



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

303-279-3538

April, 2008

The Golden Gate Fire Protection District Board of Directors

G.C.Hans, President 303-271-9999	2006-2010	Mike Czyzewski, Treasurer	2006-2010
Barbara Crawford, Vice President	2006-2008	Sheila Carlon, Secretary	2004-2008
Pat Madison, Member	2004-2008		

www.goldengatefire.org

Elections are coming up May 6th. You will soon be receiving your ballots in the mail. There are 3 seats open and 4 candidates. Please read a statement from each candidate in this newsletter and DON'T FORGET TO VOTE FOR THE 3 CANDIDATES OF YOUR CHOICE!!

INSURANCE QUESTIONS

An important question and concern which continues to be raised for all residents of an urban/wildland area is that of insurance coverage. Because it is so important for all of us to understand the factors which determine our insurability as well as our rates, we asked for guidance from a broker representing many insurance companies. Debra Marmitt responded with the following insightful information to help guide each of us in making decisions concerning our property which could influence our personal coverage.

Hello Gerry,

As there are many insurance companies, it is impossible to know what each company's underwriting requirements would be when determining coverage eligibility for homes located in high fire risk areas. Following is a list of factors that are reviewed by the companies that my brokerage represents when determining coverage eligibility.

- **Distance to fire department and response time**
- **Fire department apparatus that will respond - amount of water that each vehicle carries**
- **Distance to fire hydrant or other acceptable water source**
- **If there is no hydrant or other water source on the property, a company may require an underground cistern (size will be determined by the size of the house) with an acceptable hookup for fire hoses**
- **Central fire alarm (monitored by the fire department or an alarm company)**
- **Proximity of trees and shrubs to the structure**

There are other underwriting factors that are also considered for all risks.

- **Age of home**
- **Age of roof**
- **Updates to electrical, plumbing and heating systems**
- **Claims history**
- **Credit scores (many but not all companies include in their underwriting process)**

These are major factors that are considered but certainly not a complete list.

Please feel free to call or e-mail me with any additional questions or concerns.

Debbie

Debra N. Marmitt
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The Community Fire Fair, scheduled for Saturday April 26th, is designed to help you address many of these factors. We hope to see all of you at the Fair where you can gather information, find people to help you and have a great time with your neighbors in the process!

**Golden Gate Fire Protection District's
SECOND ANNUAL
COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY FAIR**

**Saturday, April 26th 11:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.
Golden Gate Grange Hall**

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
Educational and Informational

Special presentations by members of your Fire Department:

- Learn how to develop your own personal fire safety plan.
- Learn about fire resistant landscaping choices.
- Information on Fire Behavior
- Creating a Wildfire-Defensible Zone

Demonstrations of the latest developments in
State-of-the-art Residential
Fire Suppression and Fire Protection Systems

- Sawyers to help you create your defensible space
- Chimney Sweep
- Fire Extinguisher Training and Information
- Insurance Broker to answer your questions
- District projects and information

Special Fun for the Kids:

Learn about Fire Safety!

Prizes!!

Fun Fire Truck Slide!!!

Bake Sale – Food – Cotton Candy – Chili

We'll See You There!

Public Notices

Regular Board Meetings are held the 3rd Wed. of each month
E-Mail notification of the meetings available on request to
gchans@wildblue.net or bcrawford@hughes.net

Candidate, Steve Green

Dear Golden Gate Fire Protection District Residents and Landowners,

I am writing you to announce my candidacy for a seat on the Golden Gate Fire Protection District board of directors. As many of you know, the events of the last few years thrust me onto center stage in a fight with past management of our fire district. It was only 2 years ago that the GGFPD board of directors and fire chief demanded that my wife Marcia and I install a **50,000 gallon** (yes, fifty thousand gallons that's not a misprint) buried cistern in order to obtain a building permit. Since then there have been many changes within our fire district and saner heads have prevailed. However, don't think for a minute that things cannot go back to the unfair policies of the past board. (Doug Miller, a member of the previous board who demanded we install the 50,000 gallon cistern is running against me in this election.) Without the involvement of fair minded people it could happen again.

- **If you want a representative who will keep you and your property rights paramount - vote for Steve Green.**
- **If you want someone who will do his best to strengthen our fire department, and make our canyon safer using fair, balanced and logical methods - vote for Steve Green.**
- **If you want a candidate familiar with the situations unique to our mountainous fire district and the desires of the majority of voters who live in it - vote for Steve Green.**
- **If you want a candidate who has a good working relationship with the 3 board members YOU elected two years ago - vote for Steve Green.**

Thank you for the support you have shown me in the past, hopefully I have earned your trust and support for the future. Please vote for me in the upcoming GGFPD board elections and rest assured I will do everything possible to protect your property rights and keep the canyon fire safe.

Sincerely,

Steve Green
steveg@dim.com

Candidate, Amy DeVos
27688 Misty Road

As a new member of the Golden Gate Canyon community. I look forward to getting to know my neighbors and involving myself with the issues that re important to this area. When I first started building my house, the importance of fire safety was impressed upon me. I took this seriously and built a house constructed mostly of composite materials.

My background includes a long history of volunteer involvement. I believe in community service and in giving back. I've been retired from the travel industry for six years, and during this time I've tutored, worked as a CASA volunteer with abused and neglected children, worked at the Harrison

Memorial Animal Hospital, and more. I currently serve on the Board of my own non-profit Kids on the Move, working with children in foster care. I am also trustee of my daughter's trust, so I have knowledge of financial affairs. I am a problem solver, have excellent people skills, and the time and energy to devote to serving on the District Board.

