

## Mystery Place

01/01/12 41 W, 1 I - + 7 - 8

Happy New Year. Here's a brain teaser to help you shake off sleep or any other induced in the prior twelve hours. Brick and metal. Beams and walls. Where's this place?



Cameron Village underground?

**Rescue Ranger** - 01/02/12 - 13:25

Negative, not there...

**Legeros** - 01/03/12 - 21:40

Just adding a comment so I'll get emailed when it's solved. I have no idea, but am curious...

**rfburns** - 01/05/12 - 11:45

Did you have to chase off hobos or carry a gun to get the picture?

**Zack A** - 01/05/12 - 19:38

The space was unoccupied at the time. The picture was taken during the day. The sound of a train whistle was a point of concern, however.

**Legeros** - 01/05/12 - 21:16

I'm thinking it's somewhere along the tracks that run parallel with Hillsborough and Western. I've never been to it, but is it the "freedom of speech tunnel" by NCSU?

**Silver** - 01/05/12 - 22:57

Walkway under the Boylan St bridge?

**Marcus** ([Email](#)) - 01/05/12 - 23:44

No, it's not the Free Expression Tunnel, nor any other space at NCSU.

It's more than a stone's thrown from the Boylan Street bridge, but not that much farther.

**Legeros** - 01/06/12 - 07:54

Morgan Street bridge???

**Silver** - 01/06/12 - 12:27

Have a Coke.

**Legeros** - 01/06/12 - 12:32

Is it a tunnel that goes under Wimington Street near the old Coca-Cola plant

**T.R.** ([Email](#)) - 01/06/12 - 23:55

Not a tunnel, period. Though the prospect of one under Wilmington Street is intriguing.

That could be a neat project, charting the city’s underground locales. Wonder if someone’s already done that?

**Legeros** - 01/07/12 - 08:13

How about a basement somewhere? Maybe the building that’s going to be the new train station?

**DownLow** - 01/07/12 - 12:08

You’re getting warmer, doc.

**Legeros** - 01/07/12 - 12:10

Someplace in the Warehouse District... Gotta be!

**DownLow** - 01/07/12 - 12:39

Underneath the Boylan Brewpub?

**Bob P.** - 01/07/12 - 14:29

Neither pub nor bridge, nor tunnel you see,  
But maybe a warehouse, suggested, could be.

Have a Coke.

**Legeros** - 01/07/12 - 15:36

I was close (I was viewing aerial maps of West St, Hargett St, and the surrounding area), but I never would have figured it out on my own without Mike giving that last clue.

<http://binged.it/ABrkMa>

and

<http://goodnightraleigh.com/2011/03/a-gh..>

**rfburns** - 01/07/12 - 19:41

Old bottling plant/warehouse on west side of downtown!

**DownLow** - 01/07/12 - 19:46

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## The Year in Review

01/01/12 529 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

### Legeros Fire Photography

[Twelve months of incidents and events](#) as seen through the lens of Mike Legeros. He's the one in the Hawaiian shirt. Building fires, vehicle fires, hose streams, aerial streams, privates, paramedics, chief officers, incident commanders, promotional ceremonies, retirement lunches, MVAs, MCIs, USAR, haz-mat, trees down, buildings down, the Raleigh tornado, Wake County, Johnston County, downtown, down east, graduations, celebrations, the state EOC, the state firemen's convention, parades, public education, axes, helmets, ambulances, radios, pulling hose, loading hose, smiles, tears, and whole lot of shutter clicks.

Featured agencies include but are not limited to Raleigh FD, Raleigh PD, Wake County EMS, Durham FD, Bay Leaf FD, Warrenton FD, Warrenton PD, Soul City FD, Morehead City FD, Newport FD, Fuquay-Varina FD, Rolesville FD, Wake County EM, Six Forks EMS, Wake County FF Association, NC Task Force 8, Durham Highway FD, Cary FD, Western Wake FD, Stony Hill FD, Apex FD, Raleigh FD Historical Society, Wake-New Hope FD, NC Forest Service, Wake Forest FD, Cary EMS, Charlotte FD, Morrisville FD, Garner FD, Raleigh-Durham Airport ES, Selma FD, Selma EMS, Fairview FD, and the Dragon Slayers.

Thanks for everyone's support and assistance. [See the photos](#). See prior years on [Mike's photo archive page](#) or at [www.flickr.com/legeros](http://www.flickr.com/legeros). (See also prior posting about [picking these photos](#).)



### Legeros Fire Blog

Renamed this year from the longer Raleigh/Wake Firefighting Blog. Total of 454,590 page views and 67,988 absolutely unique visitors, says Google Analytics. Total of 1022 topic postings, if my math is correct. Total of X posted comments, where X equals some number not yet computed. Might get around to that.

The process of posting comments was also updated. Reader remarks are now moderated. This change was effected a couple months ago. The reason for the change was my diminished tolerance for the negativity that was regrettably regularly recurring with operational questions and discussions about specific incidents. Or, short version: quarterbacking was getting out of hand.

Trends, thoughts, observations, observations on observations? Let me think about that. My favorite question for the Firegeezers and Dave Statter every year in Baltimore is "what have you learned since last year?" Will work on a response to that to myself. Meanwhile, here are some stats.

The top ten threads by unique page views:

1. [This Afternoon's Two Alarms / Avent Ferry Road](#) - 1,250

- 2. [Asheville Firefighter Killed, Another Critically Injured \(Updated\)](#) - 1,135
- 3. [Build Your Own Fire Truck](#) - 804
- 4. [Today's House Fire in Wake Forest](#) - 934
- 5. [Two Raleigh Firefighters Struck on I-40](#) - 874
- 6. [Wake Forest Receives New Ladder](#) - 839
- 7. [This Afternoon's House Fire / Basil Drive](#) - 658
- 8. [astern Wake Chimney Fire](#) - 723
- 9. [Reviewing the Storm Response - Unit Numbering](#) - 774
- 10. [Quick Poll: Who Wears Shorts](#) - 746

The top ten threads by reader comments:

- 1. [This Afternoon's House Fire / Basil Drive](#) - 45
- 2. [This Afternoon's Two Alarms / Avent Ferry Road](#) - 41
- 3. [Wake Forest Receives New Ladder](#) - 40
- 4. [Quick Poll: Who Wears Shorts?](#) - 39
- 5. [Reviewing the Storm Response - Unit Numbering](#) - 38
- 6. [Falls Fire Department Fundraiser...](#) - 36
- 7. [Today's House Fire in Wake Forest](#) - 32
- 8. [This Afternoon's House Fire in Wake Forest](#) - 31
- 9. [This Morning's Two Alarms / Edwards Mill Road](#) - 31
- 10. [Eastern Wake Chimney Fire](#) - 30

I may be a tad biased, but I'll say it anyway. Thank you for all of the amazing work, photos, and contributions that you give to Raleigh's bravest. I am in awe, every single day, of your passion and love for the fire service.

**Mrs. Blogger** - 01/01/12 - 12:49

Agreed Kudos and THANK YOU for what you do for the fire service in the greater Triangle area!

**shevais** - 01/01/12 - 13:40

Thanks Sweetie, thanks Shev. Now onto the new year, and we'll see what excitement a "twelve year" brings.

**Legeros** - 01/01/12 - 13:43

Yes Thank you for all the work that you do Mike and lets not forget Lee..... With the work you do photographing and blogging it has kept me in the loop with the happenings in Raleigh... Thanks again for your fine work..

**Jim** - 01/01/12 - 16:45

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## Jonesville Fire Department Closing

01/01/12 259 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

[FireNews.net is reporting](#) on this [Elkin Tribune story](#) about the closing of the [Jonesville Fire Department](#) in Yadkin County. That's Station 17 in the county nomenclature. The Arlington Fire Department has been contracted by the town to provide fire protection, beginning today, January 1. Some of their equipment and apparatus will be transferred as a consideration of the contract.

The department has six vehicles, including a 2010 E-One Typhoon pumper delivered in January of last year. That's Engine 1701 and it will likely be sold. Engine 1704 will be given to AFD, which appears from their web site to be a 2000 Volvo/KME pumper. Another vehicle has been "surplused." Three remaining vehicles will be retained by the town, for other municipal use.

Response times shouldn't be affected, as the Arlington fire station is located in the town (321 S. Main Street), and but a couple blocks away from the Jonesville fire station (111 S. Bridge Street). Jonesville firefighters will be encouraged to join AFD, or another fire department.

The backstory involves a failed inspection in November by the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and a subsequent decision by town officials to close the fire department. Read the above article for more details.

Jonesville is the oldest town in Yadkin County. The 2000 population was 1,464, though it grew by nearly 800 residents when it merged with neighboring Arlington. The town has 1.9 square miles. The Jonesville Fire Department was established in 1957 and its first apparatus was delivered in 1958. [Read more history](#) from the Jonesville FD web site.



*Jonesville Fire Department photo*

Interesting read. I think that as the economy goes forward, and if it does not get any better, things like this will happen more. Maybe not on a grand scale, unless the economy gets worse, but this will start to happen. No matter the reasons given, I would venture that the idea of saving the money that the town probably invests in the department is a big consideration. Just my \$0.02/

**DJ** - 01/01/12 - 12:39

Jonesville's E-One pumper is now for sale, <http://www.jonesvillenc.gov/firetruck.ht..>

**Legeros** - 02/16/12 - 19:45

Mike, Yadkin County, being not too far over the state line we get some news from the area. I have read various reports from different news sources about the closing of Jonesville Fire Dept. The REAL Basis for the closing stems from politics. Last elections brought in a new mayor who had a long running beef with the officers of Jonesville. Reportedly, He appointed cronies to the Departments Board to which resulted in the resignations of key department personnel, and the removal of others, then they say once service was affected, and membership was down so low emergencies could not be handled properly he requested the review by the State Fire Marshals Office. The stars aligned and the pieces fell in place and he got his wish and the Department was shut down, and Arlington was contracted. This is a sad example of what small town politics especially in back woods mountain areas can result in. Now that the Equipment is being sold, I guess there will be no return for

Jonesville F.D. after the next election. So sad, but not unheard of up here.

**Galax,Va** - 02/16/12 - 21:30

Very interesting. Let me ask a meta-question. Sounds like the sources for your perspectives are published accounts and reports from that region. Would you assign a "factual index" of 100 percent to your comments, or is there any supposition (yours or from news writers) in there? As a blog operator— and budding media studies student— I am always curious and sometimes careful about drawing distinctions between facts and opinions, confirmations and speculations. How we talk, if you will, as well as what we talk about.

**Legeros** - 02/16/12 - 22:04

Mike, I started following the story I believe in the Elkin Tribune. and one of the Surry County Papers also picked up on it.. Then I think it was the ripple ( Yes thats the real name of the newspaper ) Yadkin County Ripple, did a story featuring the Lt. over the Rescue side of the Jonesville Dept. She had just submitted her letter of resignation and in the interview she listed the events that had occurred up until her resignation. It was also noted her husband who was the Chief over both the Fire and Rescue had resigned several months earlier. She tried to stick it out and remain a member but was unable to. Shortly thereafter Elkin, Surry, and Yadkin Papers reported on the Fire Marshals inspection, and then the closing of Jonesville, and the contract with Arlington. So most of my information was from News articles. My opinion was prudy much limited to the last statement about Jonesville not returning. In the interview with the Lt. I'm purdy sure one of the issues members had with the Mayors appointees, was that he had appointed several with no fire experance, and i'm thinking maybe an asst.chief was appointed, and it was someone who had been out of the fire service for many years and held no certifications what so ever. So even though im operating off memory, i'm gonna say my factual index is up there purdy high. and is scaring 95-98 % to death.

**Galax,Va** - 02/16/12 - 22:58

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## International PayStar Crash Truck at MSP, 1977

01/01/12 281 W, 4 I - + 9 - 6

Time for a trip down memory lane. Remember our [mystery crash truck posting](#) from a few months ago? Here's the answer, a 1977? International PayStar F5070 / King Fisher airport crash truck that served Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. Carried 4,500 gallons of water and 500 gallons of foam. Powered by twin 318-HP V8 diesel engines, one for the chassis and one for the pump. Manual turret on top with a reach of 210 feet. Cost \$200,000, weighed 83,000+ pounds. Front axle was rated at 18,000 pounds; rear tandem rated at 65,000 pounds. Single-speed transfer case. Five-speed automatic transmission. Accelerates on concrete from zero to 50 MPH in less than 60 seconds. Designated Rescue 9.

Shown in the Volume 47, No. 3, 1977 issue of *International Trail* magazine. Scanned from photo copies, provided by our friends as the airport fire department. The truck was one of the first crash trucks encountered by a young fire buff who would later live in North Carolina. Was twelve when this truck was delivered. By that time, I was infamous for making long-distance phone calls to apparatus manufacturers, to request literature that they gladly provided. (Also called the Los Angeles City Fire Department one time and received a nifty educational/promotional booklet.) My parents soon informed of this thing called "phone charges."

As for the pictured truck, it was a deep, dark yellow and impossibly tall. Had a wide attachment for the rear, as memory serves, for applying foam on a runway. Don't readily recall the rest of the airport's fleet. Maybe Walter trucks. Good excuse for research, next time we travel to the Twin Cities. The past becomes ever-sweeter as it fades ever faster. Click **once or twice** to enlarge:



## Morning Reading - January 2, 2011

01/02/12 375 W - + 10 - 3

Good morning Raleigh. Another holiday today for many. And with cooler temperatures than the balmy conditions we enjoyed last week. Couple things to read this morning. Have nothing else to say.

- [South Carolina firefighter injured while responding to fire](#) - WSOC-TV story about an accident on Saturday afternoon that injured a firefighter responding to a mobile home fire in Cheraw, SC. His truck rolled over. Four others in a second vehicle were also transported. Injuries reportedly not serious.
- [Rocky Mount house fire photos](#) - Reader-submitted *Rocky Mount Telegram* slideshow of photos from Bob Bartosz, from a Sunday afternoon house fire on Eastern Avenue. Was one of two workers that day. [Read this related story.](#)
- [Charlotte firefighter alerts family to house fire](#) - WCNC-TV story about a house fire on Sunday morning on Mallard Creek Road. Firefighter Henry Calle was headed head home about 7:00 a.m. when he saw smoke pouring from the roof of a residence. He called 911, then knocked on the door to alert the family. The occupants were asleep and didn't know that a fire was burning in their attic.
- [Raleigh firefighter lived a life with few regrets](#) - *News & Observer* story from last week and a nice recap of Wednesday's funeral for Raleigh Fire Department Capt. Scott Nipper. He was remembered by his family and fellow firefighters at Providence Baptist Church. See [Lee's photos](#) and see [Mike's photos](#) from that day. A scholarship fund is being established for his children at the State Employee's Credit Union. More information on that as available.
- [Desperate to save sons, Raleigh mother leapt from burning apartment](#) - WRAL story and a good dramatic headline about the December 14 apartment fire on Raleigh Boulevard. Firefighters her one- and five year-old sons from an upstairs bedroom. They're still at the Jaycee Burn Center and expected to recovery fully. Read an [earlier posting about that incident](#).
- [Reviewing the year](#) - Legeros Fire Blog posting from yesterday with a summary of my incident and event photos from 2011, and a summary of what happened in Blog Land over the last twelve months. Some stats are in there, a couple lists of most-read and most-commented postings.

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## Fanbulance

01/02/12 41 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

From a reader, this curious conversion has been seen in Raleigh. For extra credit, can you place the location that's pictured? 'Taint Hillsborough Street across from the library, which was my first thought. Thanks Scott! Click to slightly enlarge:



Glenwood Avenue, across from Bada Bing pizza

**BM** - 01/02/12 - 20:43

This is unit if the former ambulance from Coopers Fire-Rescue Squad Inc. out of nash county and was sold due to high maintenance cost and age. But the current owner has put a good bit of money into it to get it in better running order and now drives it to all home games for the redskins.

**st** - 01/03/12 - 14:34

And not to be confused with the Jambulance, which is a mobile deejay operation out of Durham. Or was, as I haven't seen that one in a year or more.

**Legeros** - 01/03/12 - 21:18

Mike, you might be able to see the Jambulance in the parking lot if you take a ride by Durham Highway. Unless they have moved it

**Marcus** - 01/04/12 - 09:49

Thanks Marcus. I will start working on the Legbulance concept. There's a sign shop on Pleasant Valley Road that can create some compelling floral graphics...

**Legeros** - 01/04/12 - 10:25

This rig is tricked out by plumber Don. He drives to Washington for home games but joins the Raleigh Redskins crew at Tobacco Road

**Linda** - 08/30/12 - 01:57

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<b>What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?</b>	
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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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<b>Small print:</b> All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.	



Wilmington Fire Station 2

01/03/12 58 W, 1 I - + 10 - 6

Reporting from the road. Here's Wilmington Fire Station 2 under construction at Empie Park. Located at 3403 Park Avenue, the new station replaces a 1965 structure that was demolished last year. The prior building had a host of problems, and had been closed since October 2010. Read prior blog postings from [July 30, 2011](#), [July 10, 2011](#), and [April 14, 2010](#). Click to enlarge:



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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Panther Spotted in South Carolina**

01/04/12 80 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Thanks to the friendly folks at the Myrtle Beach airport fire station, here's a posted photo of a rare (for the Carolinas) Rosenbauer Panther airport crash truck. ~~Believe it was delivered in 2011.~~ Model year is 2009, delivered in April 2009. It's a Panther 1500 with a 1,850 GPM pump, 1,500 gallon water tank, and 210 gallon foam cell. Detroit diesel engine, 665 HP. Roof and bumper turrets. 6000 watt light tower. [Read full specs](#). More photos to be posted. Click to enlarge.



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Air Horn Atop Laurinburg Former Fire Station

01/04/12 76 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

Here's what looks like a well-weathered [Gamewell diaphone](#) air horn, found and photographed on a pole beside the town's former fire station in the [400 block of Farley Street](#). Pics of the building to be posting. Perhaps readers can provide more building information. Air horns were an alternate alerting device back in the day, instead of bells or sirens. Wake Forest used one, for example. Click to enlarge:



Bay Leaf also had one, but it was in addition to their siren.

**DJ** - 01/04/12 - 19:43

So did New Hope

**AB** - 01/04/12 - 21:19

So did Falls. Just like Bayleaf, the air horns were an addition to the siren.

**Marcus** - 01/05/12 - 08:55

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## Raleigh Police Monitoring Guide

01/04/12 123 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

The fine folks at [RadioReference.com](http://RadioReference.com) and the particular person of Marshall Sherard have created a [Raleigh Police Monitoring Guide](#). This is a web page/wiki page that's a great starting point for armchair (or mobile) listeners. (Bad guys who are reading can stop now. This won't interest you.) Raleigh police call signs are explained, as well as the different sets of talkgroups. For a more general overview of public safety radio monitoring in Raleigh and Wake County, [see this second web page](#). Thanks to Marshall for passing along, for making the thing. Next question, can you partner with the *The Slammer* to add some beauty shots to the site?!? Happy listening.,,



about Radioreference for Wake County...Don't waste your money on trying to monitor fire/ems channels, they are overrun with police traffic and you never hear a thing.

**AB** - 01/04/12 - 21:21

Whatever happened to the Raleigh/Wake Fire feed on that site?

**Eric** - 01/04/12 - 21:40

Thanks for the kudos Mike. As far as online feeds: I plan to help get 2 more feeds online in the next month. 1st up is a loooong overdue Durham FD online feed with a scanner provided by Jeff Harkey powering it. I am embarrassed to say that this has been in the works too long and needs to be up and running. 2nd is a dedicated Raleigh/Wake FD only feed with one of my scanners powering it. I am open to discussion on what talkgroups/channels need to be included in the Ral/Wake feed. My main goal is to try to prevent what AB complains about above: too many talkgroups in the rotation and you miss the important radio traffic. I am thinking Alert/Dispatch, PS TAC, OPS, and Mutual Aid only unless someone has better idea.

I will also putting together other RR.com Wiki pages based on a variety of NC based public safety monitoring topics. I am open to what others would consider informative Wiki articles or would use as a reference.

I can be reached at KE4ZNR-at-radioreference.com and Happy Monitoring!

**Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/05/12 - 11:37

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## Caption This Historical Photo

01/04/12 91 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

If the open-cab Crown pumper doesn't already give it away, this stunning image comes from Southern California Photographer Boris Yaro snapped the shot of a movie studio fire. 'Twas September 8, 1974, when a set of fake brownstones burned at Burbank Studios. Three soundstages and four movie sets were destroyed. The picture (including a larger version) and incident are recounted on this [Los Angeles Times blog post](#). And which was found and shared by the [Carolinas Fire Page mailing list](#). Thanks Jeff.



*Boris Yaro/Los Angeles Times photo*

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Granville Firefighter Saves Brothers From Burning House

01/05/12 184 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

That's the headline from [yesterday's WRAL story](#) about an off-duty rescue (or should we call it a pre-arrival rescue?) in Granville County. Lt. Chris Brodgen of the Cornith Volunteer Fire Department was headed to work Wednesday morning, just before 6 a.m., when he saw smoke coming from a house at [4698 U.S. Highway 15](#). He stopped at the residence, reported the fire by calling 911, and began walking around the building. He saw a lot of smoke coming from the eaves on all sides. A neighbor, alerted by a barking dog, came outside and told Brodgen where the bedrooms were located.

He found a piece of firewood, broke a window, and pulled one of the two occupants to safety. Brodgen then banged on a second window, and the second resident was able to self-evacuate. Crews from Providence FD, Corinth FD, and Oxford FD responded and controlled the fire within 20 minutes. The cause is under investigation. The property owners said there are smoke detectors inside, but could not advise if they had batteries. [Read the entire story.](#)



WRAL photo

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## Shannon Fire Department's New Rosenbauer

01/06/12 101 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

From a reader, here's an interesting looking engine and another Rosenbauer in the Carolinas. This one's operated by Shannon Fire Department in Robeson County. Their old station (which is beside their current station) was one of my stops, while roaming down south earlier this week. The top-mounted pumper is a 1,250 GPM beauty with 1,000 gallon tank. The chassis is a Spartan Furion. Internal compartments for ladder and suction hose storage. [Read more specs](#). Looking at the Rosenbauer web site, their trucks are making in-roads around here. Topsail Beach. Mount Airy. Rocky Mount. Etcetera.



*Rosenbauer America photo*

Red Oak Community VFD (Pitt Co.) has a 2009(?) Rosenbauer pumper that serves as 5101. I'll see if I can get more specs for you, but it's a nice rig. It's painted in Chicago-style black over red on a Spartan Metro Star chassis. It's pretty sweet.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 01/06/12 - 14:44

Saw this one in the 4th of July parade in Pembroke (Robeson County) this past year. I thought it was the worst looking one in the parade. Mike, if you are ever back down that way, Pembroke has a Red/White/Blue Bi-Centennial ALF from 1976. Gas powered at that.

**Marcus** - 01/07/12 - 05:12

Thanks for the tip on the Bicentennial rig. We'll put you down as not a fan of the Spartan bullet-nose look...

**Legeros** - 01/07/12 - 08:33

Mount Airy does not own a Rosenbauer. They just bought a 100' Platform from E-One and its a beauty.

**Greg Fedder** - 01/07/12 - 10:34

I sit corrected, Mt. Airy, DE, is what I saw on the Rosenbauer site. Should've looked closer! <http://www.rosenbaueramerica.com/deliver..>

**Legeros** - 01/07/12 - 10:38

I've heard through the grapevine Buies Creek FD is getting a rosenbauer rescue body on a Spartan chassis. Heard possibly a walk-in as well. Anyone able to comment on anything further about the truck. It's nice to see Rosenbauer making a name for them selves and man it's great to see Spartans finally coming back to the south

**StillDoinIt** - 01/09/12 - 05:33

Nice truck. Good to see something different from time to time.

**Different** - 01/09/12 - 18:04

Carolina Beach runs a Rosenbauer tower ladder now, delivery was 2010 if not mistaken



**Former Fire Stations - Robeson, Scotland, Horry Counties**

01/06/12 82 W, 10 I - + 8 - 5

For your Friday morning viewing pleasure. Each links to my [road trip photos](#). Will be added at some point to my former [fire station database](#), which also needs updating with some recent pics from Lee and Lee.



Calabash FD - Laurinburg FD



Lumber Bridge FD - Ocean Isle Beach FD



Parkton FD - Red Springs FD



Rowland FD - Shalotte FD



Shannon FD - Horry County (SC) Old Station 7

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
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## Myrtle Beach Former Fire Stations

01/06/12 113 W, 2 I - + 7 - 4

Found only a pair of former fire stations in Myrtle Beach. Left is old Station 3 on South 13th Street, right is old Station 4 at the airport fire station on Phyllis Boulevard. Both were moved to much larger facilities nearby. Asking around, it sounds like the prior Station 1 (in a City Hall building) was demolished and the prior Station 2 was torn down and rebuilt at the same location. Unsure if any existing station buildings are historic, e.g. older than fifty years of age. Probably not, since much of Myrtle Beach is relatively new. Readers can perhaps advise more about MFFD facility history. Click to see larger versions:



Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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## Selma Super Pumper in Action

01/08/12 63 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

As photographed by Lee Wilson yesterday at live fire exercises in Selma. The engine is a 1985 Duplex/EEI with a 1,500 GPM Hale pump that we have [blogged about before](#). Originally lettered as the Selma "super pumper." Looks like it's received an updated paint job in recent times. [See more photos from yesterday](#).



*Lee Wilson photo*

the selma fire department is back on location today, continue their live burn training, with their entire apparatus fleet, plus selma ems, and Wilsons mills, micro, thanksgiving, and elevation apparatus. At least that is what i saw as i drove by there today.

**charlie** - 01/08/12 - 15:10

Live fire training was concluded Sunday around 5 pm, from a weekend filled with intense hands-on training. Crews from Johnston, Wake, Wayne, and Cumberland counties participated in the two-day training. With 120+ rooms available in the structure, we successfully ran 28 teams crews from 120+ people, 13 instructors, and a ton of spectators, through 50+ of the available rooms.

Training consisted of teams advancing hose lines from the ground to the second and third floor, along with a few runs setup in a basement drill configuration. There were 6 drop tanks setup, with apparatus moving water from tank to tank, and one pumper supplementing supply to engine 12 (Selma's super pumper). Selma ladder 10 was used for periodic roof work on Saturday and setup for exposure protection on Sunday.

Saturday's apparatus included Selma E10, E11, E12, L10; Micro E1, Bethany Tanker 1, Wilson's Mills E3, Pine Level E3, Kenly E3, Elevation Utility 1, Selma EMS 31.

Sunday's apparatus included Selma E10, E11, E12, L10; Micro E1, Bethany Tanker 1, Smithfield E4, Pine Level E3, Kenly E4, Elevation Utility 1, Selma EMS 32.

Several days of training had occurred at this location prior to this weekend's live fire training: Johnston County RIT Training used the building, and for several days the Wake County fire academy trained in this structure. One day was set up for trench cut training (two trenches were cut in one wing). Several days of hose line advancement were also completed. This structure allowed for several days of training that would be otherwise extremely difficult to do.

A huge thank you to the following: all of the departments that came out and made this a huge success, the company who offered the building for training, Johnston Community College fire training that assisted in the efforts to makes this event possible, all the instructors, and Lee Wilson and all the other individuals that took pictures and video of this historical event.

If anyone has any questions please feel free to ask!

PTB EGH

**Adam Brown** - 01/09/12 - 19:41

Brown, how can you forget Thanksgiving???? They covered calls for Selma both days! LOL

**House** - 01/10/12 - 17:47

I had the privilege of photographing this burn on Sunday, along with Lee. My photos can be seen here;

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/jerryingram..>

**Jerry Ingram** - 01/16/12 - 12:58

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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Watch This Video - Everybody Goes Home, Chicago FD

01/08/12 84 W - + 8 - 7

Produced by the [Chicago Fire Department](#) and the [National Fallen Firefighters Foundation](#), this superb short film was released a couple weeks ago. It contains personal testimonies by firefighters (and family members) who have experienced close calls, severe injuries, and deaths on the job. Seat belts. Structures. Health and wellness. Personal protective equipment. Complacency. Vehicle operations. Consequences. [Watch the video](#). What it says is more powerful than any words that this blogger can craft.

Thanks for posting Mike! All members of the fire service should watch this video!

**A.C. Rich** - 01/08/12 - 12:44

This is the 2nd video produced. The NFFF did last year’s video on FDNY with close calls from them.

**Mike** - 01/08/12 - 17:07

FDNY video: <http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/kits/vol..>

**A.C. Rich** - 01/09/12 - 00:48

Thanks AC.

**Mike** - 01/09/12 - 09:48

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

**UPDATED: Robeson County Fire Chief Killed While Responding to Accident**

01/12/12 279 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

January 12

Family visitation will be at Purnell Swett High School (11344 Deep Branch Road, Pembroke, NC, 28372) on Thursday, January 12, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Memorial Service will be at Purnell Swett High School (11344 Deep Branch Road, Pembroke, NC, 28372) on Friday, January 13, at 3:00 p.m.

Any departments planning to bring apparatus or honor guards planning to participate need to call 1-800- 678-3786 (NCFFF Memorial Hotline) for Apparatus Staging and Honor Guard Information. All participating apparatus and honor guards must be in place at Purnell Swett High School no later than 2:30 p.m. Additional apparatus stage information is forthcoming.

January 9

As was reported yesterday, Fire Chief Samuel Butler, 52, of the Evans Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department in Robeson County was killed in a vehicle accident just before 10:00 p.m. on Sunday evening, January 8. He was responding to a reported vehicle accident in the westbound lanes of Interstate 74.

He was driving his 1993 Toyota Camry and attempting a u-turn at the end of the [on-ramp from Cabinet Shop Road](#), when his vehicle was struck by a tractor-trailer truck. Butler died on impact. Other firefighters, including one of Butler's sons, arrived within minutes. See the below stories for more details.

Butler had been a member of Evans Crossroads VFD for over 20 years, and was named fire chief a year ago. He'd served as Assistant Chief for 12 years. He was also President of the Robeson County Fireman's Association. He is survived by a wife, and a daughter, and two sons, who are both volunteer firefighters.



News stories

- [The Fayetteville Observer](#)
- [FireNews.net](#)
- [The Laurinburg Exchange](#)
- [The Robesonian](#)
- [WRAL](#)

So sorry for your loss, Your brothers in Wake County grieving as well.

**FF** - 01/10/12 - 09:01

A Fallen Fireman Funeral Service will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 13, 2012 at the Purnell Swett High School Gymnasium with burial following in the Strickland Family Cemetery. Services will be officiated by fellow fireman, Rev. Eddie Carter and Rev. Tim Chavis.

**fireman12931** ([Web Site](#)) - 01/10/12 - 20:18

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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Comment:	

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## Pierce Peek

01/10/12 107 W, 1 I - + 10 - 7

Coming soon to the Cary Fire Department. New Ladder 3, new Rescue 2, and new Rescue 4. Three good looking pieces of Pierce apparatus. The platform ladder replaces a 2003 Pierce Dash platform, which will be placed in reserve, and which replaces a 1995 Mack / Craft Body Works service truck. It marks the town's first reserve aerial apparatus. The two rescue trucks replace a pair of 2000 Ford F-550 / KME light-duty rescue units. The new rigs are spec'ed the same as Truck 7, e.g. full compliment of ground ladders, breathing air compressors and fill stations, light tower, etc. Plus full extrication and fireground support equipment. Delivery soon! Click to enlarge:



CFD Truck-7 is now called Rescue-7, and Truck-6 is now called Ladder-6. This Change comes from the transfer to our new CAD & AVL system. The Rescue Companies of the CFD have a staff that consist of a Captain, Engineer, and two Firefighters, and requires a minimum staffing level of three. The Ladder Companies also have the same staffing model as the Rescue Companies. CFD Engine Companies have a Captain, Engineer, Master Firefighter, and two Firefighters, and requires a minimum staffing level of four personnel. Thanks for the picture, and everyone stay safe out there!!!!!!!

**JKH** - 01/10/12 - 21:05

JKH, what is a routine residential structure fire response for Cary? Isn't it two engines a ladder a rescue a battalion and a county engine?

**911** - 01/10/12 - 22:15

All and by the way congrats to CFD on the new apparatus. Good looking fleet.

**911** - 01/10/12 - 22:17

For clarity's sake the staffing on Rescue 7 is 1 Captain, 1 Engineer, 1 Master FF, 1 FF. All of the Ladders have the same staffing of 1 Capt, 1 Eng, 1 MFF, 1FF. Rescue 2 and Rescue 4 have 1 Capt, 1 Eng and 2 FFs.

Our 1st alarm structural assignment is 2 Engines, 2 Ladders, 1 Rescue, 1 Batt. Chief, 1 Safety Officer (either a staff safety officer or the other Batt. Chief) and a auto-aid Engine.

We are getting the same amount of apparatus and personnel to the scene now as we did before the change in names and the end of the "Truck" company. What this change also did is shorten the ERF or the Effective Response Force time on structure fires. That is the time it takes for the entire assignment to arrive at the scene. Before Rescue 4 had some 15-20 minute responses to parts of District 7 on fires and vehicle accidents, driving the ERF times way up. Now with R7 those times have dramatically dropped. It also eases the dispatch confusion since T7 was taking traffic collisions for R4 in their area. Now we only have 3 apparatus types and the operations are more streamlined.

This leaves just 1 non-Pierce in the fleet, and it should be replaced next fiscal year.

**shevais** - 01/10/12 - 22:47

Nice looking trucks. Maybe someone from CFD can tell us why the bigger trucks instead of something along the lines of a medium duty truck. Will there be an increase in the amount of equipment carried on the new Rescues.

**Jeff** - 01/10/12 - 23:09

Jeff, the main differences between the current Rescue 2 and Rescue 4 are more cab space for the increased manpower added a few years ago, and the addition of a breathing air compressor and fill station along with a full compliment of truck company ladders and ventilation equipment. The breathing air compressor and fill station take up the rear two compartments on the driver's side alone. The rear compartment houses the ground ladder compliment. It also adds MUCH needed storage space for rescue equipment. The current R2 and R4 are F-550's crew cabs with a 3 door per side body. They are SLAMMED full of equipment and are not user friendly at all. Now there is also a light tower on the new units and an awning on the driver's side for rehab purposes. The new rescues essentially carry the same equipment as the ladder trucks (minus the pump, tank, hose and aerial device) in addition to a breathing air compressor and fill station, and a full compliment of Holmatro extrication equipment, air bags, res-q-jacks, etc.

