

RISTWATCH

RCVFD Quarterly Newsletter P. O. Box 2, Bellvue, CO 80512 Issue No. 89 January, 2019

Letter from the President

Happy New Year to all of our RCVFD Community! At the beginning of this new year, it is appropriate to reflect upon the previous year, and look forward to the year to come.



In 2018, RCVFD saw challenges, changes and successes, which have helped us collectively respond to the needs of our community, while striving to best steward all of the resources with which we've been entrusted. RCVFD Operations volunteers continue to provide excellent service to our community, responding to more than 60 calls (the number reported at the end of October) for 2018, with the majority of them being medically-related. RCVFD are our community's First Responders; remember, when you call 911, it will be RCVFD-trained personnel arriving to help! In addition to actively participating in ongoing training and education, they maintain RCVFD-assigned property, repairing or replacing items only as is necessary. These practices help RCVFD keep its operating costs more manageable, and less likely to incur otherwise avoidable expenses.

2018 also gave rise to some innovative efforts to help raise funds for RCVFD. Our First Vice President, H.J. Siegel, and the "Friends of the Festival" volunteers were instrumental in fundraising efforts, both for the

annual RCVFD Mountain Festival, as well as our Annual Drive. Bridget Tisthammer, Louise Creager and Dale Snyder also sought and obtained grants and funds from outside sources. Through these collective efforts, RCVFD was able to meet (and modestly surpass) the fundraising goal necessary to provide for our 2018 budget.

A few changes occurred to the RCVFD Board of Directors in 2018. Dale Snyder stepped down after serving for two years as President. He now serves as the Immediate Past President, and will undoubtedly continue to help and serve our community in any way he is able. The Rist Canyon Area Representative position was vacated at the 2018 Annual Meeting, and Idris Hamid stepped up to serve as the new Rist Canyon Area Representative! I am honored to now serve our community, and my fellow board members, as President.

Continued on next page

Letter from the President, cont'd.

I am looking forward to 2019, and the opportunities that it presents to us all. In the wake of 2018, we have a healthy impetus rolling towards making 2019 a successful year in providing for the needs in our community.

However, we must remain vigilant in our watch, looking out for one another as a community, and helping RCVFD obtain the financial resources necessary to continue to respond to the health and safety of everyone in our community—residents, visitors and folks passing through alike!

I encourage everyone to contribute financially to RCVFD. You don't have to wait for a letter or postcard concerning the Annual Drive. Even now,

you can send a check in to our mailing address, or go to our web site and contribute via PayPal! Also, another simple way to contribute all year long is to get your own King Soopers Community Card! For only \$5.00, you can use this card (which already has a \$5.00 gift balance!), refilling it as you make purchases from King Soopers throughout the year... groceries, gas and prescriptions; RCVFD thereafter receives a portion of your purchases, as a donation from King Soopers! Please contact Bridget Tisthammer if you have any questions, or would like to pick up your own Community Card!

*With Kind Regards,
Jeff Varberry
RCVFD President*

Letter from the Vice President

Dear Neighbors:

When your family needs help and calls **911** in Rist Canyon, **your Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD)** is there **24** hours a day and **7** days a week to take care of you and our shared community. RCVFD is the first responder responsible for over 100 square miles!

The funding for RCVFD comes only from community support (we get no tax dollars). While the responders donate their time and energy for extensive training and to respond to **YOUR emergencies**, we need funds for medical supplies (such as oxygen tanks, stretchers, splints, bandages), maintaining our equipment (such as trucks, hoses, pumps, communication radios, GPS devices, ladders, protective uniforms, helmets), fuel for our trucks, etc.

We will be sending a letter asking for your support for our fire department. Please remember the many items you are supplying with your donation, and the many services you get in return.

*Thank you!
H. J. Siegel
RCVFD Vice President
and RCVFD Firefighter and
Emergency Medical Responder*



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You live in Rist Canyon, so chances are you've seen a few blown down trees on your property. One thing I've noticed is the large blown over trees have a small root ball. This means standing trees must have larger roots to protect them from the winds of risk.

As a fellow neighbor of yours, I'd like you to know that our financial plans show our clients how much of their retirement assets are "above ground" (subject to winds of risk), versus how much are "below ground" (protected). We help protect assets and income from taxation through GuideSpring Wealth's Triple Tax Protected® Strategies.

The Rist Canyon Fire Department runs efficiently on your donations, not tax dollars. Donate today to keep us free of taxation!

