

March 2013

Triannual

1 of 3 issues



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Fire Fact:

In 2009, there were 78,792 reports of wildland fires in the United States. These fires burned 5,921,786 acres.

Source: USFA

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority



The Fourth Pillar for Success



*Chief
Randy Mirowski*

During the first quarter of this year, we completed our Vision Tour 2013 for nearly all members of the LFRA family; I hope you were able to attend one of the many meetings, or at least were able to watch the video link of the presentation. This year, we talked about a very important part of our planning process for the future: *The Four Pillars of Success for LFRA*.

In the presentation, we stressed the point that in the past several years, we have worked hard on three of these pillars: Community Safety, Operations and Administration. We have made positive changes and all three of these pillars are very strong and built to last. However, we also pointed out that one of our four pillars for success will need more work and more effort if we are to reach our organizational goal of going from *Good to Great*. That pillar is our greatest asset, our people, or our Human Resource Asset.

There were several things that were stressed in the Vision Tour related to our plan to improve this very important and valuable "pillar." First, this will be a long-term plan and commitment; the effort will take time. Second, there will be many areas that we'll be focusing on; we will focus on initiatives as broad as assessing our overall mission and vision, our core values, and certainly to more specific areas such as an evaluation of our pay plan and the various policies and procedures that we currently have. The final point that we stressed is that this effort would involve everyone; it is here that I want to focus your attention.

The work to improve our fourth pillar for success for LFRA has already begun. Several projects have already been launched. For example, we did a series of off-duty *Good to Great* meetings, which most of our department members attended and provided input and views. In addition, Renee has already started work on the pay plan evaluation and Chief Mirowski has had one meeting with the local firefighters' union to discuss how we can improve and grow our department's relationships between labor and management. As we move forward, I want to encourage each of you to consider personally what you can do to improve our organization at the human resource level. Get involved with the various teams and committees that will be organized and launched later this year. We are on a journey to improve our department and I am absolutely convinced that together, we can accomplish the goals we have set for the future and truly see LFRA going from *Good to Great*.

LFRA Administration



2012 Annual Report
Loveland Fire Rescue Authority



Chief Randy Minowadi
March 14, 2013
[Randy Minowadi@lovelandfire.org](#)
Administrative Director Renee Wheeler
[Renee.Wheeler@lovelandfire.org](#)

The 2012 Annual Report
is now available

[Click here](#) to view LFRA's report



*Public Safety
Administrative Director
Renee Wheeler*

Budget Process (as of March, 2013)

Organization	April	June	September	October	November	December
City			Study Ses- sion on 2014 Recommend Budget	Consider Adoption & Appropriation of the City's Budget; Con- sider Approv- al of LFRA's Budget		
Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (LFRA)	Long Range Financial Plan	2014 Budget Request	2014 LFRA Budget and Fees Adop- tion		Appropriate 2014 LFRA	
Rural District				Consider Approval of LFRA's Budg- et		Appropriate Rural District Budget

April 11, 2013 LFRA Board: 10 Year Plan for Operations & Capital-Based on Strategic Plan Basic Services Model

April 19, 2013 Capital Forms Due to the City

June 11, 2013 City Council Study Session on 2014-2023 Capital Program

June 13, 2013 LFRA Board: 2014 Operations Request

June 14, 2013 Operations Budgets Due to the City

July 15 – July 19, 2013 City Managers Meetings

September 10, 2013 Study Session on 2014 Recommended City of Loveland Budget

September 12, 2013 LFRA Board: Considers Adoption of the 2014 Operations Budget and Fees

October 1, 2013 City Council Public Hearing and First Reading of Adoption and Appropriation;

Approval of 2014 LFRA Budget & Fees

October 2, 2013 Rural District Approves 2014 LFRA Operations Budget and Fees

October 15, 2013 Second Reading of Adoption and Appropriation of the City Budget

November 14, 2013 LFRA Board: Considers Appropriation of the 2014 Budget

December 4, 2013 Rural District Sets Mill Levy and Adopts/Appropriates the Rural District Budget



*Division Chief
Ned Sparks*

Updates from Operations/Suppression

Winter is fading and spring is showing signs of returning, which soon means flowers, green grass and warmer temperatures! Unfortunately, even though winter showed up on the calendar, the recent moisture has had a very limited impact on the potential for wildland fires. The Galena Fire obviously shows we have the potential for another dangerous fire season in the mountains and foothills, time will tell. On the other extreme, the recent snow storms provided significant challenges to resolve emergencies successfully. The structure fire on top of Storm Mountain certainly presented significant challenges with the snow and limited access; followed up with the multi-vehicle incident on I-25 the next morning. Strong work to all involved in these incidents, both on the scene and returning to duty to staff-up for the next emergency!

