

Christmas Cheer

The 2005 holiday season saw the resurgence of a mining district tradition, the upgraded and improved lighting of the district's headframes. The charge of Santa's elves throughout the summer to revitalize the decorations was led by Shawn Tomlinson. Work completed included new bulbs on many of the decorations and the "Gold Camp Christmas" signs. Installation of rope lights on the Cresson certainly made this the centerpiece for Victor, with chasing lights from the hoist over the shieve wheel down to the "shaft." The most visible addition this year was the Santa on the topsoil stockpile between Victor and the Carlton. Shawn oversaw the painting, rehabilitation and a free standing frame for the Santa, who had languished in storage for several years. Garland on the headframe at the Little Grouse trailhead added new sparkle.

The year's finery attracted statewide attention, with the headframe tour featured on the front page of the Denver Post Colorado Sunday edition. The event was also highlighted in the Colorado Springs Gazette, Ute Pass Courier, Gold Rush and on several local radio stations.

Many CC&V volunteers were involved in making this year such a success: Shawn Tomlinson, Lawrence Myers, Jody Keel, Mike Tomlinson, Gary & Martha Horton, Joe Sanchez, Will Adams, and Trevor Lester. For all these volunteers, All the volunteers throughout the community, and those we may have forgotten, thanks so much for your hard work. It did not go unnoticed. Your dedication each year helps make the season bright.