I love the beauty and peace of this area, and the freedom from city living and restrictions. I believe that property rights should be honored and respected. I believe in being a good steward of the land.

I know that the problems facing the Golden Gate District are problems that many other Special districts face: a dwindling volunteer pool, shortages of water, relations with neighbors, and dependence on grants and foundations.

If you vote for me, I will strive to be an effective ear for the community.

Thank you for your vote,
Amy DeVos

Candidate, Doug Miller

Hello fellow Golden Gate Canyon citizens. I am Doug Miller and have been living in the canyon since 1999 and a landowner here since 1995. I love the outdoors, skiing, hunting and spending time with my wife. My property is enrolled in the Jefferson County forestry program and I have accomplished significant fire mitigation work. I am currently retired from a series of top management positions in a variety of service business. I have volunteered for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation for the past 10 years and held many positions of leadership in this all volunteer organization. I feel that I am an excellent people person, motivator and understand P&L's completely. I also feel that I can find common ground and assist in coming to an acceptable compromise in dealing with conflicts. I did serve on the GGC fire board as an appointed board member

to complete the term vacated by Mr. Mills. At the end of that term I choose not to run but did attend many board meeting to keep in touch with the fire board. I also attended and past the Wildland fire classes held two years ago.

The current challenges that face the canyon's fire department and board are the lack of membership in the department, the loss of some very good fire fighters and a board that seems at odds with the department. With my experience and leadership skills I know I can be a great asset in making the canyon a proud place to live and a place where we have faith in the fire department. Please elect me to represent you the citizens, the fire fighters and the community this May.

Doug Miller

daymiller@aol.com

303-279-4171

Candidate, Barbara Crawford

27638 Misty Rd.
Golden Colorado

Two years ago you elected me as one of your representatives on the Board of Directors. During that time I have worked hard to build a foundation to accomplish all the goals we envisioned for this District.

- I have attended the Special District Conference for 2 years at my own expense, which has been extremely helpful in my education on how a Board should work and in networking with other boards and districts, fire chiefs throughout the state, district vendors and support personnel.
- I have developed a supportive working relationship between our District, the Department of Local affairs, the Forest Service, the Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management, the Sheriffs office, the Special District Association and our new Legal Counsel, to name a few.
- I researched information from the Code review committee and voted to rescind the IUWIC and its coercive, arbitrary and punitive codes.
- I was instrumental in locating Brian Leshar as a Chief Candidate and in restructuring the budget to allow for a stipend for the Chief's position.
- I have spent countless hours working to re-create missing files on previous grants, trucks and policies of the Board.
- I have educated myself on grant writing and have successfully obtained grants for supplies, training, radios, wildland gear, extrication equipment and other department needs.
- I have obtained grants to help residents with fuels reduction programs on their properties and in their neighborhoods.
- I began the program to collect information on residents who may need assistance in case of evacuation.

- I organized and held the first residential Wildland course with another in the works.
- I have worked with the fire Chief and Department to formulate the requirements to make the special Wildland Team a reality.
- I conceptualized and organized the first annual Community Fire Mitigation Fair with the 2nd one in the planning stage now and scheduled for April 26th.
- I pushed for publication of a summary of the Board minutes on the web site and for publication of the budget for the first time as part of our efforts to improve the open transparency of Board business.

We still have a lot of work to do.

The **Community cistern plan** is still a work in progress and will require some dedicated individuals on the Department, the Board and community members to put in time for research and planning of cistern placement and repair needs of present cisterns. This is a personal priority of mine.

We need to move forward on our plotting of possible alternate escape routes within our **comprehensive community emergency safety plan**.

We need to continue with an ongoing supportive plan for personal and area **fuels reduction programs**.

The new Board needs to work on a comprehensive **long range plan** for equipment replacement, staffing needs and budget requirements.

Beyond that, the incoming Board will need to take a close look at the strengths of our department in relation to the needs of the community and work to develop a system that can fulfill those needs most effectively and efficiently with the resources we have. This is a question facing most volunteer departments across the country as the number of volunteers decrease while the needs of the community increase. The new Board will need to be a cohesive team who will dialogue with the Chief and neighboring Districts about the possibilities in order to create a system that uniquely fits the needs of both the community and the volunteers.

Your vote will enable me to continue this work over the next 4 years.

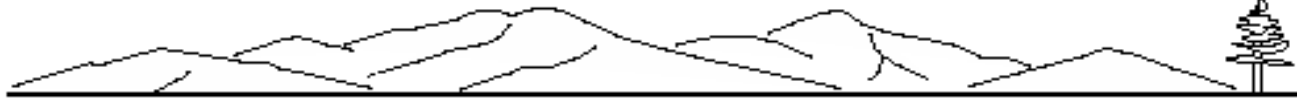
Thank You for your vote.

Barbara Crawford

bcrawford@hughes.net

Relevant Background Experience:

- EMT for county hospital E.R. and County ambulance service 1975-1981
- Physical Therapist and Instructor 1981-present
- Volunteer with GGFPD/First Responder, Wildland FF, HAZMAT 2000-2003
- Vice president of board for GGFPD 2006-present



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PUBLIC NOTICE OF UPCOMING SPECIAL MEETINGS:

Monday April 7th, Chief Selection Interview at Station 1, 7:00 P.M.
Chief Candidate: Long time Resident Firefighter, Kelly Sorvig
(Open meeting, public welcome)

Wednesday, April 9th, Meet the Candidates for questions and answers
Grange Hall, 7:00 P.M.
(Take this opportunity to meet the candidates and
ask your questions before you vote.)

*Due to unfortunate circumstance for our President, the format of this newsletter changed.
It will return to its original form for the next letter!*

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P.O. Box 843
Golden, Colorado 80402

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