The remodel of fire station six was completed and is a well-designed facility for the two company crews. The station accommodates the addition of the Fire Inspector Technician (FIT) on the truck and the part-time firefighters assigned on the engine. The construction team included: Ken Cooper and Devin Davis from the City Public Works, Belford Watkins Group Architects, and Golden Triangle Construction. The team was great to work with and created an exceptional facility that is functional and built to last for many years to come. I appreciate the patience and flexibility of the crews at station six and the captains for their leadership working with the team, while meeting the needs of the crews during the remodel.

The hiring of the six new firefighters; Devin Becker, Jeremy Bell, Tyler Chesher, Derek Guard, Robbie Popp and Nate Will took place at the end of January. Congratulations to all six for attaining the next step in their Fire Service Careers! This has placed us at a point where we now have a minimum of a three person crew for all of the apparatus, quite an accomplishment for the organization!

I also want to congratulate Lieutenant Kurt Willson and Engineer Bobby Bartlett on their selection to rotate into the Community Safety Division. Kurt and Bobby will be exceptional additions to the staff. The dates for their movement have not yet been established. The inspection program will be under Lt. Willson. Engineer Bartlett will begin the training process for FIT, relieving FIT Drage at the end of 2013 when he will rotate onto the line.

We have completed the Assessment Centers for the lieutenants, engineers, and firefighters. The chief interviews for the top performers will take place mid to late April. The promotions and hiring will take place when Lt. Willson moves into the new CSD position. We will also be creating Assessment Centers for battalion chiefs and captains with a target of a two day process per position in early May.

The Reserve Firefighter program has begun the 2013 recruitment application process from March 15th–June 21st. Firefighters Gonzales and Popp will be visiting the local community colleges to contact the students in the Fire Science programs. The goal is to obtain 12-15 new recruits with an academy set to start around Labor Day (late August to early September).

Thank you all for your hard work and have a safe Spring/Summer!

Fire Fact:

Pop Quiz Question:

Which residential fire cause has been trending upward in frequency from 2007 to 2011?

A. Heating equipment fires

B. Cooking fires

Fire Training Division Update

Blue Card – The Hazard Zone Management Symposium that was held at the Loveland Embassy Suites February 28th and March 1st was a huge success. We have received great feedback from many that attended. There were 200 people registered which does not count the almost 40 members of LFRA that attended portions of the conference. The symposium was a great opportunity to showcase the work that LFRA has done in the areas of situational awareness, tactical decision making and fireground command/control.

Just prior to the symposium, LFRA hosted a Blue Card *Train the Trainer* course at our Command Training Center. We had sixteen students from South Metro, Littleton, Berthoud, Laramie, Aspen, West Metro, Loveland, Greeley and even a couple firefighters from Ohio! LFRA's newest Blue Card instructors are Captains Greg Gilbert and Jason Starck, we were fortunate to be able to add them to the instructional cadre. We have several upcoming certification classes including one for four of our LFRA personnel, Greg Van Heel, Ron Hill, Matt Hintzman and Ben Wynkoop, who are enrolled in the online portion of the class now. Some of the other area fire departments that will be attending upcoming certification classes with us include: Boulder Rural, Lafayette, Johnstown, Milliken, Steamboat Springs, Mountain View, Louisville, Thornton, Big Thompson Canyon, LaSalle, Evans, Platte Valley and FE Warren Air Force Base.

The number of classes we offer will be scaled back to outside agencies starting this summer; we'll continue to support our smaller neighboring agencies, but we have done our part in assisting the FRFC Departments and the Denver Metro Departments in getting Blue Card initiated in their organizations. It's exciting to see the number of Command Training Centers (fixed facility or CTC in a box) that are now in operation in Colorado, including Arvada, Vail, Frederick-Firestone, South Metro, Poudre, Greeley, West Metro and Boulder.

