report. One incident was a vehicle accident, one was a potential carbon monoxide incident, and the third was a power-line down. CPVFD firefighters and 1<sup>st</sup> Responders/EMT/Firefighters continued to support MSFD and provided mutual aid to numerous incidents in Manitou Springs this last month.

**4. Budget:** All items in the budget have been expended in accordance with the plan. The Metro District continued to oversee the contribution from the HOA budget approved by the Membership last year. The CPVFD will again ask for Membership support as they have graciously done in the past. We are planning to work through the budget process in May.

**5. 9News Health Fair:** CPVFD and CPVFD Auxiliary supported this year's health fair in Manitou Springs on Saturday, 18 April. Several volunteers braved the weather and supported the local community and its citizens. Thank you to those that served!!

**5. MSFD/CP Metro District Agreement:** The Mutual Aid Agreement was again renewed for the next year. The excerpt below again clarifies for anyone interested in the facts that MSFD is

During the term hereof, the CITY agrees to respond to calls for fire-fighting services within the territory of the DISTRICT. The CITY shall be required to respond to such calls within the DISTRICT only at such times as its fire-fighting staff and equipment are not actively engaged in responses to emergencies within the boundaries of the CITY. It is further agreed that, in the event that the CITY's fire-fighting personnel and equipment are called to respond to an emergency within the CITY while in process of a response to the DISTRICT, some portion or all of the CITY's fire-fighting staff and equipment may be recalled and redirected to the emergency within the CITY.

only required to respond to Crystal Park if available, and that they may further "recall" their firefighting resources from Crystal Park if an emergency in Manitou Springs occurs. Further discussions with Chief Buckmiller in the last two weeks have confirmed there is no guaranteed response. We are trying to coordinate schedules to have Chief Buckmiller support a CPVFD Town Hall. Target date is 8 May but that has not been solidified.

**6. Department's Apparatus Status:** Engine 910 and Tender 960 are in full operational service at this time. Brush 940 and the ATV Trailer are no longer in service. We do not have any rapid wildfire response at this time due to Brush 940 being reconfigured to a plow truck for the winter.

**7.** The Department website is: [www.crystalparkvfd.org](http://www.crystalparkvfd.org)