**shevais** - 01/10/12 - 23:29

Thanks Shevais. Cary sure aint lacking in the equipment.

**911** - 01/11/12 - 09:27

Looking good! Congrats Cary!!

**A.C. Rich** - 01/11/12 - 10:11

What a concept "The Rescue Companies of the CFD have a staff that consist of a Captain, Engineer, and two Firefighters, and requires a minimum staffing level of three." Congrats on the Pierces!

**Duck R3** ([Email](#)) - 01/11/12 - 19:56

What kind of numbers does Cary FD put up per year? How many calls do the Rescues run in a year? They must have a lot of wrecks to have 3 trucks like that!

**Stats** - 01/11/12 - 22:45

While it's perhaps tempting to think of a department's rescue trucks (Cary or otherwise) as "wreck trucks," they perform a considerable greater range of tasks these days and respond on a wider range of call types. Unless you're just bustin' chops a bit...

**Legeros** - 01/12/12 - 07:55

I think its great that Cary has that many rescue trucks. I also think its a indication of how fiscally sound the town is that they can fund and support the fire department with apparatus like that in light of how the economy has been in recent years.

**fiscally sound** - 01/12/12 - 11:28

The rescues are some of the busiest trucks in the city. They run EMS calls within their first due and we dispatch a rescue on every traffic collision, technical rescue, land search and structure fire. They are also typically special called to gas leaks (for manpower and breathing air support) or when manpower is needed at any call type.

Cary FD ran just over 8000 calls in 2011.

**shevais** - 01/12/12 - 12:24

It is indeed interesting these months and years, to see the fiscal differences between municipalities and counties. There are so many factors that turn apples to oranges to grapes, when comparing towns/cities and fire services therein. Not to mention operational differences of the FDs, and even requirements for accreditation (for those departments that are accredited). Can make your head hurt!

**Legeros** - 01/12/12 - 18:54

Who is accredited in the area? I am assuming Cary is. Anyone else?

**Wondering** - 01/12/12 - 21:43

According to the CPSE website the following are accredited agencies in NC:

Asheville Fire & Rescue

Cary Fire Department  
Charlotte Fire Department  
Durham Fire Department  
Fayetteville Fire/Emergency Management Department  
Gastonia Fire Department  
Greensboro Fire Department  
Jacksonville Fire Department (NC)  
Morrisville Fire & Rescue Department  
Rocky Mount Fire Department, City of  
Wilson Fire/Rescue Services

Wake Forest and Ft. Bragg are in the process of becoming accredited.

**shevais** - 01/12/12 - 23:45

Have no idea and not trying to start anything, but what is gained by being accredited?

**Question** - 01/13/12 - 01:36

Here's a page from the Fayetteville FD web site, answering that very question: <http://www.bravethefire.com/accreditation>.

Although that reads more like a top-down or high-level summary. Perhaps others can provide a view from the trenches, and the benefits to departments as seen through the eyes of line personnel...

**Legeros** - 01/13/12 - 07:27

Very nice. Would like to see inside those Rescue's. Shev how 'bout some pics when you can?

**AB** - 01/13/12 - 07:47

They'll be in sometime next week and I'm sure Mike/Lee will swing by and grab some good shots. If not feel free to stop by and take a hands on look!

**shevais** - 01/13/12 - 08:34

It doesn't look like you get anything out of it that can't be done without the headache of going through the process

**Mike** - 01/13/12 - 11:48

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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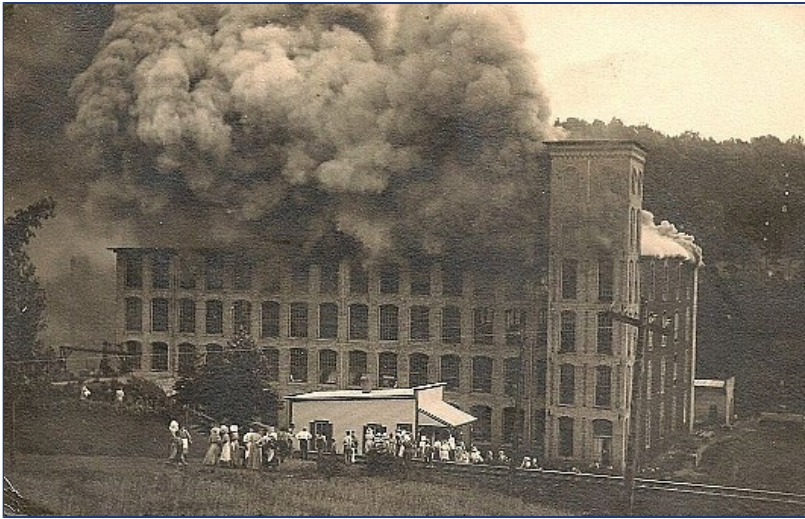
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Avalon Mill Fire, 1911

01/10/12 112 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Found for sale on eBay, here's your historic mill fire photo of the day. That's Avalon Mills burning on June 15, 1911, in the mill village of Avalon near Madison in Rockingham County. [As this web page](#) summarizes, more than 450 people lived in Avalon. Over half worked at the mill.

The village was eventually abandoned after the fire destroyed the structure. Residents both moved themselves and their houses (!). Read more [about the village and the fire](#), which includes some drawings, which includes [this insurance drawing of the building](#). Fire protection systems included "glass disc" sprinklers, fed from a 5,000 gallon tank and a 1,000 GPM pump. Click to slightly enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Video of Pink Heels Parade in Hickory

01/11/12 301 W - + 5 - 4

Found via random searching on YouTube, here's a three-minute video of an apparatus parade in Hickory in September, as part of the [Hickory Pink Heels Tour](#). Perhaps our intrepid readers can rattle off the participating departments and maybe even the trucks that we're watching.

January 12 update: Thanks to our western North Carolina [apparatus guru Benjy Grice](#), that very list is included below.

This list excludes police units and the Salvation Army truck. Thanks Benjy!

- Pink Heels "Tonya," 1991 E-One Hush
- Pink Heels "Elaine," 1989 E-One Hush
- Pink Heels "Karen," 1989 Spartan / FMC
- Hickory FD, Engine 7, 2011 Spartan / Rosenbauer (Catawba County)
- Cooksville FD, Engine 141, 2005 International 4400 / Pierce (Catawba County)
- St Stephens FD, Engine 41, 2005 Pierce Enforcer (Catawba County)
- Catawba County EMS Ambulance (Catawba County)
- Hickory Police Department, Special Ops Mobile Command Post (Catawba County)
- Lovelady FD, Engine 631, 2004 KME Excel (Burke County)
- Lincoln Rescue Squad, Rescue 2011, Chevrolet C5500 / Wynn (Lincoln County)
- Two Catawba County EMS Supervisors (Catawba County)
- Valdese FD, Engine 601, 2004 Pierce Quantum (Burke County)
- Salem FD, Engine 6, 1996 Freightliner FL80 / Pierce (Burke County)
- Lincolnton FD, Engine 1, 2006 Pierce Dash (Lincoln County)
- Grace Chapel FD, Tanker 554, 2008 Kenworth T300 / 1985 Pierce (Caldwell County)
- Propst Crossroads FD, Engine 1, 2008 Spartan / Marion (Catawba County)
- Kings Creek FD, Brush 2008, Chevrolet C5500 / Anchor Richey (Caldwell County)
- Claremont FD, Engine 73, 2009 Spartan / Rosenbauer (Catawba County)
- Hickory Rescue Squad, Rescue 1, 2007 Spartan / Hackney (Catawba County)
- Longview FD, Ladder 25, 2001 Pierce Dash 75' rear-mount (Catawba County)
- Unknown antique
- Icard Township FD, Engine 4, 2007 Pierce Contender (Burke County)
- Lovelady Rescue Squad, Squad 9045, 1997 HME / 2000 Hackney (Caldwell County)
- Conover FD, Engine 2 or 3, 2004 Pierce Enforcer (Catawba County)
- George Hildebran FD, Engine 731, 2001 Kenworth T300 / Pierce (Burke County)
- Newton FD, Engine 4, 2001 Pierce Dash (Catawba County)

- Catawba FD, Engine 81, 2009 Pierce Contender (Catawba County)
- Oxford FD, Engine 131, 2009 Spartan / Rosenbauer (Catawba County)
- Claremont Rescue Squad ,Rescue 1, 2000 International 4900 / Pierce (Catawba County)

Our western North Carolina apparatus guru Benjy Grice has compiled and sent a list of the parade participants. They are added to the posting. Thanks Benjy!

**Legeros** - 01/12/12 - 08:00

For those interested, "Karen" ran in Henry County and Stockbridge,GA, "Elaine" served Biddeford,ME. and "Tonya" came from Tyler,TX. There is also an ALF Century in the High Point area that is painted pink folks will see this weekend at the Piedmont Fire Expo. Not sure where this one formerly served yet.

**BFD1151** - 01/12/12 - 19:33

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E-mail: (optional)	
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Comment:	

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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

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Raleigh Fire Museum Open Saturday, January 14

01/11/12 204 W, 2 I - + 7 - 3

The Raleigh Fire Department museum will be open **Saturday, January 14**, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The museum is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh.

Created and operated by the non-profit [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#), the museum is a collection of hundreds of artifacts and images representing over 150 years of firefighting in the Capitol City.

The centerpiece is the 1870 fire alarm bell that hung in a clock tower on Fayetteville Street and alerted the volunteer fire companies. Other displays include a photo history of city fire apparatus, from horse-drawn hose wagons to the modern pumping engines.

The Raleigh Fire Department museum is open on the second Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free. Please note that the city's collection of antique fire apparatus is housed at a separate location, at Fire Station 28 at 3500 Forestville Road in northeast Raleigh.

Contact the historical society for information about arranging special tours or group events at the fire museum. For contact information, or to learn more more about the history of the Raleigh Fire Department, visit [www.raleighfirehistory.org](http://www.raleighfirehistory.org).

IMG\_3519



2011-06-14-rfd-museum-29-mjl



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Yes  
No

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Dispatchatron

01/12/12 74 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

From a reader, here's the neatest scanner mod seen in some time. A local resident has added flashing lights and a Matchbox- scale car launcher, configured for the occasion of a fire truck-themed birthday party for their son's fourth birthday. And you thought trip lights were cool! Be honest, who immediately wants a copy of the schematics? [Read more and watch a video clip](#). Thanks Paul!



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**Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center Celebrates 40th Anniversary**

01/12/12 203 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

Press release. The [Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center](#) is celebrating its 40th anniversary today. Since its founding in January of 1972, the center has rendered essential public safety communications that have substantially contributed to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires and saving of lives, both in Raleigh and through Wake County and the participating municipalities.

During the past four decades, the emergency communications center has seen growth in demand that mirrors the growth in the community. Between 2000 and 2010 alone, the number of emergency incidents dispatched grew by more than one third. Today, more than a million telephone calls are received or made by the staff each year.

Over the course of its history, the center has played an integral part in mitigating emergencies, both large and small. Among major incidents are the commuter airplane crash near the airport in 1988, Hurricane Fran in 1996, the ConAgra explosion and fire in 2009, and the killer tornadoes of 2011. Severe weather events are particularly challenging as they directly impact the most citizens and place greater demands upon the center. The 6,386 emergency calls received in a 24-hour period during Hurricane Fran still stands as a record. [Read entire press release.](#)



RWECC does an awesome job having to manage comms for many different agencies.  
Kudos to the entire RWECC staff for a very successful first 40 years!

**Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/13/12 - 09:58

Thanks for all you do for us on the other end of the radio and telephone!

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 01/13/12 - 15:54

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

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Half Tiller Sitting in Sampson

01/14/12 55 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

Lee Wilson this week found the front end of an American LaFrance tiller on Highway 55 at Highway 96. That's just east of Dunn, just east of Harnett County. Formerly served the Stafford Fire Department in Virginia. Maybe someone knows where the back end resides. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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## Fire Blogging and Free Speech and Living Out Loud

01/14/12 570 W - + 6 - 4

Last week or abouts, Curt Varone at Fire Law Blog [answered this question](#): "Could blogging become an issue during the hiring process?" He provides a thoughtful legal perspective. Free speech is protected and the First Amendment is pretty broad in that regard. (He declines to provide a picture of said pretty broad, however. Use your imagination.) For this blogger (me, not that blogger, Curt), what's notable is what's largely unsaid.

Everything you do in the presence in others is observed by others. Your actions, your words, your behaviors over time, your character as perceived through your actions, and more. If you're a blogger or even just a regular social media user (e.g., you eat lots of fiber before getting on Facebook), then your words are having a far greater reach.

Can those words-- and the actions of being a person who "lives out loud"-- impact hiring and promotion and other aspects of your career. But of course! Getting a job, getting a promotion, etc. nearly or almost always require the decision of a human being other than yourself. And those people form their opinions and perspectives from any number of sources. That includes-- if available-- your actions through blogs and social media.

So what's a person to do, if they want to social media-ize but also be treated as fairly as possible in the workplace? As Varone notes in his posting above "The best advice is to be careful what you blog about. I am not talking about self-censorship out of fear – but rather out of thoughtfulness and respect for others. Think through what you have to say – say it in a respectful way, and you should be fine."

Be thoughtful, but perhaps don't worry. There will be those people who overreact to your thoughtful thoughts. There will be others who read them differently, or unexpectedly. There will be some who will take your nicest words and still use them in negative ways. Thus you can't really win by worrying about it. Be thoughtful, but don't obsess. Since blogs are a written media, over-thinking can curb the creative process. Your words will suffer.

Mind you, this is a pretty easy perspective for Mike Legeros. I have been "living out loud" for a couple decades now. Was a movie reviewer for an age, then wrote and posted personal essays on the Internet. I have had a personal web site forever, with bits of my life dangling online like tinsel on a drying Christmas tree. I have been blogging for several years now. I am a frequent Facebook user, though with a private profile. Heck, I even have and use a Twitter account.

I am also 46 years old, and thus far less worried about what other people think of my actions. I have also been gainfully employed for ages (outside the fire service), so I haven't been a hunter on the job market.

What works for me works for me. What the best advice for you? Be thoughtful, at least at a minimum.

### Your thoughts?

Postscript #1: What lessons have I learned the hard way, by having a web site and blogging and such? Good question! Complicated answer. Let me think about that one.

Postscript #2: What about having multiple versions of yourself online, either named or anonymous? Hmmmm. Another good question.

---

This is good advice for the online-world, as well as IRL. Think about everything before you say, write, or do it. Be sure to consider how it could be interpreted by various people, especially online. I have a tendency to lean towards the satirical and sarcastic, but that doesn't translate well in type-form. Actually, I've found that it doesn't translate well in person from time to time, either. I've identified a whole group of my "local" colleagues who do not understand the concept of sarcasm and cannot distinguish it from sincere speech. I know that I must tone down my unique sense of humor when around them...the same goes for statements on the "interwebz".

With that said, you shouldn't censor yourself too much online. You may get hired by writing/posting/acting conservatively, but you can only keep up the charade for so long and eventually your ideas and opinions will work their way out in person, and the results will be similar. So, I would advise triple-reading your posts before posting, but continuing to be yourself. What's the point in getting hired/promoted if you have to pretend to be an entirely different person?

On the other side of things, is it remotely possible that, in some far-off land of social progression with understanding and unselfish administrators, the act of authoring well-written posts on a fire service blog could have a POSITIVE effect on your job/position? Is it possible that department leaders would commend and reward such actions by hiring/promoting? I believe so, and have experienced it in person. Unfortunately, I'm familiar with too many cases where the opposite is true, as well. My personal opinion is that many of these "crackdowns" were due to simple jealousy by the administrators.

Alas, I will "censor" myself there.

Thoughts?

-Lt. Lemon

**Lt. Lemon** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/14/12 - 10:17

Thanks for your comments, Lemon. Humor in particular is tricky, and particularly tricky to communicate in writing. There's also the issue of respectful disagreement. Not everyone is inclined to communicate or express themselves in such open fashion. Ditto for the polite (or unpolite) disagreement for what you're expressing yourself about. But that's just another fact of life. Not everyone will like you, agree with you, or make sense of you. My take: It's better to myself, and as my myself as possible, so the universe can react accordingly. Helps those who are not fans move away, and those who are fans move closer.

**Legeros** - 01/14/12 - 13:27

My sentiments exactly. For me, the benefits of pretending to be what "they" want do not outweigh the loss of personality. You can't be friends with everyone. If you have to act/speak/think differently to get a job, or promotion, somewhere, would you really want to work there?

**Lt. Lemon** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/14/12 - 13:57

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Vintage Color Footage of Greenville Fire Department

01/14/12 226 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Here's a treat and a half as found by our friends at the Greenville Fire Department. Start watching about eight minutes into this 1941 silent color film. At the 08:03 mark. Watch firefighters receive a telephone alarm, slide down the pole, grab their gear, and roll with three gorgeous old trucks. Two Macks and a Reo, right? The segment is short but sweet, and part of a longer municipal overview. And some of the earlier color footage of North Carolina fire departments that this historian has seen. Watch some [Raleigh Fire Department clips from 1950](#), for vintage motion picture action.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps provide some context for what we're seeing. In November 1941, they recorded the Greenville Fire Department protecting a population of 12,674 people with a volunteer department consisting of one chief, one assistant chief, two paid drivers, and 34 men. The firefighters were paid on call only. They operated a Mack triple combination pumper (750 GPM, 100 gallons) and a Reo triple combination pumper (350 GPM, 120 gallons). The fire alarm system had 50 boxes, with a horn on the fire station, which was built in 1940 at the corner of 5th and Green street. Here's a picture of the station some decades later, and before it was closed and later demolished. [Take a peek inside](#) or click to enlarge:



*North Carolina State Archives photo*

Fascinating! A look into the past and with such vivid color! It seems so weird... as this video appears to be prior to Dec 7th and WW-II. It is also interesting to me how life appears as so different then – simpler; yet in some ways so much the same as now. Ah.... and the old stereotype too: the firemen – “sitting around and playing cards!” Love it!

**A.C. Rich** - 01/14/12 - 22:06

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preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morning Reading - January« Vintage Color Footage... » How It Started 15, 2012

### Morning Reading - January 15, 2012

01/15/12 383 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Good morning Raleigh. Did you catch last night's News 14 segment about the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#)? Yours Truly spoke on camera, during yesterday's regular scheduled opening. (Second Saturday of each month, located at the training center.) That's always a humbling experience. Need to bring a script or talking points next time. Talking extemporaneously is tough. And expensive! That word cost me \$2.00 this morning...

- [Fire Chief Sam Butler is buried](#) - The *Fayetteville Observer* has a recap and a slide show of Friday's funeral service for Evans Crossroads Fire Chief Sam Butler, who was killed a week ago in a car accident while responding to a car accident. Photos by *Observer* photographer James Robinson.
- [Fayetteville firefighters fired upon](#) - Also from the *Observer* is a story from Friday night, where firefighters and police officers were fired upon at the scene of a small structure fire. A four stand-off ensued. Two officers sustained minor injuries. [See this WRAL story](#) also. Insert own flak-jacket joke.
- [Cary fire station construction bid issues](#) - *Cary News* story from last week, about issues with the construction bidding for Fire Station 8. The three-bay station at 408 Mills Park Drive is planned to open by summer of 2013. Interesting peek into that process.
- [Fire commission meeting Thursday](#) - Speaking of how sausage is made, the agenda and related documents have been posted for Thursday's meeting of the Wake County Fire Commission Meeting. Hot dog!
- [Bill Boyd on social media and emergency management](#) - Good educational video as re-posted by Statter911. Good discussion in the comments section, notably with myself and others answering one reader's question of "why should fire departments care how citizens get their news and if the news they get is correct?" On a related note, see Mr. Blogger's [pontifications from yesterday](#) on social media and free expression.
- [Flashing in broad daylight](#) - Get your mind of the gutter! Have you noticed a subtle change in Mikey's daytime photos? After a few weeks of [night photography using off-camera flash](#), the technique is being tried in daylight. Camera bracket plus external flash to battle shadows, and particularly the harsh shadows of winter. Still learning, but seems to work fairly well. Here's the gear:



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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

How It Started

01/15/12 48 W - + 10 - 2

[As Firegeezer has posted](#), it was 40 years ago today that the pilot episode of *Emergency!* was broadcast. We know what happened next and many are here because of what happened next. Here's those first few minutes. Who tired of watching vintage apparatus in action?

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify:        Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Atlas Fire Apparatus Ad - 1982

01/15/12 68 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Found for sale on eBay, here's a *Fire Engineering* magazine ad for Atlas Fire Apparatus in Raleigh. They built commercial-chassis pumpers, tankers, and mini-pumpers for a couple decades in the Capitol City. Started as Atlas Steel Products in 1959, and was acquired by Amfire in 1982. Later renamed Emergency Equipment Incorporated (EEI). Readers probably have plenty of anecdotes on this one. Click to enlarge:

When it's time to fight fires, you've got more to worry about than the beauty of your fire truck. You engine's performance. And sale. And dependable.

Which is why Atlas introduced the Diamond Series. Fire trucks designed to perform. Beautifully.

**FROM ATLAS. ONLY THE BEST**

That means using only the very finest components, from the bumper chrome to the rear axle. Like Hale pumps, on every truck we manufacture. And the strongest doors in the industry. Standard.

Of course Atlas understands that every fire department has its own needs. That's why we're adaptable.

Our diamond pumpers come equipped with Hale Pump capacities of 500, 750, 1000, 1250 and more. Booster tanks are

available in mild steel or stainless steel. And the control grouping and gauges correspond to each other for easy reading.

The Atlas Gold tankers are available in 1000 to 3000 gallon models. Pump sizes are 250 to 1500 gpm.

Even the gear storage area can be adjusted to fit your particular needs.

And only the best parts are used, to meet and exceed all U.S. and NFPA standards.

That's Atlas quality.

**GO AHEAD. COMPARE.**

But Atlas understands that need to quality you have to worry about cost. That's why we offer

our trucks at affordable prices. Some are less expensive, it's true. But we guarantee you'll have to sacrifice quality.

Some are more expensive. But why pay more when performance is the bottom line?

Check our prices. You'll be amazed at our competitiveness. That's Atlas price.

**QUALITY PLUS PRICE? VALUE.**

Which brings us to the real reason Atlas builds the best fire truck in the business. Value.

High quality equipment at reasonable prices.

Something you won't find in any other fire truck.

Because to have the quality, the price, the value -- you have to be Atlas.

**Atlas Fire Apparatus,**  
1818 New Hope Church Road,  
Raleigh, NC 27619 Phone -  
1-800-334-6610. In N.C.,  
1-800-662-3400.



**TO HAVE THE QUALITY, THE PRICE, THE VALUE...YOU HAVE TO BE ATLAS.**

40 | FIRE ENGINEERING For More Facts Circle 183 on Reply Card

Mike, WSFD had 4 pumpers built by EEI 4 Kenworth L700 canopy cabs w/ 1000gpm pumps and 500 tanks starting in 83,84,85,86, and then a final one on a MACK MC w/ 4 door cab enclosure and same specs as the previous Kenworths. Of course they were Lime green w/ white roofs. Old girls did a good job and I had the pleasure of being assigned to all of them at one time or another.

**Clay Simmons** ([Email](#)) - 01/15/12 - 22:57

Here's a prior blog thread about EEI, and reader compiling a master delivery list: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

**Legeros** - 01/16/12 - 08:31

An earlier ad featured Wilson's Mills C-800 canopy cab pumper. I believe that they still have that pumper. It was a 1000 gpm unit, with a 750 gal tank, a 429 cid V8 gasoline engine, and a 5-speed transmission.

**DJ** - 01/16/12 - 17:54

Some of these EEI trucks still in use in Harnett County.

**JS** - 01/19/12 - 12:51

## UPDATED: Mystery History

01/18/12 44 W, 4 I - + 9 - 5

January 18 update. Three more photos added. Does that confirm the exact building? How about a specific year, any guesses? Original posting: What are we looking at here? Can you place the location as well as the timeframe? Click to enlarge:



This is going to be either Sullivan or Lee Residence Hall on NC State's campus. Not sure of the time frame but it is probably before I was born in 1986!

**Ben Davis** ([Web Site](#)) - 01/16/12 - 22:26

Definitely Lee Hall, another fire alarm activation? ha

**Jason S.** - 01/17/12 - 09:03

An opportunity for some to see how the RFD hose lays were... 1 3/4" horse-shoe on left, 2 1/2" reverse, 3" forward, 1 1/2" horse-shoe on right (obscured from view). These hose lays were used until late 1989 (when the new Pierce engines were received). Many of the Macks continued to use the lay until converted over the next 2-3 years. The Captain in the photo appears to be retired Battalion Chief (Division Chief position now) Donnie Perry.

**A.C. Rich** - 01/18/12 - 09:16

I love those little Macks. They drove like a sports car (compared to the big Mack pumper/tankers at SFFD). We had a pristine little pumper like that (old 122) and had less than 30k miles on it when it was sold. I believe it was a 1985 or 86 Model. Good memories

**AB** - 01/18/12 - 10:30

Vintage Rigs - Triad and Triangle

01/16/12 90 W, 6 I - + 6 - 5

Reader David Raynor has been scanning some of his older fire apparatus photos. He shares these shots from Durham, Greensboro, High Point, and Raleigh. Left to right, top to bottom: 1986 Ford/EEI (E\_ in 1986), 1985 EEI (E18 in 1986), 1974 American LaFrance (T5) and 1977 GMC/E-One (Sq 1), 19\_\_ American LaFrance (E6) and 1977 GMC/E-One (Sq 1), 19\_\_ Ward LaFrance (E7 in 1993), 1977 Mack/Baker (T111 in 2004) with curiously dressed person approaching from the rear. That guy's nothing but trouble... Click to enlarge:



David Raynor photos

the 86 Ford from Durham was Engine 8.

Charlie - 01/17/12 - 12:48

Mikey, is that you pacing the street behind the Baker from RFD. Sure does look a lot like you with the Hawaiian shirt!!!

House - 01/17/12 - 13:31

The High Point Pumper (E-3) was a 1973 Ward LaFrance with an Ambassador cab. Engine 1 also operated a 1973 Ward LaFrance unit for many years.

Curtis Teague - 01/18/12 - 23:38

Name: (real name preferred)  
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Comment:

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)



## Vintage Guilford EMS

01/18/12 57 W, 2 I - + 13 - 7

More time machine travels, this time with some Guilford EMS vehicles from back in the day. Dig that station wagon, man! Top shot is 1986, Unit 902 and a van at Base 3. Bottom shot is Unit 400 and Unit 1957 at City Stage in 1984. Readers can add makes, models, memories. Click to slightly enlarge:



*David Raynor photos*

#1957 looks like a Swab module...of all the modular type units I have ever ridden they were the best. Never did like the single rear wheels, though, They made them handle kind of, well, spongy. Real light bars, though.

**DJ** - 01/18/12 - 11:29

Guilford County EMS' Facebook group page has a ton of great vintage photos as well as some great current photos.

**WD** - 01/18/12 - 18:21

Thanks WD. Here's that FB page, <http://www.facebook.com/groups/288489488...> Scroll through the photos to see quite a few nifty vintage

pictures.

**Legeros** - 01/19/12 - 08:10

Name: (real name  
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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The winter 2012 edition of the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* has been posted to to the web site [raleighfirenews.org](http://raleighfirenews.org). The contents include: Capt. Scott Nipper; Christmas morning fire; Two children rescued from apartment fire; Starting our centennial year; Chief Warner retires; More retirements; Promotions and appointments; New personnel; Response changes; Photo gallery; Recruit academy starts; Where are they now? Calendar; New live fire simulator. [See the web site](#) for back issues. Edited by Yours Truly (department historian Mike Legeros), the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. [Read the issue](#) , or click to access:



Name: (real name preferred)  
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *UPDATED: Durham's New* « **Mystery Steps** » **The Gregson Street Gu...** *Haz-Mat Truck*

### UPDATED: Durham's New Haz-Mat Truck

02/04/12 144 W, 4 I - + 5 - 7

February 4

Updated with photo from Lee Wilson, who posed both Haz-Mat 13 and Engine 13 for photos this week. The 2011 International/CW Specialty Vehicles was placed in service on January 21. Futures include walk-in command module and top-mounted light tower. It's staffed by Engine 13, which operations a 2009 Sutphen pumper. Sunlight and a good angle makes all the difference! [See photos of both trucks.](#)



*Lee Wilson photo*

January 18

Our friends at [DurhamFire.net](http://DurhamFire.net) have shared these photos of the Durham Fire Department's new haz-mat truck, a 2011 International that's soon to be in service at Station 13 on South Miami Boulevard. It replaces a decades-old Ford that's shown below in vintage yellow, in a years-ago [shot from Lee Wilson](#). The truck was subsequently painted red. More details on the new truck as they're known. Click to enlarge:







DurhamFire.net photos



Lee Wilson photo

the new haz-mat truck is awesome. which now leaves rescue 7 as the oldest apparatus in Durham's fleet.

**charlie** - 01/18/12 - 21:04

Congratulations DFD HM!

**A.C. Rich** - 02/05/12 - 16:46

Who built the truck?

**MSW** - 02/06/12 - 12:31

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Yrac Fire Department Badge

01/19/12 50 W, 2 I - + 11 - 5

Here's our vintage badge of the week, a two-inch by two-inch badge from the Yrac Fire Department in Cary. Recently sold on eBay and snapped up by a local buyer. [Read the history of the Yrac FD](#), which was Cary spelled backwards. Click to enlarge:



I sure would like to get my hands on one of them. I never got to keep mine from back in the day.

**YRAC VFD** - 01/21/12 - 08:54

I only saw one of them when I was a member of Yrac. By the time I was a member (late 70s) we were using the same small badge that Cary Area Rescue Squad was using (I still have all of the Yrac and CARS badges I wore). Thanks to a good friend, I now have one of the above badges.

**DJ** - 01/22/12 - 11:44

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**



Cary Receives New Rescues

01/20/12 93 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Two new Pierce Velocity rescue trucks were delivered yesterday to the Cary Fire Department. They'll replace a pair 2000 Ford F-550/KME light-duty units. The new Rescue 2 and Rescue 4 were spec'ed the same as Rescue 7, and carry a full compliment of ground ladders, breathing air compressors and fill stations, light tower, etc. Plus full extrication and fireground support stuff. Cary's new Pierce Velocity platform ladder is due today. [See this prior posting about the trucks](#), including a good reader discussion. [See more photos from Lee Wilson](#).



Lee Wilson photo

I'm not a truck committe or have to deal with budgets but can someone clue us in on the additional cost of painted doors compared to non painted?  
I notice Raleigh has both. If I recall the newer truck companies are painted.

And I may have missed it but are these rescues fully staffed and if so how many personel are assigned?

**Buckwheat** - 01/20/12 - 15:38

from what I understand if there is any cost it is negligable. And yes they are fully staffed and assigned 1 Capt, 1 Eng, 2 FF. We ride minimum of 3 personnel.

**shevais** - 01/20/12 - 16:29

Spacious.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 01/22/12 - 15:34

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Morning Reading - January 20, 2012

01/20/12 407 W - + 5 - 4

Good morning Raleigh. The merger of Falls and Wake Forest fire departments is scheduled for April, as reported at last night's Wake County Fire Services meeting. Both Fire Chiefs told the commission that their expectations have been exceeded by how well the process has been working. Good to hear. Also introduced last night was The Wake County Association of Fire Chiefs, a new organization comprised of chief officers from fire departments in Wake County. More information forthcoming, as well as more meeting highlights.

- [Firefighter 'brotherhood' watches over family of Greensboro fire captain](#) - Nice *Chicago Sun-Times* story about the support provided after the passing of Capt. Will Caviness, who collapsed and died on October 9 while running the Chicago marathon. Capt. Caviness will also be honored by the the American Red Cross next month, posthumously receiving their Salute to Heroes award. [Read press release.](#)
- [No safety breach in Asheville firefighter death](#) - *Citizen-Times* story from Wednesday reporting the findings of the North Carolina Department of Labor in their investigation of the July 28 death of Capt. Jeff Bowen. He died while fighting a fire at a medical office building on Biltmore Avenue. The board determined no rules were broken, but recommended some improvements. The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is also preparing a report on the incident, which is expected in the next month or so.
- [Morehead City structure fire with backdraft](#) - FireNews.net has the story and a couple photos of a residential structure fire on Mandy Lane on December 2. During suppression inside the structure, crews reported high heat conditions. They were then briefly overrun by flames when a backdraft occurred. No injuries resulted. Read the story for more. ~~That street, by the way, was named after one of Mr. Blogger's childhood (well, teenage childhood) friends. (Her name was... Mandy.)~~ [ Update: Untrue, but we've had a good laugh, as she's since advised of the correct origins. ]
- [Sugarloaf ski fatality and Maine EMS protocols](#) - There's a lively (and lengthy) discussion underway on Curt Varone's Fire Law blog around a January 12 incident at Maine ski resort, and issues (both reported and speculated) involving the treatment and transport of a patient who died after striking a tree. (Are the reader comments the EMS equivalent of fireground quarterbacking?) Blogger [Dave Statter's also following the story](#), and looking through the public relations slash reputation management lens.

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Yes  
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Comment:

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Wet Trees at Night

01/21/12 65 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

As photographed at last night's major house fire on Dun Loring Drive in Wake Forest. This is accidental art, a shot snapped to simply show "here's what the yard looked like." Plus a conversion to gray scale. We'll post a proper (er, dedicated) incident summary and a photo facing the structure a little bit later. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

**Firefighters Bury Dog Killed in Friday's House Fire**

01/22/12 115 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Postscript to Friday night's house fire in Wake Forest, as reported by WRAL. Though the owners of home at [2636 Dun Loring Drive](#) were out of town, their dog was still inside the structure. Their Italian Greyhound named Adele perished in the blaze. After the fire was extinguished, firefighters buried the dog in the rubble of the structure. They fashioned a cross from the debris and placed a brick marker on the grave with Adele's name. One of the neighbors was so moved by the gesture that she sent a photo to the news station. [Read the entire story](#). See [prior posting about the fire](#).