Positive Pressure Attack – We will continue to work on changing the conditions inside the burning structure prior to entering using PPA; this is still a work in progress as we refine this tactic. In March we have been training with PPA in conjunction with getting water on the fire from outside of the structure. Early results in our training is showing dramatic temperature and condition changes for the better inside the structure as soon as the water is applied from the outside, followed by a sustained condition change using the PPA option.

This training seems to be lining up with the current scientific information that is coming from NIST and UL, which is telling us that we need to get water on the fire as quickly as possible to reduce the flashover potential. These operations match up with our two foundations of enhanced customer service and firefighter safety; change the conditions rapidly for the better for us and the customer that may still be inside the structure thus giving everyone involved the best chance of survival.

Company Officer Thoughts – BC Rick Davis shared a leadership handout with me recently, the document is from Coach John Wooden's Pyramid of Success. His Pyramid has several building blocks, but there are two that I want to focus on, poise and self-control. These two blocks seem to relate to the *command presence* that we talk about, but have a hard time defining. We all know what *command presence* is when we see it, but it is not always easy to put into words. Poise and self-control seem to be huge pieces to defining *command presence*. Coach Wooden's document has the following information for these two words:

Poise – "Be yourself; don't be thrown off by events whether good or bad."

Self-Control – "Control of your organization begins with control of yourself. Be disciplined."

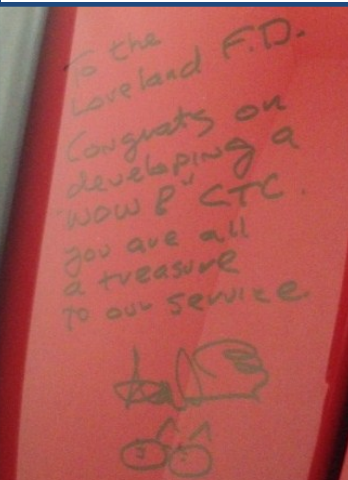
So does poise and self-control = *command presence*? My thought... Yes!

Poise – calm, steady, decisive, alert

Self-Control – disciplined, high situational awareness, student of our craft



*Battalion Chief
Greg Ward*



Chief Brunacinion's message
left on our BC cab in the CTC

“Save A Life” Community Safety FEMA Grant Project Update

By now most of you are aware of our on-going community safety project involving the distribution and installation of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in Loveland. This project partially funded by a FEMA grant and is being conducted in partnership with [The Lauren Project](#) – a non-profit organization that is dedicated to promoting carbon monoxide safety and education. Despite some set-backs, courtesy of Mother Nature, we are progressing well with this project. Below is a brief recap of what has been accomplished so far and what still lies ahead.



*Deputy Fire Marshal
Scott Pringle*



Don Johnson of the Lauren Project speaking to the MVHS Student Volunteers

On February 23rd, with the assistance of about 140 volunteers – primarily students from Mountain View High School and Colorado State University – we kicked off the door-to-door surveying of older homes and neighborhoods in the local community.

Round 2 of the surveying process took place on March 2nd and included over 70 volunteers, including students from Thompson Valley High School and Windsor High School.

Round 3 of the surveying process has been postponed due to the ominous forecast of a severe winter storm with predictions of heavy snow accumulations. Ultimately, these weather conditions never fully materialized, but the surveying plans had to be cancelled in advance based upon the forecast to ensure the safety of our scheduled volunteers.



Team Leader-Councilor Trenary w/ Mountain View High Student Volunteers



Thompson Valley High Student Volunteers Surveying

The re-schedule date for round 3 of the door-to-door surveys is now set for Saturday, April 20th. We're expecting at least 70 more volunteers for this final mass surveying event, with the bulk being student volunteers from Loveland High School.

Meanwhile, citizen requests for smoke and carbon monoxide detector donations and installations are still being received on a regular basis. Members of LFRA have been handling the requests for equipment installations and will continue to do so as this project goes on.

To date over 400 smoke and carbon monoxide alarms have been distributed and installed in homes that were in need of these important life safety devices. We still have many more homes to visit and hundreds of alarms are still available for distribution.