We offer an introductory 30 minute complimentary consultation. For the first 10 people who schedule from this ad, we will donate \$100 per consult to the Rist Canyon Fire Department. Email or call 970-305-8352 to schedule today!

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Chief's Report

Welcome 2019! While we look forward to the things that may bless us in the upcoming year, I will take a moment to look backwards and summarize RCVFD's efforts in 2018.

First, I want to acknowledge and thank all the wonderful people who volunteer to respond for the RCVFD. These folks carry a pager 24/7 and respond when they can—day or night—to help people when they are having what is often their “worst day ever”. We all do it for a variety of reasons, but giving back to our community is a common theme. Whatever your motivation, thanks for all you do! An extra level of thanks goes out to the officers. These folks put in extra effort to make the department work. 2018 was a pretty “average” year with 70 calls. The two pie charts show how those calls break out.

Medical calls still dominate the number of calls, but fire calls are typically much more time consuming. Overall, there were more than 500 hours of time spent on calls last year. It is interesting how the calls break out geographically as well. The calls break out fairly evenly across the response area of the RCVFD.

As we head into spring, we are hoping for some good wet weather. It is hard work getting through big spring snows, but it makes our fire season quieter. Wishing you all a safe and happy 2019.

Carol Dollard

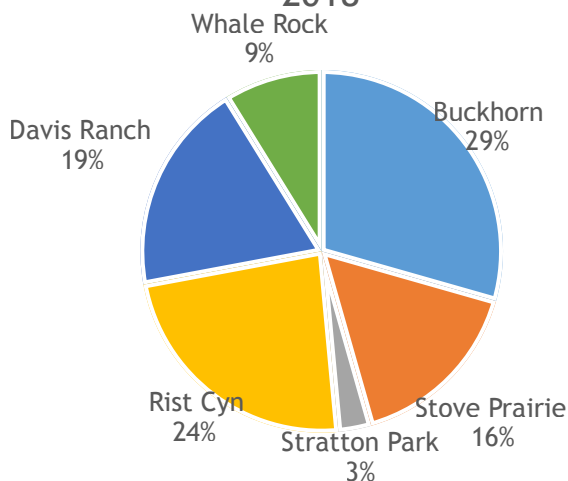
Chief, RCVFD

The 2019 officers for the RCVFD are:

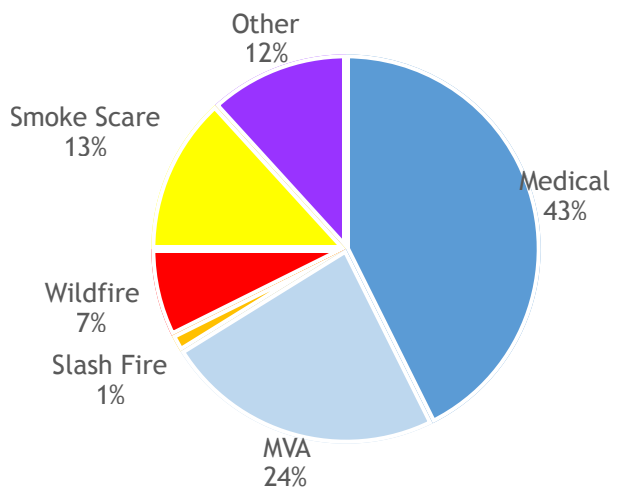
Chief: Carol Dollard
Assistant Chief: Jeff Elsner
Captain: Phil Benstein
Medical Officer: Ron Hall-Estand

Lieutenant: Terry Shetler
Lieutenant: Norm Miller
Lieutenant: Jesse Cepelcha
Lieutenant: Mark McCracken

Responses By Area Served
2018



Responses By Type
2018





Houseplants

Provide Beauty

Improve Mood

Reduce Stress

Provide Clean Air

Plants • Supplies • Gifts • Tools • Fertilizer • Seeds

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Treasurer's Report

Happy New Year and Thank You! As in past years, the RCVFD community continues to support the firefighters and medical volunteers of RCVFD. Since the High Park fire, the fire department and the community have made amazing progress in recovering and there is a bright future for our mountain area we all love and call home. RCVFD volunteers are on call 24/7 to provide service to the community. In return, the community has always been there to support the RCVFD. In 2018, the support through the annual drive set a record by meeting the budget goal for the second year in a

row. Why is this so important? We all know our fire department is an all volunteer, donation based fire department. There is no tax line item on our tax notice each year. A second milestone reached was the annual drive donations totaled over \$80,000 (\$82,322). Thanks once again for the great support you give to all the volunteers of RCVFD.