*WRAL photo*

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

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☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Now This is a REAL Man Cave

01/22/12 111 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

For sale on GovDeals, currently priced at a mere \$454.44. Located just down the road (a bit) in Douglas, GA. One former forestry tower, approximately 100 feet tall. Buyer must remove the structure themselves. Also requires a cleanup deposit (\$300) and a certificate of insurance binder (\$1,000,000) prior to removal. Talk about a deal! There's the building itself, perfect as any fireman's man cave. Then there's the tower, which should bring at least a little dough as scrap metal. Raise you hand if you'll be bidding, and let me know if you win! We'll want pictures! Thanks to "Firegeezer" Bill S. for sending.



GovDeals photo

I'm not sure how big of a man cave that would make. I guess if you were small of stature or perhaps just an LP, it may be perfect. Those cabs aren't exactly spacious. As far as I've been told, all or most of NCFS's firetowers are or will be on the surplus list. Ones that have been maintained are definitely worth looking at. Id' personally love to have one just for the promise of exercise from ascending and descending the stairs.

Duda (Email) - 01/22/12 - 15:31

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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)



# Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *UPDATED: Fire « Now This is a REAL Ma... » CFD and RFD - The Com... Commission Meeting - Jan. 19, 2012*

## UPDATED: Fire Commission Meeting - Jan. 19, 2012

01/22/12 603 W - + 9 - 3

January 22:

Handful of highlights from the meeting, as best recounted by myself. These are my words in places, not necessarily the language used by those speaking at the meetings. Apologizes for goofy paraphrasing. See full agenda and meeting documents below.

- Eastern Wake Fire Department Update - The county auditor has been appointed the trustee of EWFD for a minimum of two years. The county commissioners have also appointed four members to the EWFD board of directors. The fire commission will be also kept apprised going forward of any developments. See [minutes of prior meetings](#) for the story so far.
- Bay Leaf Fire Station #1 Reconstruction - Construction documents are being prepared and the bid process is expected to be completed in late April. Construction is expected to start in June. The station will take two years to build. A temporary station will be erected/opened on the site, before the reconstruction begins.
- Wake Forest/Falls Merger - This is planned to take effect (or is that completed?) in April. They've already started working on full operational consolidation, have committees working on various points, created a new organizational structure, created policies for volunteers, and are preparing the paperwork to file for the dissolution of Falls Fire Department. The merger was planned for March, but has been pushed one month so the Falls fire district can be included in the upcoming ISO evaluation of Wake Forest. Both Fire Chiefs told the commission that their expectations have been exceeded by how well the process has been working.
- Fire Protection Agreement Revisions - The agreement documents used with non-profit fire departments are undergoing revisions, and notably with regard to language around monies, assets, liquidation of assets, department dissolutions, etc.
- Wake County Association of Fire Chiefs - Garner Fire Chief Matt Poole presented an introduction during the period of public comment. The recently organized organization started as a chief officer's lunch in May, and for the purpose of meeting, greeting, and networking. As participation grew, the need for an entity was apparent. The group has drafted by-laws and established their mission. Voting members can be any chief officer of any fire department in Wake County. Public, private, municipal, volunteer, combination, etc. They also retired and honorary members. Their first project is a pair of classes this week taught by NFA instructor Howard Cross. Those classes are being conducted with the participation of the Wake County Firefighter's Association.

January 13:

The next meeting of the [Wake County Fire Commission](#) is Thursday, January 19, at 7:00 p.m. The location is the Wake County EMS Training Facility, in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building, [4011 Cary Drive](#). See below agenda and related documents. [See this related posting](#) from earlier this year, to learn more about this governing body.

### Agenda

- Call meeting to order
  - Invocation
  - Roll of Members Present
  - Approval of Agenda
- Minutes
  - Adoption of Minutes for Nov. 17, 2011, Regular Meeting
- Regular Agenda
  - Fire Commission Chair Election
  - Fire Commission Vice Chair Election
  - Apparatus Committee
- Information Agenda

### The [documents](#):

1. Agenda for Jan. 19, 2011
2. Draft Minutes of Nov. 17, 2011, Regular Meeting
3. Apparatus Committee meeting notes, Sep. 27, 2011
4. Wake Forest/Falls merger agreement disposition of apparatus
5. Finance reports



- Eastern Wake Fire Department Update
- Bay Leaf Reconstruction Project Update
- Fire Tax Financial Report
- Single Fire Tax District Budget Update
- Executive Service Corps of the Triangle
- Chair Report
- Fire and Emergency Management Director Report
  - Business Plan Update
  - Wake Forest Fire Department / Falls Fire Department Merger
  - Fire Protection Agreement Revisions
- Other Business
- Public Comments
  - 30 minutes maximum time allotted, Maximum three minutes per person
- Adjournment - Next Meeting Mar. 15, 2012

Any information on where Falls apparatus would end up?Another department? Back to the county?

**Just Curious** - 01/23/12 - 13:25

This document details a pair of plans proposed for the disposition of Falls apparatus. I believe plan "B" was adopted:  
<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog..>

- 2009 Pierce Contender pumper-tanker moved to another county fire department, due a replacement
- 2007 Pierce Contender pumper-tanker to WFFD, disposed to county at end of life (2027)
- 1994 E-One pumper-tanker to WFFD, replaced with tanker in 2014
- 2005 Ford F-550 brush truck to WFFD, disposed to county at end of life
- 2003 Ford F-350 utility vehicle disposition to be decided by WFFD/FFD
- 2003 Ford Expedition disposition to be decided by WFFD/FFD

**Legeros** - 01/23/12 - 19:55

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Yes  
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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## CFD and RFD - The Command Connection

01/22/12 295 W - + 9 - 6

Did you know that three members of the Raleigh Fire Department have served as Fire Chief of the Cary Fire Department? After Asst. Chief R. Lee Matthews retired in 1963 with 36+ years of service, he took the position of Acting Fire Chief for five months in 1967. He was acting chief from January 21, 1967 to May 1, 1967. Matthews had served the Cary Fire Department in earlier times. In 1926, for example, the fire department had 12 (!) volunteers with Matthews acting as a part-time training officer.

Chief Matthews replacement was Clarence F. Ayscue. He was appointed Fire Chief on May 1, 1967 and served until July 15, 1968, when he was hired as a firefighter for the City of Raleigh. He retired from the department in 1989. Subsequent Cary Fire Chiefs were John L. Dew (1968-69), Billy Henderson (1969-71), and Terry Edmundson (1971-75).

Chief Edmundson's replacement was Capt. Ned K. Perry, who served with the city from 1958 to 1975. Perry was also a charter member of the Raleigh Fireman's Club Inc. (organized in 1968) and the first President of the re-chartered Raleigh Firefighter's Association Local No. 548 (organized in 1969). Perry served the Cary Fire Department for 18 years and retired in 1993.

Another former Raleigh firefighter is a current member of the Cary Fire Department command staff. Capt. Mike Cooper was a member of the Raleigh Fire Department from 1991 to 2005, when he was hired by the town of Cary as an Assistant Fire Chief of Logistics. He served in the role from 2005 to 2010. When Asst. Chief Don Daniels retired in January 2010, he moved over to supervise Budget and Planning and serve as the department's Accreditation Manager.

Next project? How about mapping the command staff connections for other fire departments in Wake and surrounding counties? Now that would be an interesting list to compile!

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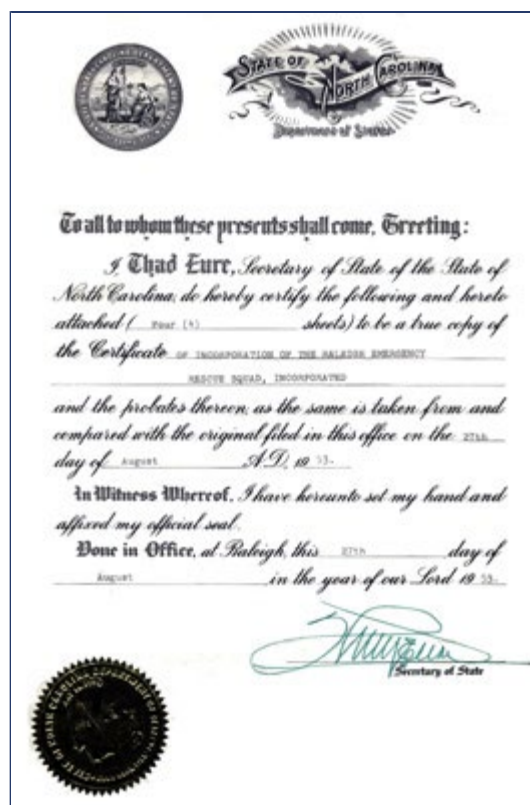
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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Raleigh Emergency « CFD and RFD - The Com... » Cary's New Ladder 3 Rescue Squad Incorporation, 1953

### Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad Incorporation, 1953

01/22/12 658 W, 4 I - + 8 - 7

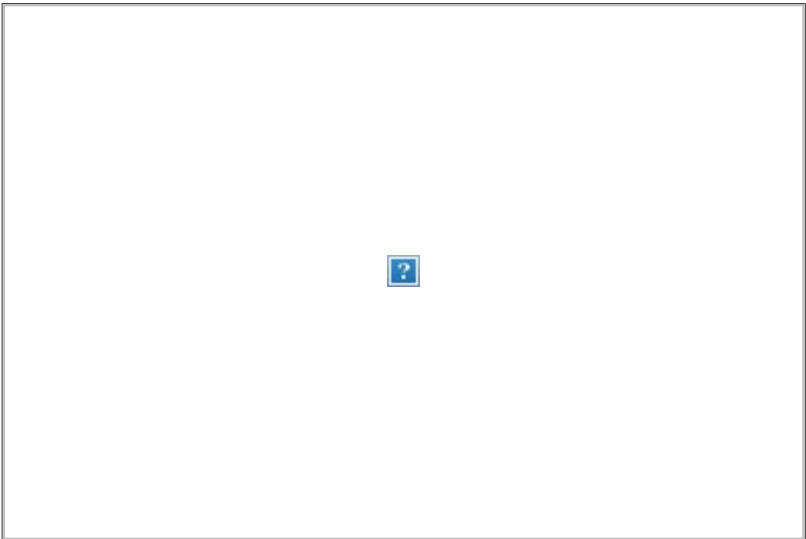
From the archives of the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#), here's the incorporation certificate of the Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad. The document is dated August 27, 1953, and signed by Secretary of State Thad Eure. Click **once or twice** to enlarge:



Here's a bit of their history, as contained on this page about [modern volunteers of the Raleigh Fire Department](#):

"[They were organized] after both the police and fire departments were criticized for the delay in extricating a driver pinned under a truck on Hillsboro Street. Criticism also came after a drowning in the Neuse River several miles from Raleigh. The body was not recovered for a week until City Manager W. H. Harper asked [Raleigh Fire Department] Captain Jack Keeter to help however he could. Along with Assistant Chief Lee Matthews, civilian Bob Biggs, and future police officer Andy Povlosky, the four borrowed a fishing boat from one man, a boat motor from another, and transported the items to the river in Keeter's pick-up truck. The four launched the boat, and Povlosky and Matthews rode around until finding and recovering the body. Later, a Red Cross course was conducted with about 25 firefighters and civilians attending.

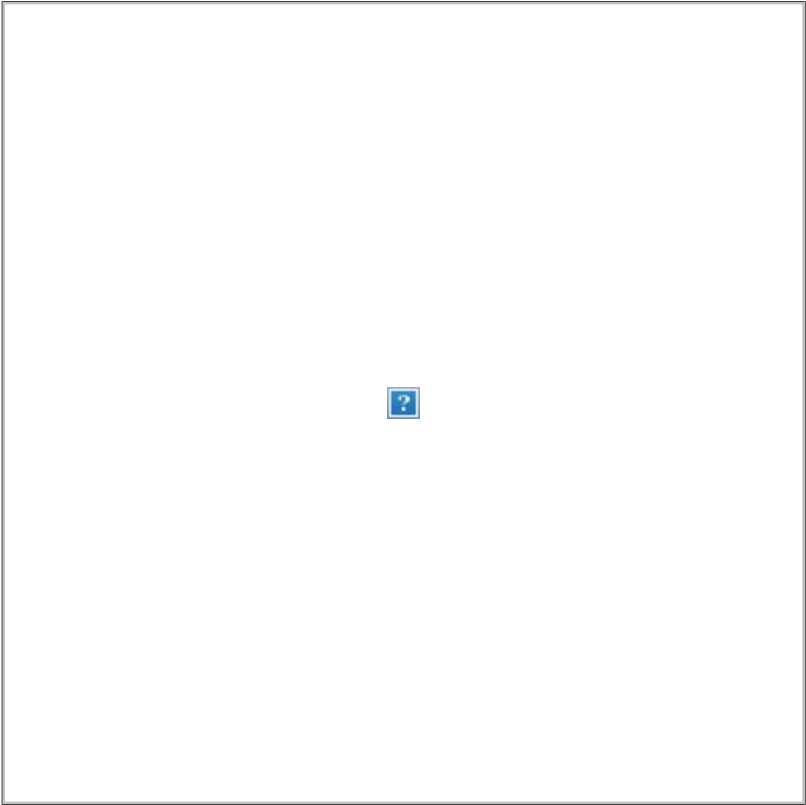
"The Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad was formally chartered on August 27, 1953. The Wake County Office of Civil Defense allocated \$2,500 for a rescue truck and a 1954 GMC panel van was purchased. Local businesses donated money and materials to outfit the van. Squad members also designed and built a boat trailer and the city provided the funding for two boats and two motors. The rescue squad responded both in the city and in the county, though only provided patient transport when an ambulance was not available. They were particularly helpful during the period between when area funeral homes stopped providing patient transport and when private ambulance services started operating.



*News & Observer photograph*

"Though the Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad was organized as a volunteer agency, Captain Keeter persuaded the city to designate two firefighters as rescue officers. Harold Jones and Roma Wilder were appointed as such and sent to a rescue school in Maryland for further training. They worked opposite shifts and operated the rescue vehicles, pulling a second man off one of the companies at Station 1 when they needed assistance. The volunteer members were subject to call, though they mostly participated in body recovery efforts in local lakes and rivers.

"In addition to the panel van, a second piece of apparatus was obtained with the aid of the federal government. A 1954 Reo Civil Defense rescue truck was placed in service, though with a requirement that the truck be considered a piece of 'stand-by equipment' that could be called to Norfolk, Virginia in the event of an "attack by enemy forces." Equipment carried on the 2.5-ton truck included torches, power saws, gas masks, helmets, and first-aid equipment. The heavier rescue truck was rarely utilized, however.



*News & Observer photograph*

"Wake County also provided \$100 a month for the rescue squad and the funds were used for the rescue officer's insurance and any needed materials. Both vehicles and the boat trailer were stored at Fire Station 1 on South Dawson Street. By 1972, the number of

dedicated personnel had expanded to four firefighters. In 1974, a second Raleigh rescue squad was placed in service. The units were still funded by both the city and the county at that time, though they rarely performed patient transport. Funeral homes and later private ambulance services transported patients, though the rescue squad helped fill the gap in the early 1970s between when funeral homes stopped transporting patients and the private ambulance services started. The squads were also utilized to transport firefighters and firefighter family members as needed. After the formation of Wake County EMS in 1976, the squads served as back-up units when no Wake EMS ambulances were available. The squads served as back-up units through the late 1980s



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## Cary's New Ladder 3

01/23/12 103 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Delivered on Friday morning, January 20. Photographed at Station 1 by Lee Wilson, who plans to return when the sun is shining. The town's third new fire engine is a 2012 Pierce Velocity aerial platform, 100-foot with a 1500 GPM pump and a 300 gallon tank. It replaces a 2003 Pierce Dash aerial platform, which will be placed in reserve and which will replace a 1995 Mack/Craft Body Works service truck. This marks their eight Velocity, following Engine 1, Engine 3, Engine 7, Truck 6, Rescue 7, and the new Rescue 2 and Rescue 4. [Read prior posting](#) and discussion about the new deliveries. [See more photos from Lee.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Did Cary win the lottery to order all this new equipment?..or is the budget so over inflated the \$\$ needs to be spent or risk losing it?...

**spenders** - 01/23/12 - 10:09

Thanks for your question, Spenders. Let me rephrase in a less antagonistic fashion. In these tougher economic times, how is Cary able to afford this new equipment?

I submit this as a piece of the answer. While the economy has been tough for a number of years, the amount of money that municipalities have can vary greatly. The factors range from their tax base to their budget strategy.

In the last couple weeks, there have been reports of budget surpluses in local towns, some of which have been in the millions (if memory serves). There are many different kinds of fruits (be careful) in these comparisons that are tempting to paint as apples to apples.

**Legeros** - 01/23/12 - 10:17

It's called a capital improvement budget. Or they may have had a big time surplus like Apex did.

**Capital** - 01/23/12 - 15:17

Cary does a great job of budgeting, buying what is needed and delaying what can be delayed. The Town council gets the most bang for their buck. It's not like the budget is inflated, actually, Cary has the cheapest tax rate in Wake County at just .33, and in past years, the Town actually made a cut in the tax rate which was .42. Cary has cut the budget and is still able to maintain essential services. The employees have managed to get raises even through this down turn in the economy. It's all about sound financial practices and doing what is right. My opinion is that the citizens of Cary get the most bang for their buck when compared to other municipalities. Look at the parks, greenways, and other



services that the Town provides, all while not giving a tax rate increase in 20 years. These trucks are part of the capital improvement budget and were planned for years ago. There is a replacement schedule for all equipment and this allows for planning and budgeting, that way there is no surprises.

**David** - 01/23/12 - 15:17

Conveniently, here's a Cary News article from last week about the town and it's budgeting: <http://www.carynews.com/2012/01/21/51063..>

**Legeros** - 01/24/12 - 09:25

Do remember that everything you read my be skewed to have you believe a particular point of view. While Cary may have a low tax rate, the cost for all city services as a whole is higher than other communities in the area. Take a look at the following graphic which helps show service totals from multiple cities: <http://www.raleighnc.gov/content/AdminSe..>

**H2O** - 01/24/12 - 15:03

H2O,the link that you posted showed Cary as the 6th lowest in cost out of the 21 town/cities on the chart. I would have to say they are one of the cheapest overall.

**John** - 01/25/12 - 21:06

any city or town can conduct a reassessment and lower the property tax RATE. As h2o said above, Do remember that everything you read my be skewed to have you believe a particular point of view.

**tax assessor** - 01/25/12 - 21:17

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Korean Tow Trucks Race to Reach an Accident First

01/23/12 63 W - + 10 - 6

Found on Facebook, here's your wild video of the day. Four minutes of fast driving (and using a siren at times!) through what looks like a major city in South Korea. At least one rival tow truck is seen toward the end of the clip. How many moving violations do you spot?

Another rival passes our truck on the right at the 2:06 mark, but the inexperienced racer gets caught in a traffic backup and Our Hero regains the lead when he wrong-lanes around the backup at 2:52.

Bill Schumm - 01/23/12 - 11:08

Meanwhile, back at the Hall of Justice, Aquaman prepares a peanut butter and jelly sandwich because he can't do crap. Using his telepathic powers, he summons a can of sardines (buh-buh-buh-buh...).

Duda (Email) - 01/23/12 - 12:23

I wonder how often you see a tow towing a tow (almost a tongue twister). They must create their own business driving like that.

2redline - 01/23/12 - 13:27

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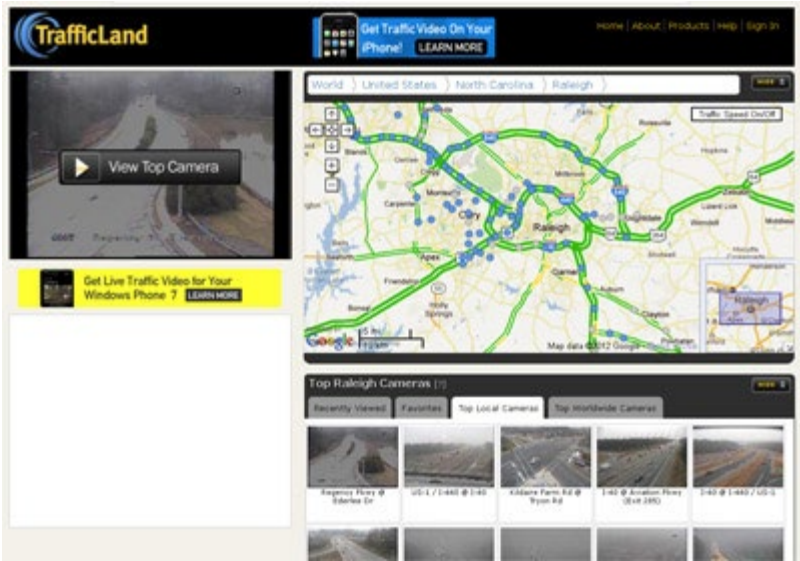
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TrafficLand = Best Traffic Camera Site Ever

01/23/12 32 W, 1 I - + 11 - 9

Here's their page of [traffic cameras in Raleigh](#). Camera images updates every two *seconds*. Bookmark now. That is all.



very cool site...like the quick refreshes and clarity!...hope to see more cameras especially around Capital and 401 areas!!

**cam user** - 01/24/12 - 14:33

Awesome site! Good find. Neat to hear a company get a call and see them realtime go through an intersection. Hope the chiefs don't find this site. They can really bust some drivers not doing a full stop! Be careful out there!

**Rescue Ranger** - 01/24/12 - 20:46

Credit to the crews, and one of the stations that showed me the thing. The many-second delay on WRAL and other sites drove me NUTS.

**Legeros** - 01/24/12 - 20:48

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## Wake Forest's New Engine

01/23/12 65 W, 1 I - + 13 - 7

From a reader, here's another new delivery. The Wake Forest Fire Department last week received this 2012 Pierce Saber ~~pumper-tanker~~ engine, 1500/1000. Features include a 10-inch cab extension, roof-mounted light tower, and foam system. It replaces a 1996 E-One engine, which will be placed in reserve, which will replace Engine 4, a 1989 Simon-Duplex/FMC engine, which will be sold. Click to enlarge. Thanks Matt!



Good looking rig fellas. Glad to see you all getting away from those flat roofs. Im sure some of you all will miss the old Duplex or atleast the memories of calls on it.

**911** - 01/23/12 - 20:36

Is the Saber replacing the Contender?

and anyone at Wake Forest know if there are any more trucks like this coming in 2012?

**Buckwheat** - 01/24/12 - 00:07

Yes, the Saber was re-introduced as what used to be the Contender. It is also now able to be manufactured in Wisconsin or Florida

**shevais** - 01/24/12 - 08:44

Stony Hill's Pumper 392 (received in 2011) is a Saber and is pretty much the same as WFFD's (with some minor changes). These series of trucks have much better build characteristics than the Contenders.

**A.C. Rich** - 01/24/12 - 14:58

A pumper-tanker is defined as a rig with over 1000 gallons??? if so then why do some depts still can them engines ?....doesnt that give a false description of what is enroute...I would rather know a P/T is coming knowing it has 1000 gallons rather than a engine comong with 500-750 gallons I

**confused** - 01/25/12 - 22:10

The term "pumper-tanker" is 100-percent my phraseology, and perhaps entirely incorrect! Perhaps I should simply say "their new 1,000-gallon engine!"

**Legeros** - 01/25/12 - 22:47

pumpers have the ability to dump water, and some, if not most carry dump tanks.

Engines do not have the ability to dump water.

The amount of water carried doesn't matter as most everything in the county depts is 1000 gal tanks. The Tankers are either 1800 or 2000 gallon. (Crew Cab are 1800, standard cab are 2000).

**simplified** - 01/25/12 - 22:52

A good looking rig. Congrats to WF.

Some people refer to a pumper/tanker as a Class A pumper with 1000+ gallons of water, while other use the term pumper/tanker to describe Class A pumpers that have quick dump capabilities. I personally prefer the latter, I think of a pumper/tanker as a unit that could either function as a pumper or as a tanker. It is hard to be effective in a water shuttle without a quick dump.

**Griggs** - 01/31/12 - 13:42

When you combine too many roles you end up doing both ok, but neither very well. Use Engines for attack and tankers to haul water. Nice truck WF

**ncff** - 01/31/12 - 14:23

Fuquay has another Saber ordered and being built as we speak. Also I forgot to mention that I like seeing the side mount pump considered on some of these new county engines (preference of mine).

**911** - 02/02/12 - 23:27

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**Vintage Building Permit, 1947**

01/24/12 26 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

From our friends in the city inspections department, here's a building permit dated November 26, 1947. No lathing until wiring inspected! Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morning Reading « Vintage Building Perm... » Raleigh Fire Departme... - January 26, 2012

### Morning Reading - January 26, 2012

01/26/12 373 W - + 5 - 8

Good morning Raleigh. Watch your mailboxes for the latest issue of [Carolina Fire Rescue EMS Journal](#), which features a two-page article about the centennial history of the Raleigh Fire Department. Author credit Yours Truly. Included are sidebars about the biggest fires, and ordering Raleigh FD centennial challenge coins. Please note that the date for this summer's birthday party has been changed to June 16, 2012. See [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).

- [Wake County EMS seeks federal grant to help lower medical costs](#) - *News & Observer* story from last week about approval for Wake County EMS to apply for a nearly \$1 million grant to add 14 advanced placement paramedics, two supervisors, and a grant supervisor. The monies will expand a current pilot program that can provide alternate (and less costly) treatment and transport options for some types of patients.
- [Asheville firefighter Jay Bettencourt tells his story](#) - Statter911 feature in two parts, with Asheville Firefighter Jay Bettencourt telling the first-person story of the medical office building fire on July 28, 2011. He recounts his actions and experiences at the incident, including the interior operations. The fire took the life of his friend, mentor, and captain, Jeff Bowen, and seriously injured Bettencourt. It is powerful and perhaps mandatory reading.
- [Group creates national firefighter code of ethics](#) - Firehouse.com story about a code of ethics created by the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association with the assistance of the National Society of Executive Fire Officers. Hope to blog about this later in a dedicated posting. Are some (very small percentage) firefighters behaving more badly than ever before? Probably not. Rather, it's the increased visibility of their actions. It's easier than ever for people outside the fire service to learn what's happening inside the fire service. More later.
- [One bus, two bus, red bus, bad bus](#) - Digital Photography Review article about a fascinating copyright rule in England. One image that's similar but not directly copied has been ruled as a copyright infringement. How different are copyright laws overseas versus over here? Not sure on that one, but they are different, to be sure. As for that site, it's my recommendation as the go-to source for discussion of photography as well as camera reviews.

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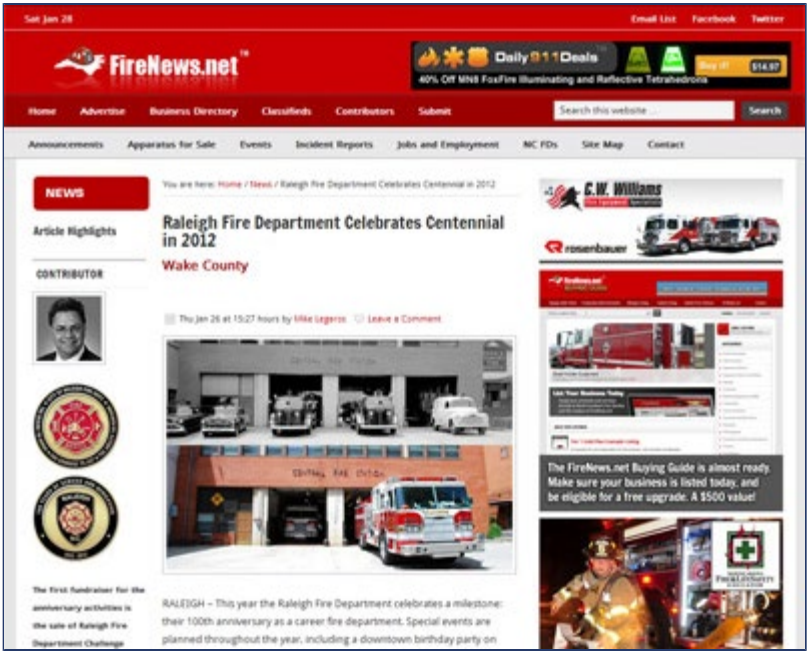
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Raleigh Fire Department Celebrates Centennial in 2012

01/28/12 62 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Extra! Extra! Read all about it! The Raleigh Fire Department is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. FireNews.net has published a special feature, including a long short history of the fire department's last 100 years. Learn more at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com), a new site that's still new. Click the image to [read the FireNews feature](#).



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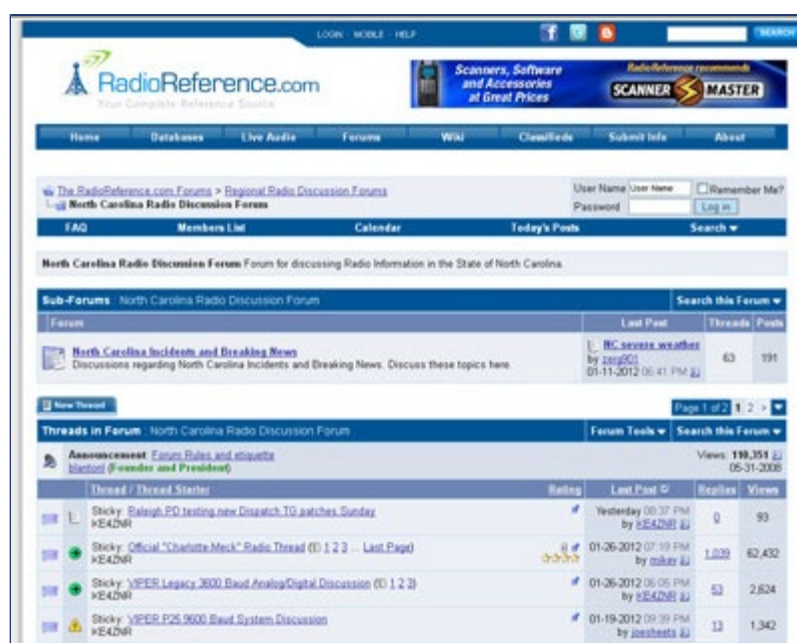
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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

# North Carolina Radio Discussion Forums on RadioReference.com

01/29/12 74 W, 1 I - + 12 - 6

Looking for a place to ask questions about scanners and frequencies and monitoring public safety (or other) radio channels around the Triangle? Check out the [North Carolina Radio Discussion Forum on RadioReference.com](#). Good place to post questions and participate in discussions. You'll learn all sorts of things, such as what's happening with the dispatch talkgroup patches being tried today by the Raleigh Police Department.



Thanks Mike! Between your great blog and RR.com I think we have Central NC covered pretty well. The RPD Split Dispatching trial run appeared to go well. Which is good because RPD will be switching to it permanently sometime in February.

As always I appreciate any feedback, suggestions, etc on how we can improve the NC forums & database.

Happy Monitoring to all and stay safe!

**Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/30/12 - 09:48

I enjoy listening to RFD, County Fire and EMS but it would be great if there were a scanner dedicated to these agencies.

Our friends at RPD and WSO talk all the time....mostly about nothing and typically fill up about 90 to 95% of the chatter thus we can't hear any working Fire/EMS incidents unless its SLOW in the POLICE world.

Oh well...maybe Santa will surprise us in 2012.

One can only hope.

**Buckwheat** - 01/30/12 - 12:54

LE uses the radio more because it's the nature of the work. If we had 3 or 4 coworkers in the vehicle with us, we wouldn't have to use the radio that much, either! :)

**rfburns** - 01/30/12 - 23:04

Here's a video that was shared on the [Carolinas Fire Page mailing list](#). This is the famous early silent short *Life of An American Fireman*, shot in 1902 by Edwin S. Porter for the Edison Manufacturing Company. [Read the Wikipedia entry](#). This was one of the earliest American narrative films, and utilized personnel and equipment from New York, Newark, Orange, and East Orange, NJ. As these [notes from the filmmaker](#) recount, about 300 firefighters appear in the various scenes.

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Mystery Habitat

01/29/12 42 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Blink and you'll miss this one. That is, if you're riding in a passenger car. There are a couple of these around this place. Wonder what the total numbers are for our area?



Homeless camp off Jones Sausage at I 40 going west.

**Marcus** - 01/29/12 - 14:45

There are tons of them. You just have to know where to took.

**Mike** - 01/29/12 - 18:18

Homeless camp off I-440 at Lake Boone Trail. Recently exposed from DOT cutting underbrush.

**Sta. 14** - 01/29/12 - 21:08

Thay explains its seeming sudden appearance. As well as the fresh mulch scattered all around it!

**Legeros** - 01/29/12 - 21:14

many camps at exits on I40. Harrison, Chapel Hill and the most famous one at Cary Towne (good for a couple smoke investigations a week).

**The Slab** - 01/29/12 - 21:19

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## Morning Hot Shot

01/30/12 84 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

Or maybe it's a cold shot, since last night's apartment fire on McNeill Street had been extinguished by the time of this photo. We're about a month into external flash mode, using a camera bracket and having pretty good success minimizing the glow of reflective surfaces. (Some scene lighting or other ambient light is required. Plus the higher ISO, lower flash output, and assorted boosts in post-processing.) Slowly, surely getting better. [See more photos.](#)



Name: (real name  
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.



Good evening Raleigh. Let's see, what's the report of new apparatus around the area these days? Cary's received their two new Pierce Velocity rescues and a Pierce Velocity platform. [See Lee's photos](#) of those. Wake Forest's received a new Pierce pumper, [which we blogged about](#). Looks quite a bit like Morrisville Engine 3. Durham's received a new haz-mat rig, [also blogged about](#). What else has been delivered lately, or is expected soon?