I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to all of the LFRA members, The Lauren Project, local government officials, community partners, and local students and teachers who have all had a huge impact on the success of this project. Your efforts will most certainly increase public safety here in Loveland, and will very likely save lives.



LFRA Engineer Hintzman w/TVHS Student Volunteer for the Install Team

Special Operations Team News

The Special Operations Team spends many hours training and preparing for numerous high risk, low frequency situations. A challenge that we face is the constant changing of techniques and equipment and it is our responsibility to upgrade as needed. The past two years we have evaluated our current confined space equipment and through this research we found that our equipment was either outdated and in need of repair or replacement. We also found that our capabilities were very limited. I am pleased that through some hard work we have been able to upgrade our confined space equipment to a level that gives us the best opportunity to enhance our abilities on any confined space incident.



*Lieutenant
Dave Schuetz*

In the past two years we have made several upgrades to the equipment that we carry. Our first priority was to upgrade the current tri-pod, which was replaced in 2011 with the Sked-Evac Industrial Rescue/Entry tripod that utilizes the CMC access pulley kit, a pre-rigged 4:1 mechanical advantage pulley system as the lowering and hauling device. This system proved to be more efficient in both areas of deployment and operation. With this system, we are able to lower rescuers and haul victims without having to set up a separate haul system after the rescuers have been lowered into the space. We also purchased a new Yates spec pack, which is a spinal immobilization device that is specially designed for confined space. The spec pack utilizes a smooth surface on its back to assist rescuers with sliding of the patient inside a confined space.



In 2012 we focused on enhancing our capabilities through additional equipment. Our focus was concentrated on adding enough equipment to allow us to have redundancy in our system. Another concern that we evaluated was the limitations in our communications inside of a confined space. At the time we didn't have the ability to effectively communicate in a non-hazardous atmosphere without using our supplied air lines. We began researching all of our options and formulated a plan to purchase all of the equipment that we needed. In the fall we purchased a complete set of confined space equipment including an air manifold, communication control module, headsets, 4 Scott Ska-Paks and 1200' of communication line.



With the addition of the new equipment, we now have multiple options of what we are able to do on a confined space incident. We now have the ability to enter any confined space at two separate locations, as well as having a backup system if needed. To ensure that we maximize our equipment and resources to the best of our ability, we now have confined space equipment on the west side and the east side of our district. Station 2 still carries the primary confined space equipment on Heavy Rescue 2 including the tri-pod, Yates spec pack, communication lines and all ventilation equipment. Station 6 now has the second set of equipment located on Rescue 6, which includes supplied airlines, air manifold, Ska-Paks and a communication control module. With the separation of the equipment we will have the ability to arrive and begin to perform a rescue anywhere in our district in a timely manner.



The addition of the new confined space equipment would not have been possible without the hard work of several people. A special thanks to Lt. Dave Friedrichsen for researching and purchasing the equipment and Renee Wheeler who made the funding possible.

Apparatus Updates

The Apparatus Committee has been busy with several projects so far in 2013; the biggest is the new Squad 2 (Heavy Rescue) that will go into service in the new Station 2 in 2014. The design has been finalized and a contract was awarded to SVI for construction. It will be on a Spartan Gladiator cab and chassis with SVI constructing the equipment body. A few of the features include, a light tower, electric TNT rescue tools built into the front bumper, storage for three extension ladders, rope rescue anchor points (high and low) and large rooftop compartments. The officer's side of the rig will have the truck company equipment and the engineer's side houses the majority of the heavy rescue gear. This should be a great addition to our department; delivery is expected in January of 2014.



BC Greg Ward

The new Battalion 1 vehicle has arrived; it was ordered through Fleet Services using the State Bid process. This vehicle is a Chevrolet 2500 four door pickup, RED in color! The vehicle is being outfitted by Recreational Electric, here in Loveland. This truck will be set up for three people to operate in the vehicle as a command team on scene of an incident, which is not possible with the current Battalion 1 vehicle configuration. The new Battalion 1 vehicle will allow for the Command 2 vehicle (the red Tahoe) to be disposed of.