Richard Lund
Treasurer

Expenditures in 2018 were as follows:

Administration 2018 Expenses

Annual Drive:

Credit Card Maintenance	\$ 79.67
Web Hosting Annual Fee	131.40
Post Office Box Renewal	70.00
Annual Meeting (print/mailling/supplies)	566.30
Annual Meeting School Rental	228.00
Annual Drive Envelopes	546.00
Annual Drive Letters Sent (3)	1,914.53

Bank:

Returned Check fee	10.00
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Board of Directors:

Treasurer's Laptop / Keyboard (replaces personal computer used)	920.00
QuickBooks Software	179.99
Financial Review by CPA firm	2,500.00

Insurance:

General Liability / Auto	17,690.00
Medical	2,200.00
Workman's Comp	3,210.00
Surety Bond for treasurer	187.50

Office Supplies:

Stamps	150.00
Bank Deposit Forms	89.10
Stamps for 2019 (price increasing)	150.00

Ristwatch Newsletter:

Printing / Mailing (4 issues)	4,522.43
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Taxes:

Federal 990 EZ annual filling	800.00
Property Tax Exception	225.00

Utilities:

Electric	1,912.29
Propane (3 Stations)	2,275.53
Telephone (Station #1)	694.57

Total Administration Expenses \$41,252.41

Operations 2018 Expenses

Operations:

Fuel	\$1,252.09
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Buildings

Paver bricks for retaining wall	225.00
Outside lights	494.08
Heater Control Board (lighting strike)	766.00

Chief

Training Expenses	289.48
Wildfire Community Preparedness	76.03
Colorado State Fire Chiefs dues	243.00

Communications

Batteries	218.39
Radios	661.67
Pager repair	114.65

Equipment

Truck Maintenance	433.30
CSFS Truck Lease	800.00
Supplies	1,881.58
Truck Repair	5,158.46
2 Cordless Sawsalls for extrication	596.10
Fire Station Software	82.00

Medical

Supplies	1,484.22
Repair QRT Medical Cot	48.97
QRT License	100.00

Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

El Pomar Grant (Bunker & Wildland Clothing)	11,553.95
Structure Boots (2 pair)	578.00
Ice Cleats (3 sets)	134.97
Cases for fire shelters (2)	43.90
Dual radio packs (6)	329.70
Clothing (shirt/vest/harness)	199.53
Large Wildland Pack	206.95

Total Operations Expenses \$28,012.32

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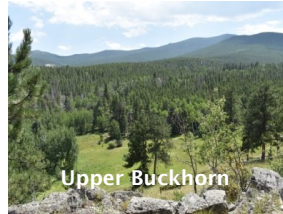
Happy 2019!

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Ronni Aragon, RSPS, GRI
Norman Wyatt, CNE, Green
Briana Aragon, Broker Associate



55 newly created acres with easy access off Buckhorn Rd. Close to nearby National Forest. Beautiful views, meadows, timber and so much to offer! Non-permitted cabins will be inherited, but lots of potential. Alternative energy required. \$179,000



Once in a Lifetime you get the opportunity to create a legacy. This 320 acres almost completed surrounded by National Forest, with Rocky Mountain National Park beyond is it! Meadows, Aspens, Creek, Timber, Trails. Call for details.



Bright, open mountain getaway with a wrap around deck overlooking your private pond! Open floor plan, 2 bed/1 bath on 40 acres with National Forest frontage. 4WD recommended, gated community. Offered at \$385,000.



Close to town in secluded mountain setting at the end of the road with National Forest frontage, lots of local wildlife, driveway in with excavated building site and electric close by. Use for recreation or year round home! 10.7 acres, call for details.

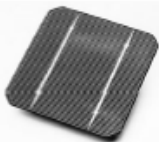


35 acres in upper Cherokee Park with well, solar & septic. Excavated building site to pull your RV or future cabin/home site. Extensive mountain views with mix of meadow, timber, aspens & spring. Abuts National Forest & offered at \$210,000.



Pond & stream in Paradise Park on 40 acres with private National Forest access. Located behind locked gates, offering great views of the Buckhorn Valley to the South. Effects of the High Park Fire, but affordably priced at \$199,000.