- [Zebulon's second fire station remains on list](#) - *Eastern Wake News* story about the status of Zebulon Fire Department Station 2. The project could resume as early as the second half of this year. The two-bay, 5,000 square-foot station is planned for the north side of town. The location is just west of the water tower on Green Pace Road.
- [Verizon and Durham test 911 texting](#) - *News & Observer* story from Sunday. They're testing the technology this week, a collaboration between Verizon Wireless and the Durham Emergency Communication Centers. When would you want text instead of voice? Say at a sports event, when the noise is too loud. See also this [Durham Herald story](#).
- [South Virginia department regroups after fire hits station](#) - Firehouse.com report out of Danville, of the Brosville Community Volunteer Fire & Rescue. They saw their station burn on Thursday, January 26. The building was unoccupied at the time of the blaze, which destroyed two pieces of apparatus and caused upwards of \$1 million in damages. See also news reports from [WSLS 10](#) and [GoDanRiver.com](#). Thanks, Jim!
- [Vintage FDNY photo unit helmet for sale](#) - Neat artifact for auction on eBay, though too rich for this blogger's blood. Though it does inspire some ideas... The helmet belonged to Mike Gallagher, an FDNY member from Brooklyn. Pretty interesting. Thanks, Justin!

Mike, Just wanting to follow up on the Fire at Brosville Fire Dept, Outside of Danville, Va. ( Blogged 01/30/2012 ) Investigation has been completed and fire originated in the engine compartment of the heavy rescue truck that was destroyed. They could not determine exactly what in the engine compartment started the blaze ( Electrical short, block heater, etc.)

Galax,Va - 02/18/12 - 11:07

Thanks Jim, for the follow-up! Now we wait for tonight's rain and maybe even some snow this weekend.

Legeros - 02/18/12 - 11:08

It's changed up here about a half dozen times in the last 24 hours but right now forecast is 9.9 inches for this area. OOOOOOOOOH one og the perks of Mountain Living.

Galax,Va - 02/18/12 - 17:27

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>
E-mail: (optional)	
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Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

Louisburg's New Engine

01/30/12 32 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Speaking of new deliveries, here's the Louisburg Fire Department's new Pierce Velocity pumper. And a top-mount at that! Photo from Pierce, via their Flickr site. [See larger version.](#)



Except the different blue stripe, this truck is classic cool.  
Regular ol doors, top mount pump, full LED lights etc...  
Congrats to Louisburg Fire Department.

**Buckwheat** - 01/31/12 - 11:57

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Charlotte Station « Louisburg's New Engin... » Buy Butner's Mack CF ... 42 Opens

### Charlotte Station 42 Opens

01/31/12 77 W, 1 I - + 9 - 10

From the [Charlotte Fire Department's Flickr site](#): "On Monday, January 30, 2012, the crew of Engine 42 moved into their new fire station at 5620 Central Avenue in Charlotte. The city began construction of Station 42, an 11,000 square foot, 3-bay fire station in November, 2010, to improve the level of service to the eastside of Charlotte. Engine Company 42, a 4-person crew and Battalion 4 will be responding to the needs of the Eastland corridor."



*Charlotte Fire Department photo*

11,000 sq.ft.!??! Wow! Awesome station. Checking out the aerial view from Google Maps shows there are also traffic lights in front of the station. I think that's a great idea and is much needed at several Raleigh stations.

**Rescue Ranger** - 01/31/12 - 10:50

...but not much larger than Raleigh's Station 28, which has 10,000 square-feet.

**Legeros** - 01/31/12 - 21:39

Looks like it has a gun tower on top, just like the older prisons have.

**Galax,Va** - 01/31/12 - 22:05

They may need a gun tower in those parts.

**rocket33** - 02/01/12 - 00:18

hey bo bo, those doors are coming to Wake County soon! Stay tuned!

**they're coming** - 02/01/12 - 11:45

Are you a police officer, Bo Bo? If you ever travel by train, please be safe! I'd hate to have Bo Bo the Po Po get a Boo Boo on the Choo Choo! ...sorry.

**Legeros** - 02/01/12 - 13:41

I read on Tuesday that CFD Engine 42 went into service at noon on monday the 30th and had ran 14 calls by midnight. Sounds like it was a much needed station.

**911** - 02/01/12 - 15:35

Legeros, LOL!!!

**Bo Bo** - 02/01/12 - 20:40

E42 (former E64) has been in-service for a while running out of station 8 until station 42 was completed, FYI.

**BFD1151** - 02/01/12 - 21:01

Wow, 14 calls by midnight! Mostly EMS presumably? How's their ratio of higher- to lower- EMS priority responses?

**Legeros** - 02/02/12 - 09:06

Just curious, if anybody knows, saw that one of the bays is lettered for "RESCUE 42", is there going to be a new rescue company, or is one the other 2 relocating?

**Steven** ([Email](#)) - 02/02/12 - 10:52

I believe Rescue 3 will move to FS42. And those 14 runs were done from noon until 19:00 hours (not midnight). A BC is also relocating at FS42.

**harkey** - 02/02/12 - 22:39

Oh sorry. Thats pretty impressive call running. I have run anywhere from 15 to 20 in a day and maybe 14 in 7 hours during a tornado or snow storm but not on a 60 degree, clear sky day. I wonder if the Chief staff of CFD have considered changing some of their companies to 12 hour shifts?

**911** - 02/02/12 - 23:23

Sta. 42 is a much needed infill station. Last year there were over 3,000 incidents withing a 1 mile radius of the station. The press release states they ran 14 calls from noon to 19:00, however that includes 5 "test incidents" making sure that the station alerting system and AVL system were functioning properly now that 42 was actually in the station. The final actual incident count for the first shift was 13 runs, the last being around 1:45am. This will be a minimum most days.

As for Rescue 3 moving to 42, that is still up in the air. It was originally planned when 42 was finally decided to be built, but I don't think it will actually go to 42. As stated above, there were so many incidents so close to the station that it wouldn't be available for the rescue calls or working fires it responds to. The scuttlebutt is either another engine company or moving a ladder company there. I don't think anything will happen until well after the DNC has come and gone.

**Drives A Ladder** - 02/03/12 - 10:39

Does CFD use AVL to dispatch firetrucks as well as we do here in Wake county for EMS units?

**pete** ([Email](#)) - 02/07/12 - 09:46

Pete, Yes we do use AVL similar to WCEMS, though it is not always the most accurate thing in the world. There are many instances of a unit being chosen as the closest, but others may be a better choice due to terrain, traffic, the routing the computer choses vs. knowing your area and the best cut throughs, whether a company has to go through a neighborhood vs. one that has more open roads to travel, etc. There were several times when I was a FF on an engine company in north Charlotte that we were the working fire company (or not dispatched at all), only to arrive first or 2nd due within sight of the first due, but AVL recognized others as closer.

**Drives A Ladder** - 02/07/12 - 17:25

DAL is correct. To be effective, AVL is very dependent on a good street network with correct speeds and other impedances (such as one-ways, etc.). Closest doesn't always mean quickest.

**Chris** - 02/07/12 - 21:36

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

**Buy Butner's Mack CF Pumper**

01/31/12 63 W, 1 I - + 10 - 8

You've always wanted a Mack CF pumper? Here's your chance, as [auctioned on GovDeals](#). Former Butner Public Safety, one 1983 Mack CF pumper with a 1250 GPM pump and 750 gallon tank. And automatic transmission. No double-clutching required! Current bid price is \$1,525. [Here's a photo](#) from a couple years ago, by Lee Wilson. Nice looking truck. Thanks Thomas!



*GovDeals photo*

I wouldn't buy it because it IS an automatic!

**Rescue Ranger** - 01/31/12 - 21:02

It looks like it was well taken care of. It should make a nice truck for a small dept.

**911** - 02/01/12 - 15:36

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Reader Mail - February 2012

02/01/12 557 W - + 6 - 6

Been a while since we opened the mail bag. Enjoy some questions and attempted answers. Also need some input on remembering Raleigh's Mack CF pumps. See below.

Q: I was looking at photos of the Mack CF engines run by the Raleigh Fire Department. I see ladders on both the pump and curb side. Did they have hard suction on the rigs?

A: ~~Yes, each was~~ Believe only a couple were equipped with hard suction. Two sets, each on the pump-side. Maybe the earliest, the 1970 and 1971 deliveries? That's what my memory recalls, but there's no supporting photos on this [RFD apparatus history site](#). Question for readers: are my memories correct? And what year(s) were the hard hoses removed?

--

Q: I was riding on Interstate 40 the other week, around Exit 312, and saw a ladder truck with the ladder lit with what looked like black lights. The truck was moving, traveling on the interstate. Do you know what department it belonged to?

A: Nothing comes to mind, beyond a possible trick of lighting. But let me ask the blog readers.

--

Q: How can I purchase personal copies of the photos that you've taken of me, at a particular fire or incident or event?

A: You can't! Just mail the names of the files and I will gladly and freely supply the high-resolution images. You can take those and get them printed at your favorite photo printing place.

--

Q: Do you accept tips?

A: Advice is always welcome! If speaking of cold cash, consider a tax-deductible denotation to my favorite charitable organization, the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#).

--

Q: When will we see a Legeros Fire Blog challenge coin?

A: Funny. How about a North Carolina Firefighters coin instead? There's an interesting concept.

--

Q: Will you be presenting at the state firefighter's convention again this year?

A: Hope to. Proposals have been submitted for both a Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History workshop, as well as a fire photographers panel. Mail me for details on the latter, which is being organized by someone else.

--

Q: Where do you find the time for all this?

A: Small cave in the backyard.

--

Q: How can I post comments on the blog? What are the steps?

A: This one's easy. Simply enter your comment, as well as a name. Then below those fields, enter the letters "fi" in the appropriate box. If you have problems past that point (and some times that happens), mail me for more help.

--

Q: Do you publish letters to the editor on the blog? Or even a guest column?

A: Certainly! But you'll have to sign name, and submit to minor editing if needed. For clarity, grammar, spelling, etc.



--

Q: Do you accept sponsors or advertising on the blog?  
A: Not right now.

--

Q: Why not?  
A: Too busy to think about it, not poor enough to need it.

--

Q: Could you get and post run totals for each fire department in Wake County last?  
A: Good question. And one that I pondered on Facebook a few weeks ago. Guess a call to Wake County Fire Services would get me started, though that's probably just the start. Maybe someone else has already cracked that nut and will share their data.

---

I'm checking on the hard suction via the father-in-law. Will advise when I know.

**A.C. Rich** - 02/01/12 - 11:07

Just got the answer... The Macks came with hard suction, but when it was stopped is unknown. Creighton said "that was too long ago" for him to remember!! LOL!

**A.C. Rich** - 02/01/12 - 11:09

Durham Highway 686, Garner 5467, Morrisville 1553, Stoney Hill 2009-2010 fiscal year 519, Falls 757, holly Springs 1275, Apex 2318, Fuquay-Varina 3318. Thats all I could find on the websites of these departments. Maybe someone from the others not listed will post.

**911** - 02/01/12 - 15:32

Wake Forest has 2579 total runs on their website

**Mike** - 02/01/12 - 20:18

Found a couple examples of Macks with suction hoses:

<http://raleighfirehistory.org/photos/rfd..>

<http://raleighfirehistory.org/photos/erm..>

<http://raleighfirehistory.org/photos/man..>

But curiously, the Macks in these pics do NOT have them, <http://raleighfirehistory.org/photos/pa4..>

All of those photos date from mid-1970s through 1981.

**Legeros** - 02/01/12 - 21:33

RDU 1410

**smoketamer** - 02/03/12 - 01:40

Name: (real name	Remember personal info?
preferred)	
E-mail: (optional)	
	Yes
	No

## What is District 9?

02/02/12 92 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

This question was meant to have been included in my reader mail posting yesterday. Answer courtesy of our friends at Wake County EMS.

Q: What is District 9, that I have heard on some calls in Wake County?

A: That's the Advanced Practice Paramedic supervisor. They work 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily, and their office is at the Crisis & Assessment Services (CAS) center on the WakeBrook campus on Sunnybrook Road. They don't have a geographic district, and are currently not recommended for dispatch on any call types.



for those of us who don't know, what is an Advanced Practice Paramedic?  
What role do they play and what does an Advanced Practice Paramedic Supervisor do?  
Not trying to be difficult but curious what their roles are on a daily basis.

**Tex** - 02/02/12 - 12:46

Here's an overview of the APP program, <http://www.wakegov.com/ems/staff/app.htm>

**Legeros** - 02/03/12 - 21:41

Mike, what type vehicles do the APP's use?? Are these the Chargers I see in a lot of the incident photos?? As I was reading the description and purpose of the APP program I realized that this was a great idea and who, (whom?) ever thought it up and implemented it needs to be working for NASA as a rocket scientist. Does anyone know if other large NC cities such as Greensboro, Charlotte, Durham have programs like this??

**Galax, VA** - 02/03/12 - 22:18

First vehicles were the Chargers, however they are currently being phased out for Explorers. WCEMS is currently the only ones in NC with a program like this. There are others that are similar around the country, but each one is a little different with a little different focus.

**DJ** - 02/04/12 - 08:16

DJ. I always assumed the chargers were just a 3rd. Paramedic in a chase vehicle. Thanks for clearing that up..The fact that WCEMS is the first and only department with this program in NC impresses me even more..Thanks for the info,..... Jim

**Galav, VA** - 02/04/12 - 09:29

Galax, shoot me an email and I can give you some more info...

**DJ** ([Email](#)) - 02/04/12 - 15:49

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *When Raleigh's Macks Had* « What is District 9? » Exploding This Blog *Hard Suction Hoses*

### When Raleigh's Macks Had Hard Suction Hoses

02/02/12 276 W, 2 I - + 10 - 3

Were Raleigh's Mack's delivered with hard suction hoses? That was the question posed by a reader and reprinted in [yesterday's reader mail posting](#). First photo search, on this [apparatus registry site](#), found nothing. Well, beyond a couple of the early Macks with nothing hanging pump side, which is where Mr. Blogger remembers the hard hoses being mounted. Second photo search was more successful, and a couple are shown below as located on [www.raleighfirehistory.org](http://www.raleighfirehistory.org).

Asking around, the story is something like this. The Mack CF pumpers, first delivered in 1970, were equipped with hard suction hoses. Were they delivered that way? Unsure. Maybe the first couple year's worth, or maybe that hard hose was from the retired/reserve American LaFrance engines? Some remember the Macks delivered with ladders on each side. Some pictures from that era (such as these [shots from Public Affairs](#)) seem to show just that.<sup>1</sup>

The two 1970 Macks were first assigned to Engine 1 and Engine 15 (also at Station 1). The top picture probably shows one of them along with Truck 1, in a photo from 1977 or later. Then the city received a 1971 Mack, and then two sets of four of model years 1973 and 1975. By that time, perhaps they determined that more ladders were better than presumably seldom-used suction hose? We'll see what other memories manifest themselves.



<sup>1</sup>Alas, I am at a great disadvantage here. Didn't move to Raleigh until 1983, didn't start chasing fire engines until the end of college in 1988, and didn't join the Raleigh Fire Department until 1989. Thus, no personal memories of deliveries here!

Why does the RFD no longer carry hard suction? Seems like a necessary thing to have.....I mean if FDNY has it then the city likely should have it as well

**Latte** - 02/02/12 - 11:15

When would Raleigh fire use hard-suction hose?

**Rescue Ranger** - 02/02/12 - 21:21

The first pumping engine, a 1914 American LaFrance Type 12 triple combination, was equipped with a pair of hard suctions, as shown in a photo from around 1920: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/appar...> Don't know if it was delivered with same, but probably.

**Legeros** - 02/02/12 - 21:24

When? If the water system ever failed. Look at FDNY following 9/11. The water system was ruined and they had fires burning in the rubble. As a result they used the suction they have on their engines to pump from the rivers. Raleigh might be good but they are not perfect and God forbid something ever happened the hard suction would be a fall back and Im sure the tax payers in the city would appreciate knowing that there is a fall back in case the system breaks. Kind of like the city not having a single tanker....

**latte** - 02/03/12 - 01:45

The fall back system is all of the pumper/tankers the county departments have along with their drop tanks. They could deliver quite a bit of water to Raleigh in short order ... and suck it out of lakes or swimming pools if necessary.

**Dave** - 02/03/12 - 06:52

Rescue Ranger, ha! I misread your post as "When would Raleigh FIRST use hard-suction hose?" Figured it was a typo. Talk about historian bias!

Latte/Dave, there's an interesting risk management discussion to be had there. Wonder how other comparable cities (southern or otherwise) plot their risk for water system failure? We are well-positioned to utilize county resources, in the proverbial pinch.

**Legeros** - 02/03/12 - 08:11

Dave-Fair enough, but what happens when they are swamped because if it hits the fan then chances are they will be just as busy and by the time they can get there who knows how many more people will be injured or property lost. Realistically the City of Raleigh could benefit from several tankers placed throughout the city. Charlotte has several tankers in their fleet and areas such as New Hanover County which has developed a county fire department has tankers spread throughout. Wake County could also benefit from a SINGLE county fire department such as New Hanover or Prince Georges. It would make logistics, training, and equipment much easier to manage, realistically though the chances of that happening are slim to none because of pointless politics. We are in the business of helping not bickering.

**latte** - 02/03/12 - 11:53

Latte, point taken but I believe if it hits the fan that hard no amount of tankers in the city would help mitigate things. Several tankers around the city would be of only minor help in the event of a major water system failure. Their travel times to refill would negate them being of any use IMO. As for a single county department, as much as I hate to say it, you're spot on (both on it being a good idea and the chances of it being between zero and none).

**Dave** - 02/04/12 - 08:33

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

## Exploding This Blog

02/02/12 230 W - + 8 - 4

Open question for morning consideration. If we could explode this blog and remake the thing, would should it look like? The blog as blog has worked fine, so we'll keep that. The blog as discussion forum has had mixed success. Maybe if readers could start their own topics? Or maybe a Facebook interface, that required all participants to be known entities? But how about blog as content portal. That's my real question.

We're pushing six-plus years of postings, and there have been good and even great gems in there. What single or multiple postings are worth setting aside? And maybe making them easier to find. Either through a set of links, or perhaps a graphic treatment of some sort. What are those pieces of collections content? Here are some thoughts:

- TriData reports for Wake County, both 1994 and 2004.
- Raleigh Fire Department historical notes and essays
- Wake County firefighting history notes
- North Carolina fire history
- Pine Knoll Townes
- Con-Agra
- The Tornado
- What else?

Note that you search for these topics, using the **Search** box in the upper-right corner of the home page. There are often multiple postings for even single incidents or events. Thus we'd want a landing page for some of them. As for, say, Raleigh Fire Department history bits, those number in the dozens. Tagging or categories could help there. Food for thought. One more future project.

---

Kind of confused about what you are really asking.

**2redline** - 02/02/12 - 14:26

Interesting question in terms of how to manage user/reader interaction. I use Drupal in my day job and freelance Web development work and it's a great framework (content management system) for handling blogs, forums and other types of interactive content. So you may want to look at using an open source CMS framework that contains various functionalities like blogs, forums, user generated content feeds etc. You may already have these elements/modules as part of this framework. I'm not totally sure I'd go for a Facebook integration since FB seems to be so over-used lately for content ... of course you can build a readership by integrating with FB more. Good questions there. I read a bunch of other fire service related blogs (Mass Fire Trucks, CMD FD) that all use Facebook pretty heavily for content now. So it is an interesting dilemma to be in.

I will say that I go to your blog daily to get your latest headlines and read through the content and view your images. I'd love to see more image work – maybe a larger scale image treatment or some type of dynamic slideshow on your blog's home page? Just thinking out loud here. I do like how you handle the image galleries.

Expanding your site's search functionality may also be good – another nice thing you can do with a CMS like Drupal is more faceted based searching. You may want to see if you can implement other types of search options on your site's main blog home page so people can drill down more. Like I could search by apparatus type or fire incident date & location. More facets.

Hope this helps. Again all of this is just my humble opinion/2 cents.

Best-

Trevor

**Trevor James** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/02/12 - 19:57

Redline, my question more simply stated is this: should this blog be anything else, or anything more than what it is? And in particular, is there content that's buried here, that would benefit from any repackaging. Such as, say, fast links to the TriData studies. Or maybe an easily scanned list or compilation of all the RFD history bits.

Trevor, thanks for the thoughtful feedback as well. I have been pondering a move to Wordpress, at some future time. Or even the second-generation version of Pivot, which is my current platform. Maybe someday. For now, it's just some navel gazing about the content and the pathways there.

**Legeros** - 02/02/12 - 20:19

Now I'm supposed to try and get a good nights sleep after reading the words "navel gazing"?

C'mon, this should be a family-safe blog....

**harkey** - 02/02/12 - 22:35

Be careful, it's Groundhog Day. You might repeat this moment for eternity, or at least until you woo Andie MacDowell.

**Legeros** - 02/02/12 - 22:37

I believe like Trevor that you could benefit from the ability to go in different directions. I know you prefer the minimalist design and many open source platforms could provide that. Most of your current site could done in WordPress and it would look the same but with the functionality to expand using plugins. One area that might help users is ability to add tags to articles and well as posting to your Facebook site when articles are published to the site. There is almost always a plugin to do whatever you want.

As far as buried data, yes things are lost in the expanse of your site. Tags and related link type options would be great. This would allow visitors to move around your site finding relevant content as well as organize it. Some people will hop from one post to another just with related links listed under the articles like WRAL.com does. The extra long right column with all the archives from Dec 05 to Jan 12 is impressive but I would love to have a drop down instead, just too much scrolling just to click on Lee's and your photos link. The 200+ hyperlinks in the right and left columns of the current site might be added sensory overload making information even harder to find. That might be something to think about also.

**2redline** - 02/02/12 - 23:27

Great feedback, Redline. I have modified the right nav, and moved the Archives listing to the bottom. Good call there. I also added a Top Links widget near the top.

**Legeros** - 02/03/12 - 08:44

Mike, Being born and raised in eastern NC, formerly in the Fire/EMS service, and having a son in RFD. I read your blog and check for new incident photos on your site multiple times daily, and I LOVE your site, It's the only blog I've ever seen, or posted to. Up here few folks "blog" and I suspect most of them are under 21. I ain't never read a face book, So I am totally in the dark when you refer to "exploding the Blog" I ain't got no idea what wordpress,pivot, or drupal is. I guess what Im trying to say is, Some of us are old, we live in a world thats simple not filled with all this tech. stuff. So whatever you do, PLEASE, keep it simple.

**Galax,Va** - 02/03/12 - 22:55

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)



## Run Numbers for 2011

02/03/12 98 W - + 6 - 5

As started in [this reader mail thread](#), here are some run numbers from last year. Post or send yours, and we'll update as we go. Other cities and counties around the area or region are welcome to join!

- Apex - 2,391
  - Cary - 8,009
  - Durham Highway - 686
  - Fairview - 1,287
  - Falls - 757
  - Fuquay-Varina - 3,318
  - Garner - 5,467
  - Holly Springs - 1,275
  - Knightdale - 1,175
  - Morrisville - 1,553
  - New Hope - 1,629
  - Raleigh - 38,151
  - Raleigh-Durham Airport - 1,410
  - Rolesville - 779
  - Stony Hill - 490
  - Wake Forest - 2,579
  - Western Wake - Just over 700
  - Zebulon 1,536
- 
- Wake County EMS - 80,086
  - Durham - 30,803
  - Greensboro - 30,393 (FY11)
  - Winston-Salem - 25,838 (FY11)

---

Stony Hill operates on a fiscal year: FY 2010-2011 = 507; FY 2009-2010 = 519. The data for the CY must be from the county...??

**A.C. Rich** - 02/03/12 - 12:51

According to an email that I recieved the other week, Apex ran 2391.

**AFD FF** - 02/03/12 - 12:57

My error... Stony Hill = 490 for the calendar year 2011.

**A.C. Rich** - 02/03/12 - 13:13

Mount Holly Fire/Rescue-1525 runs. E33 from sub-station ran 711 of these.

**rocket33** - 02/03/12 - 16:02

Where is Mt Holly?

**Mike** - 02/03/12 - 17:31

Google is your friend. Mount Holly, NC, is in Gaston County.

**Legeros** - 02/03/12 - 19:46

Does anyone have the top 5 run numbers for eng companies in Raleigh for this past year?

**Mike** - 02/03/12 - 19:58

Cary ran right at 8000

**runs** - 02/03/12 - 20:12

Wake County EMS had 80,086 ambulance runs

Raleigh's busiest engines: E3 (2574), E12 (2442), E11 (2213), E1 (2018), E15 (1919)

**Legeros** - 02/03/12 - 20:38

Mike,

Where is a place I could find that shows the amount of career staff his department has and specifics there in?

**Staff** - 02/04/12 - 11:37

Which specific department?

**Legeros** - 02/04/12 - 11:39

Knightdale Public Safety ran 1175 for the year

**KPS** - 02/04/12 - 21:45

Fairview ran 1287 for the year

**FFD** - 02/07/12 - 19:43

New Hope ran 1,629 for the year

**Doppler** - 02/12/12 - 10:12

Simply out of curiosity I'd like to see the run numbers for Durham Highway, Falls, Western Wake, and New Hope with the calls into the city limits excluded.

**Rescue Ranger** - 02/12/12 - 13:17

Yes, such parsed run numbers would be interesting, as would slicing and dicing across all department data for 2012. Would make a lively discussion on many fronts and angles, as system-wide observations were made and conclusions drawn. The challenge is the number of stakeholders and their hierarchies of needs/wants/biases and such. (I am presently not a stakeholder, though I might be holding a hamburger for lunch a little later.) Maybe a "bring your data" roundtable some day, some where. Do it in person, and have a time doing it.

**Legeros** - 02/12/12 - 14:18

Western Wake was a little under half or so auto aid to Raleigh to my recollection. About 300 calls. The other 400ish were in the county. Not as accurate as you may want but if someone within has more detailed information please correct me.

**ww** - 02/12/12 - 22:26

@ww- Curious to know what the amount of calls that were run into Morrisville and Cary? I know that your call volume with Cary has gone down quite a bit now that Western Wake station 2 is out of CAD.

**Spanky** - 02/13/12 - 06:27

Station 15 ran 1998 calls if you add HM-2's calls

**Hand** - 02/13/12 - 20:29

Western Wake ran maybe 10 auto aid calls to Cary now that station 2 is closed, most auto aid district was given to Morrisville and Swift Creek. As for the number run in Morrisville, does it really matter. The pager goes off, the truck hits the road. But if we are to look at it from this angle for ww then we should do the same for all. How many of Morrisvilles 1500 were to apex, cary or durham. how many of swift creeks were to garner fairview raleigh and cary. How many of fairviews were to fuquay garner cary etc. It is unfair to pose that question since each county station is a part of the system as a whole. We respond to each others areas because thats what the run card dispatches. Or perhaps units were tied up. Those 400 county calls were legitimate runs, not a closest unit "race" . Look at everyones run numbers. Are we to question specific stations for a reason. Stony Hill 490, how many were in Wake Forest or Bay Leaf. Im not picking anything here with you spanky, just saying the question is irrelevant. If you didnt receive ww then it would just be added call volume for apex or durham highway

**ww** - 02/14/12 - 17:58

@WW- I can see where you might have gotten that I was trying to start some kind of "you should not exist" B.S. I was really only wondering. I actually think the west side of the county works great together since there is a lot of mutual aid training and general respect amongst the

departments (this includes City of Durham since they run with Morrisville a lot). I must be honest and say I don't think the closet unit response is a "race" though. I think it is a legitamite automatic aid response. I know Morrisville responds closet unit to Cary and Durham quite a bit. Cary even pseudo dispatches Morrisville via the alpha numeric pager if Cary gets the call first since there is such a lag time between the two dispatch centers. Really was just curious, no disrespect.

**Spanky** - 02/14/12 - 21:47

No disrespect taken, just justifying existence and also shining light on call volume sources.I agree that the West side uses its mutual aid neighbors quite well. East side could take some notes. Share the sand box and take some notes from others

**ww** - 02/15/12 - 17:52

Anyone have any clue how many calls eastern wake ran

**ew** - 02/15/12 - 17:54

for those wanting specifics on Western Wake's call volume from 2011 here you go:

- District 19: 238
- City of Raleigh: 355
- Morrisville: 85
- Cary: 21
- Apex: 1
- RDU: 1
- Other Wake County/Non-Municipal: 10 (this would be Swift Creek, Durham Highway, etc)

Total 711 Runs

A lot of calls that are within the City of Raleigh are areas that were annexed in the past such as I-40 between Harrison and Cary Towne. In other parts of I-40 it gets a Cary FD, WW, Morrisville response based on location and then it's a guessing game to who's district it's actually in until we all get there and sort it out. The rest of the calls into the city were areas identified as Western Wake being able to provide a closest unit, thus helping the citizens receive the most prompt service they can.

**shevais** - 02/20/12 - 16:00

If WW wasnt there then think of how long it would take for a fire truck to get to some of these calls and how long it would take for another mutual aid dept. to get to Cary, Mo-ville, or where have you. Keep up the good work WESTERN WAKE.

**911** - 02/20/12 - 18:20

Does I-40 have any Fire-tax value?

**No Tax Value** - 02/21/12 - 22:46

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

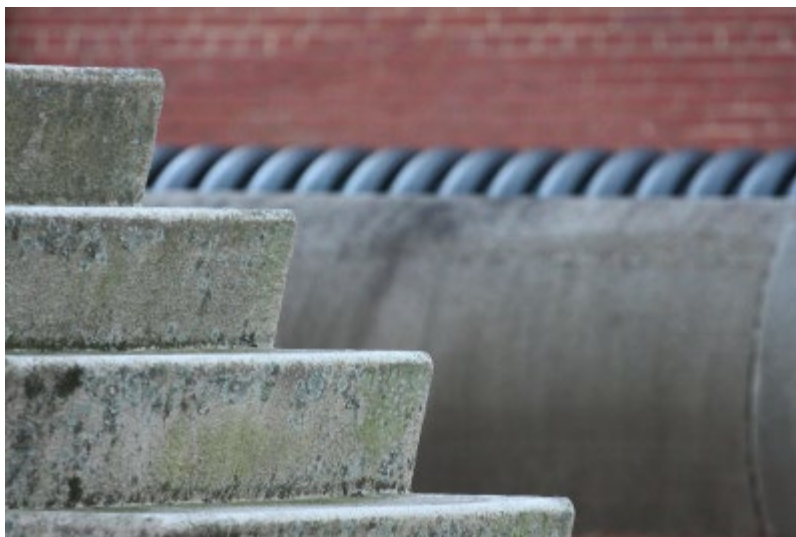
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## Mystery Steps

02/04/12 24 W, 1 I - + 4 - 7

No clues on this one (yet). Someone will probably peg the thing in a moment.



KTC?

**911** - 02/04/12 - 12:14

Not KTC.

**Legeros** - 02/04/12 - 14:16

behind station 1

**EMT** - 02/04/12 - 14:28

Not behind Station 1

**Legeros** - 02/04/12 - 15:32

It's a training course of some kind. With the steps and the ditch-tube behind it (what do you call those things?), it looks like a police POPAT course.

**rfburns** - 02/04/12 - 21:02

Training center on Garner Rd between Garner and Clayton? I think its training for WCSO Maybe?!?

**Zack A** - 02/05/12 - 22:36

Good guesses! Any confirmations?

**Legeros** - 02/06/12 - 08:19

Wake Tech?

**Zack A** - 02/06/12 - 08:50

It is near a school! And it's not in Raleigh...

**Legeros** - 02/06/12 - 08:53

Durham FD's Training Academy – maybe close to the burn bldg? ...OK, I'll keep trying... Let's see where has Mikey been lately. Mmmm, somewhere in Sanford?

**A.C. Rich** - 02/06/12 - 11:00

Old movie theater in Sanford, pretty sure.....

**JJL** - 02/06/12 - 16:16

Not in Raleigh. Not outside Wake County.

**Legeros** - 02/06/12 - 17:00

Is the 'peg' clue a reference to Steely Dan or 'Married With Children' or neither?

**scott warner** - 02/06/12 - 18:51

Neither.

Review the clues, and perhaps think both "where has Mike been" and "what would be near that Mike would be seeking?"

**Legeros** - 02/06/12 - 18:53

Factory in RTP that makes prosthetic legs. (The steps are used for quality control testing)

**Galax,Va** - 02/07/12 - 01:26

No takers on confirming any of the above guesses? Would it help if I added... it's in Wake County, but just barely.

**Legeros** - 02/07/12 - 22:21

I guess I will have to give it up, if no one's either found the thing in person to verify, or used Google Street View. The latter will show it, though from a different angle.

**Legeros** - 02/08/12 - 07:53

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preferred)  
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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

The Gregson Street Guillotine Again

02/04/12 121 W - + 4 - 7

Been a couple years since we posted about Dave Statter's favorite bridge in Durham, which we first featured in [this posting in October 2009](#). The big yellow signs read 11 feet 8 inches, but that doesn't deter drives who attempt to squeeze their tall trucks (or trailers) under the railroad bridge beside Brightleaf Square. (And again, let's plug for [Satisfaction Restaurant and Bar](#), home of the Triangle's best pizza, says me. Bought a large pepperoni with light cheese just this afternoon...) The camera is operated by Jurgen Henn, and is featured on his web site [11foot8.com](#). Below is a video clip of a semi truck that didn't make it under. The crash is number 46 since April 2008.

Name: (real name preferred)  
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## LED Rung Lighting on Aerial Apparatus

02/04/12 74 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

[A reader recently asked](#) about an aerial ladder seen on Interstate 40, with what looked like black lights illuminating the ladder. Sounded strange, and Mr. Blogger thought it might've been a trick of lighting. Turns out at least one aerial apparatus manufacturer is adding LED rung lighting. [See this Pierce 100-foot aluminum ladder product page](#) for more information, including the below photo. That's probably the answer. Thanks Brian!



---

Smeal also includes blue lights on the rungs

**268** - 02/04/12 - 17:58

Its a long way off but Mt Olive FD in Wayne County has a Ferrara Mid Mount 100' Platform with blue LED lighting going up the ladder, it is a 2008/9 model.

**car3550** - 02/04/12 - 18:29

Fayetteville Truck 6 has the same lighting, also a new Pierce.

**MF** - 02/06/12 - 15:56

Did CFD's new L3 come that way?

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 02/06/12 - 17:04

## The Krispy Kreme Challenge

02/04/12 158 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Locals are familiar with this event, but here's a primer for our visiting readers. Annual charity event. Organized by North Carolina State University students. Participants run 2.5 miles from the campus bell tower to Krispy Kreme, eat a dozen raised glazed donuts, and run back to the bell tower. Hilarity and/or nausea ensues. Here's a [News & Observer slide show](#) with a few hundred images, started at daybreak.

