



CRYSTAL PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT DECEMBER 2009 MONTHLY UPDATE www.crystalparkvfd.org

1. Training: Training continued to occur with the focus on new skills, proficiency in baseline skills, and increased redundancy of capability to ensure that on any call, regardless of response needed, we have the right skills for the job. Projected Training: January 2010, "Water/Ice Rescue Technician – Level 1". On Dec 15, the CPVFD-MSFD High Angle Rescue (HAR) Team conducted proficiency training at Rainbow Falls Bridge, a common location for requiring technical rescue. This training is directly applicable to the potential rescue that may be required in the event of an incident over Crystal Park's steep slopes.



HAR Team members Mike Doughty (CPVFD), Charles Davis (CPVFD) and Capt John Nichols (MSFD) are Litter Attendants during this "Up-haul"

2. Incidents: CPVFD had no District incidents this past month. The CPVFD volunteers continued to support numerous other medical and fire related calls in Manitou Springs this last month to help maintain our proficiency as a **Fire•Rescue•EMS** organization.

3. Department Elections Completed: IAW the "CPVFD Constitution & By-Laws", the 2009 election process was held and completed this month. All Department volunteers and officers were sworn in. Election results were as follows:

Fire Chief:	FF John Hennessey
Deputy Chief:	FF Paul Welsch
Secretary:	FF Kim Krausfeldt
Treasurer:	EMT Floyd O'Neil

4. CPVFD Christmas Dinner: On December 14th, the CPVFD held its 3rd Annual Christmas Dinner. Engineer and Firefighter *Jim Mesirov* was selected as the "2009 Firefighter of the Year".

5. Firewood Donation: CPVFD firewood donations remain at \$1760. All future reports of firewood donations can be found on the website.

6. Grant Status: Grants are in the process of being closed out.

7. Fire Station Status: **RED** *This is our number one problem we are dealing with.* The HOA Board continues to attempt to prevent the CPVFD from having access to the Station for operations. This is a clear violation of the Fire Code which clearly states that it is unlawful to impact fire operations which they are now doing. All work that would have insulated the building (the Board is responsible for excess use of propane), completed the remaining limited electrical work under a new permit which we agreed to pay for (the Board is responsible for this delay which would have further insulated the building), and overall day-to-day CPVFD operations are negatively impacted due to this group's refusal to understand what an S-1 occupancy code is.

Discussions that Chief Hennessey has had with Regional clearly indicate we have valid access under S-1 and the Board is flat out wrong. Recent discussions a Board member had with Regional attempted to justify a need for an A-3 occupancy code, and Regional, when hearing from the CPVFD regarding our requirements, didn't see a need for the change. So any discussion to make a change is the HOA's requirement and not the CPVFD. We do not need any occupancy code except S-1 as we have always known. In addition, the Board has manufactured a "liability" concern and has attempted to get in writing that if anyone gets hurt in the building they will be covered as they are concerned that the HOA can be sued. They have incorrectly included CPVFD personnel in this concern. We have stated numerous times to them that we have Workman's Comp insurance and are covered under this policy which the HOA Board refuses to recognize clearly indicating their only motive is to negatively impact and impede CPVFD operations. Their concern, if remotely valid, only applies to non-CPVFD personnel. It seems that the HOA Board will request a meeting with the Metro District Board and the CPVFD will support as needed. This will need to be resolved in short order so that we can focus on our training and readiness. Bottom-line: The HOA is clearly endangering Firefighter and EMS personnel by trying to prevent us from maintaining our "Mission Ready" capability.