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2019 Board of Directors

Jeff Yarberry, President

Jeff and Michele Yarberry moved to Rist Canyon in August 2016, and knew that they were finally home. They enjoy meeting their neighbors, and are looking forward to meeting more folks, and becoming more of a part of this community. Jeff is a Management Analyst with the USDA's Emergency Response agency, APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service), and has served on other nonprofit boards, and volunteered with humanitarian relief efforts around the world for nearly 15 years. Jeff and Michele welcome the opportunity to become more involved in the community, and look forward to the journey ahead.

Carol Dollard, Fire Chief and 2nd Vice President

Carol has served as Fire Chief since October 2015. She joined RCVFD shortly after moving to the canyon in 1983 and has been an active firefighter since then. In her "other life" she is an Energy Engineer for Facilities Management at Colorado State University.

H. J. Siegel, Vice President

H.J. Siegel has been a RCVFD Firefighter since he moved to Colorado in 2001, was certified as an Emergency Medical Responder in 2009, joined the RCVFD Grant Writing Committee in 2017 and was the Coordinator of the 2018 RCVFD Mountain Festival. H.J. was a Professor at Purdue University from 1976 to 2001, a Professor at Colorado State University from 2001 to 2017 (now a "Professor Emeritus"), and was the first Director of the university-wide CSU Information Science and Technology Center from 2002 to 2013.

Richard Lund, Treasurer

Richard has lived in Rist Canyon since 1991 and has been a volunteer for the RCVFD since 1994, serving as Board Member, President and currently Treasurer.

Steve Denlinger, Asst. Treasurer

Leisa Taylor, Secretary

The perfect day for Leisa consists of doting on her two cats, watching tennis on TV and walking Davis Ranch Road. When work calls, she is the Outreach Coordinator for the Global Village Museum in Fort Collins. A native Texan, Leisa is continually amazed

at the kind and generous spirit of the Rist Canyon community.

Bridget Tisthammer, Ristwatch Editor

Bridget and Thom moved to Rist Canyon in 1989. They raised two children here, who went to Stove Prairie school. She has been involved with the RCVFD as Ristwatch editor since 2015. Bridget works at Ft. Collins Nursery during the growing season and volunteers as a Larimer County Master Gardener. Bridget is always looking for community news and photos to publish in the Ristwatch.

Don Diemer, Buckhorn Rep

Don left the nuclear energy industry to cut and sell firewood, work as a cabinet shop apprentice, build custom log furnishings and for the last 27 years has been the hand on a small ranch west of Loveland. He is currently 15 years into caretaking property on both the upper and lower ends of Buckhorn Creek. Don has continued to teach himself guitar and entertain at small old time country festivals and venues in the upper midwest.

Sandy Deraney-Reilly, Davis Ranch Rep

Sandy served as President of the Redstone Estates Road Association from 2015-2017. She and her husband have lived in the Davis Ranch area for around 20 years. Their first home was built in 1999, and was lost in the 2012 fires. They rebuilt in 2014. She is a licensed psychologist and has maintained a private practice in Fort Collins for over 20 years. She has three daughters and seven grandchildren, all of whom live in the Denver area. They enjoy gathering with the family, hiking, camping and traveling. She values serving the community in which she lives.

Idris Hamid, Rist Canyon Rep

Jill Smith, Stove Prairie Rep

Jill and her family moved to Stove Prairie in 2007. Her two children, Dylan and Rylie, attended Stove Prairie School. Jill is originally from Montana and loves everything about the mountains. She spends most of her time transporting her kids to all their sports and activities but is always ready to spend time with the great friends she has met in this community, and looks forward to working with the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Dept. Board.

2019 Board of Directors, cont'd.

Louise Creager, Stratton Park Rep

Louise moved to the Rist Canyon area in 1989. Her children attended Stove Prairie, and she has been involved with RCVFD in many capacities: Vice-President, Mountain Festival coordinator; founder and chair of the Firefighter Silent Auction, originator of the fire department's 501(c)3 non-profit status; Chair of the Fine Art Auction and Board Member Stratton Park Road Representative since 2009.

Brian Finley, Whale Rock Rep

Brian has owned property in Whale Rock since 2008. He is a career firefighter, working with the National Forest Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the Alpine Hotshots. Brian is currently a student at CSU, working on his Fire Science degree.

Please help us help you!