This year race's, which raised over \$100,000 for the North Carolina Children's Hospital, attracted quite a few curious characters. Left to right, top to bottom: Elvis, Jesus, Kal-El, and Jake and Elwood. Photo credit to Mike Legeros, who arrived about 8:30 a.m. at the donut shop. He left an hour later and with his shoes still clean. Might've inhaled a few too many dough molecules, however. He's been talking in third-person all night. [See all of Mike's photos.](#)



## Morning Reading - February 5, 2012

02/05/12 338 W - + 5 - 5

Good morning Raleigh. Still compiling run numbers from last year for Wake County fire departments, [as posted last week](#). Still getting dribs and drabs of data. Wonder how other the "big boys" did, Charlotte, Greensboro, Wilmington, etc.? And do any counties issue annual reports, itemizing fire department runs? Meanwhile, here's a short list of Sunday reading.

- [Wake County Fire Academy #4](#) - Photographer Lee Wilson recently spent some time with the latest fire academy members as they finished their training ahead of last week's graduation. His photos include drills at the Wake County Fire Training Center and a live burn in Apex. The eleven members graduated Thursday in an evening ceremony at the Wake County Commons building. The academy started in August. The eleven graduates, each already affiliated with a fire department, completed the program with certifications as/in Firefighter II, Haz-Mat Operations Plus, EMT Basic, ICS, Firefighter Rescue, Firefighter Survival, Rescue Technician, and Fit Testing. Congratulations to all!
- [Winston-Salem firefighters rescue two children from house fire](#) - FireNews.net story, including a WFMY video segment, about Thursday's house fire on Trellis Lane. Engine 3 personnel rescued two children, ages three and nine from their bedrooms. They were transported to Wake Forest Baptist Memorial Hospital, and are in critical condition but improving. Capt. Scott Gauldin from Engine 3, who has a three year-old, talks on camera about the powerful experience.
- [Fire destroys Myrtle Beach welcome center](#) - Firegeezzer story about a Friday morning fire in Horry County, S.C. He has a link to a [Herald news story](#), which is short but includes a [heck of a good slideshow](#). Photojournalist Steve Jessmore provides a good all-angles perspective. There's was even a dalmatian on scene, shown sitting dutifully in the front seat of someone's vehicle.
- [Mystery steps](#) - Forgot to mention the prize for this one, free subscription to the blog. Might be time for a clue, as well. Don't want any obstacles to good guessing!

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**Raleigh Police Officer Stable After Shooting At Stand-Off**

02/07/12 166 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

As this morning's [News & Observer](#) story reports, Raleigh Police Department Officer A. W. Young was struck multiple times last night, when the department's tactical team attempted to make entry into a residence in northwest Raleigh where a man had barricaded himself that morning. The incident started about 11:00 a.m. with a call received from a man threatening suicide at 9321 Bothwell Street. Police and emergency units were on scene all day. The shooting occurred just before 7:30 p.m. Officer Young, 30, was pulled away and treated on scene by a tactical paramedic (among presumably others). He was transported to WakeMed and is reported in stable condition. Gunfire was not returned, and police made entry at approximately 11:00 p.m. The suspect was found inside, and deceased of an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound. [News 14 reports this morning](#) that Young, a member of the department since 2005, is expected to make a full recovery. See also: [WRAL](#), [WTVD](#).



*News & Observer photo*

Very glad that Officer Young is going to be ok.

**Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/07/12 - 13:27

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preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

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NCSFA Promotional Poster

02/07/12 86 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

This impressive poster made it debut at the NCAFC's Mid-Winter Conference in Concord last week. Produced by the North Carolina State Fireman's Association, it features photos by Yours Truly. The printed version measures 18 by 24 inches. Culled from [last year's highlights](#), the depicted departments include Apex, Bay Leaf, Cary, Durham Highway, Fairview, Holly Springs, Morrisville, Raleigh, Stony Hill, and Western Wake. Plus Wake County and Johnston County EMS agencies, NC USAR Task Force 8, and the NC Forest Service. Miss anyone? Click to enlarge:



How can we purchase one Mikey?

JJL - 02/07/12 - 22:22

Honestly, that question didn't occur to me until five minutes ago. Let me make some inquiries.

Legeros - 02/07/12 - 22:25

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

**Zebulon Fire Chief Named Fire Chief of the Year**

02/08/12 308 W, 2 I - + 13 - 5

Also speaking of last week's North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs' Mid-Winter Conference, Zebulon Fire Chief Sidney Perry received the 2012 Career Fire Chief of the Year Award. It was presented by Wilson Fire Chief Don Oliver, who was last year's recipient. The 2012 Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year was awarded to Fire Chief Freddy Johnson of the Stoney Point Fire Department in Cumberland County.

Chief Perry, shown below with his son Asst. Chief Chris Perry, is currently the longest-serving member of the Zebulon Fire Department with 44 years and counting. He served as Asst. Chief from 1978 to 1980, and as Fire Chief from 1980 to present. He was the town's first career Fire Chief, and has transformed the fire department from an all-volunteer organization to an ISO Class 3/9 rated department with 14 career members and 16 volunteers.



Over the course of his career, he's served as President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Wake County Firefighters Association. He's held many positions on committees with the Wake County Fire Commission. He's also served on the North Carolina State Firemen's Association board in 1988.

In addition to his extensive fire service participation, his community involvement has included serving the town of Zebulon as a police officer, public works employee, and Public Safety Director for Fire and Police. Before his appointment as a career fire chief, he served the town for many years as a U.S. Postal Service Letter Carrier. He's served in the North Carolina National Guard, and is very active with the Zebulon Baptist Church

He has also inspired his sons Chris and Adam, who have both pursued careers in the fire service. They're members of the Johnston County Fire Marshal's office and the Raleigh Fire Department, respectively. Congratulations, Chief!





Congrats Chief Perry!  
**TTaylor** - 02/08/12 - 09:00

Congratulations! Well deserved Chief Perry!  
**A.C. Rich** - 02/08/12 - 14:08

Eastern Wake News story on same, <http://www.easternwakenews.com/2012/02/1..>  
**Legeros** - 02/12/12 - 10:31

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## University Chevrons

02/08/12 41 W, 5 I - + 10 - 2

Vehicles of the North Carolina State University [Fire Protection Department](#). Parked in the rear of the campus public safety center at 2610 Wolf Village Way. Top to bottom, left to right: truck, truck, car, truck, van. Click to enlarge:



You would think that whoever does graphics for a living would be able to lay it out so that the last two letters of the words "marshal" aren't obliterated by a Ford logo.

**Paul** - 02/09/12 - 08:46

Why not just remove the logo?

**Olson** - 02/09/12 - 12:50

Can anyone from RFD comment on the working relationship with Campus Fire Marshal's office? Didn't know NCSU had such a thing.

**Mitch** - 02/10/12 - 19:11

This posting from July provides an overview of the NCSU Fire Marshal’s office, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we...>. Scroll to the reader comments.

This posting from August 2006 depicts earlier vehicles, plus some historical information on the school’s fire protection in the 1900s, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

**Legeros** - 02/10/12 - 20:16

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**Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, Feb. 11**

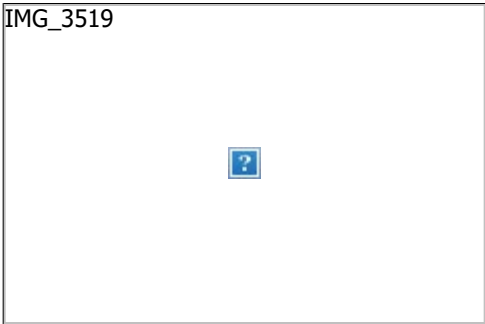
02/08/12 159 W, 2 I - + 7 - 5

Looking for a fun activity on Saturday? Visit the Raleigh Fire Museum, which is open on Saturday, February 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The museum is located at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#), in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center. It's open on the second Saturday of each month.

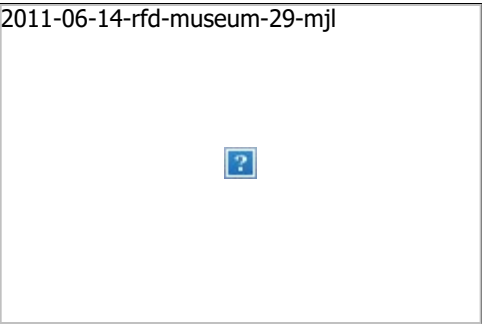
The centerpiece is the 1870 fire alarm bell that hung in a clock tower on Fayetteville Street and alerted the volunteer fire companies. Other displays include a photo history of city fire apparatus, from horse-drawn hose wagons to the modern pumping engines.

Pay a visit! Meet a historian! Yours Truly will be staffing same. There's no charge for admission. And there's parking *and* restrooms available. Please note that the city's collection of antique fire apparatus is housed elsewhere, at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#) in northeast Raleigh. That's also a great place to visit! To learn more, visit [www.raleighfirehistory.org](http://www.raleighfirehistory.org).

IMG\_3519



2011-06-14-rfd-museum-29-mjl



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## Vintage Ladder Truck Serves Sign Shop

02/09/12 77 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Photographer Lee Wilson captured this unusual sight yesterday, a 1976 American LaFrance aerial ladder in the service of a sign and lighting company from Kannapolis, NC. It's pictured in action at a shopping center on Wake Forest Road at Six Forks Road. The 100-foot aerial formerly served San Jose, CA. There's no word, however, if they knew the way there. I've been away too long. [See more photos.](#)



*Lee Wilson photo*

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preferred)

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No

Comment:

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Tanker Fire in South Carolina

02/09/12 108 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Here's your Thursday hot shot, from a tanker fire Tuesday in Honea Path, SC. The fierce-looking fire was extinguished in about 15 minutes. The vehicle left the road, overturned, and its contents were ignited by a felled power line. Looks like seven fire departments were on scene, along with a haz-mat team from the county, Anderson County. The county also has a flat-bed truck equipped with equipment for spraying non-alcohol alcoholie [ talk about responder safety!] foam, which helped quickly extinguish the blaze. Richard Kelly took the picture, shown in [this Independent Mail story](#). Also see this [Firegeezzer posting](#).



Richard Kelly/Independent Mail photo

Mike, How about a "caption this photo" for the guy standing there? I'll start "uhhhh...1st due Engine from Command...can you advise ETA?"  
**AB** - 02/09/12 - 18:47

Call Leroy, cause he aint seen nothing like this  
**Rob Mitchell** - 02/10/12 - 18:49

Duh??? Where did my Engine Go??  
**Galax,Va** - 02/10/12 - 19:47

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)



Historical Society Changing Name to Raleigh Fire Museum02/09/12 208 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

Hear ye! Hear ye! This month, in the year of our anniversary twenty-two, the [Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society](#) is changing its name to the Raleigh Fire Museum. What's the scoop? Let's start with the backstory...

The historical society was created in the fall of 2008, and was incorporated with the state in the spring of 2010. Later that year, federal tax-exempt status was granted. Given this growing history, we have not entered into the name change lightly.

First and foremost, the new name will help eliminate confusion between our private 501(c)(3) charitable organization and the City of Raleigh fire department. This is an important distinction to draw for fundraising and with regard to donations.

Additionally, the name is a better brand and is more representative of our goals. Though we've opened and are operating the first incarnation of the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#), our long-term goal is a larger, permanent facility.

Stay tuned for more, from monthly museum openings to special events for our centennial year this year. Thanks for your support, and hollar if you have any questions. Visit [www.raleighfirehistory.org](http://www.raleighfirehistory.org) for contact information, to learn more, or make a donation.



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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## Morning Reading - February 10, 2012

02/10/12 361 W - + 8 - 3

Good morning Raleigh. We've posted run numbers from nearly fire department in Wake County. [Last week's blog posting](#) has been updated a couple times, thanks to reader input and a few queries. Thanks everyone. Still curious about totals from, say, Asheville, Charlotte, Chapel Hill, Fayetteville, Greensboro, Greenville, Rocky Mount, Wilson, Winston-Salem, and Wilmington.

- [Raleigh eyes new way forward for public safety needs](#) - *News & Observer* story about this week's City Council decision to consider a moving forward with a new emergency communications center on a property other than the earlier planned high-rise public safety center. The proposed new location is just north of the Beltline off Raleigh Boulevard, formerly part of the Westinghouse site. First step is a site assessment.
- [Lenoir County ambulance collision](#) - FireNews has posted photos and a story from the Kinston *Free Press* about a FIRSTMED ambulance that overturned Wednesday evening on N.C. 11 south. The driver and his passenger and coworker were airlifted to a Greenville medical center. Reports this [subsequent Free Press story](#), the driver was treated and released that night. The second person remained in the hospital Thursday in good condition.
- [Responder safety taken to new level](#) - Yesterday's blog posting about Tuesday's tanker fire in South Carolina made at least one reader laugh, recounting the use of non-alcoholic foam. The posting has since been corrected and annotated. Thanks Glenn!
- [Texas firefighters say cuts put them and public at risk](#) - From a reader, here's an interesting and well-produced WFAA story out of Irving, TX, that looks at the impact of budget cuts in the fire department. Notable is a detailed examination of arrival versus attack times, and how four-person crews are impacted when they're riding with only three people. Stories like these seem common these days. But they're perhaps not new, and not unique to our current climate. Municipalities must always weigh a variety of needs with a fixed pool of resources. Thanks James.
- [Can emergency services lean on a manufacturing model?](#) - Thoughtful question posted by Firegeezzer contributor Mike Ward, and with a thoughtful response from reader Sean Brooks. See what you think.

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**Looking Closer: Station 1, Circa 1949**

02/10/12 92 W, 4 I - + 5 - 6

For your Friday enjoyment, let's take a closer look at the photo inside Fire Station 1 at 412 South Salisbury Street circa 1949. Engine house built as Station 2 in 1914. Engine is a 1936 American LaFrance 400 Series. Auxiliary truck is a 1948 Ford F3. Notice the dress caps. That was standard attire from 1912 until about 1950, when the first fire helmets were purchased. Believe they had "globe coats," however. That looks like one lying or perhaps laying on the hose bed of the engine. Courtesy North Carolina State Archives. Click to enlarge:



Now thats how you pack hose neatly  
**Rob Mitchell** - 02/10/12 - 18:55

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Mystery Spur

02/10/12 39 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Seen somewhere in the Capital City today. Here's a hint, it's near other railroad tracks. Just don't try to tell which way the train went by looking at its tracks.



S Blount St, near the dead end?

<http://www.bing.com/maps/?v=2&cp=pyt12b8..>

**rfburns** - 02/10/12 - 21:33

That didn't take long!

**Legeros** - 02/10/12 - 21:58

I was right?! Ha! I finally guessed one of these! I really had no idea. I just browsed Bing/Google for some spurs in the "railroad" areas of town. I was initially thinking the Capital/Hodges St area, but wandered down to Blount and thought those buildings (from above) looked like your picture.

**rfburns** - 02/10/12 - 22:27

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

This Morning's House Fire on Bertie Drive

02/10/12 87 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

[News 14](#) has posted a few seconds of footage of this morning's house fire at [312 Bertie Drive](#). Engine 7 was first on scene and found the 1,562 square-foot structure fully-involved. One-story with a full basement, built 1987. Dispatched at 2:12 a.m., the fire was controlled at 2:59 a.m. Units on scene included E7, E3, E1, E13, L4, R2, B2, A1, C10, C20, EMS 11, T1, D1. The vacant house was destroyed, and the cause was determined as arson. Click to watch the video clip:



This is very fortunate that no one is injured. Following safety guidelines strictly, can keep our life 100% safe. We should always follow some basic rules for fire protection, which I've mentioned below.

- 1. Install Smoke Detectors at your home and work places
- 2. Always be careful while cooking
- 3. Drop and roll: if fire catches your clothes then never run. STOP running and roll over to reduce the flame
- 4. Use safety guard for electric devices.
- 5. Match box is always for adults' use.
- 6. Do not use elevators in fire affected building. Always use stairs and emergency exits.
- 7. Consult with a **Fire Safety Expert**.

**Ross Brown** ([Web Site](#)) - 02/13/12 - 04:32

Who would have thought that you would have to deal with spam on your blog Mike? I wish I could be 100% safe! That might put us out of a job!

**Bob P.** - 02/13/12 - 11:30

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

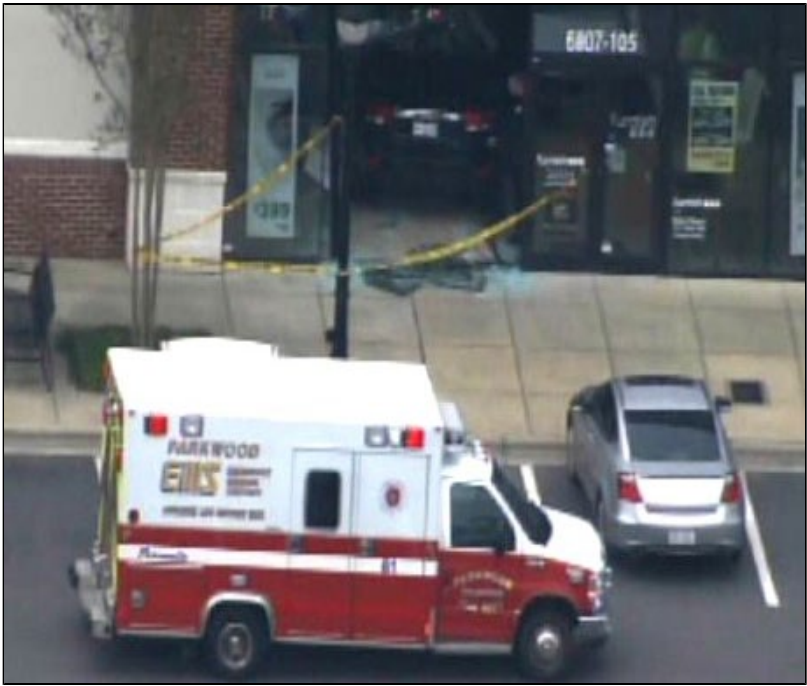
Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

SUV Versus Storefront

02/10/12 66 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

WTVD has posted aerial photos of this afternoon's vehicle accident in Durham, where an SUV entered a furniture store on Fayetteville Street across from the Streets at Southpoint. [See more photos](#). No one was hurt, notes this [Herald-Sun story](#). The cause was cited as a floor mat apparently tangling with the accelerator and brake. How's that for couching the story?



WTVD photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Marine Walking « SUV Versus Storefront... » Wake County Firefight... Stays at Station 1

### Marine Walking Stays at Station 1

02/11/12 149 W, 3 I - + 9 - 4

Meet Mac McQuown, a 50 year-old Marine who is walking across the United States. He's raising awareness of Veterans causes. His goal is to visit the state capitols of 48 states. He started walking on September 11, 2011, at his home in Stafford, VA. He's logged over 765 miles to date. His journey is expected to take a number of years, and mere 15,000 miles. He's been staying at firehouses along the way, and last night stayed in downtown Raleigh with "B" platoon members at Fire Station 1. [See photos](#) of their chicken dinner and McQuown's custom cart. Or [read about Project FOOT](#), where you can sponsor a mile of Mac's walk. We'll add details on Mac's coming destinations. Pay a visit. He's a nice guy with a great cause.





Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Wake County « Marine Walking Stays ... » Upcoming RAPS Race, R...  
Firefighters Association Quarterly Supper & Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 21

Wake County Firefighters Association Quarterly Supper & Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 2102/11/12 118 W - + 6 - 4

The winter supper and meeting of the [Wake County Firefighter's Association](#) will be held on Tuesday, February 21, at the Wake Tech Public Safety Center, [321 Chapanoke Road](#), Raleigh. Please note the date change, one week later than Valentine's Day. Spend that night with your sweetie! Supper on the 21st will be served at 6:30 p.m., with the quarterly meeting following eating. In other WCFA news, the application period has opened for a pair of \$500 scholarships sponsored by the Association. These annual awards are awarded one to a Wake County firefighter and one to a Wake County firefighter's dependent. [See their web site](#) for more details. See you at the meeting.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Upcoming RAPS Race, Raleigh Police Memorial Karting02/12/12 213 W - + 9 - 6

The Raleigh Area Public Safety (RAPS) Racing League is an inter-agency kart racing league designed to bring public safety professionals together in a fun, team-building atmosphere. They have a couple upcoming events:

**RAPS Race**

Friday, April 27  
3:00 p.m. qualifying  
6:00 p.m. race starts  
Rush Hour Karting in Garner  
5335 Raynor Rd, one mile off Hwy 70 East.

- Anyone can drive these karts. There is no prerequisite or racing/karting experience required.
- Qualifying sessions begin at 3:00 pm.
- 90-minute race starts at 6:00 pm.
- The fastest ten teams from qualifying will enter the 90 minute final race.
- Any and aAll public safety agencies are invited to enter a team of four drivers.
- Entry fee is just \$150 per team due on race day.
- Team drivers alternate every 10 minutes during pit stops.
- Track information at [www.rushhourkarting.com](http://www.rushhourkarting.com).
- Entire fleet of brand new karts arrived last week!
- Great event to watch even if you don't want to drive.

**Raleigh Police Memorial Foundation Event**

Wednesday, February 15  
4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Rush Hour Karting in Garner  
5335 Raynor Rd, one mile off Hwy 70 East.

- Normal Rush Hour business operations with half of all proceeds going to RPD fund raiser.
- Funds support the families of fallen Raleigh Police Officers.
- More information at [www.rpdmemorial.org](http://www.rpdmemorial.org)

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

What Makes News News?

02/12/12 208 W - + 11 - 4

How about some media studies for our Sunday morning? Let's look at a nifty posting from the media relations blog [Mr. Media Training](#). The title is **The 11 Things That Journalist Consider Newsworthy**. The subject is self-explanatory. What does the news consider news? The answer is more conceptual than specific. As author Brad Phillips cites in categories:

- 1. Conflict.
- 2. Local.
- 3. Incident.
- 4. Extremes or superlatives.
- 5. New.
- 6. Timely and relevant.
- 7. Scandal.
- 8. David versus Goliath.
- 9. Incompetence.
- 10. Surprising.
- 11. Hypocrisy.

[Read the posting](#) and then we'll continue. Finished reading? Good. Next question, how do you feel about that list? Or maybe a better question is this: do you feel any different about the media, looking through a more conceptual lens? Based on comments both heard in person and read on this blog, there's isn't a lot of consistent love for The News.

But isn't "news" really just a function of core human communication? Meaning, it's one of the core reasons that people talk to each other. Can you take this list and apply it interpersonally? Maybe so. Think about what drives talking between people. What piques another person's interest, and what draws their attention away from themselves? Often, it's those things listed above. Your thoughts? Let's talk about talking!

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Have You Talked About Fire Safety Today?02/12/12 184 W - + 6 - 6

Even though it's Sunday, chances are you'll probably talk to someone outside the station today. Maybe at the grocery store. Maybe after a call. Maybe someone stopping and asking for directions. Odds favor at least one casual conversation between a person on your crew and a civilian. In the course of your conversation-- maybe two minutes of small talk, maybe five minutes of passing interest in your apparatus-- will you talk to them about fire safety? Think about it.

Those few minutes that happen each day, and maybe a few times each day/each shift. What a great opportunity to say "hey, I noticed you have a young child, do you mind if I ask you about your smoke detectors?" Maybe you'll learn that they haven't checked their batteries in an age. Maybe they'll admit they don't even think they have one. And it ain't nothing but a thing to give them one, or get them one, right? Might save a life. And just from a conversation, and one you're already having. Think about it.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



This Morning's Vehicle Accident in Cary

02/12/12 76 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

[WRAL has posted](#) this picture of this morning's motor-vehicle accident scene on West Chatham Street at SW Cary Parkway. Cary Fire (E4, R4, L5, B1, L3 as E40 covering E4), Cary EMS (EMS 51, EMS 55, EMS 52, D5), Apex EMS (EMS 41) among units on scene. Two fatalities, subsequently reported. Occurred around 10:15 a.m. The roadway is still closed, as of 12:30 p.m. See also [WTVD story](#) and [NBC 17 story](#).



WRAL photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

**Friday's Apparatus Accident in Surry County**

02/12/12 123 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

Two members of the Mountain Park Volunteer Fire Department in Surry County were injured early Friday evening, when their 1995 Freightliner tanker overturned on Zephyr Mountain Road. They were responding to a fire when the accident occurred on the narrow road. The driver reportedly lost control of the truck due to shifting water after breaking. The truck left the roadway, tipped on its side, and slid down a hill and over a narrow bridge. The two firefighters aboard were transported to Wake Forest Baptist Hospital. They were treated for non-life threatening injuries. Both were wearing seatbelts. Read more in [this digitriad.com story](#), which has also been [posted to FireNews.net](#).



Notice that the best part of this was that they were treated for non-life threatening injuries due to the fact that they were wearing seat belts!! I am glad to hear that everyone is alive.

**Bob P.** - 02/12/12 - 23:00

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**Vintage Rolesville Apparatus**

02/13/12 35 W, 3 I - + 7 - 6

For your Monday evening enjoyment, here are three photos of Rolesville fire apparatus circa 1980 or 1981. We'll let readers identify the trucks, and tell about their histories. Thanks Bert! Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

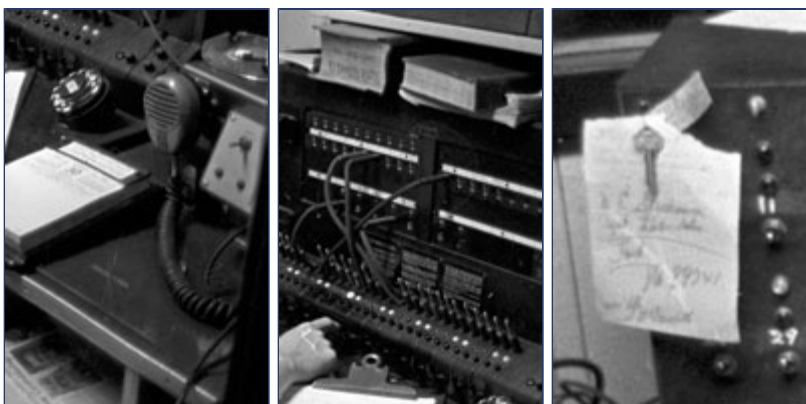
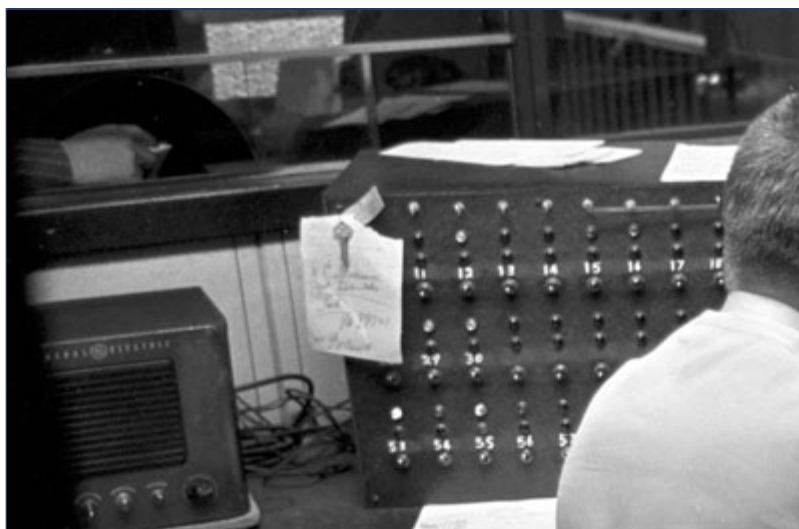
Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

**Looking Closer: Raleigh Police Department Dispatcher, 1960**

02/14/12 54 W, 5 I - + 11 - 5

For your Valentine's Day enjoyment, here's the fire police department dispatcher in 1960. [ Rest of original posting deleted, as it referenced the fire department dispatcher history. We later learned that this was a photo of the police dispatcher. ] Click to enlarge:



*News & Observer photos.*

Awesome photo Mike! Thanks for sharing! :)

**Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/14/12 - 08:57

The thick book on top of the console is a City Directory which lists every business in Raleigh by address. We used those in the 9-1-1 Center until the late `90s/early `00s. Today we use a digital copy of a cross-reference guide.

**John W. Franks** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/14/12 - 09:02

Visit Olivia Raney Local History library off Poole Road, and they have city directories on the shelves dating to the 1900s. They were bound books like modern phone books, with alphabetical listings for all residents, businesses, and organizations. Then a business listing section. And also a list of all streets and block numbers, and business and occupant names for each. For people listed in the directory, their occupant and spouse name was listed. Great resource, and great for historical research!

**Legeros** - 02/14/12 - 20:11

John, also observe the ashtray. Remember the smoke-eating ashtray that was passed around the ECC, when we started working there? Was a battery-powered thing that was marginally effective, if memory serves. When did the ECC become smoke-free?

**Legeros** - 02/15/12 - 07:55

A really good telecommunicator would always have one cig in their hand and another in the ashtray, both burning, especially during periods of high volume. You would forget you already had one lit and would end up lighting another.

**Jason Thompson** ([Email](#)) - 02/15/12 - 12:32

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Let's Go Faster on* « Looking Closer: Raleigh » Burning Truck Versus ...  
Wade Avenue

Let's Go Faster on Wade Avenue02/15/12 80 W - + 9 - 5

The Wade Avenue Extension, that is. [This News & Observer column](#) reports that the speed limit has been raised from 55 mph to 65 mph, between Blue Ridge Road and Interstate 40. That's about two miles. Thank the advocacy of the Regional Transportation Alliance. They're also pushing for higher speeds on the entire 540 outer loop, Highway 1 from Cary to Sanford, a section of the Durham Freeway, and Interstate 40 between Aviation Parkway and Lake Wheeler Road. Let's go!

The speed was actually only raised to 60mph on Wade Ave  
**raceway** - 02/15/12 - 13:08

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Burning Truck « Let's Go Faster on Wa... » Old Pumper from Old R... Versus ABC Store in Brunswick County

### Burning Truck Versus ABC Store in Brunswick County

02/15/12 120 W, 1 I - + 8 - 8

[WECT posted this photo](#) of last night's vehicle fire slash structure fire in Boiling Springs Lake in Brunswick County. An ABC store on George II Highway caught fire after a pickup truck on fire struck the building Tuesday night. The elderly driver was transported, though with no report on his condition. The building suffered significant water and smoke damage to the front. Plus fire damage. Observe the articulating platform also shown in the photo. If memory serves, someone has a Bronto Sky-Lift down that way. Is it Sunny Point FD? Not many "snorkels" still in service in our state, either vintage or being bought new.



*Chris Grace/WECT photo*

You are right about sunny point having one, not sure if another one is in that county but there are several nice Ariel devices there.

**robert** - 02/15/12 - 18:11

I recall the rarity of NC "snorkels" being a blog subject of the past. Asheboro(Randolph County) has a 1966(or thereabout) model snorkel still in service. May be one of the older "snorkels" that is still active in NC. Just a random piece of trivia...

**ol' snork** - 02/15/12 - 18:48

Here are some of the prior blog snorkel threads...

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

**Legeros** - 02/15/12 - 19:44

The aerial device shown in the picture is not a Snorkel simply because the lower boom would be on the opposite side of the truck whereas the one in the photo is not.

**RescueRanger** - 02/15/12 - 23:32

Pierce Sky-Arm, perhaps?

**Legeros** - 02/15/12 - 23:33

The City of Washington had an ALF Snorkel until maybe five years ago when they purchased a Pierce platform. The snorkel now resides at Chocowinity VFD just on the other side of the Pamlico River. If memory serves, Washington "donated" the Snorkel to CVFD and helps out financially to perform maintenance on the piece with some sort of agreement in place that if Washington's ladder goes down or the Snorkel is

needed in town for another alarm, Choco will bring it for service.

I'll confirm that, but that's pretty close.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 02/16/12 - 09:21

And, obviously, all articulating platforms are not created equal. Snorkel is a bit of shorthand, but is best used to describe such aerials where the second/smaller boom is above the larger/first boom. Bronto Sky-Lifts are the reverse, with the second/smaller boom underneath, and the bucket straddling the booms midway on the apparatus. Pierce Sky-Arms are platform ladders with a second articulating section at the end, that lowers Sky-Lift style. Heck, go back in time, and there were a couple **three** boom brands built. The Calavar Firebird, and one made or mounted by Seagrave, come to mind.

**Legeros** - 02/16/12 - 09:31

Wonder what will become of the smoke coated soldiers that survived the fire? All those poor 10, 12, 15, and 20-year olds.

**Chief Otis Campbell** - 02/16/12 - 10:04

Rocky Mount had an ALF Snorkel, and I'm purdy sure it remained in their reserve fleet until recently when the new ladder 10 was placed in service and ladder 20 was moved to reserve. If memory serves me right it would run 55MPH, up hill, down hill, highway or driveway, put it on the floor 55 was the constant speed.

**Galav,VA** - 02/16/12 - 21:36

That would be Sunny Point's.

**Andrew** - 02/17/12 - 17:30

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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Old Pumper from Old Richmond

02/15/12 144 W, 1 I - + 5 - 8

Photographer Lee Wilson this week found this old pumper that served Old Richmond FD in Stokes County. The 1963 Chevrolet/Howe 750/700 was subsequently sold to Skull Camp FD in Surry County in 1988. The old beauty's now privately owned. [See more photos.](#)

We'll need to invite the owner to participate in the Raleigh Fire Department's birthday party parade on Saturday, June 16. Watch for invitations on that one. The parade will take place on Fayetteville Street and fire departments and private owners with antiques will be invited to participate. (Modern apparatus will also be participating.)

From there, we'll have a muster with static and pumping displays. And other activities, including the first fireman's games to take place in the Capitol City in a while. Watch this space for more information, or keep an eye on [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).



Lee Wilson photo

Old Richmond FD is in Forsyth, not Stokes County.

Scott - 02/15/12 - 11:29

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Morrisville Fire Station Ribbon Cutting, March 14

02/15/12 98 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Save the date. Ribbon cutting for Morrisville's new Fire Station 1 at [200 Town Hall Drive](#) will be held on Wednesday, March 14, at 10:00 a.m. Station tours will be conducted at 9:30 a.m. as well as immediately following the ceremony. Light refreshments will be served. Construction of the new station started in September 2010. The three-bay, \$3 million, 13000 square-foot facility replaces a very old (and oft-renovated) building on Morrisville-Carpenter Road and Highway 54. [Here's an prior blog](#) about that and earlier fire department buildings. The new station opens next week. Can't wait to pay a visit!



