



Crystal Lakes Fire Protection District

237 Blackfoot Rd Red Feather Lakes, CO 80545

crystallakesfireco.gov

A Legacy of Service, Leadership, and Compassion

Honoring Marian Kelly An Extraordinary Department Volunteer

Service

Twenty-three (23) years of exceptional commitment to the Crystal Lakes Fire Protection District, Marian Kelly stands out as an exemplary individual whose unwavering dedication, extensive expertise, and meticulous attention to detail truly solidified the foundation upon which the District and Department operate today.

Throughout her tenure, Marian has worn many hats within the Department — serving as firefighter & first responder, chief, assistant chief, leader in community education, and public information officer just to name a few. In every role, each with its own unique challenges and required skills, Marian met the responsibilities with grace and distinction. Her steadfast commitment and tireless work ethic have set a remarkable example for us all.

Empowering Leadership

As Chief, Marian provided visionary leadership and an insightful understanding of the District's evolving needs, guiding both the Department and District Board with wisdom and foresight. Chief Kelley approached complex challenges — whether involved in potential department merger discussions, morphing Department Bylaws into Rules & Regulations, writing policies such as detailed fire bans, managing the hot demands of the slash pile, resolving communication issues with “fast-food” radio frequencies - station ice-rinks & roof top snow avalanches or addressing the request for a district fire truck to attend a wedding at Beaver Meadows — Marian approached all with thoughtful consideration.

Speech by CLFPD Board President Robin Lauric in Honor of Retiring Department Member Marian Kelly - December 2025



Chief Kelly also played a pivotal role in forging critical partnerships with neighboring districts and the county, NOTABLY establishing medical support collaboration between Crystal Lakes First Responders and Red Feather Lakes EMTs. Through her leadership, Marian empower volunteers by establishing a Department based upon input and collaboration. Marian's genuine appreciation for each member's unique contributions was evident in the committee work she fostered and the thoughtful recognition and awards she presented to members. Through her leadership, Chief Marian Kelly championed a culture of respect, gratitude, and pride throughout the Department.

Marian's leadership not only strengthened the operations of the Fire Department but also created life-long bonds among those who volunteered alongside her which is evident in their presence here tonight.

Compassion through Education

Marian's compassion reached far beyond her emergency response duties. Her unwavering commitment to community resiliency is evident in the countless safety classes and educational programs she meticulously developed and led over the years. Whether teaching mitigation or evacuation classes or helping community members understand the fundamentals of insurance coverage, Marian's thoroughness and passion for education have ensured that safety knowledge is accessible to all. Her dedication to preparing our residents with practical skills whether it be through classes, mitigation assessments, or her public service announcements, Marian, has empowered the community to be proactive, vigilant, and prepared—making Crystal Lakes a safer, and stronger place for everyone.

Public Information Officer

As Public Information Officer, Marian has been the community's trusted voice of information. Through her exceptional communication skills and keen attention to detail, she has provided timely, accurate, and wise guidance, ensuring that our community always stayed informed and reassured. Her ability to communicate with empathy, precision, and a deep understanding of the issues at hand has been invaluable, particularly in moments when the community needed direction the most.

In addition to these vital contributions, Marian devoted countless hours to establishing, organizing and updating the District's website. She designed and created a comprehensive online resource filled with copious information for the community, making sure residents



had easy access to important safety tips, event updates, and Department and District news. She forged ahead with the new state accessibility regulations to ensure all members of the District had equal access to District information. This proved to be a challenging and time-consuming endeavor, but Marian persisted in making our District one of the most impressive and compliant volunteer Districts in ADA accessible information.

Marian also played a key role in establishing the Crystal Lakes Volunteer Fire Department's email, Constant Contact. This system enabled communication with hundreds of District members and, later, with neighboring Districts through social media. Marian authored countless public service announcements covering topics from fall prevention and Halloween safety to carbon monoxide awareness, hypothermia precautions, fire restrictions, and evacuation procedures. As Public Information Officer, she also recruited volunteers to join the Department. Her "Fire Family." A family she was proud to be a part of.

Service to the District Board of Directors

Throughout her tenure and “many hats” – Marian has worked alongside several different District Boards, always offering her assistance, honest dialogue, and wisdom. Whether offering candid insight, providing essential Department information, locating important documents, providing crucial election support, or working alongside the Board to address challenges, Marian has always demonstrated a steadfast commitment to advancing the District and serving the community. Marian has exemplified that the success of both the District Board and Department depends on collaborative effort, shared dedication, and respect. She has earned this Board's deepest appreciation!

Closing

Marian, your extraordinary legacy of service, leadership, and compassion will forever be a cornerstone of the Crystal Lakes Fire Protection District and Volunteer Fire Department. The foundation you have built will continue to uphold and fortify our District for years to come, ensuring the safety and resiliency of our community. With deepest gratitude, we offer our warmest wishes for success in all your future endeavors. On behalf of the Crystal Lakes Fire Protection District and the community you have so devotedly served, we deeply thank you!

