

GOLDEN GATE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 843, GOLDEN, COLORADO 80402-0843

**The Golden Gate Fire Protection District
Board of Directors**

Rick Saltus, President 303-384-9862 (2002-2006)

Paul Trost, Vice President (2002-2006)

Sheila Carlon, Secretary (2004-2008)

Pat Madison, Treasurer (2004-2008)

Doug Miller, Member (2005-2006)

Fire Department

Don Angell, Fire Chief 303-279-2928

Station #1, 32360 Robinson Hill 303 279-3538

Station #2, 7181 Crawford Gulch 303 278-7054

FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION

Three positions on the District board are included in this year's election. There is one two-year term and there are two four-year terms on the ballot.

Paul Trost and Barbara Crawford are running against each other for the single two-year term.

Three candidates, Gerard Hans, Mike Czyzewski, and Tom Niver, are competing for the two four-year terms. This is a mail ballot election – ballots will be mailed to registered voters in early April.

The ballots must be received by May 2nd. A polling place will be open from 7 am to 7 pm on May 2nd at the Golden Gate Grange Hall. You may deliver your ballot by hand to the Grange Hall on that day. If you do not receive a ballot by mail, you may pick up a ballot at the Grange Hall on May 2nd. This newsletter includes candidate statements.

**CALL 911
FOR A FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

CANDIDATE FORUM APRIL 12

A “meet the candidates” forum is planned for Wednesday, April 12th, at the Grange Hall beginning at 7 pm. Please plan to attend. Each candidate will present a 5 minute statement, and will then be available to answer questions from the public and from each other.



CHAIN OF COMMAND

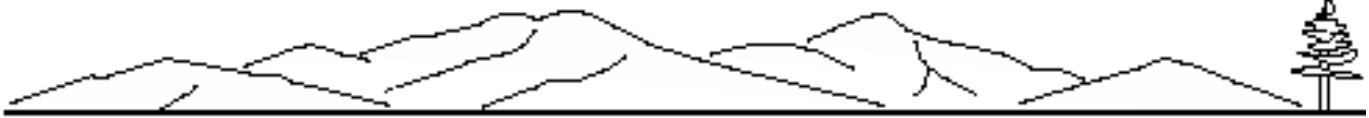
Citizen comments at recent Board meetings indicate that there may be some confusion regarding the chain of command within the Fire District. The Fire Department reports to the Fire Chief, who in turn reports to the District Board. The District Board is not involved with the day to day operations of the Fire Department. The Board is responsible for fiscal management, consideration of citizen appeals to fire code issues, strategic planning, and other governmental functions.

RIGHT OF APPEAL AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS

By State law and as specified in the fire code, the Fire Chief has the authority and responsibility to make interpretations of the fire code and to conduct fire inspections. The Fire Chief may delegate this responsibility to others. Any code interpretation or decision by the Fire Chief may be appealed to the District Board. Similarly, if any citizen has an issue with the job performance of a Fire Department member, they should make their concerns known to the Fire Chief. If the issue is not resolved, then a grievance may be filed with the District Board. All members of the District, both on the Board and on the Department are held to a high standard of conduct. The citizen's right of appeal is not new – it is built into State law and into the fire code itself and has always been available to our District residents.

FIRE DISTRICT MERGERS

Fire District mergers are very common. In many cases it makes strategic sense to combine resources and achieve efficiencies of scale. The



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Foothills Fire District was formed from several individual districts a few years ago. The Eldorado and Cherryvale Fire Districts are currently in the process of merging. The West Metro urban fire district was consolidated from separate districts. It is a strategic responsibility of all fire district boards to consider the best ways to serve their communities including partnerships with adjacent Districts. Some District residents have accused the Golden Gate District Board of “secretly” working to merge with Fairmount. This is incorrect. The Board has discussed the general issue of fire district mergers on numerous occasions and has also considered ways to increase cooperation with adjacent districts, including Fairmount. The minutes of the Board meetings have clearly documented these discussions. However no discussion has been held with Fairmount or any other district on the topic of mergers. Also, by State law, any fire district

merger must be approved by vote of the District residents.

DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS

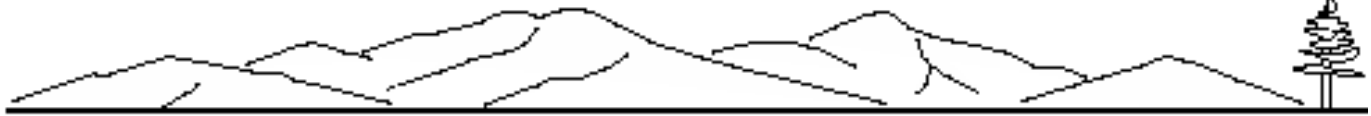
District Board meetings are always open to the public. These meetings are held on a regular schedule (the third Wednesday of the every month). Interested citizens have always been encouraged and welcome to attend. Colorado State Law allows the District Board to meet in “Executive Session” (i.e. to exclude public attendance) in certain specific situations, such as to discuss sensitive personnel matters or to receive legal advice from our attorney. In the last eight years the District Board has met in executive session only a handful of times and each time for a very specific reason. The District Board is not allowed to make policy decisions during executive session.

A Personal Note from the President...

This May marks the end of my eight years of service as a member of the District Board. I am forbidden to run again for office because of Colorado term-limit laws. It has been a great honor to serve the community and to get to know many of you. I think we can all be extremely proud of what we have accomplished together to improve the capabilities of our District and Department. Our firefighters have professional training and equipment for the first time in the history of our District. We have been recognized at the County, State, and National level with grants and awards. We have a professional Fire Chief with more than 25 years of fire service experience.

I want to thank, in particular, those of you who have directly supported me and our District over the last eight years. It has been a true pleasure to serve on the Board with Bill Brown, D’arcy Robinson-Ruet, Tonie Mattox, Bob Unger, Pilar Ingargiola, John Feist, John Cady, John Mill, Paul Trost, Dave Kapusta, Pat Madison, Sheila Carlon, and Doug Miller. Also, as a community we need to thank Bobbye Sperrazza and Cathy Kowitz for excellent administrative support.

The last few months have seen some turmoil in our District. I think the ultimate result will be better community understanding and a greater level of participation in fire safety. By choosing to live in a region of high fire danger, we face significant challenges. We need to work together to address these challenges. THANKS - Rick



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CITIZENS REVIEW COMMITTEE (CRC)

A dedicated group of citizens has established a Citizens Review Committee (CRC) to evaluate and make recommendations, as requested by the board, regarding the *2006 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code*. At the board's request, the CRC may also provide other services. The CRC has been meeting at the Grange on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Any district taxpayer who would like to become a voting member of the CRC should either (1) Send an e-mail requesting voting membership to GGCFPD@hotmail.com as soon as possible, or (2) Call Paul Trost at 303-278-8661.

We welcome input from all district residents and property owners. Please send e-mail comments to GGCFPD@hotmail.com or come to a meeting to provide input.

The CRC will be posting synopses of all meetings at our soon-to-be-established website that will be linked to the District website. We will also distribute a newsletter to the public that summarizes our final recommendations to the board.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS - ELECTION MAY 2ND, 2006



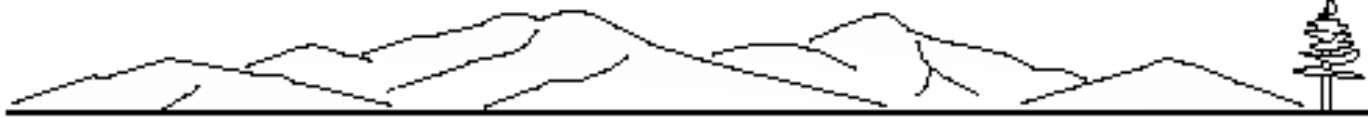
Gerard C. Hans: as a candidate for the Board of Directors, I would appreciate and honor your support. I have been a property owner in the canyon since 2002 and have quickly grown to respect and appreciate the wonderful life we enjoy in the canyon. The neighbors I have met in the canyon have truly been a great part of my life and I feel that I am blessed to be a part of this community.

Shortly after the wild fires of 2001, my wife and I started building our dream home in North Ranch and fire safety has been a major issue for us throughout this process. I would like to help work towards developing an effective and safe fire mitigation plan for the entire community. I think this is the most important contribution I can make. Safety for the firefighters and the community has to be the no. 1 priority for the new Board of Directors.

I am a former deputy sheriff, Viet Nam Veteran and grandfather of thirteen with one great grandson. I am the President of Commercial Property Specialists, Inc., a commercial real estate firm serving clients in the Denver Metro area. I have been a Colorado resident for more than twenty-five years and have lived in Conifer, Golden and the Denver area before moving to Golden Gate Canyon.

I have extensive experience in accounting and CPA reporting. My company has managed over one million sq. ft. of commercial real estate for numerous owners including governmental agencies. We often manage several budgets well over \$1 million annually. I have many business skills such as personnel management, purchasing, budgeting, communication and organizational abilities that will complement and benefit the District.