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Mystery History: Where Was This Taken?

02/16/12 69 W, 2 I - + 4 - 5

This is one of the rare color photographs of Raleigh's second tiller, a 1958 American LaFrance 700 series shown turning a corner somewhere downtown. Could be fun to recreate. But where is there? Based on the tall buildings a few blocks behind the truck, it's perhaps one or two blocks east or west of Fayetteville Street? See what you think. Click to enlarge:



---

Just to be clear, are we helping you figure out where it is, or do you know and we're trying to guess? Do you know when this was taken?

**rfburns** - 02/16/12 - 16:27



This is the corner of Martin Street and Person. The tiller is traveling east on Martin and turning north on Person. Moore Square is on the right.


**Donaldson** - 02/16/12 - 19:09

My guess is maybe 1970s for the photos.


Martin and Person streets, eh? Giddy-yup! Those streets sure look different, via Google Street view, now! That must be the City Market a couple buildings down?

**Legeros** - 02/16/12 - 19:33


My money is on East bound on Martin, taking a left onto S. Person.

 - 02/22/12 - 18:54

Yep, I beleive that is part of the city market showing behind the truck. The parking spaces are angled differently now. Actually, there is still a white house near that intersection that resembles the one in the picure with a new roof on it.

 - 02/22/12 - 18:56

I think 70's is right for this picture, judging by the gaudy, oversize helmet shields that were added to the helmets in the late 70's, as well as the 70something model GMC van in the picture. Looks to be early morning, too. Okay, now I'm done. :)

 - 02/22/12 - 19:00

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Legeros Fire Blog on Facebook

02/16/12 96 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Want to receive blog posting notifications via Facebook? Visit the [Legeros Fire Blog Facebook page](#). Then click **Like**. Just like that. (Potential investors can relax. Liking Legeros isn't likely to diminish the value of the Facebook's initial stock offering. We think.) The site's a regular Facebook page, so you can add comments and commence discussions as desired. (And no pesky moderation, at least for posting!) Might need a new logo, though. The patch gallery image is okay, but it doesn't knock my socks off.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Chocowinity's Snorkel

02/16/12 75 W, 2 I - + 6 - 4

As referenced in the comments of [this recent posting](#), here's a 1981? American LaFrance snorkel in service at Chocowinity Fire Department in Beaufort County. Delivered in 1981 and equipped with a 1250 GPM pump, it first served on the other side of the river in Washington. After delivery of a 2006 Pierce platform, the snorkel moved to Chocowinity. Dig that low-riding cab! Courtesy CFD, from their [Facebook page](#). Click to slightly enlarge:



*Chocowinity Fire Department photos*

---

Meaning no disrespect to my brothers at WFD, as I served as a volunteer there for a couple years, but the quote used to be "When the Snorkel

goes up, the building comes down". It was impressive to walk into the truck room and see that baby sitting there.

Duda (Email) - 02/17/12 - 09:53

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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The First Minute of All 22 James Bond Films

02/16/12 85 W - + 9 - 3

How about a little movie love for a change? Here's your viral video of the day, found on the blog [Hollywood Prospectus](#). Writes blogger Mark Lisanti: "Why would someone line up 22 tiny videos of the first minute of every James Bond film in a single YouTube window? Because there were 60 seconds of your day that needed filling with exactly this, that's why." We meaning me agree. Click through to YouTube for larger version. Enjoy.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

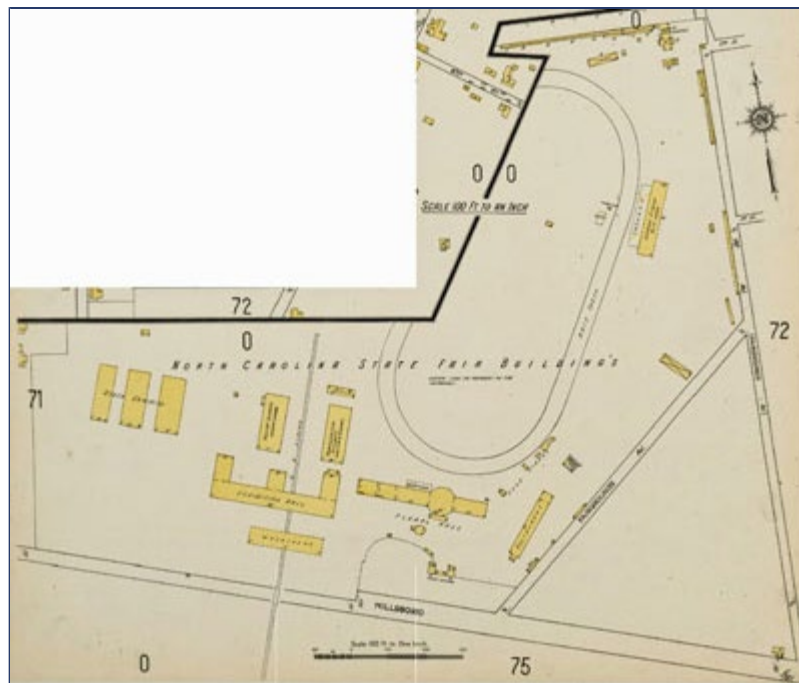
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Maps of the Second State Fairgrounds

02/17/12 131 W, 2 I - + 8 - 4

Did you know that the North Carolina State Fairgrounds was once located beside North Carolina State University? From 1873 to 1928, it occupied a 55-acre site known as Cook's Hill on then Hillsboro Road. When opened, the site was a quarter-mile west of the city limits. Below are two maps, a Sanborn Insurance Map from 1914, and an overlaid Wake County IMAPS street map. Observe that a section of the original race track has survived-- or at the land used for same-- as a curved section of Everett Avenue. (The maps don't perfect align. Blame the differences in map technologies between then and now.) [Explore the Sanborn Map online](#). Or [read more State Fair history](#). Readers can perhaps share other factoids. Click **once or twice** to enlarge.



Hillsboro Street was changed after the town of Hillsboro changed their name to Hillsborough in 1965. Here's a little history of the street's name: <http://goodnightraleigh.com/2008/05/hist..>  
**Legeros** - 02/18/12 - 09:50

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No	
E-mail: (optional)		
Web Site: (optional)		
Comment:		/ <a href="#">Textile</a>

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

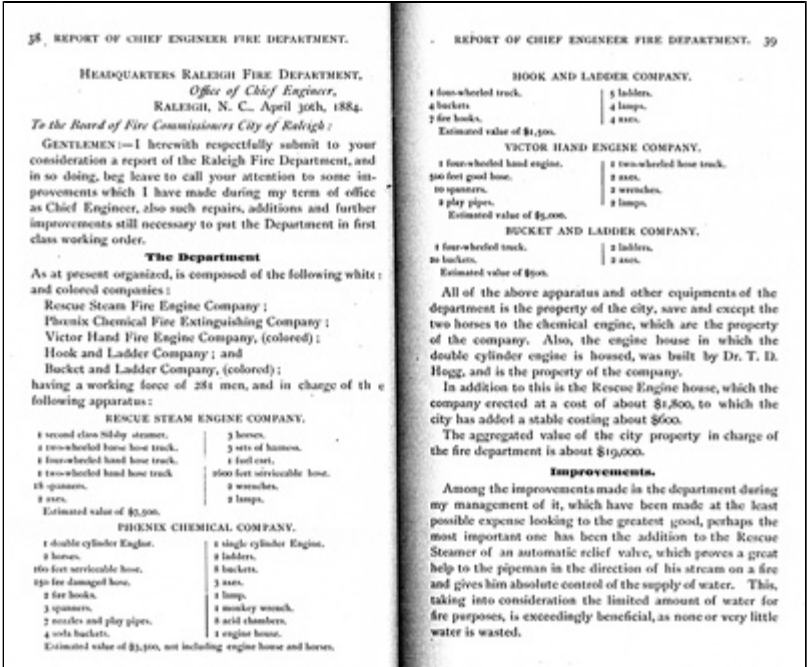
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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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For your Friday evening hysterical historical enjoyment, here are (a.) scans of (b.) photocopies of (c.) excerpts of (d.) Raleigh annual reports, for select years between 1884 and 1905 1883 and 1911. Each contains the volunteer fire department's fiscal year summary, plus relevant reports from the Mayor or the Market House Committee or the Water Works Committee. For 1887 and 1888, you can read all about the municipal water system that was installed. That brought fire hydrants in 1887. Then came fire alarm boxes in 1888. Good stuff, and reasonable quality for reading. [Read the annual reports](#). Want to read the whole thing? Here's a [Google books copy](#) of the 1885 report.



The above linked historical resource has been updated, adding reports from 1883, 1906, 1910, and 1911.

Please remain calm in response to this news.

Legeros - 02/23/12 - 08:35

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

/ Textile

Yesterday's Plane Crash in Fayetteville

02/18/12 128 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

[The Fayetteville Observer has posted](#) a handful of photos from yesterday's plane crash at the Fayetteville Airport. A single-engine Mooney M20TN crashed into a grassy area while landing about 5:30 p.m. The aircraft flipped at least one. The two occupants received minor injuries. Unusual are the action photos, which were probably "right place, right time" for the news photographer. Strong telephoto lens, favorable sight lines, and proximity to a non-secure area probably also helped, as the below image looks like a "through the fence" shot. (This is incident photography quarterbacking in action, I admit.) Recalling last night's television news report, extrication was required for at least one person. [Read the news story.](#)



Amanda Berg/Fayetteville Observer photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Garner Fire Department Hiring, Meets Marine Walking

02/18/12 99 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

The Garner Fire Department is hiring for a full-time firefighter position. Starting salary is \$30,400. [Read this announcement letter](#), which includes qualifications. Applications can be downloaded from [www.garnerfire.com](http://www.garnerfire.com), or obtained at Garner Station 1 during business hours. Deadline for applications is Friday, March 16, at high noon. Don't wait until the last minute. On a related note, here's a picture from Wednesday, February 15, when Marine Walking Mac McQuown stopped at Garner Fire Station 1. [Read more about him here](#), or read about his [recent visit to Raleigh Fire Station 1](#).



Garner Fire Department photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

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Fayetteville's 1989 E-One Crash Truck For Sale

02/18/12 112 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

Speaking of the Fayetteville Regional Airport, their 1989 E-One Titan III crash truck is [for sale on GovDeals](#). Starting bid is \$10,000. Description: "1989 E-one Titan III ARFF truck, 12,526 miles, three-man air conditioned cab (2 SCBA seats), 1250 gpm Waterous pump, 1500 gallon aluminum water tank, 200 gallon foam tank, 450 lb dry chem. Tank, Feecon roof turret (replaced in the late 1990's), Feecon bumper turret, structural pump panel, hose reel, 4.2 kw generator, 2x500w scene lights." And three extra tires in the deal! Thought that looked like a newer crash truck, in last night's news footage. Google finds that they're running a [Oshkosh Stryker 1500](#). Need to visit some time.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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**Last Night's House Fire on New Bern Avenue**

02/19/12 259 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

Here's your morning action shot, from last night's house fire at [905 New Bern Avenue](#). Dispatched as working house fire at the intersection of New Bern and Idlewild Avenue. Police reporting subjects possibly still in structure. Engine 3 arriving at a two-story wood-frame structure with 2,178 square-feet. Built 1925, with additions and remodeling in 2003. Basement space. Three family dwelling, per tax records. Engine 3 into structure, supplied by hydrant from South State Street (?). Didn't catch (ha!) who caught or supplied, maybe Engine 1.

Interior crews removed after about 10 minutes, with heavy fire conditions in the structure. Defensive operations started. Picture below shows streams from portable monitors on left and right of structure, protecting exposures. Aerial stream from Ladder 4, from second hydrant caught at Cooke Street (?), with Engine 5 boosting pressure. Two additional engines special called. Medic unit special called, to help evaluate multiple patients.

New Bern Avenue closed during incident. along with several side streets. Dispatched at 7:21 p.m. Controlled in about an hour. Three adults and two children escaped through back window, assisted by police officer. Another adult also escaped. Five people treated for smoke inhalation by EMS. Cause under investigation. Units on scene included E3, E1, E7, E5, L4, R2, B2, B3, A1, C10, C20, C40, E6, E2, EMS11, EMS 7, EMS 31, M94, D1, T1. Was the second structure fire for many of the units, which had cleared an outbuilding fire on Brighton Road less than an hour before. News reports: [WRAL](#), [WTVD](#), [NBC17](#). [See preliminary photos by Mike Legeros](#).



Add in EMS7, EMS31, and Medic 94.  
**DJ** - 02/20/12 - 12:42

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



## Morning Accidents

02/20/12 124 W, 2 I - + 12 - 3

WRAL has posted a couple photos of this morning's fiery accidents on Interstate 540. Both are presumably viewer photos. Top is I-540 at Creedmoor Road, where two lanes in each direction were closed about 6:30 a.m. Bottom is the ramp from westbound I-40 to I-540, that reportedly involved a Durham police vehicle. Two officers were transported. [Read more from WRAL](#). Here's some [aerial footage from WRAL from the second incident](#). See also stories about this morning's many accidents from [WTVD](#), [NBC17](#), [News 14](#), [News & Observer](#). Other incidents this morning included a working house fire in southeastern Wake County, with Garner and Eastern Wake fire departments. Fully-involved on arrival. Readers can add incident details, or relate other tales as desired.



*WRAL photos*



Blogging fast this morning. This posting should be redone, leading with the police officers injured and that incident, then add the second fiery wreck at Creesmoor Road. Hoping for the best for the injured officers.

**Legeros** - 02/20/12 - 10:47

Clayton Fire Department also responded to the fire in Eastern Wake’s area.

**Zack A** - 02/20/12 - 12:47

Fuquay E-2 running out of station 1 had a vehicle fire with two vehicles fully involved threatening a two story residence. Special called T-3 and Holly Springs E-2.

**911** - 02/20/12 - 13:16

Correction. Engine 5 not Engine 2 from Fuquay

**911** - 02/20/12 - 14:39

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hockey Response Vehicle

02/20/12 15 W, 1 I - + 11 - 9

Seen in Morrisville this morning.



Somehow I believe this might be D.J.'s POV ;)

**Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 02/22/12 - 09:22

Funny that was the first person I thought of too!

**Zack A** - 02/23/12 - 15:39

Don't I wish...

**DJ** - 02/24/12 - 09:27

Needs LEDs.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 02/25/12 - 22:20

It just needs to be sitting in my driveway... then it would be guaranteed to have LESSs, strobes, and a goal horn...

**DJ** - 02/26/12 - 18:09

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

## Body Cameras For Police Officers

02/21/12 245 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

[Neat story from today's New York Times](#), about miniature video cameras and cloud-based storage systems for police officers. They've been developed by Taser International, the company better known for its stun guns. They're the obvious next step from dash cams, and with an equally obvious value: documentation of suspect behavior and confrontations therein. Of course, the camera cuts both ways, and will also document the officer's behavior.

Personal cameras have become a staple in the fire service, or at least with those departments that permit helmet cams. But they've raised plenty of concerns among chief officers and, heck, even peers. Reputation management alone gives some folks pause. (Nobody wants to be shown doing less than their best.) Then there are legal aspects, or presumably legal aspects. (Mr. Blogger isn't a lawyer, nor watches them on television.)

Seems like personal cameras will make law officer's lives easier, and their conduct even more transparent. The explosion of smart phones and social media channels already has everybody watching everyone else. Sure, we've always had cameras, but sharing what we've photographed or recorded is easier than ever. Adding cameras to the bodies of those charged with our protection seems an inevitable next step. And probably a good one. What do our readers in blue think? Exciting, scary, both? All that's left are personal cameras for telecommunicators. That's the footage that we're all wating to see...



*Joshua Lott/New York Times photo*

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I think these are a good idea. The problem with a bystander video is it will be sold to a media outlet. Once the media owns the video it can manipulated anyway they so choose. We've all been on at least one call only to see it on the news later and say, "Wow, that's not the way it happened at all.". Lately, I've been considering looking into front and rear dash cams for my personal vehicles for my own protection. The cameras have become so small they won't even be noticed from the outside. Sure would help me in court when (not if) someone plows me from the rear. If the camera shows the driver not paying attention to their driving (if they were they wouldn't have hit me), you're darn right I'll sue.

**Rescue Ranger** - 02/22/12 - 11:16

Hmmm... I don't know. I am OK with the dash cams. And I like RR's idea (may have to talk the other half into that). My concern is what happens to the video? OK, you go through a check point, the officer comes up, checks your license, and then says "have a nice day". What are the legalities of going back to the station, reviewing the recording, and then, based on something that they saw, or think they saw, and did not have a warrant to search for, they come back and arrest you. I don't know. Maybe that is a far fetched example. I know the argument would be "well, if you aint' got nothing to hide..." I am just afraid of the implications of being under surveillance all of the time, even when you don't know it...

**DJ** - 02/22/12 - 20:56

I really believe the implication of such cameras is nothing more than to protect the officers from being wrongly accused.

**Rescue Ranger** - 02/22/12 - 21:01

In my jurisdiction the SRO's in the schools are experimenting with these. Great idea in my opinion, especially with the new statute requiring interviews with juveniles be recorded while be questioned by law enforcement.

**BFD1151** - 02/22/12 - 21:08

That's a pretty nifty idea, Double R. Wide lens camera, maybe in the corner of front and rear windshield. Connect to the car's power. Digital memory of some sort, of course. Wonder what percentage of traffic accidents would benefit from such video evidence?

**Legeros** - 02/22/12 - 21:20

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment: <span style="float: right;">/ <a href="#">Textile</a></span>	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

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**Vintage Apparatus Postcards, Kinston, Fort Barnwell**

02/22/12 46 W, 2 I - + 13 - 10

Found for sale on eBay. The Kinston postcard is postmarked 1976, the Fort Barnwell postcard does not have a postmark date. At least, as indicated by the eBay seller. Seagrave on left, Ford/Bean on right. Click to slightly enlarge:



I bought that Kinston truck on EBay years ago from Harrell's Fire Department. Used it for birthday parties and tailgating at the Carolina Hurricane Stanley Cup Finals against the Oilers! I still have my photos from the games, parties, when I picked it up, and when I listed it on Ebay. I have since sold it to a collector in Florida who is restoring it to delivery condition lettered for Kinston FD. I have lost touch with him, but the truck was coming along great last I talked to him.

**Donaldson** - 02/22/12 - 17:07

Seems like back in the day everyone had one of those Bean pumpers. Fords, Chevrolets, GMCs.... dozens of them around the state. Most, if not all, sold by Mr Hall from Wake Forest.

**DJ** - 02/22/12 - 20:51

D.J. your right, A.C. Hall sold a many JOHN BEAN truck in North Carolina. But I believe the seagrave above is the first one I,ve seen with raised white lettered tires..

**Galax,Va** - 02/22/12 - 22:08

Upon further review of my photos, that truck is not the truck I purchased from Harrell’s Fire Department. They are both very similar, but not the same truck.

**Donaldson** - 02/22/12 - 23:13

Harrells, eh? Pop quiz, hot shot. What’s the Wake County apparatus connection with HFD? Heck, what’s the Durham FD apparatus connection with HFD?

**Legeros** - 02/23/12 - 08:38

Durham via Garner via Harrell’s. 1940s vintage Ford ‘mini-pumper’ or what used to pass for such...

**DJ** - 02/23/12 - 10:13

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Raleigh Fire Department Personnel Proposal, 1959

02/22/12 126 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

My favorite place to research Raleigh (and Wake County) history is the [Olivia Raney Local History Library](#). Among their resources is the fabulous [Elizabeth Reid Murray collection](#). Within same are three boxes of research and records on the Raleigh Fire Department. Found this yesterday, a personnel proposal dated March 25, 1959. The author is probably (certainly?) Fire Chief Jack Keeter (1955-1973). This document caught my attention as it contains perhaps the first reference to Engine 9. That was originally the second company at Station 1. (Later renamed Engine 10, then Engine 15, then Engine 13.) To date, we haven't found the date they were placed in service at Station 1. But this citation gets us closer! Did Chief Keeter gets his requested pesonnel? More later. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Good morning Raleigh. Moving day in Morrisville, with Station 1 shifting from Morrisville-Carpenter Road (built 1960) to Town Hall Drive (started 2010). [See photos of both buildings](#). Mark your calendar for the [ribbon cutting on March 14](#). As for today, don't mind the guy with the camera and Hawaiian shirt. He'll probably come sniffing around around lunch time.

- [Ex-Marine walking to raise awareness](#) - *Eastern Wake News* story about Mac McQuown's mission to cross the country on foot. He's spending his nights at fire stations, which wasn't planned, but happened after a fire chief stopped to talk to him on his second day on the road. He stayed in Knightdale last Thursday, and Wendell and Clayton over the weekend. Mac was also profiled in last week's *Wake Weekly*, after staying with Wake Forest firefighters.
- ['Be prepared,' says Morrisville](#) - *Cary News* story about the town's proclamation of 2012 as the Year of Preparedness. They'll be providing information, highlighting services, and featuring events to help residents prepare for disasters as well as situations such as fire, neighborhood crime, and identity theft. Among the services provided by the fire department are educational programs for businesses, schools, and groups, as well as car seat checks and smoke detector installations.
- [Durham Fire Department 2011](#) - Twelve-minute video on YouTube from [DurhamFire.net](#), showing photos and videos of incidents, events, and activities from last year. Such a project could be fun with my own photos from Raleigh, if the time was there. Harder or even more time consuming would be picking the photos. Will think about it.
- [Old photos from Raleigh Station 5](#) - Posted to the Raleigh Fire Museum site, this gallery of scrapbook shots has been updated with a second set of vintage photos. Take a trip back to the Cameron Village fire station in 1984, when Macks ruled the roost, snacks cost 35 cents, and the land behind the station had houses and not bank buildings.
- [New Bern Avenue house fire photos](#) - Posted to Legeros Dot Com, the full series was uploaded this weekend. Notice any focus issues? Took my "short lens" (Canon EF 17-40MM F4L) to the camera shop this week. The problem is poor focus on the left side of the frame, but only manifesting in lower light conditions. And maybe only with deep focus or objects farther away. Quite maddening, but maybe minimally noticeable.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)

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Bays Were Here

02/23/12 31 W, 1 I - + 8 - 11

Can you tell by looking at the brick work? Here's an earlier [history of the building](#), which was closed today as a fire station. Click to enlarge:



Glad the town was willing to spend the 3.5 mil on a new 13,000 square ft station. They surely take care of us. It is sad to see old station one close though. Very quaint and haunted. LOVED the station. Last call was a fire alarm at about 0130.

**Spanky** - 02/23/12 - 21:38

I worked part-time there when those bays were still doors! Lots of changes over the years! Congrats again Morrisville!

**A.C. Rich** - 02/23/12 - 22:16

Mrs. Blogger isn't particularly fond of brick or concrete buildings with obviously bricked over bays or garages. That usually signals yet another stop for photos when we're on a road trip somewhere in the state!

**Legeros** - 02/25/12 - 09:45

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

Binoculars

02/24/12 28 W, 1 I - + 11 - 11

Falls firefighter directs traffic at a motor-vehicle accident on Leesville Road yesterday. Observe the observers in the background. And riding bareback no less! Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

## Last Call For Angus

02/25/12 353 W, 2 I - + 7 - 11

On Thursday afternoon, a beloved and dedicated member of the Durham Highway Fire Department passed away. Angus Highway was 14 1/2 years old, and put to rest after saying goodbye to his friends and family at the fire station. He was the face of public fire education both at the fire station and for their many public visits near and far. His fire department family made the difficult decision as Angus had been suffering from seizures and arthritis in recent years.



A private memorial service was held at their fire station on Norwood Road. Angus' last call was transmitted on the radio, see below. His body was transported to a nearby animal hospital, escorted along Leesville Road with a procession of Durham Highway fire apparatus. Visit [Angus' Facebook page](#) to pay your respects and see media of Angus in life. See photos from Thursday by [Mike Legeros](#) and [Lee Wilson](#). See also these [FireNews](#) and [NBC 17](#) stories. Read earlier blog postings about Angus from [December 2011](#) and [April 2011](#).



The following announcement was read at the start of Thursday's ceremony by the Wake County dispatch channel by the Raleigh/Wake County Emergency Communications Center ([listen to audio recording](#)):

Raleigh Central all units and all stations, it is with deep sense of sadness that the members of the Durham Highway Fire Department announce the passing of long time member Angus.

Angus was a 14 1/2 year veteran of the fire department where he served as a proud member with great distinction in the public safety education program responsible for educating thousands.

Angus was more than a mascot, but a dedicated presence in the community and was quickly adopted by everyone who met him.

Angus executed his duties with distinction and will be greatly missed by the fire department, the community which he served, and the entire fire service brotherhood.

Thank you Angus for a job well done.

Raleigh Central to Angus...

Raleigh Central to Angus...

Raleigh Central to Angus...

God Speed Angus.

Communications is now clear at 16:14 hours.

---

RIP Angus. We all love you and miss you

**268** - 02/27/12 - 02:56

Sad to hear that such a lovely soul has passed, RIP Angus.

**David** - 05/10/13 - 07:48

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Yesterday's Apparatus « Last Call For Angus » Unusual Airport Fire ... Accident in Cabarrus County

### Yesterday's Apparatus Accident in Cabarrus County

02/25/12 91 W, 1 I - + 6 - 11

FireNews.net has [posted this story](#) about last night's apparatus accident in Cabarrus County. Georgeville Fire Department Engine 2 overturned on Highway 200 while responding to a medical call. The accident occurred about 8:00 a.m. and less than a mile from the fire station. The driver-operator and the only firefighting aboard the truck was not injured. He pulled himself out of a window after the apparatus turned on its side. The three year-old engine was totaled. See also: [WCNC](#), [WBTB](#), [WSOC](#).



WCNC/Georgeville Fire Department photo

This is a 2006 Smeal pumper recently purchased by the Georgeville VFD from the Jackson Park VFD after they went out of business in July 2011.

**Curtis Teague** ([Email](#)) - 02/26/12 - 12:53

The damage to the truck is currently being evaluated. It hasn't been "totaled" yet.

**JP17** - 02/26/12 - 13:11

Hope there is a thoughtful department nearby that will loan them a pumper until they can replace or fix this one.

**911** - 02/26/12 - 18:27

We actually had a reserve we were in the process of selling that we have placed back in service. West Stanly, Midland, Allen and Mt. Pleasant assisted with removing equipment from the wrecked truck and placing the reserve back in service so a very big thank you to those departments.

**JP17** - 02/26/12 - 22:38

What kind of truck is the reserve?

**911** - 02/27/12 - 23:57

It's a '89 Ford/ American pumper tanker.

**JP17** - 02/28/12 - 06:37

What is you'lls second out engine.?

**911** - 02/28/12 - 08:23

Here's a web page with info on GFD apparatus, <http://www.georgevillevfd.com/index.php?..>

Looks like they also have a 2000 International/KME pumper/pumper-tanker that might be same.

**Legeros** - 02/28/12 - 08:27

Yea I found it just after I posted my question. Thanks Mike, I should have asked (you) earlier. That's a big tanker that they have.

**911** - 02/28/12 - 21:28

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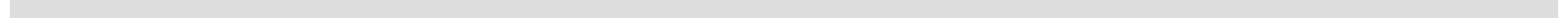
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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



**Unusual Airport Fire Station**

02/25/12 100 W, 1 I - + 8 - 16

This one's in the province of Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. The Missus paid a visit a couple weeks ago. She would have taken this shot, had the plane passed at the right angle. Credit for this photo instead goes to a Facebook friend's family member. Such open-air stations are common in Latin America, correct? Maybe same for the natural (or natural-looking) building materials? [ Insert reference to *Gilligan's Island* as desired. ] Observe the apparatus. Two Oshkosh Strikers, plus an older Oshkosh crash truck and what's probably a tanker or pumper-tanker. Click to slightly enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## A Revolutionary patriot in the family

02/25/12 174 W, 1 I - + 7 - 8

That's the headline for a neat *News & Observer* story from Thursday, about Raleigh firefighter Chaz Moore who today became the first black member of a North Carolina chapter of the [Sons of the American Revolution](#). The ceremony took place this morning at the Museum of History. Moore, 30, is a descendant of Toby Gilmore, a slave who was freed after fighting for American independence. Moore recently discovered these roots through a cousin's research into their family tree.

Some historians estimate that about 5,000 blacks fought against the British. In 2006, Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates and SAR began a project to track black patriots. At the time, they estimated about 30 of the group's 27,000 members were black. The project's results, titled *Patriots of Color*, is expected to be published on a web site within a few weeks. [Read the entire story](#). As for a history of blacks in the American fire service, this [National History of Black Firefighters](#) is a great place to start. Congrats, Chaz!



*News & Observer photo*

---

A distinct honor for a great guy! Congrats to you and your family Chaz!

**A.C. Rich** - 02/27/12 - 09:27

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

## Mystery Construction Video

02/26/12 49 W - + 7 - 12

What's happening here? Can you explain or paint the bigger picture? Will reveal all, if intrepid guessers or Googlers don't find it first. What's the connection to this blog, or the fire service. Well, we know at least one person with similarly exhaustively obsessive interests...

---

So far some guy is digging out a basement using model construction equipment. Somewhere in a rural area. Looks like it has been going on for 5 years, that is a hobby that keeps you busy and producing a benefit above that in the end.

Then I found

<http://www.leaderpost.com/life/Getting+h..>

Joe Murray is steadily ridding his basement of dirt – but he's doing it by sitting on a chair in the corner of the room, about 10 feet away, using radio controlled trucks and diggers to slowly work away at the soil.

Not sure on the fire tie in.

Close?

**2redline** - 02/26/12 - 21:58

Blogger is in to die cast models, these appear to be radio controled die cast construction vehicles. Judging by the spider webs. I agree with redline, appears to be under a house or in a dirt floored basement.

**Galax,Va** - 02/26/12 - 22:05

I would assume your tie would be that you follow his process or buy models from the same company as he does. I know there is a lot of interest in this type hobby in Europe but have not seen much around here. Pretty cool to watch the skill and quality of these models to act and physically do the same as the real deal.

**2redline** - 02/26/12 - 22:06

That's indeed the scoop, ha. Guy in Canada spends all winter using R/C vehicles to dig out dirt from his basement, then all summer trucking

the dirt outdoors. Pretty wild. What’s the tie or appeal? Blogger thinks it’s cool!

**Legeros** - 02/26/12 - 22:10

I was going to go with “Mr. Blogger’s making his crawlspace deeper”. Pretty cool.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 02/27/12 - 09:54

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Remember personal info?  
  
Yes  
  
No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify:            Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email:        Yes, hide my email address.

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## Restaurant Burns in Siler City

02/26/12 52 W, 1 I - + 9 - 13

*News & Observer* photographer Harry Lynch snapped this strong shot this afternoon in Siler City, where a restaurant caught fire about 1:00 p.m. Highway 64 through town was blocked by emergency units, reports the paper. Three departments were reportedly on scene.



*Harry Lynch/News & Observer photo*

I came up on this one visiting family in Siler City today. The fire broke through the roof just as the first units were arriving on scene. The fire was in the kitchen area and it looked like they did a good job keeping it contained to that side of the building. I think they used a hydrant across HWY 64 initially. During overhaul they switched to a water shuttle in the parking lot with a few tankers to open the road back up. Siler City, Silk Hope, and Bonlee Fire Departments were on scene.

**Brady** - 02/26/12 - 23:38

And here's a WTVD story on same, with footage of the structure afterward <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?sectio..>

Makes me think of the Roadhouse fire in Raleigh, which happened during eating hours, and require patrons to evacuate. That one was destroyed.

**Legeros** - 02/27/12 - 07:55

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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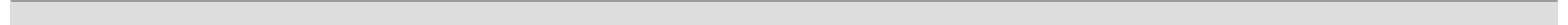
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Light at Night in Warren County

02/27/12 44 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

Intriguing photo from John Franks, from a fatal house fire in Warren County on February 19. Camera is a Sony SLT-A55V. Ambient light, 6400 ISO, 0.04 second exposure. [See more photos](#). Read story on [FireNews.net](#).



John Franks photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

When Jet Dryers Burn

02/28/12 160 W - + 11 - 13

Here's your amazing fire video of the week, a burning jet dryer during last night's Daytona 500. What's a jet dryer, you ask? As Google informs, they're jet-powered blowers used in the racing industry (among others) for rapidly drying track surfaces. They're also used for clearing debris. This 8:48 minute video clip features lengthy footage of the firefighting effort, after a car driven by Juan Pablo Montoya collided with the truck-mounted dryer. The safety crews slash firefighters faced burning jet fuel that was also flowing down an incline. (The dryer truck is equipped with 200 gallons of jet kerosene.) Looks like numerous dry chemical extinguishers were deployed at first, followed by a handline from either a mini-pumper or a full-size engine. (Pierce is apparatus sponsor of the event.) By the end of the video, you'll see three pumpers on the scene. Someone post a run card! Great video. Easily the best-shot fire video you'll see this year.

The first things they used were fire extinguishers, which included a big fire extinguisher on the back of the f-350. The fullsize pumpers were used to supply water to the f-350's. It was a total of 5 pierce pumpers there. The handline pulled came from the second engine that arrived, not the first one that was stationed over there in that area. And for all you local people, Charlotte Motor Speedway puts on a class on how to a member of one of these safety teams once a year at the end of March.

Trey Evans - 02/28/12 - 18:00

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Caldwell County House Fire Photo

02/28/12 81 W, 1 I - + 14 - 12

While we await more information out of Caldwell County about the death of firefighter Chad Settlemyre, 25, of the Sawmills Fire Department ([read FireNews.net announcement](#)), here's a *Caldwell County News* photo of a Saturday morning house in Braymer. The family members escaped unharmed, but their two-story home was consumed. [Read the story](#). Photographer credit isn't known. Shadows lightened using PhotoShop Elements. Commence ethical discussion of digital processing as desired. Click to enlarge:



Caldwell County News

Jeff has updated FireNews to include the arrangements: <http://www.firenews.net/4155/firefighter..>

A.C. Rich - 02/28/12 - 12:49

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**Reader Mail Again - February 2012**

02/28/12 929 W - + 10 - 14

More mailbag excerpts, as dinner settles and little cutting and pasting and typing helps counter the urge to kick back. Still have a couple more hours of productivity time before bed! Must. Remain. Active.

