



Smoke Signals

Indian Hills Fire Protection District

Serving the Citizens of Indian Hills Since 1947

Roll Call

Chief

Don Schoenbein

Asst. Chief

Emery Carson

Fire Capt.

Loren Gilbert

EMS Capt.

Bob Fager

Fire Lt.

Steve Bruns

Brian Kerby

EMS Lt.

Matt Griffin

Fire Marshal

Randy Rudloff

Members

Scott Case

Marc Rosenberg

Pat Sears

Jason Gagnier

Ray Vogler

Robert Humber

Aaron Ratke

Laura Resch

Brittany Salter

Mike Fassula

Karen Fassula

Austin Kinney

Lance Schneider

Alex Wage

Karyn Carr

Office Manager

Karen Nelson

November Ballot Issue on Term Limits

Vote YES on 5A

Election Day — November 1 — is right around the corner. Of particular importance is an initiative on the ballot to eliminate term limits for board members of the Indian Hills Fire Protection District. Your help is needed in voting "YES" on **5A** to ensure that the District continues to run in the most efficient, effective manner.

Indian Hills is a community with a small pool of individuals who are interested and qualified to sit on the board of directors for the fire department. Yet determining how to manage the tax dollars that fund a volunteer fire department is a substantial responsibility that affects everyone in the community. After all, no one is immune from the potential need for fire or EMS services. Consequently, having the best board members is critical.

Currently, there are term limits for board members. Term limits that often force out effective, dedicated leaders and reduce the choices you have to select from. Seasoned board members who are forced to leave at the end of their term may end up being replaced by someone less knowledgeable and committed. As a result, the department may become less efficient. Another problem with term limits is that the substantial knowledge of veteran board members can be lost with their departure. Board members, especially those who have been affiliated with the fire department for a long period of time, are often experts in certain critical subject areas. While new board members may bring fresh ideas and good intentions, it may take a long time for them to acquire a deep understanding of various issues, resulting in inefficiency.

Because of these reasons, most of our neighboring districts did away with term limits for their fire department board members long ago. Indian Hills is one of the only districts in the area that still has term limits in place. A "Yes" vote on issue **5A** will eliminate term limits and help ensure the best fire department administration for the community.

This article is the opinion of the Board of Directors of the Indian Hills Fire Protection District.

Big Chili was a Big Success! Thanks for your support!

The 10th annual Big Chili cook-off was held Sept. 11, the tenth anniversary of the event and the 9/11 attacks. Attendance was estimated at over 4000, an increase of 30% over last year. The proceeds from the event go to the six mountain area Fire Departments. Our own FF Austin Kinney placed second out of six competitors in the Combat Challenge and the 'Boots' chili was awesome, again!

Board of Directors

President

Paul Pettit

Treasurer

Bret Roller

Secretary

Marc Rosenberg

Members

Ron Walton

Kelley Lehman

Bookkeeper

Anita Fritz

Recording Secretary

Karen Nelson



BOOTS CORNER

IHFB - Indian Hills Fire Boots – est. 2009

“Boots” are the non-emergency volunteers who provide support to the Indian Hills Fire and Rescue Department. We have spent the past 12 months organizing and developing a plan on how community members can best mobilize to support our volunteer fire department. **Jackie Kniss** is our interim chair providing the leadership necessary to move us forward.

Thank you to the members of the **Foursquare Church, Erin Ratke, Karen Nelson, Jon Dinsmore, Rex Kniss, Dina Arnott, Marcie Sardinta, Jackie Kniss, Robi Ziegler, Martha English, Wendy Cole Ewton, Deb Eisenhand, Kathy Kuhnlein, Rosielani Johnson, Emily Miller and Barb Rosenberg** for helping with the 4th of July pancake breakfast and festivities. And thank you to all of our volunteer fire and rescue members who put on a great show. We also want to extend a big “Thank You!” to our neighboring fire departments: InterCanyon, Elk Creek, Foothills, Genesee and Evergreen, for their support during this event

Our **Incident Support Volunteers (ISV), Stacy Walker, Syd Nelson, Rosielani Johnson, Marcie Sardinta, Caren Matteucci, Kim Hynes, Anita and Scott Fritz and Emily Miller**, are the volunteers who are willing to pick up and deliver sandwiches, water, coffee or whatever else is needed during an emergency situation when our firefighters are unable to break away. Contact Emily Miller (303)697-9587 or email the Boots boots@ihfr.org for more information or to join this team.