Additionally, as a former deputy sheriff, I have conducted and taken part in many emergency situations as well as search and rescue missions. I feel that I fully understand the challenges facing our Fire Department today. I am looking forward to making a difference in the community.



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Thomas M. Niver
5112 Mica Mountain Road
Golden, CO 80403

I am running for a four year term as board member of the Golden Gate Fire Protection District.

Why am I a candidate?

I am running because I feel that as a resident of the Canyon, who is served and protected by a volunteer fire department, it is my responsibility, from time to time, to be of assistance to the department in the best way I am able.

My background

I have lived in Colorado since 1971, owned property in Golden Gate Canyon since 1994 and made my home in the Canyon in 1999. My profession is in the financial services business (portfolio management, financial planning, estate planning, etc) which I began in 1973. As a volunteer ski patrolman for sixteen years at Loveland Basin, I have been directly involved in urgent care, search and rescue, emergency evacuation and first aid. It is my understanding that approximately 90% of the responses made by our fire department are related to urgent care, first aid and evacuation.

What I would bring to the position

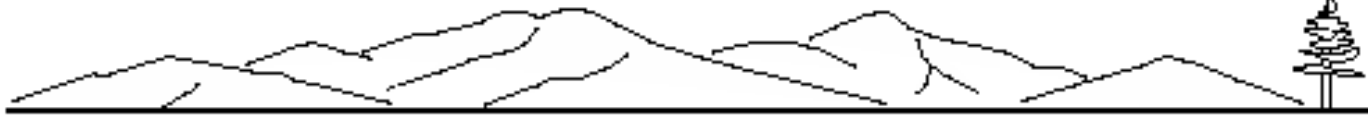
In the practice of my profession, it is my responsibility to identify reasonable solutions to client's objectives. I bring this strength, the strength of negotiation, to the position of board member. I would work to find reasonable solutions to the canyon residents' objectives.

I believe that fire fighter training and continuing education is vitally important. The well being of the canyon residents as well as the safety of fire fighters depends greatly on the fire fighters' level of competence and training. Without sacrificing safety and competence, a balance should be maintained between the time required for training and the time available to the volunteer fire fighters for this training.

Since the Hayman fire, county building codes have been enacted to protect mountain residents and fire fighters. Some of the changes, though correct in their intent, may seem excessive in their implementation. The Board and the County should work together to:

- assist the Canyon residents achieve their objectives
- enhance the general safety of Canyon residents
- look after the safety of our fire fighters

Thank you for considering my candidacy. It would be a privilege to serve on the board of the Golden Gate Fire Protection District.



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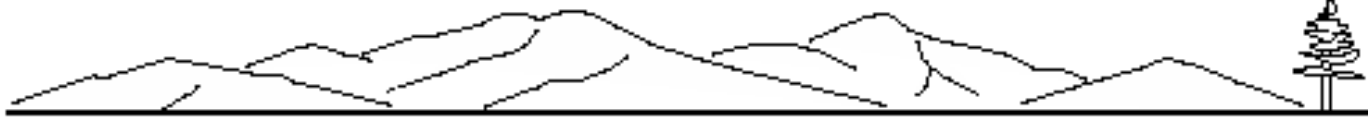


My name is Mike Czyzewski and I have been a resident in this district for 22 years. During that time I have satisfied my desire to help people by being a member of the Golden Gate Fire Department and was an original member of the Fire Protection District Board. Since retiring from the Fire Department last year I wish to continue my need to help others by being an actively involved member of the Fire Protection District Board. The combination of my skills and experience as a firefighter and EMT, my position on the first fire board, and my residence as a member of this community gives me a unique insight and balanced viewpoint to the needs of the fire fighters, the board, and the community. It is my belief that it is imperative for the board, not only to effectively manage the funds to support the fire department and over see safety concerns, but must also be responsive to the needs and concerns of the community and fire department members. This sometimes requires a delicate balance. Open and honest communication is a vital priority.

Areas I would also like to address are 1) The dwindling numbers of our active fire department members. 2) Positive community recognition of our department members. 3) Local leadership of the fire department. 4) Reasonable fire mitigation plans. 5) Emergency preparedness not only for the fire department but all community members.

Background and Experience

- Recently retired Golden Gate Fire Fighter with 20+ years of experience in our district Certifications in EMT-B, Fire Fighter I, Hazmat Operations, Rope Rescue Technician, Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Operations(S215), Intermediate Incident Command System(I-300), Vehicle Extraction and Rescue, American Heart Association CPR/AED Instructor, Jeffco Air Response Team (helicopter rescue)
- Training officer for Fire Department.
- Committee member to create the Golden Gate Fire Protection District
- Original district board member
- Committee to design and construct Fire Station 1
- American Red Cross regional chairman (4 years)
- Co-owner/instructor for 12 years of an outdoor education/survival school



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Paul B. Trost (303 278-8661)
Candidate for 2 Year Term

Please allow me to introduce myself as a candidate for a 2-year board member position.

PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As a past and current board member I have been directly involved in the upgrading of our district's assets to achieve a SAFER DISTRICT based on:

- ~\$1,000,000 of new fire fighting equipment (primarily through matching grants)
- New fire station up Crawford Gulch to cut response time
- New training standards for our firefighters
- Proposed formation of the Citizens Review Committee to allow all citizens an alternative method of voicing their concerns and providing input to the board
- Member of the Citizens Review Committee
- Responded to citizens concerns relative to the Fire code's 45,000 gal requirement and supported a resolution to amend the code to require only 10,000 gal OR other alternatives
- Responded to citizens concerns relative to not requiring sprinklers
- Ensured code amendments still allow our dedicated firefighters to safely and effectively accomplish their tasks

Based on the new equipment and training standards, our fire fighters are now recognized as "PEERS" to neighboring fire protection districts and are regularly called upon to support firefighting outside of our district e.g. Coal Creek fire. Having peer respect and trust defines a successful, competent, well organized and well directed fire department that we as citizens can be proud of.

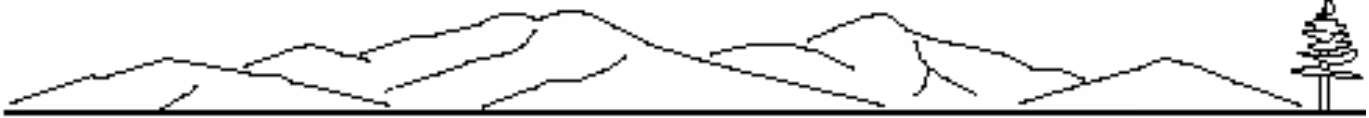
FUTURE

As a future (and current) board member I shall continue to support the following:

- Chief Angell, Asst. Chief Bowes, and all the dedicated volunteer fire fighters
- Continued participation on the Citizens Review Committee
- Open to all citizens concerns and inputs
- Support both community cisterns and private cisterns on a compatible plan
- Pursue grant funding for a second Light Rescue (first responder-type) Fire Truck so that each station may have one
- Pursue grant funding for another new 4X4 Tender (water truck) to replace our current 2-wheel drive, 30-year-old water truck
- Assist the Chief in preparing a handout to potential land developers/homeowners introducing them to the GGFPD and easing/assisting their application as related to the GGFPD

In summary **WE ARE ALL NEIGHBORS AND/OR FUTURE NEIGHBORS.** As such we must treat each other with respect, courtesy, and listen to others concerns. I firmly believe the events of the past 4 years that resulted in upgrading of equipment, facilities, and training, **COUPLED WITH** the input from citizens within the last few months, **CAN AND WILL RESULT IN THE GGFPD BEING RECOGNIZED AS THE LEADER IN ACHIEVING A SAFER DISTRICT FOR ALL CURRENT AND FUTURE RESIDENTS OF THE GGFPD.**

Thank you and I hereby respectfully request your vote on 2 May 06. (In the meantime lets each make an effort to personally thank our dedicated firefighter volunteers.)



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FIRE CODE POLICY

The following summarizes the District fire code policy. This code applies only to new projects that require a Jefferson County building permit. For more details, including application forms, see the district website at www.goldengatefire.org.

Driveway requirements: Follow Jefferson County 1997 road standards. Roads must be all weather and capable of carrying a gross vehicle weight of 40,000#.

Wildfire mitigation requirements: Follow Jefferson County defensible space requirements.

Fire protection plan: Required by the district. A sample format is provided at the district website.

Water supply requirement: Generally one of the following – (1) on-site cistern (10,000 gallons typical – tank costs about 25 cents/gallon), (2) participation in the community cistern program,

(3) individual plan developed in cooperation with fire district, or (4) follow section 404 water supply standards of the 2003 International Urban-Wildlife Interface Code.

Fire sprinkler systems: Recommended for new homes larger than 3,600 square feet. Consult your insurance company for their policies – many offer substantial discounts for homes with sprinkler systems.

Right of appeal: Citizens have the right to appeal fire code interpretations by the Fire Chief to the District Board.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

www.goldengatefire.org

Golden Gate Fire Protection District
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Golden, CO 80402

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CANDIDATE FORUM
APRIL 12
7 pm at the Grange Hall