**New Battalion 1 delivered
March 12, 2013**

A new Type 6 Engine is on order. Lt. Mark Lyons was added to the Apparatus Committee to specifically assist with this design and purchase. This new Brush Engine will be very close in design to the newest Larimer County Emergency Services Type 6 Engine. Fleet Services has ordered a Ford F550 extended cab with a utility box based on our design and needs. Once the truck arrives at Fleet, they will mount the firefighting skid unit (pump, tank, foam system and hose reel) onto the truck. We expect this rig to go into service in July; currently it is slated to become Engine 226.

We are starting the research process for a new aerial tower to replace Truck 6 in 2014. We plan to target a manufacturer's stock or demo truck early next year for purchase. So far we are finding that most of the manufacturers have some great rigs coming through the line each year that are slated as demo units or are designated as stock units. We are hoping to identify a tower that is early enough in the process to allow us to make small changes to greater meet our needs.

Another project on the table is a possible grant submission for a Type 3 Engine; the committee is gathering material on the various Type 3 Engines that are available to assist with any needs in the grant writing process. Adding a Type 3 Engine to our fleet would greatly enhance our initial attack capabilities in the urban interface areas of our district.

The next time you stop by Fleet Services, please say thank you to our great mechanics, Corey and Warren; they do an incredible job for us and we are very lucky to have them. Don't forget to turn in a *FASTER Request* if you need maintenance or repair work done to an apparatus. A request still needs to be submitted even if you have contacted Corey or Warren about the problem for tracking purposes.

Please contact Lt. Vance Stolz or me if you have any questions about the Apparatus Committee or the upcoming apparatus purchases.

LFRA 2012/2013 Announcements & Upcoming Events



The six members that became full-time firefighters - last day of academy!

Back L to R: Derek Guard, Devin Becker, Tyler Chesher, Nate Will
Front L to R: Robbie Popp and Jeremy Bell

Feb. 2013

Reserve Firefighters that became Part-Time Paid

Adam Baukol	Brad Schiffelbein
Landon Mauck	Christopher Smith
Rory O'Farrell	Jason Tanner
Benjamin Ramos	Doug Vinzant

2012 Anniversaries

10 Years – Tony Curtis, Dave Friedrichsen, Matthew Hintzman, Matthew Koehnke, Tim Morrison and Joe Reichelderfer

15 years – Curtis Burke, Michael Cerovski, Tim Smith and Craig Willard

20 years – Janet Probst and Kurt Wilson

Fire Fact:

Pop Quiz Answer:

The correct answer is **B. Cooking fires.** Cooking-related residential fires have increased from 161,700 in 2007 to 166,600 in 2011. Heating equipment-related residential fires decreased in that same timeframe from 54,400 to 43,700.

Source: USFA

Upcoming LFRA Events:

- ◆ Saturday, April 13, 9 am—12 pm - **Car Seat Inspection** - Call 962-2497 to make an appointment
- ◆ Saturday, April 20, 2 pm - 4 pm, **Station 6 Open House for High Plains Village Residents**
- ◆ Wednesday, April 24th, 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm - **Colorado Children's Day** @ the Fire Administration Building and other downtown City facilities
- ◆ Saturday, April 27, 9 am – 12 pm - **Car Seat Inspection** - Call 962-2497 to make an appointment
- ◆ Saturday, May 4, 9 am – 12 pm - **Car Seat Inspection** - Call 962-2497 to make an appointment
- ◆ Saturday, May 18, 9 am – 12 pm - **Car Seat Inspection** - Call 962-2497 to make an appointment
- ◆ Saturday, June 1, 9 am – 12 pm - **Car Seat Inspection** - Call 962-2497 to make an appointment
- ◆ Saturday, June 15, 9 am – 12 pm - **Car Seat Inspection** - Call 962-2497 to make an appointment
- ◆ Saturday, July 6, 9 am – 12 pm - **Car Seat Inspection** - Call 962-2497 to make an appointment
- ◆ Saturday, July 20, 9 am – 12 pm - **Car Seat Inspection** - Call 962-2497 to make an appointment

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority



Fire Admin Building - Fire Suppression Division / Community Safety Division

410 East 5th Street

Loveland, CO 80537

970-962-2497 phone

970-962-2912 fax

For all emergencies, call 911

Through commitment, compassion and courage, the mission of the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority is to protect life and property.