Response time can be delayed when your home does not have address numbers clearly posted. Please take the time to post numbers where your driveway takes off from the named road, and a second set on your house. RCVFD offers nice reflective signs, and they're only \$15! Order yours by calling Louise Creager at (970) 217-6843. We cannot help you if we cannot find you.....

RCVFD Monthly Meeting Schedule

All meetings begin at 7 PM
at Firehouse #1 on Rist Canyon Road

Operations — 1st Wednesdays
Fire Training — 2nd Wednesdays
Board Meeting — 3rd Wednesdays
Medical Training — 4th Wednesdays

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- ★ Great Location
- ★ Almost 3 Acres
- ★ End of the Road Privacy
- ★ Off Grid – Lots of Sun

~ 2018 Sold Year in Review ~

Land sold 21 properties from 6.84 acres Sold at \$55,000 to 80 acres Sold at \$250,000

Residential 23 properties from cabin on 4 acres Sold at \$100,850 to 56 acres 2774 Square Feet 4 bedr 3 baths

For more information on these properties contact me.

Just a few sold by Louise both residential and land



10285 Rist Canyon \$485,000 124 Compostella \$425,000 198 Smith Bridge \$592,000 91 Elk Horn Trl \$100,850



Louise Creager
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2019 Mountain Festival News

Want to be POPULAR?

You can be a very popular person this September! The Rist Canyon Mountain Festival, which raises funds for the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD), needs a new organizer for GIVING AWAY FREE ICE CREAM!

We have all the plans for this much enjoyed part of the festival, but the past organizer cannot do it in 2019. However, he can explain it all to a new super-scooper. Please contact H.J. Siegel (Festival Coordinator) to volunteer or if you have any



Join the Team: Rist Canyon Mountain Festival 2019

Join the team for the 2019 Rist Canyon Mountain Festival! A tradition since the 1970s continued last year when the Mountain Festival was held and raised about \$18,000 profit for the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department. Over 80 neighbor volunteers worked together to make the festival happen and there were about 2,000 happy attendees. This year the festival will be on Saturday, September 7, 2019.

Some of the leaders and activities for 2019 are listed below, and we can use more help with all aspects of the festival. Please contact H.J. Siegel (Festival Coordinator) to volunteer for activities or if you have any questions (HJ@computer.org). We need the help of our community (you), please.

Have a Green Thumb?

Please start your plant seedlings or transplants now for the RCVFD Festival on Saturday, September 7th. You may bring your donations on Friday or Saturday for the plant booth.

Thank you all for your support!
Any questions, please
contact me at
eveege61@gmail.com.



*Eve Ege
Plant Booth Chair*

List of Festival Leaders

Bake Sale: Lisa Diederich
Book Sale: Carolyn Stanley
Corporate Sponsors: Taylor Bradley Hubbard
Craft/Vendor Booths: Jill Smith
Entertainment: Sandy Reilly
Facilities: Richard Lund
Farm Animals: Coreen Rairdon and Kim Gilbreth
Firefighter Display Booth: Juana Jackson
Food Trucks: Bridget Tisthammer
Ice Cream: Position open
Kid Events: Trisha Johnston
Non-Profit/Educational Booths: Angie McQuillan
Plant Sale: Eve Ege
Publicity: Leisa Taylor and Taylor Bradley Hubbard
Secretary: Position open
Shuttle Tractor Drivers: Brett Johnston
Silent Auction: Janet Siegel
Supporter and Festival T-Shirts: Molly McLean and Shannon Phelps
Treasurer: Richard Lund

Mountain Festival Book Bees News

Donate Books Year Round!

Did you know that you can donate books for the Book Tent at the Mountain Festival year round?

The donation box is located at Station 1, next to the dumpster. Don't get them mixed up...



Festival Books Need a Home

The Book Bees need a new storage place for the books. They work on sorting and organizing the books year round, and are in need of a space where they can work, as well as room to store the books. A space close to the Festival site would be ideal. If you have any ideas for Carolyn Stanley, please send an email to her at cloud9sewing@gmail.com

Firefighter Silent Auction a Success!

Last year's Silent Auction had over 150 items from almost 100 donors. Awesome! This brought in over \$6,500 for the fire department. This year we will do even better because we will have **lots more people to help**, I hope! Everyone who worked last year was a hero to get it all done. We need more heroes!