Q: Do you have a contact or email link on the blog? Went to look for it to suggest something and I could not locate a way to contact you via blog.

A: Didn't have same, but have added one. Thanks for the great suggestion!

--

Q: Mike is there a list of current North Carolina fire chiefs or contacts that you have or know about?

A: The best that I have is this Yahoo Groups mailing list: [ncfirechiefs@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ncfirechiefs@yahoogroups.com). And [this directory on the OSFM site](#).

--

Q: I just had to laugh a little when reading the "Tanker Fire In South Carolina" thread on your blog. I guess safety is really being stressed now, as well as the need to have personnel fit for duty with the advent of "non-alcoholic" foam.

A: Please help support those members of the emergency services community who have problems with alcoholic foam.

--

Q: I tried posting a comment to your site's most recent post, but for some reason it wasn't working. I tried posting it a couple times and then gave up since it didn't seem to work. I love your blog, BTW.

A: Thanks for the kind words. Your post posted fine. I have enabled moderation on my blog, and thus had to approve my post. That feature is new, maybe a couple months old.

Please consume alcoholic foam in moderation.

--

Q: I enjoyed your site and have gathered some great research information from it. I noticed the building that I am researching was listed with the wrong address. The Old Town Hall and Central Firehouse in Washington is located at 126 North Market Street.

A: Thank you! That is helpful and I will update my [database of historic and former firehouses](#) at my next convenience. The site is a bit outdated, alas. Some years have passed since I was heavily researching and exploring old engine houses around the state. Thus reader submissions are extremely useful. I still have, cough cough, some buildings to add on the eastern side of the state that Lee Kennedy photographed for me, as well as some recently explorations by Lee Wilson.

--

Q: Love all your fire photos, any chance you have any more from the old Six Forks fire station (EMS Station 3) on Six Forks road from back in the day? Or any of the Raleigh Fire Department from 1975-1990?

A: For RFD old photos, take a look at [www.raleighfirehistory.org](http://www.raleighfirehistory.org). For pics of the old Six Forks station, those have been hard to find. Here are some related to that:

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=3595>

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=3588>

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=3594>



--

Q: I am tasked with putting together a history of sort about our agency. I know several of the early employees and plan to talk to them. I was wondering if you had any words of wisdom, or an outline of sort that might help me get started.

A: Here are some key questions to try to answer, that may help you:

- When founded, key dates in development?
- Who founded, key people, key leaders, over time?
- Where located? Facility locations over time?
- What did they do? Describe mission at first, then if their mission has changed over time?
- Notable events? Are there notable events that have been milestones of the organization, that they have participated in, or that have affected them?

--

Q: Where do you get all your fire-related car and truck models? That is, if the source isn't a secret.

A: Great question! And one that's easy to answer, but in a disappointing fashion. Maybe eight or ten years ago, the market for American-made (or marketed) die-cast model cars and trucks was booming. Code 3 Collectibles and Corgi USA were the biggest players. Yat-Ming was making some well-detailed (and very reasonably priced) 1:24 scale antique fire engines. First Gear was producing a number of fire service models, including some very nicely tooled pumpers. Matchbox Collectibles had come and gone, however. They left a couple dozen very nice vintage fire engines in their wake. Plus some pocket-sized gems, and a couple 1:24 and 1:18 releases. (There were also numerous models ripe for importing from Europe, such as Del Prado's splendid World Fire Engine series. And releases from Siku and Minichamps and Schuco and such.)

Lately, in the last couple years, the production of die-cast fire service models has greatly diminished. Code 3 Collectibles has gone out of business. Corgi USA stopped production of fire apparatus models. Yat-Ming did the same. First Gear has stuck with construction and commercial vehicles. The Franklin Mint is also stopping production, or maybe has already. On the up side, the relatively new TWH Collectibles has flourished with their museum-quality promotional models of Seagrave and Pierce apparatus. Matchbox has been booming as well, both with their 1-100 line and Real Working Rigs. They've shifted their toolings toward more realistic (and outright licensed) models.

But, back to your original question, where do you get them? Try these places: eBay (of course), [www.diecastmodels.co](http://www.diecastmodels.co) (TWH), [www.3000toys.com](http://www.3000toys.com), [www.diecastdirect.com](http://www.diecastdirect.com), and [www.pthinc.com](http://www.pthinc.com). Those are good starting points. Plus Google.

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**UPDATED: Arrangements for Sawmills Firefighter Chad Settlemyre**

03/01/12 277 W, 2 I - + 11 - 3

March 1

The Lenoir *News-Times* posted a story this week, [reprinted on Firehouse.com](#). Members of the Sawmills Fire Department learned of their brother's death a little more than 12 hours after celebrating the groundbreaking of an addition to their fire station. The department's first responders were dispatched to a reported unconscious subject at 3:10 a.m. Monday. They discovered the patient was Firefighter Chad Settlemyre. He was transported by Caldwell County EMS to Frye Regional Medical Center in Hickory. There he was pronounced dead. The cause has not been determined and an autopsy is planned. Settlemyre had been at the station that weekend, helping with preparations for Sunday's ceremony. [Here's his obituary](#) from the *Hickory Daily News*. He's survived by a wife and a two-year old son. The funeral is Saturday at Fellowship Baptist Church in Hudson. See below.



February 28

Information is still scare about the death of Firefighter Richard "Chad" Settlemyre, 25, of the Sawmills Fire Department in Caldwell County. He died early Monday morning, February 27, at Frey Regional Medical Center in Hickory. Reports this [FireNews.net announcement](#), he had been engaged in a work detail the day before, and had left the fire station at approximately 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 26. The *Hickory Daily Record* has [posted a preliminary obituary](#). A complete obituary will probably appear tomorrow. Haven't found any news coverage as of yet. Funeral arrangements are as follows:

**Visitation**

Friday, March 2, 2012  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Baptist Church  
[2682 Fairwood Drive](#)  
Hudson, NC, 28638

**Services**

Saturday, March 3, 2012  
2:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Baptist Church  
2682 Fairwood Drive  
Hudson, NC 28638



Here's a Lenoir News-Times story by way of Firehouse.com about Chad's death, and the reactions and remembrances of his department, <http://www.firehouse.com/news/10634965/n..>

**Legeros** - 02/29/12 - 22:59

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes

## New Rigs For Richmond

02/29/12 66 W, 1 I - + 7 - 18

Four ladders, two rescues, and one pumper for the [Richmond Fire Department](#), all from Pierce. The four ladders-- designated quints-- are a pair of 75-foot and 105-foot aerials. The trucks are Pierce Arrow XT's of 2011 and 2012 model years. Full specs and posed pictures in this [VAFireNews.com story](#). Photos below from the [Pierce Flickr site](#).



Congratulations Richmond! I know that the RFD has been using the quint concept for several years now, so why was a engine ordered?

**Watson** - 02/29/12 - 15:10

Glad to see a pumper purchased. Richmond used to be a large well-balanced fire department with over twenty engine companies and nine ladder companies before it was devastated with budget cuts, personnel cuts, and the move to the "total quint concept".

**Curtis Teague** - 02/29/12 - 19:20

Watson yes Raleigh ladders are quint by definition! but we do not use the quint concept as replacing our engines! they are ladders assigned at stations with engine companies!

**Jason Lane** - 03/03/12 - 00:42

My understanding is that both Richmond and St Louis are going away from this quint concept. They are doing it slowly as they replace aged out equipment

**Watson** - 03/03/12 - 09:20

Here's a neat recent Firegeezzer posting about the start of the quint (and maxi-pumper) concept, <http://firegeezzer.com/2012/02/14/what-sy..>

Here's a prior blog post about a book about the referenced RAND research in that column, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we...> I bought a copy and read same. As I recall, it was pretty interesting/compelling.

**Legeros** - 03/03/12 - 09:37

Mike and Jason Lane,

I have not checked the boards in the past couple of days and do not know what comment was made about Raleigh's ladders. The only post I have made was on February 29th, asking about why Richmond is buying engines (are they phasing out the Quint concept?). All other posts from "Watson" were not from me, I just wanted to clear up any misunderstanding or ill words that may have been shared by someone using my name.

**The real Watson** - 03/03/12 - 10:55

Thanks for noting, Watson. Perhaps there are two of you? We'll put Sherlock on the case!

**Legeros** - 03/03/12 - 11:18

Watson, I think Jason saw RFD in your comment and instantly thought Raleigh FD not Richmond FD. It was clearly a misunderstanding.

**Mike** - 03/03/12 - 12:17

Richmond is contemplating a move away from the total quint concept. A department study written by Fitch & Associates should be published soon. The rank and file members would welcome a move to what St. Louis is now using. St. Louis is operating engines/quint/rescues in a combined system. Believe they have different names for the 75' ALs and their 100'+ ladders/towers. Richmond has an additional 2 105' quints and a rescue engine on order. Three quints will be ordered at the start of the next budget year. The current fleet is in terrible shape. The quint/rescues/frvs that were purchased back in 97/98 are literally falling apart. Keep in mind each of the 20 stations are assigned an quint and engine which the 4 man crew will respond with based on the call type. i.e. the engine on med calls and the quints on fire calls. The 3 rescues operate the heavy rescue and the special operations vehicle they are assigned i.e. hazmat/tech rescue etc. A move to a combined system would enable the department to cut the number of apparatus in service and save a lot of money. The new apparatus are an add-on to a Suffolk Virginia order. I spent some time last weekend on the new Quint#21. Nice truck but terrible turning radius.

**Noah** - 03/03/12 - 18:41

my bad sorry! thanks Mike! yeah should have read a little slower! Mike I found a old red rescue jump suite that the rescue crews had up to the early 90's. It is bagged and tagged for Chief Walt. I thought it would be a nice addition to the mus!

**Jason Lane** - 03/03/12 - 20:41

You're the best, Jason! Thanks for thinking of us.

**Legeros** - 03/03/12 - 22:33

Noah, I've been out of the fire service for YEARS and YEARS and except for what I've read on this site and links Mike posted, I don't know nothing about the Quint Concept.. Your posting is a little confusing to me, I'm getting feable minded and cain't quite figure out what Richmond is doing now, what St. Louis is doing and what Richmond wants to do.. Are you saying Richmond now has 20 stations with a "Quint" and an "engine" and that there is only 1 crew assigned to the station, and that the crew uses which truck the call warrants? I'm so confused..Can you clear it up a little for me??

**Galax,Va** - 03/04/12 - 09:40

I have done a punctuation and spelling pass on Noah's comment, and it has been rendered more readable.

**Legeros** - 03/04/12 - 09:58

Partial explanation of quint concept, from Richmond FD site, <http://www.richmondgov.com/fire/QuintCon..>

Firehouse.com forums discussion of same, <http://www.firehouse.com/forums/showthre..>

And random Google find, a EFO paper by a Wilson FD member on the modified quint concept, <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo282..>

**Legeros** - 03/04/12 - 10:02

Thanks Mike, that clears it up some, I'm still sitting here holding my head with both hands and running this through my mind it just seems like a waste to me..Why have a FRV or Engine with a Quint at each station. Seems the Quint could do it all..But thats just my opinion.

**Galax,Va** - 03/04/12 - 10:25

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Local Firefighter Badly Injured in Maryland House Fire

02/29/12 324 W, 1 I - + 16 - 20

This is slightly older news, particularly if you're a [Statter911](#) reader. Dave's been providing sterling coverage of Friday's house fire in Riverdale Heights, Maryland, that severely injured Buies Creek native and current Bladensburg Fire Department Firefighter Ethan Sorrell. He's shown on the right, with Firefighter Kevin O'Toole. Both were badly injured when a sudden gust of wind created a "blowtorch effect" inside the residential structure that crews had just entered. Sorrell, 21, is a volunteer member of the Bladensburg Fire Department, where he's attending college. Five other firefighters were also injured.

[As this local story reports](#) (FireNews.net by way of a couple sources), Sorrell suffered respiratory burns through his esophagus and down to his lungs. He's presently unable to speak, and communicating with pen and paper. O'Toole suffered second- and third-degree burns over 40 percent of his body. He's scheduled for skin-graft surgery and will be staying at the Washington Hospital Center burn unit for six weeks.



*Bladensburg Fire Department photo*

Sorrell is a student at the University of Maryland, and a 2009 graduate of Harnett Central High School. His firefighting career began as a member of Buies Creek Fire Department in 2006, followed by Dunn Emergency Services in 2008. He's studying emergency management and fire scenes at the university, and has been a member of Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Company 9 since February of last year. He also many ties in Wake County, including a brother who is a member of the Fuquay-Varina Fire Department.

**Evening update:** Sorrell has been released from the Medstar Burn Unit at the Washington Hospital Center, reports [this Statter911 story](#). He was brought back to the fire station on Truck 809, the rig that brought him to the 57th Avenue fire. He is now reportedly back with his family in North Carolina, [updates this story](#). O'Toole is up and around at the burn unit. He'll have a second round of skin grafts tomorrow.

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Thanks Mike!!

**J.D.** - 02/29/12 - 19:33

Hey PGTruckie, I'm thinking of you Brother. I saw the story and couldn't believe my eyes. If you come back to NC for a little, hit me up.

**Silver** - 02/29/12 - 20:10

Ethan has returned home, as of 7:30pm tonight. He was escorted by a crew from Bladensburg Fire Department and the fire department SUV



back from Bladensburg, Maryland to Buies Creek Fire Department. As of tonight, he was feeling much better and asked that everyone continue to pray for Kevin O'Toole as he remains in the burn center from what has now been ruled as an arson fire. On a lighter note, Buies Creek Fire Department would like to thank Summerville Fire-Rescue, Dunn Emergency Services, Erwin Fire-Rescue and a huge thank you to Bladensburg Fire Department for assisting us in putting on a big welcome home party for Ethan tonight.

**BuiesCreek802** ([Email](#)) - 03/01/12 - 00:41

First I would like to thank everyone for continued prayers and support. My guys have told me everyday I was in the hospital and heading south we have people calling from all over. So thank you to the chiefs and officers that called offering support from manpower, to money, to apparatus and food. Thank you to the few that I had as instructors coming through as a junior it was the basic training that saved my life and in turn allowed me to save my brothers life. Special thank you to Michael Swiman from Wake Forest FD it was that rescue 1 & 2 class at JCC when you were teaching us victim removal that essentially allowed me to get O'Toole out. Thanks again for the support and prayers it truly means a lot and please feel free to send cards and letters stop by and visit I have a lot of time in the next few days before I head back to be with my brother. Thank you again and Mike sorry for being the annoying pest that tended to start shit on some of the threads I just like to have reasons why :) no harm intended. Oh and Silver please email me, the guys at the firehouse told me some guy called and said to tell me it was "Silver".

Ethan Sorrell

Bladensburg volunteer Firefighter #18472

Buies Creek volunteer Firefighter #864

**PGTruckie** ([Email](#)) - 03/01/12 - 02:15

I am sure Ethan will get on here & say something eventually. I know that many people from this state & the Harnet/Wake county areas have been asking and following all the updates on Ethan, Kevin, & the guys from Riverdale & College Park. I can't even begin to say thanks for all the phone calls, emails, facebook messages/posts, cards, & prayers. Ethan has been remarkable in healing. He will be at home for a while before he begins the road of traveling back to MD for follow up visits with the burn center doctors & hopefully can soon start going up there to see Kevin. We held a welcome home for him tonight at Buies Creek & man I think it was hard to find a dry eye when he first got out of the car. He couldn't even get out of the truck before I wrapped my arms around him & hugged him harder than any other time in past 21 years. I had left and returned home on Sunday night & it felt so good to hug him & know he was out of the hospital and home with us (until he heals & goes back up north.) Please if you can get up with him & go by to see him he still needs support and asks that people continue to think of & pray for Kevin who has a longer road to recovery. I just can't believe that since I got the call on Friday night telling me what happened & then I was given the task of leaving work to go notify my parents at 10:30 of what happened, that he is home. By the way I wish that task on no man or woman in the fire service.

On another note he is still a member at Buies Creek & Bladensburg, he serves at Buies Creek alongside his father, grandfather, & myself. Both of these departments/families have been so supportive to my mom, dad, brother, sister, & myself during this ordeal. Also the DC Firefighters Burn Foundation has been awesome in covering all expenses for my family while we were at Ethan's side in addition to the staff at Medstar Burn Unit at Washington Hospital Center giving him the most excellent care he could receive. But back to Ethan's service history, I would have never thought that 5.5 years ago when he joined Buies Creek as a junior firefighter that he would develop into such a excellent fireman (or truckie for the work he prefers.) HE IS my little brother & I have learned so much from him & at times have held his knowledge of the fire service to a degree equivalent with that of a seasoned veteran. Just what an excellent man he has become in such a short period of time.

Again thanks everyone for what you have done in past week you all know who you are! Continue to pray for Ethan & definitely continue to pray for Kevin as he is in a lot of discomfort and has a ways to go. Also, if you have the ability please take a 5 hour drive north & visit this young man it means so much to the family to see all the support from firefighters. They have had visitors over the past few days from as far away as Oakland, CA!!! Everyone in the fire service in the words of my brother tonight "Continue your training, train always, if not for the training I had I would not be here tonight & neither would Kevin."

I love all my brothers & sisters in the fire service and I mean that from the bottom of my heart. Even if I don't know you I promise you that after this past week you are family to me! Stay safe & I will see you on the next run or the next B-shift day in Fuquay!

Also like 802 said thanks to all the departments & family that could make the welcome home event for him tonight. It meant the world to him & showed him that the brotherhood is every where, even in smaller departments & towns down south.

Thanks, Joshua Sorrell

**Joshua Sorrell (bcfdtower8)** ([Email](#)) - 03/01/12 - 02:23

Ethan – I am very relieved your are safe and sound! Josh – you’re a great brother and I greatly appreciate your dedication! God Bless you both and the guys still recovering in PG. Contact me if anything is needed!

**A.C. Rich** - 03/01/12 - 21:44

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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Morning Reading - March 1, 2012

03/01/12 447 W - + 9 - 8

Good morning, Raleigh. How many months have 28 days? Trick question, they all do! Spring is around the corner. Don't know how that happened. Seems just yesterday we were celebrating the holidays.

- [Car versus Raleigh apartment building](#) - WRAL story, my headline. The building at 5001 Bedell Street sustained major structural damage. Residents in two units above the point of impact were displaced. The driver was reportedly fleeing the scene of an accident on Louisburg Road near Spring Forest Road. One car was overturned and the driver briefly pinned. No injuries. See also: [WTVR](#).
- [Morrisville firefighters move into new station](#) - *Cary News* story from last week. There's also a [short slideshow of photos](#), that's not linked from that story, but can be found on the *News & Observer* site. Very curious. [See also these photos](#) from Mike Legeros, taken on moving day. Plus shots of old Station 1 from a few days before.
- [Apex has \\$41 million wish list](#) - *Southwest Wake News* story about the town council's annual retreat tomorrow. They'll discuss a backlog of capital improvement projects totaling \$41 million as well as their currently available cash of \$4.5. Public safety projects include a new roof at Fire Station 3, repairs to the shower at Fire Station 1, a new fire department tanker. Nice peek into the business of managing municipal business.
- [Frehouse Subs donates trailer for Asheville technical rescue team](#) - FiresNews.net story, about a 36-foot trailer that the restaurant chain is donating in memory of Capt. Jeff Bowen. He died on July 28, 2011, while fighting a fire at a medical office building. The trailer for the department's Technical Rescue Team is worth more than \$15,000. [Here's a picture of the trailer](#) and participants at a dedication ceremony on Tuesday.
- [Havelock man accidentally drinks gasoline, dies after setting self on fire with cigarette](#) - WITN story with updates since the original news story spread like, well, wildfire. Was linked on the Drudge Report, which probably helped the spread. The victim had started to doze off while smoking a cigarette, which ignited his clothes which had been exposed to gasoline earlier in the day. He was transported to the Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill.
- [Review of the Lytro camera](#) - *New York Times* blog post with a review of the Lytro, a new camera that records both "what it sees" and "what direction the light was coming from." Because of the latter, you can control in post-processing what is shown in focus or out of focus. That's right, you control the focal point for the image *after* the picture is taken. Pretty cool, but with limitations.

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Remember personal info?

Yes  
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - UPDATE #2: « Topsail Towers - Oper... » How Photographers Spe... Wake County Fire Commission Meeting Date Change - March 22, 2012

### UPDATE #2: Wake County Fire Commission Meeting Date Change - March 22, 2012

03/25/12 629 W - + 12 - 7

March 25

Here's a partial, impartial recap of Thursday's fire commission meeting, and particular agenda items therein. See referenced documents in [this folder of posted files](#):

- Consider Recommended Fire Protection Agreement - Commission members expressed the need for a longer review period, so they, their staff, or their boards could more thoroughly review the proposed changes. They thus made no move to adopt the document. County staff will take their comments back to the Board of Commissioners. It was noted that many of the added actions in the agreement are already being done by contracted fire departments and county Fire Services.
- Consider Recommended Fire Commission Rules of Procedure - This was approved after a length discussion, with two changes, one of which was restoring language for an alternate representative for each of the four regional fire services positions.
- Consider Recommended Amendment to Fire Compensation Administrative Guidelines - Checking on this one. Believe the decision to recommend was postponed until further discussion is done, or specific questions answered.
- Future of Fire Service in the Fire Tax District - The County Manager presented a short statement about the "state of the union" regarding the Fire Tax District. That's the district that provides funding for fire protection in (a.) unincorporated areas of Wake County and (b.) the town of Wendell. Service is provided through 14 contracts with non-profit departments and six contracts with municipal departments. His core message, coupled with praise for the Wake Forest/Falls merger, involved his stated need for more mergers and consolidations of fire service providers. He noted that very little revenue growth is expected in the tax district over the next few years. Thus, he will not recommend any increase in the tax rate until more consolidations occur. Three areas of particular interest were cited, all watershed areas, where no municipal growth is ever expected: Falls Lake/northern area, Swift Creek area, Little River/Eastern Wake County area. He closed his comments noting that he doesn't know what the solution should be, and his office will work with anyone with ideas. See his message document in [this folder of posted docs](#).
- Public Command / Wake County Association of Fire Chiefs - Garner Fire Chief Matt Poole noted that they're bringing a seminar to town, with the Salisbury Fire Department teaching a class about line-of-duty deaths. They'll be sharing the knowledge and experience gained when their department lost two members at a mill fire in 2008.

March 16

The agenda has been provided for next week's meeting, [along with related documents](#). Click that link to see these documents:

1. Agenda March 22, 2012 Meeting  
(See file: 3-22-2012 Agenda.pdf)
2. Draft Minutes of the January 19, 2012, Regular Meeting  
(See file: Draft Minutes\_19Jan12 Meeting.pdf)
3. Recommended Fire Protection Agreement  
(See file: Fire Contract amended 03.01.12.pdf)  
(See file: Revised Fire Protection Agreement Presentation.pdf)
4. Recommended Fire Commission Rules of Procedure  
(See file: Revised Fire Commission Rules of Procedure.pdf)
5. Recommended Amendment to Fire Compensation Administrative Guidelines  
(See file: Fire CompGuidelines, Updated February 2012v3.pdf)  
(See file: Revised Compensation Guidelines Presentation.pdf)  
(See file: Comp Guidelines\_Staff Revisions.pdf)  
(See file: Comp Guidelines\_Compensation Committee Revisions.pdf)
6. Apparatus Committee Report  
(See file: Apparatus Committee Report.pdf)

7. Fire Tax Financial Report

(See file: Fire Commission Finance Reports\_July 1 to March 14 (FY12YTD).pdf)

March 1

The next meeting of the [Wake County Fire Commission](#) is Thursday, March 22, at 7:00 p.m. The location is the Wake County EMS Training Facility, in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building, [4011 Carya Drive](#). Please note the date change. The meeting has been postponed one week. We'll post an agenda and other documents as they're available.

Reader question, how many of the documents at the meeting were approved. I'll check my notes when I am back in town to clarify, but I believe this is what happened...

The fire protection agreement was discussed in the context of a longer review period. The commission members felt they hadn't had enough time for them, their Chiefs, their Boards, to review the document. Thus, they didn't recommend adoption.

The rules of procedure were discussed, notably a couple particular points including alternates. I believe the majority of that document (but not the full thing, as-is, was adopted.)

The compensation model discussion lost me. I'll need to check my notes on that one.

**Legeros** - 03/24/12 - 11:00

The revised contract was tabled due to the concerns Mike mentioned. The ROP's were approved as amended without the removal of the fire service alternate. The compensation model was to be further reviewed by staff and the committee.

**D.Cates** - 03/26/12 - 16:19

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E-mail: (optional)  
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No

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
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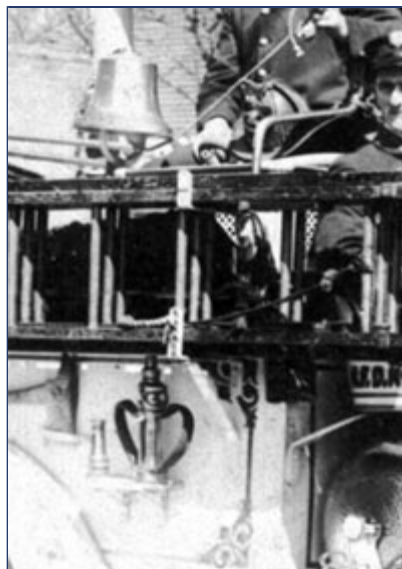
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Closer Look:* « Morning Reading - Mar... » Homes Damaged, Destro... *Hose Company 3, 1920*

### Closer Look: Hose Company 3, 1920

03/02/12 91 W, 7 I - + 7 - 6

For your Friday enjoyment, here's a view and closer views of Hose Company 3 in front of their East Hargett Street station. The photo is dated 1920. That's an [1912 American LaFrance Type 5](#) combination chemical and hose car. It's lettered for No. 2, because it originally served as Hose Company 2. (They were renamed engine companies around 1920.) Two of these were delivered in February 1913, the first motor apparatus of the city. Look closely and you'll see some familiar items. What do you notice? Click to enlarge:







*North Carolina State Archives photos*

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preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Homes Damaged, Destroyed in East Charlotte This Morning

03/03/12 152 W, 2 I - + 9 - 2

The overnight storms swept through east Charlotte about 2:30 a.m. and damaged several homes on [Brookstead Drive](#) near the Reed Creek Plantation area. Many roads were also blocked by downed trees in the nearby area of Plaza Road Extension. Three people were transported with weather-related injuries. Two shelters were opened at area schools. About 45 people had arrived at the shelters early this morning. Sources: [WSCO-TV](#), [WCNC](#). ~~Still collecting information. More updates coming.~~

As this subsequent [Charlotte Observer story](#) notes, the damage was caused by a tornado with winds up to 135 mph. The Red Cross reports a preliminary estimate of 89 homes damaged, including eight severely, and three destroyed. [See this slideshow](#) also. Another tornado struck Cherokee County last night, with 25 homes and 15 businesses damaged, reports [this WRAL story](#). See also this subsequent [FireNews.net story](#), with photos from the Charlotte Fire Department.



WSCO-TV photos

## Shear Excitement for Airport Firefighters

03/04/12 98 W, 2 I - + 9 - 8

A number of firefighters and fire departments participated in a [St. Baldrick's Foundation](#) event at Napper Tandy's yesterday in downtown Raleigh. Among the teams that raised money for children's cancer was [RDU Fire Rescue](#). The airport firefighters raised \$2,905 and nearly tripled their goal of \$1,000. They were followed by a team from the Garner Fire Department. We'll have a "before" photo posted. Plus some other familiar faces. Good day and good cause. And more than a few double-takes. No camera was harmed during the making of these pictures... Click to enlarge:



Congrats to RDU-CFR!

**A.C. Rich** - 03/04/12 - 17:02

Was a fun day for a great cause!

**R. Stanley** - 03/04/12 - 17:36

I forgot to add... the Stony Hill FD team was at Napper Tandy's later that afternoon/evening – and raised \$4,951.00. As I understand, 1st place of the FD teams represented. Good job to all!!

**A.C. Rich** - 03/04/12 - 23:09

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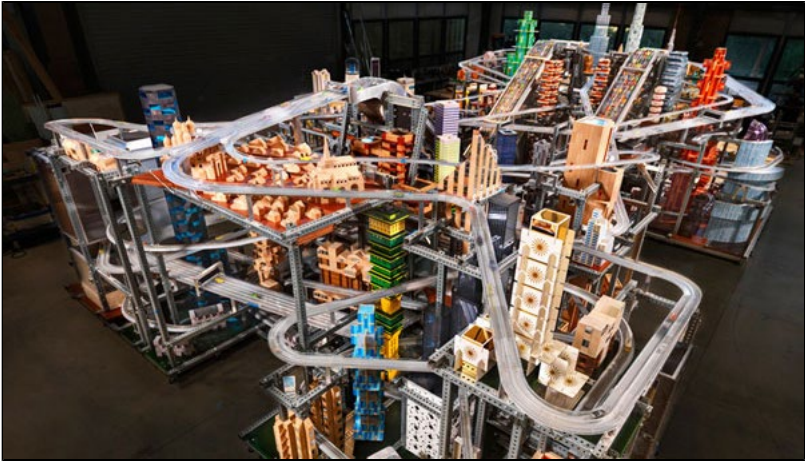




**Four Years + 1100 Toy Cars = Metropolis II**

03/05/12 137 W, 1 I - + 8 - 8

For your Monday morning enjoyment, here's another off-topic treat. This is Metropolis II, a 600 square-foot kinetic sculpture by artist Chris Burden that's been installed at the [Los Angeles County Museum of Art](#). The thing took four years to build and features 18 roadways where 1,200 Hot Wheels-sized cars travel at 240 scale mph. Plus 13 HO-scale trains that also travel through the set. Every day, approximately 100,000 cars circulate through the cityscape, the artist estimates. The cars are lifted by a magnetic conveyor belt, then are propelled by gravity to the bottom. Teflon-coated tracks and specially designed curves help with their velocity. The sculpture requires human monitoring, and with ear plugs, as the thing is noisy. And it can only run for 90 minutes at a time. Google Metropolis II for more articles about the thing.



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☐ Yes  
☐ No

**Vote For Best Fire/EMS Blog**

03/05/12 96 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

This annual contest is hosted by [EMS1](#), [FireRescue1](#) and [FireCritic.com](#), and sponsored by the [American Military University](#). Four categories will be award, two in fire and two in EMS. They'll be a Judges Choice and a Readers Choice for each. [Here's the nomination form](#), on the FireCritic site. [Here's his posting about the contest](#), with links to the rules and what have you. The contest will be conducted in two phases. Open nominations until March 10, and voting for the finalists until March 21. Cast away!



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Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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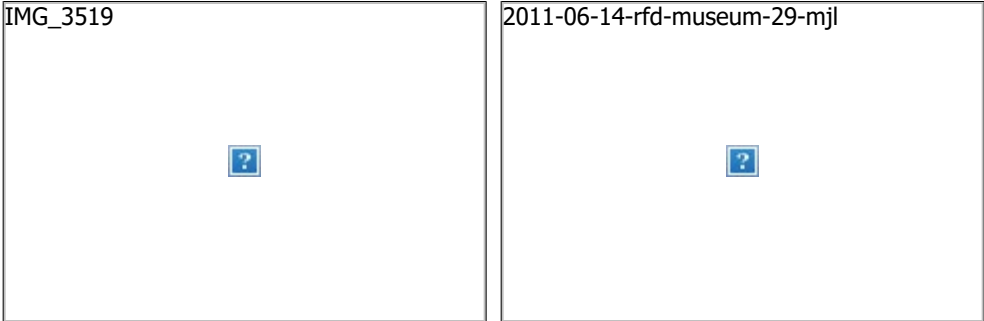
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Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, March 10

03/06/12 183 W, 2 I - + 11 - 3

We've added some new artifacts and new display cases to the Raleigh Fire Museum, which is open **Saturday, March 10**, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. [Notable are a pair of Cairns helmets](#), made of metal and dating to the 1920s. Or probably earlier. The museum is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh. It's operated by a non-profit 501(c)3 organization also named the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#). The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free.



Please note that the city's collection of antique fire apparatus is **housed at a separate location**, at Fire Station 28 at 3500 Forestville Road in northeast Raleigh. And that is a secondary mandatory destination for anyone interested in history! Contact the Raleigh Fire Museum for information about arranging special tours or group events at the museum. For contact information, or to learn more more about the history of the Raleigh Fire Department, visit [www.raleighfirehistory.org](http://www.raleighfirehistory.org).

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**Four Hundred Old Firehouses and Counting!**

03/06/12 127 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

Been a year or more since we updated our database of [historic and former firehouses in North Carolina](#). We've counted 400 of the things, maybe more. You can check my math. The criteria is simple: any building still standing that's a closed firehouse, or an active fire station that's 50 years or older. Blog readers and site visitors have been contributing for years.

Time for another round of reviewing. If you're interested, please lend a hand. Help is needed with a number of street addresses and specific locations. Ditto for dates. Plus any buildings not yet listed. Send photos as well! All corrections and additions are most welcome. Thanks in advance for your help. Obsession is good. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Mike, that would make great poster to raise money.