Join the IHFB at the fire station every 3rd Wednesday at 7pm every month. Help strengthen our community by supporting Indian Hills Fire Rescue. Meet new people, share your skills - join us!



We've recently added several new emergency response vehicles to our fleet and more are on the way.

In June we replaced our 1997 Ford F250 pickup with a 2008 Ford F350. A Type 6 wildland brush truck was added in August. The 2008 Sterling Bullet (above) has been equipped and is now in service. This vehicle will greatly improve our wildfire response capability. In fact, it's already responded to a few local grass fires.

The department is also having a new 3000 gallon six wheel drive Mack Granite tanker/tender built by Fire Trucks Plus in Rancho Cucamonga, California to replace our aging 1975 Autocar tender. The new tender should be completed and in service by February.

Rounding out the fleet upgrades is a 2003 Ford F-450 Wheeled Coach four wheel drive ambulance that will replace our reserve ambulance, a 1993 model. It should be in service next month.

CAN WE FIND YOU IN AN EMERGENCY?



Everyone knows the adage "Every Second Counts" is true when we're referring to an emergency. The difference between life and death may only be a few seconds for a victim. This fact has not been ignored by governmental agencies and community organizations; millions and millions of dollars have been poured into technologically advanced E-911 systems over the past 15-20 years. However, with all of this technology, we've ignored one small problem. People don't mark their addresses sufficiently for emergency personnel to find them. Especially, at night!

STANDARDIZED AND REFLECTIVE HOUSE NUMBER SIGNS ARE FOR SALE

Help local emergency service personnel find your home faster. This standard numbering program will make finding houses easier for everyone. The last thing you need to worry about during an emergency, when seconds may count, is if rescuers will be able to locate your home. The signs are made of rust free aluminum with a blue reflective background and white numbers. They are available in horizontal or vertical format with numbers on one side or both. They can be ordered by mailing the attached order form to Indian Hills Fire Department. Signs should be mounted next to your driveway along the road, not on the house. Please submit your *address* number. The fire department no longer uses the three or four digit fire code that is often mounted on the property.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order please call 303-697-4568.

Thanks for helping us help you!

----- cut here -----

Return this completed form with your check made payable to: Indian Hills Fire Dept.

Mail to: PO Box 750, Indian Hills, CO 80454

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Horizontal _____ or Vertical _____ Address Numbers on Sign:

--	--	--	--	--

\$15.00 for one sided number _____ or \$20. for two sided numbers _____ (please choose).



Indian Hills Fire/Rescue

P.O. Box 750

4476 Parmalee Gulch Road

Indian Hills, Co. 80454

Phone: 303-697-4568

Fax: 303-697-1029

Email: chief@ihfr.org

officemanager@ihfr.org

INDIAN HILLS RESIDENT

INDIAN HILLS, CO.80454

***SMOKE SIGNALS* is a publication of the Indian Hills Fire Protection District.**



Chief's Corner

Next year, 2012, marks the 65th anniversary of the Indian Hills Fire Department. Not only are we one of the oldest in the area but we also have the distinction of being one the smallest. Because Indian Hills is sandwiched between West Metro, Inter-Canyon and Evergreen you may expect our service to be smaller as well. However, the number of volunteer emergency responders and their levels of qualifications and certifications are high and getting higher. We recently started offering Advanced Life Support (ALS) EMS services and soon we'll double the number of ALS responders. The number of wildland trained and certified responders is also very high and getting higher. With the upgrades to our fleet of response vehicles this 'small' department offers big benefits to the community. This service has been most important this year with the number of wildland fires we've already experienced. Unfortunately, another trend has surfaced in our community and neighboring communities as well. Human-caused wildfires, including intentionally set (arson) fires, have plagued this fire season. In fact, several have been started by juveniles. Since any fire in our community, no matter how small, can become a wildland fire that could affect the entire community, it's critical that we all take the necessary steps to mitigate our property and pay close attention to the Smokey Bear Fire Signs and posted fire restrictions during extreme dry and windy periods to reduce our risk.

As we approach our 65th anniversary and the best July 4th events ever in honor of it, let's all work to ensure the safety of the community and preserve the environment we all enjoy.