



The Status Quo

By Keith Lammey, President

Welcome to 2012! Like most of you, I look forward to a New Year because New Years is a good time to reflect and evaluate the past year and to plan for the New Year. The New Year is our new, fresh start.

Every year I adopt a new theme as part of my New Years planning. My theme for 2012 is, "The status quo is just not good enough." I chose this theme because sometimes it is very hard to push yourself beyond the status quo, so I need to be reminded. You see, I have discovered that, when things are hard, the status quo feels like its good enough. It's just too hard to do more. Hopefully the new theme will serve as a constant reminder that I need to stay focused and moving forward.

I invite you to join me in this new theme because what we've been doing simply isn't good enough for Battlement Mesa. We can do more, we should do more and we need to do more to improve our community, to develop our community and to take advantage of all of the opportunities that we have to make this not just a good, but a great place to live. In short, the status quo just isn't good enough.

Recently I reread one of my favorite books which was written by the adventurer and author, Alan Hobson. His book, "Power of Passion... Achieve Your Own Everests" tells the story about his attempts to climb Mount Everest. In 1991, he and his friend, Jamie Clark, attempted to climb Mount Everest. His critics would say that his 1991 attempt was a failure but Alan would just tell you that "they weren't successful in their 1991 attempt." He wouldn't say that they failed. In 1994, they came back with another plan, but still were not successful. In 1997, however, they make it to the top of Mount Everest which, of course, is simply the highest point on this planet - 29,028 feet.

According to Alan Hobson, it is more important to have a dream than to have a way to achieve it because if the power of our passion is strong enough, we will figure out a way to make our dreams a reality. I think that Alan is right. First you have to have the dream then you have to believe that it can happen.

Breaking out of the status quo is a two step process. First, we have to define our dream. What is it that we most want to do? What is it that we most need to do in order to achieve success; however we define it? Once we have defined our dream, there is a very important second step. We need to find our passion. We need to figure out why the dream is important and dig deep to make it happen.

I don't know about you, but I believe that Battlement Mesa IS "The Colorado Dream" and I think that, together, we can make the dream come true. We just need to find our passion for the dream.

When we're tempted to settle for the status quo, I hope that we'll remember Dr. Heartsil Wilson's poem, "A New Day."

This is the beginning of a new day.

God has given me this day to use as I will.
I can waste it - or use it for good,
But what I do today is important, because
I am exchanging a day of my life for it.

When tomorrow comes,
This day will be gone forever,
Leaving in its place
Something that I have traded for it.

I want it to be gain,
And not loss;
Good, and not evil;
Success, and not failure;

The Colorado Dream

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In order that I shall not regret
The price that I have paid for it.

The status quo just isn't good enough when you're trading a year of your life for it. I invite you to join me in my 2012 slogan. Let's come together. Let's find our Dream! Let's pursue our passion of making Battlement Mesa, Colorado the place where our dreams come true.

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