It's easy to be a hero—just talk to prospective donors wherever you shop. Your favorite restaurant, store, service provider or brewpub might be happy to contribute to the fire department, knowing they're helping a customer—You! We will provide you with a nice letter for donors, explaining what RCVFD is, what donors gain and how to donate; a festival flyer; and a tax receipt.

Even people who cringe asking for things can do this: while you're shopping, hand your prospective donor the letter and a flyer, tip your hat and leave. It's that easy!



So please let's **ALL** of us do this! We also need the following help:

1. People to help with any of the following: pick up items; photograph or write descriptions; make bid sheets; or write thank you notes. Plus, you get to see all the cool stuff first!
2. People to help with the festival: set-up, take-down, booth workers and a LOT of people to close the auction, including organizing items and collecting cash from highest bidders.

So what do you get for this besides the warm feeling of a good job done well? Not too many meetings, but the ones we have will be good. The first one is tentatively scheduled for **Thursday, February 7th at 6 PM**. Please email me by February 5th with your phone number and email address at silentauction@rcvfd.org if you'd like to come, even if you can't volunteer but just want to eat pie and make suggestions.

Thank you!
Janet Siegel
Silent Auction Chair

Here's My Card

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- Soil Prep & Grading
- Waterfalls & Ponds
- 4X4 Dump Truck

Just keep driving. When something changes, you'll know you're out of Nebraska.

"Connecting with Community...
Connecting with God"
STOVE PRAIRIE COMMUNITY CHURCH
New Location!
Worship Service every Sunday at 10 AM
Now Meeting at Stove Prairie School
Everyone welcome!

Why are cowboys' hats turned up on the sides? So that three people can fit in the pickup.

Three Easy Ways to Help the RCVFD



Colorado Gives begins November 1st!

Please Spread the WORD to family and friends!

It's easy—just post this link

<http://coloradogives.org/RistCanyonVolunteerFireDepartment>
to Facebook and ask them to donate!

In 2018 we earned \$3,044! Your fire department Thanks You!



Neighborhood Rewards Program

Buy a preloaded \$5 gift card, then load the card at the King Soopers checkout counter with any amount of money. Use the card to purchase anything at King Soopers—food, prescriptions, gas and other items. RCVFD receives 5% of all purchases using the preloaded gift card!

To buy a \$5 card, email Bridget at bridget@frie.com, or come to a BOD meeting at 7 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at Station 1.

In 2018 we earned \$1,242! The more of us who use the card, the more we will earn! If you shop at King Soopers, make your purchases count!



You shop. Amazon gives.

It's easy!

↳ Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

↳ AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service!

↳ Support Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department anytime you shop on Amazon. Once you set it up - it's automatic!

Go to www.smile.amazon.com.

If you have an account, sign in.

Select Rist Canyon VFD as the charity you would like to give to. Use this website for all your Amazon purchases.

In 2018 we earned \$520! If you shop on Amazon, there's no reason not to do it!

THANK YOU

Volunteers of the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department



Dennis



Noreen



L.J.



Jen

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RCVFD News and Notes

A reminder to our gentle residents and/or land owners in the Upper Buckhorn (where ever that exactly starts and stops is not well defined) ...

I am still attending the monthly meetings of the RCVFD Board of Directors and would invite any who need to ask questions or make comments to the Board please stop by Roscoe Moore's old homestead cabin at Mile Marker 31. An email to diemer45@hughes.net would also work, but a phone call would not. Hope to meet any new residents and wishing all a very Happy New Year.

*Sincerely,
Don Diemer, Upper Buckhorn Area Rep
and Briggs, the Dog*

The New Year is off to a great start in Stratton Park Rd. We've had a bit of snow so our great road crew has been able to grade the roads. Also, we've had four new residents get their road signs. This really helps our firefighters and EMTs find you when they need to. Also, your guests can find their way to you! Give me a call if you are ready for your sign!

Thanks again for all your support.

*Cheers,
Louise Creager
Stratton Park Area Rep*



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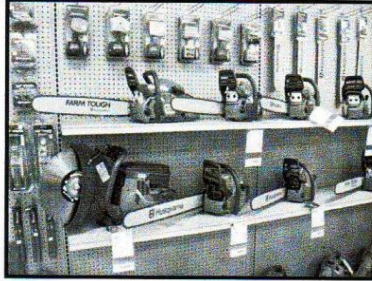
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ristwatch@rcvfd.org.

The deadline for the
April Ristwatch is
March 21st.

2018 Annual Donations Budget: \$77,743 Actual: \$80,322

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