**Ryan** - 03/06/12 - 22:48

I wondered if you had Gastonia's old St.1, as I was there yesterday and snapped a couple photos in case you didn't.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 03/08/12 - 09:35

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Yes  
No

Comment:

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## Raleigh's Railroad Turntable

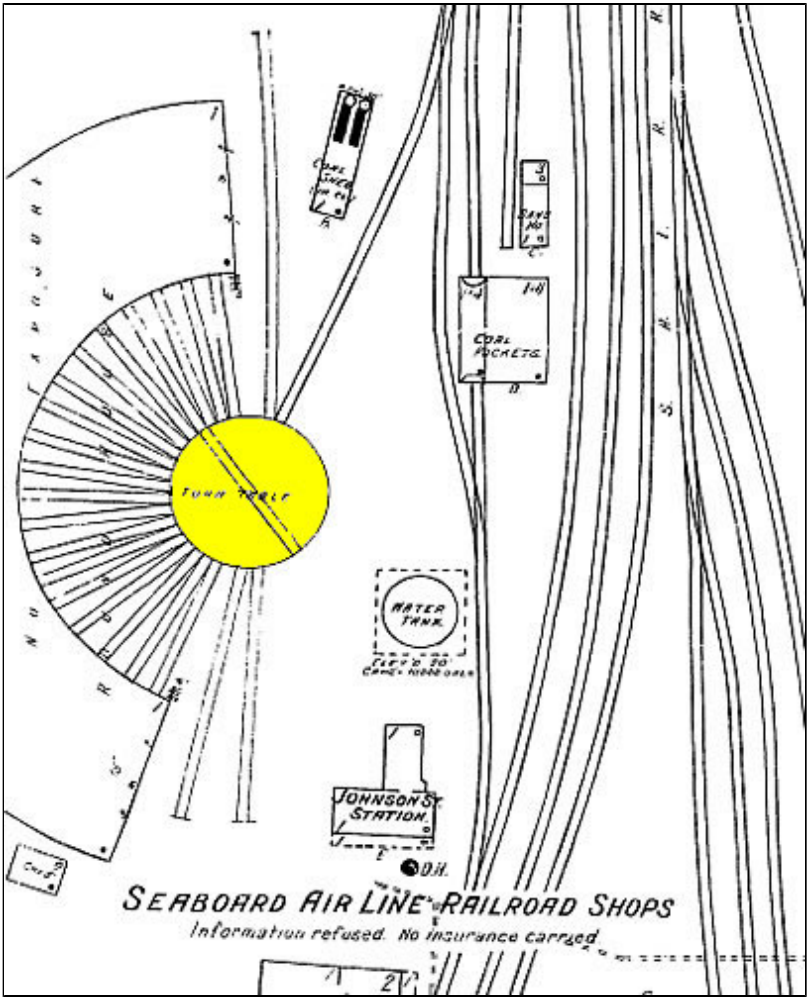
03/07/12 148 W, 2 I - + 8 - 4

There are a number of interesting structures around Raleigh that reflect its railroad history. The [section of Union Station](#) beside Station 1. The [remains of a wooden trestle](#) on Hargett Street where a coal yards stood a century before. And a working turntable in the 200 block of West Johnson Street, where a Seaboard Air Lines Railroad roundhouse once stood. Here's a [photo from Lee Wilson](#) from 2007 showing the thing in action:



*Lee Wilson photo*

This [Goodnight Raleigh posting](#) talks about the thing. A brick roundhouse once stood on the spot, along with a water tank and coal station for fueling the steam locomotives. And concrete strips can still be seen radiating out from the turntable, which supported the tracks leading to the stalls of the roundhouse. Here's a Sanborn Map excerpt from 1909 showing the thing. [View an interactive version](#) of the map.



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Video of Charlotte School Bus Fire From Last Month

03/07/12 58 W - + 11 - 5

Here's last month's video of the school bus that burned in Charlotte on February 9, 2012. Looks like the arriving engine parked ahead of the bus, to the right of the frame. The incident resulted in statewide inspections ordered for school buses. [Read WCNC story](#) for more, or Google.

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Yes  
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**Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015** - *Second Annual*   « **Video of Charlotte Sc...** » **Morning Reading - Mar...**  
*Warren County Junior Firefighters Competition, Saturday, April 28*

**Second Annual Warren County Junior Firefighters Competition, Saturday, April 28**

03/07/12 256 W, 1 I - + 13 - 6

Fire Explorer Post 672 is hosting its Second Annual Warren County Junior Firefighter Competition on Saturday, April 28, 2012, at the Warren County Recreation Complex, 840 NC Highway 158 Bypass, Warrenton, NC.

The competition will consist of six field events, plus one knowledge-based written exam, and one knowledge-based oral exam. Trophies are awarded for first through third place in all events plus "best overall" for the team with the highest average for the day. Entry fee is only \$50 per team. Competition limited to 20 teams. [View the flyer.](#)

*Hosted by the  
Warren County Junior Firefighters  
(Fire Explorer Post 672)*



**Contact Information:**

Warren County Junior Firefighters  
c/o Post Advisor Chris Pegram  
416 Macon Embro Road  
Macon, NC 27551  
(252) 213-0393  
[mrfdasstchief@yahoo.com](mailto:mrfdasstchief@yahoo.com)

We are also looking for Sponsors and Vendors for this event.

**Sponsors:**

\$100 Sponsorship gets either a 2' x 5' banner with their name/logo on it or their name/logo on the official Competition T-shirt.  
\$300 Sponsorship gets both a 2' x 5' banner with their name/logo on it and their name/logo on the official Competition T-shirt.  
\$1000 Sponsorship gets both a 3' x 8' banner with their name/logo on it and gets to name one of the 1st place trophies (total of 9 available).

Deadline is no later than Monday, April 2, 2012.

**Vendors:**

We are seeking non-food vendors for this event. There is no fee for vendor space however we are asking each vendor to donate a \$25+ gift to the Explorer Post to be raffled off during the competition. Vendors will need to provide their own tables, tents, and electricity.



Pictured from last year’s competition are Knightdale PS Explorers and Fairview Junior Firefighters.

**John W. Franks** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 03/10/12 - 14:53

A very well coordinated event!! Stony Hill is planning to attend again this year. If you have a Junior FF program, they will have a blast in Warrenton!!

**A.C. Rich** - 03/10/12 - 17:40

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morning Reading« Second Annual Warren ... » Mystery History - Mor... - March 8, 2012

### Morning Reading - March 8, 2012

03/08/12 440 W - + 9 - 7

Good morning Raleigh. Saw a few FOOLS last night at Napper Tandy's at their monthly meeting. Discussed the blog a bit. We're a few months into the big tone-down, partly accomplished by implementing moderated comments. Blog might be duller now, but the blogger has considerably less heartburn. Buy me a beer, er soda, some time and I will pontificate at length. As for the [Capital Area FOOLS](#), they're again planning a Brotherhood Bash to accompanying the annual Fire Expo. This year's will be bigger and better. More details as we get closer to August. [Or see photos](#) from the first bash, last year.

- [Firefighters honor Chad Settlemyre](#) - FireNews.net has posted a few photos from the March 3 funeral procession of Sawmills Firefighter Chad Settlemyre, who died on February 27. Can't find any other stories about the services, alas.
- [Salisbury demonstrates new radios](#) - FireNews.net story from the Salisbury Post, with a picture and some details of the department's new radios. They're receiving 50 hand-held APX 600XE radios by mid-June. They're submersible, dual-sided, and can track the users location inside a structure. The need for these was identified after the death of firefighters Justin Monroe and Vic Isler, who perished four years ago at a fire at Salisbury Millworks.
- [Carrboro Fire Department history](#) - Random history page, this one with an old photo and some older apparatus of the Carrboro Fire Department. Their old station is still standing at 102 Lloyd Street. At last check, a furniture repair store was using the thing. See Mike's [former and historic fire stations database](#) for a photo.
- [Ten-digit dialing, new area code coming](#) - WRAL story and an opinion from myself: how annoying is that? Starting March 31, everyone in Wake and several other counties will have to dial 10-digit numbers. That starts March 31. And new phone numbers will start with a new area code, 984. Guess it's the cost of growth.
- [Pole-ster from Longshot Camera Systems](#) - Saw this product mentioned in a *New York Times* article. Twenty-foot pole for taking pictures from high places. Pull cord to trigger shutter. Sounds crazy? Check out the demonstration videos. Or make your own version, holding a monopod (or, gasp, tripod) over your head, and trigger the shutter with a timer. Just don't tip over!
- [Speaking of the Fire Expo](#) - The South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo is scheduled for August 8-11. Yours Truly will be participating in a pair of workshops. First is a panel on fire photography, led by FireNews.net editor Jeff Harkey. Second is a Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History presentation. That's just me.

Name: (real name  
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

## Mystery History - Morning Check

03/09/12 111 W, 1 I - + 11 - 4

Here's a little mystery history for your Friday morning, a nifty photo of Raleigh Fire Department personnel circa 1984. The picture was probably staged for the yearbook that year, and likely shot by Gary Knight. That looks like Buxton in front and Moore in the back, standing. The trucks are a pair of American LaFrance pumpers, either 700 or 900 series. The station location isn't known. Is that a single bay door shown? Are the trucks facing backward? We'll lead readers look closely. And why two trucks? One is certainly a reserve. If you identify the station from the photo, then you're *really* eagle eyed! Click to enlarge:



Both are 900 series ALFs. The curved windshield gives that away. 700s were peaked, and a lot narrower. As to station, I think you can rule out 1, 3, and 6 right off the bat.

**DJ** - 03/09/12 - 08:43

I think that is actually Tim Carrol (left) and Robert Peacock (right)

**A.C. Rich** - 03/09/12 - 10:04

Trucks are facing forward. There are two bay doors one of which is up hence seeing the Chief's car out front facing Spring Forest rd. I believe the engine on the right to be a reserve. The personnel are checking off E19.

**Rescue Ranger** - 03/09/12 - 10:46

The man standing kinda looks like a young Donald Summers but that's before my time!

**Rescue Ranger** - 03/09/12 - 10:51

I do not think that it is 19. 19 did open until about 1988. Maybe station 15. Or old 4(Wake Forest Rd). Or 9

**Marcus** ([Email](#)) - 03/09/12 - 11:47

That picture was taken in 1984 or earlier, so it isn't Station 19. And Engine 19 was placed in service with an ALF 900 with a fiberglass top. Been there, rode that!

**Legeros** - 03/09/12 - 12:26

Look on the stacked tips.... Station #10 probably. Plus, they had a ALF for several years; and looking towards the street... length of the apron, shrubbery across the street... looks like Station #10 to me!

**A.C. Rich** - 03/09/12 - 12:32

Yeah, I would go with #10, given the street viewed out front. .

**DJ** - 03/09/12 - 19:19

Time to consult Mike’s magic mystery apparatus chart. Here’s who was operating the 900 series ALFs in 1984:

- 1958 – Reserve or retired. Last served Engine 14 until 1982.
- 1961 #1 – Reserve or retired. Last served Engine 8 until 1982
- 1962 #2 – Engine 15, until that year. Then reserve or retired at some point in 1984.
- 1968 – Engine 10.

Thus the only possible stations with ALF 900 pumpers in active service were Station 10 or Station 15. Both were single-company stations. Truck 15 wasn’t placed in service until 1989. Rescue 10, the 1954 Reo heavy rescue with Civil Defense colors and markings, left that station in 1980.

Station 10 thus sounds likes a good guess. Will take a peek at the old log books at my next opportunity, to confirm.

**Legeros** - 03/09/12 - 20:49

The Stack tips have either E11 or E10 written on them/

**Rauer** - 03/09/12 - 22:50

It looks to me like the numbers visible on the stack tips are upside down which shows #19. Only problem is #19 wasn’t built until 1988.

**Rescue Ranger** - 03/10/12 - 22:17

And the answer presents itself on page 59 of the 1984 yearbook, which reads “Carroll, Moore, and Peacock checking equipment at Station Ten.” Should’ve checked there BEFORE posting!

**Legeros** - 03/11/12 - 11:02

BINGO!! I’ve seen it before... Haha!

**A.C. Rich** - 03/11/12 - 12:02

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Cool as Heck Brush Engine

03/09/12 81 W, 1 I - + 12 - 6

Nanjemoy Fire Department in Maryland. Rosenbauer wildland engine on a Ford F-750 chassis with a Darley pump (500 GPM), a Cummins engine (manual transmission), and a custom fabricated brush guard. Single axles. Carries 400 gallons plus 30 gallons. Mess of scene lights. Pretty sharp looking. Probably too much for these parts. Brush units are smaller around here, and around this part of the state. Does anyone run wildland engines in the central Piedmont? [See more information](#).



Rosenbauer photo

I went to their website and noticed a news story from 2011 where they sold the old brush rig. Three pictures showing many similarities. Went to a private collector. Larger brush trucks on GMC 5500 and Ford 550 chassis some with crew cabs being used in my area of Iowa.

Eugene Beard (Email) - 03/09/12 - 11:47

Robbins FD in Moore County, NC has a new wildland engine they recieved in the past year, year and half or so?? on a grant for wildland/urban interface firefighting. its bigger than the truck above and has single axles too! its 4x4 automatic, pump&roll capability, international chassis, i think 100gal tank unknown on any other particulars. i do have pics if you want.

aaron (Email) - 03/09/12 - 21:16

There are 3 in Randolph County, also acquired through a Forest Service grant. Two at Franklinville (one of which was recently transferred from East Side) and one at East Side. Former military ARFF engines, re-configured for W-UI. All are 1980-ish Amertek 4X4's with a relatively similar setup.

Here are links to photos of all three:

- <http://franklinvillefire.org/trucks/eng8..>
- <http://www.eastsidefiredept.org/files/14..>
- <http://www.eastsidefiredept.org/files/19..>

Lt. Lemon (Email) (Web Site) - 03/10/12 - 23:41

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Walking Home

03/10/12 112 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

Members of Engine 5 on "C" platoon return to quarters on foot, after a structure fire just before shift change at 210 Groveland Avenue. The station is two blocks away. The engine was first on scene at a two-story detached garage (with finished upstairs room), with smoke and fire showing. The fire was controlled within 20 minutes. Extended overhaul involved. Some incoming "A" platoon personnel reported to the scene, and relieved the "C" platoon members on such units as Engine 6, Engine 6, Ladder 4, and Rescue 3. Most drove or back to their stations. These four hoofed it. More pictures and incident details [have been posted](#). Click to enlarge:



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## **And a Piano, Too**

03/10/12 125 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

Tobacco barn and player piano, as photographed early afternoon on Raleigh Beach Road. Live burn conducted by New Hope Fire Department. The property address was 4805 Raleigh Beach Road. That's the old Coley family homestead. There's is a familiar name in the local fire service. Fifty-seven acres and a couple buildings, including a 1,177 square-foot home built in 1937. That was the training structure. The owner spoke of a couple older buildings formerly on the property, including a tenant home. The site has been the scene of woods fires in recent years. Unsure when the home was last occupied. [ Updated with YouTube embed of "The Old Piano Roll Blues." Feel free to suggest a different rendition... ]



---

Before most of yalls time but how bout Jerry Lee Lewis song " Who's gonna play this ole piano "..

**Galax,Va** - 03/10/12 - 20:04

Different rendition, not different song! That one by Lewis is a classic, however.

**Legeros** - 03/10/12 - 20:06

Sorry, you used big words and confused me.

**Galax,Va** - 03/10/12 - 20:19

The house was last occupied in 1996.

**A Coley** - 03/10/12 - 21:47

All I can say for sure is that Piano is heavy. It took 6-8 guys to hoof that this out the back door and across the yard. I hope B hop will play us a song one day.

**Doppler** - 03/11/12 - 00:13

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preferred)

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# Dam Interesting

03/10/12 206 W, 2 I - + 8 - 7

Would you believe a century-old dam on the Neuse River, just outside Raleigh? Here's a picture, both above and below. [Notes this News & Observer article](#) from 1997, Milburnie Dam was built about 1900. The water powered an early hydroelectric plant, and later a grist mill. The latter operated until the early 1940s, and remained vacant until 1980. The current (ha!) hydroelectric plant at that location was built in 1984. Three turbine-powered generators produce (or produced) just over 3 million kilowatt hours of electric each year. That's enough to power about 250 homes, notes the article.

Below the dam is the location of old Raleigh Beach, which was a popular swimming spot for years (or decades). And, alas, the site of many water rescues and body recovery operations. (Heck, the Raleigh Emergency Rescue Squad was formed in response to criticism of the city, after a week passed without a drowned body in the Neuse River being recovered. Wonder if that was at Raleigh Beach?) Here's an [aerial view from Google Maps](#). The old section of Raleigh Beach Road is presently a walking trail that connects Anderson Point Park with the Hedingham community. The plant and the dam are easily viewed, and are right off the trail. Click to enlarge:



**Hot Shot: Durham House Fire**

03/12/12 90 W, 1 I - + 10 - 6

Here's your morning hot shot from the gang at [durhamfire.net](http://durhamfire.net), by way of their unofficial Durham Fire Department [Facebook page](#). House fire from yesterday at 1510 Concord Street with "B" shift companies E1, E3, E4, L1, L2, Squad 1, B1, B3, MS1, Safety 1, and Bethesda FD. Dispatched about 7:30 a.m., [reports this WTVD story](#). Arriving units found a fully-involved structure with flames showing through the roof. The blaze was also visible to drivers on the Durham Freeway. Click to enlarge:



*Durhamfire.net photo*

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

**Kid with a Camera (and a Mom) and a Two Homes Ablaze in Loudoun County, VA**

03/13/12 175 W - + 9 - 3

Here's your morning fire video, from Statter911. Two homes that burned in Loudown County, VA, on Saturday. The footage is unique as its shot by a young kid who has to contend with his mother's cautions and admonitions.<sup>1</sup> It's also expectedly dramatic pre-arrival footage, with the second of two closely space homes soon catching fire. Dave also offers a strong opinion about modern home building techniques. Twelve reader comments so far. [Read his posting.](#)

<sup>1</sup>There's a future blog posting if there ever was one. What's the appropriate demeanor to exhibit when watching such simultaneous exciting and tragic events as a fully-involved house fire? We are indeed a century past the days when newspapers reported the enthusiasm of crowds watching such scenes. They'd bring out chairs and picnic lunches and brag about "that was a good show." Of course, such viewing also took place at certain Civil War battles, if memory serves. Perspectives change over time.

MOM: "its not funny"  
KID: "I never said it was"  
**Brian** - 03/15/12 - 14:40

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Hose Company 2, Circa 1914

03/14/12 213 W, 1 I - + 10 - 7

A new old photo of the Raleigh Fire Department has surfaced, and rates for my money as the best to date. This is Hose Company 2 around 1914, which is the year their Salisbury Street station opened. Could have been taken later that decade, as white apparatus was utilized until about 1920. That's when the fleet was repainted red. The truck is a [1912 American LaFrance Type 5](#) combination chemical and hose car. The color is white with blue trim. [We recently posted some close views of the truck](#), as pictured in front of Station 3. This photo is far better and offers greater detail.

The physical measurements are 11 by 14 inches. The scanning was done by [JW Photo Labs](#) on West Street, using a camera and studio lighting. The photo belongs to Lt. Tim Thrower, who received same as a gift from grandmother when he joined the department years ago. She found same at a yard sale! Very early photos of the Raleigh Fire Department are rare. Maybe three dozen to date from 1920 or earlier. Why is that? Maybe cameras were scarce. Maybe photography was expensive. Maybe most photos were squirreled away, and have yet to surface. We'll hang a copy of this one in the Raleigh Fire Museum. Click once or twice to enlarge:



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/ [Textile](#)



**Vintage Photo of Charlotte Telesquirt**

03/14/12 81 W, 1 I - + 5 - 8

Here's a little lime love from FireNews.net, which posted this week this undated photo of a Ford/Grumman telesquirt from back in the day in Charlotte. Says Editor Jeff Harkey, four such units served the city as Engine 11, Engine 12, Engine 14, and Engine 17. [As he best recalls](#). Does Grumman still make fire apparatus? Looks like the answer is no. Google search results cite 1990 or maybe 1992 as the last year they were manufactured.



*FireNews.net photo*

KME purchased and operates the Grumman ladder truck plant in Roanoke, VA. It's essentially the same truck with the KME name (even still has some of the Grumman logos). We found out during our recent refurb that most of the same employees still work there. The former Grumman pumper plant in VA housed another fire apparatus manufacturer, but they have gone out of business now.

**Zeb101** - 03/14/12 - 09:04

The apparatus in the picture is Engine 11 and also Engine 17 did not have a telesquirt The other Telesquirt was Engine 13 that was a Mack CF then a Pierce Lance until it was moved to Station 25 as Engine 25

**david** - 03/14/12 - 17:58

I believe it was 92' when Grumman stopped with the Engines. We still have a 92' Grumman Fire Cat Short Wheel Base Custom Cab, that can flat do it.

**Chris** - 03/16/12 - 01:39

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

King Firefighter Recovering After Being Struck

03/14/12 226 W - + 8 - 3

Firehouse.com by way of WGHP-TV has posted details on Monday morning's firefighter accident. Lt. Les Collins of the King Fire Department was struck at the scene of a tractor-trailer accident on Highway 52 North. The 15-year veteran was walking to his department vehicle to leave the scene when a minivan crashed through the barricade. The van was traveling over 60 mph, struck the vehicle, and struck Lt. Collins.

He was knocked onto the windshield of the van. Both vehicles slid about 100 feet before coming to a rest. Lt. Collins reportedly saw the van coming through the barricade, but couldn't get away in time. Fire Chief Steven Roberson told WGHP that the firefighter is feeling much better, and is walking around. He was transported to Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, and sustained severe road rash, a bruised pelvis, and a broken pinky finger.

The driver of the van was charged with careless and reckless driving. Most interestingly, he told investigators that he thought the accident scene was a routine traffic stop. He also told them that he never saw the barricade. Great question implied there. How to make drivers uniform respect (or at least increasingly aware) of emergency vehicles, be they serving at a traffic stop or vehicle accident? [Read the Firehouse.com story](#), or [read the WGHP-TV story](#).

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Yesterday's Apartment Fire on Quarry Street

03/14/12 115 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

That was good listening yesterday morning on Quarry Street, where crews responded to a house fire at 9:47 a.m. Arriving crews found heavy smoke and fire from the rear of a two-story multi-residential structure at 613 Quarry Street. Challenges included a dead hydrant on Tipton Street. One additional engine was special-called. Controlled at 10:20 a.m. No injuries and despite early report of a child possibly in the structure. Coverage: [WRAL](#), [WTVD](#) (includes aerial photos), [NBC 17](#), [News & Observer](#). And for those who were watching at home, a nearby DOT traffic cam captured the column of smoke over the treetops. [TrafficLand Raleigh](#) for those.



Shawn Rocco/News & Observer photo

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## Historic and Former Firehouses of Columbia

03/15/12 301 W, 5 I - + 9 - 8

With another road trip to Myrtle Beach pending, an exploration of Columbia seemed logical and particularly for finding any historic or former fire stations. With the help of a recent CFD history book, and quite a bit of Google searching, a mere handful have been located. Looks like a number of the older stations were demolished and rebuilt on their same lots. Or they disappeared in the wake of urban renewal and bigger and more buildings downtown.

The monster, eight-bay, Central Fire Station appears still intact, and still has the training tower in back. Looks like development of that building/facility is planned. Old Station 2 on Blanding Street is the former Palmetto Steam Fire Engine Company #2, which was built in 1866 by firefighters and Union troops from chimney bricks left after the great fire of February 17, 1865. It's presently part of an Italian restaurant.

The one-story building at 900 Main Street is a purported old fire station, and more recently an acclaimed (but since closed) pub. Sanborn Maps from 1910 show Station 3 on that block, but a couple buildings to the left. Was this a replacement Station 3? Or just a case of mistaken historical identity? Looks like of small. Old Station 11 is now the fire department's Logistics headquarters. That was the first station staffed with black firefighters.

There are also former county fire stations to be found, such as Old Station 16 in the rear of 952 Lake Murray Boulevard. That building presently serves as a Columbia police substation. Maybe readers can tell more. Or a visit to the local history library there, if it really compels me. Click to enlarge:

Old Station 1    1001 Senate Street    Built 1951    Closed 1995



Old Station 2    1213 Blanding Street    Built 1866    Closed 1921?



Old Station 11    1901 Harden Drive    Built 1953    Closed 1995



Old Station ?    900 Main Street    Built ?    Closed ?



Station 7    2622 Main Street    Built 1948



Kannapolis Fire Apparatus Through The Ages

03/15/12 146 W, 2 I - + 10 - 5

From our friends at the Kannapolis Fire Department comes a pair of neat photos showing a 2008 Seagrave, a 1940 Mack, and a 1900s (or abouts) hand hose reel. The modern rig is Engine 11, a 2008 Seagrave Maurader with a 1,500 GPM pump and a 750 gallon tank. The 1940 Mack Model 60 was one of the fire trucks purchased by Cannon Mills back in the day. It's privately owned and on loan for a public education event. The hand-drawn hose reel is owned by the fire department, and probably dates around 1900. That's a not-bad guess. Here's a history of the Kannapolis Fire Department, researched a couple years ago and [posted on the blog](#). Plus a [couple historical photos](#). Photos taken on March 13 by Division Chief Tracy Winecoff. (Familiar family name there!) Thanks to Joshua Clay, Battalion 1-A, for sending. Click to enlarge:



Tracy Winecoff photo

Name: (real name

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This Morning's Fire on Arckelton Drive

03/16/12 203 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Mr. Blogger is under the weather. Thus only listened to this incident. Wish I'd instead been asleep, but my mid-night had been doubled-down with insomnia. Memo to self: Don't take non-drowsy expectorants anywhere near bedtime. Still assessing other side-effects, such as talking in the third person. As for this morning's fire, here's a bit of detail.

Duplex at [4016 Arckelton Drive](#). Engine 14 arrived with heavy fire visible in the rear of the structures. Crews made entry, and were working to reach the seat of the fire in an attic space. Sagging roof conditions were observed outside. Crews were removed from inside the structure, and Ladder 2 began flowing. One additional engine was requested at that time. A portable monitor was also deployed, believe to the rear of the structure.

Dispatched at 2:05 a.m. Controlled at 2:56 a.m. Both units rendered uninhabitable. No injuries. Cause determined as improperly discarded smoking material, cigarette on back deck. (Idea for national cigarette safety campaign: Watch Your Butts. Wonder what those annual stats look like?) Units on scene: E14, E16, E17, E9, E6 (special), L3, L2, R3, B3, A1, C10, C20, EMS 2, EMS 6, EMS 11, D1, T1.



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Good evening Raleigh. Moving a little slower this weekend, both in body and mind. Crazy sleep schedules can have that effect. Hope to be back normal-- ha, relative term there-- by Monday or Tuesday.

- [Durham firefighters rescue window washers outside new courthouse](#) - *Durham Herald* with details on Thursday's dramatic downtown rescue. Technical Rescue Team members removed four window washers from a swing stage stalled between the eighth and ninth floor of the 11-story building. See also this [slideshow from WTVD](#).
- [Vanceboro firefighter pistol-whipped, robbed at station](#) - WITN story about Tuesday night's incident in Craven County. Firefighter Nidal Tokhli had backed a truck into a substation on Oak Grove Road, and was walking about of the building when he was robbed. He was treated at a local hospital for his injuries. See also [this WCTI story](#).
- [Havelock firefighters battle garage fire](#) - Havelock News video footage found while searching on the above story. The clip is 6:40 in length.
- [NC911.com](#) - Incident photos from John Larew, from around what looks like Iredell County. Found as recently linked to a hot shot posted on FireNews.net. Several years worth of photos. And a frank disclaimer: "it it bothers you, do not proceed."
- [Petition to name Asheville bridge for Capt. Jeff Bowen picks up support](#) - *Citizen-Times* story from Tuesday about the online petition that has gathered over 7,000 signatures. Sponsored by the Asheville Fire Fighters Association, the petitions hopes to reverse a recent decision by the Board of Transportation regarding naming Smoky Park Bridge after the fallen firefighter. See also [this Statter911 story](#).

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Raleigh Professional Firefighters Association to Present Semi-Annual Fundraising Concert

03/18/12 139 W - + 10 - 4

Press release. On Sunday, April 29, the [Raleigh Professional Firefighters Association](#) will host The Temptations Review featuring Dennis Edwards, and special guests The Embers. Show time is 6:30 p.m. at the J.S. Dorton Arena, at the North Carolina State Fair Grounds. Seating is general admission and the doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

The Raleigh Professional Fire Fighters Association is a 501c5 non-profit organization. The benefit concert does not directly support or affect the services provided by the City of Raleigh Fire Department. Activities supported and funded by their organization include Camp Celebrate, Dance Like No One is Watching Gala, smoke detector programs, creating awareness of firefighter injuries and occupational hazards, support of youth athletics, support of battered women's shelters, and financial support for other organizations. [Read entire press release.](#)

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https://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=5123[10/15/2019 6:44:22 PM]

The Perils of Interpreting Photos

03/18/12 111 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

On the [FireNews.net Facebook page](#) yesterday, they posted the below WRAL reader photo from a house fire in Clinton on Saturday. They also asked a question about the photo, the placement of personnel, and the risks of the well-involved porch. This morning, [FireNews has issued a clarification](#) and a retraction, of sorts. Read through the things. There's a great lesson there, and one that easily forgotten in our digital age. Snapshots are just that. Moments in time. Even seasoned scene photographers can jump to conclusions. That's the power of pictures. And the very human beings that interpret them.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

Morrisville Dedicates New Station, Firefighter of Year Named

03/18/12 140 W, 2 I - + 10 - 5

The *Cary News* has posted a pair of stories about the Morrisville Fire Department. [First is a historical recap](#) in the context of last week's dedication of their new Station 1. The \$3 million facility has three drive-through bays and ten dorm rooms. It will also double as the town's emergency operations center. It's about twice the size of the original, built in 1960 at 100 Morrisville Carpenter Road. [Here's a prior post](#) with some facility history of MFD. [The second story is a profile](#) of Jared Masker, who has been named Morrisville Firefighter of the Year by Cary VFW Post 7383. The ceremony was held at the Town Council meeting on February 28. Notes Fire Chief Todd Wright, Masker was instrumental in helping the fire department receive its accreditation. Congrats Jared!



Aliana Ramos/Cary News photos

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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Caption This Photo / Pipes and Sand

03/19/12 63 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

That's the [Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums](#) on Saturday in North Myrtle Beach, where they appeared in the town's 24th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. And then they high-tailed it (high-kilted it?) back to Raleigh, to play at favorite pubs that evening. [Read all about it.](#)  
Click to enlarge:



Wake & District photo

The shenanigans have come to a close. To every band member who participated, every family member who came out to support us, all of our old friends and so many new friends – THANK YOU. We hope everyone enjoyed our gift of music, heritage and camaraderie.

Joe Brady ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 03/19/12 - 21:16

Looks like a blast!!! Hope no one got too much sand in their ghillies!!

Mark Wills - 03/19/12 - 21:20

Kilts gone wild?

Legeros - 03/19/12 - 21:34

From the sea they came to conquer and to the sea they return as conquerors

Mike - 03/20/12 - 10:35

Oh look, a starfish!!

Glen - 03/22/12 - 13:04

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Small Plane Makes Hard Landing at Airport

03/19/12 38 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

[WRAL](#) posted [this photo](#) of a small plane that made a hard landing early this evening at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Three people were aboard. Click to slightly enlarge:



WRAL photo

Looks like a Casa 212. Nice little planes. Never landed in one tho', only take-off's.

**Bob** - 03/19/12 - 23:50

Pilot heroically kept the plane under control after critical failure of hydraulics. Well done!! Why isn't his exceptional performance noted in the news? FAA will confirm in their mishap report, tomorrow morning.

**Captain A** - 03/21/12 - 18:49

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**UPDATED: Raleigh Firefighters Rescue Elderly Man From Burning House**

03/20/12 494 W, 2 I - + 12 - 3

March 20

[As this News & Observer story reports](#), Raleigh Fire Department Capt. Rob Mitchell (E21C) and Lt. Brandon Hopkins (R1C) talked this morning about Sunday night's rescue of an elderly man at a house fire on Kincaid Drive. They described the sequence of events, including the initial entry by Capt. Michell and Firefighter Austin Foster from Engine 21. With their charged line and a thermal imaging camera, and after initially hitting the flames, they started searching the right side of house. Flames were rolling down the hallway where the resident was believed to be. (Temperature from the floor to their crouched waist was at least 400 degrees. Thus they're on breathing air.)

Lt. Hopkins and Firefighter Tim Ballard from Rescue 1 entered as members of a second search time. They checked a bedroom and found the resident on the floor, with part of his upper body laying against a bed. They dropped their tools, grabbed the resident by his arms and legs, and carried him outside. He wasn't breathing, and resuscitation efforts were started. He was breathing on his own by the time he was transported to the hospital. [Read more of their account](#). See also [aftermath photos from Legeros](#).



March 19

More information was released today about last night's house fire at [4125 Kincaid Drive](#), where Raleigh firefighters rescued an elderly man from his burning home. [As this WRAL story reports](#), the 75 year-old resident called 911 at 8:49 p.m. He was trapped in his house, and remained on the phone to describe his exact location. While the fire department was en route, an arriving police officer as well as ~~another man~~ the trapped man's son, who also lived there, attempt entry/re-entry. They couldn't get past the flames.

Engine 21 arrived and found heavy smoke and flames from the front of the single-story structure. They had been notified of the trapped occupant and his reported location. Engine 21 was joined by Rescue 1 inside and the two teams searched the house. The resident was found in his bedroom and in respiratory arrest. He was resuscitated by fire and EMS personnel, and was transported to WakeMed and later airlifted to the burn center in Chapel Hill.

The police officer and ~~man~~ resident who attempted to enter/re-enter the home each suffered smoke inhalation. They were treated and released at WakeMed. Three dogs were also rescued. The fire was controlled in 20 minutes. The cause remains under investigation. Units on scene included E21, E21, E11, E19, L2, R1, B2, B1, A1, C10, C20, C40, EMS 5, EMS 2, EMS 63, D1, M94, T1. Media: [WRAL](#), [WTVD](#), [News & Observer](#).

Update #1: [This second News & Observer story](#) provides more details. The rescued man lived with his son, who tried to reenter the structure along with the officer. The father remains in critical condition at the burn center in Chapel Hill.



---

Great job!

**Mike** - 03/19/12 - 22:24

Well done RFD. That's what it is all about!!

**Engineman 56** - 03/20/12 - 00:44

Well done guys. That is what makes all the bad days worthwhile.

**Scooter** - 03/21/12 - 08:43

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Apex Engine 1

03/21/12 68 W, 1 I - + 8 - 7

Photographer Lee Wilson last week snapped this well-posed photo of Apex Engine 1, a 2011 E-One Typhoon rescue engine 1500/750. 'Twas delivered on October 28, 2011. And was purchased as an emergency replacement for a 2000 E-One Cyclone pumper. Same was a demo unit and is equipped as a squad, with both engine and rescue equipment. [See prior posting](#). And see [larger versions of the photo](#) by Lee.



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

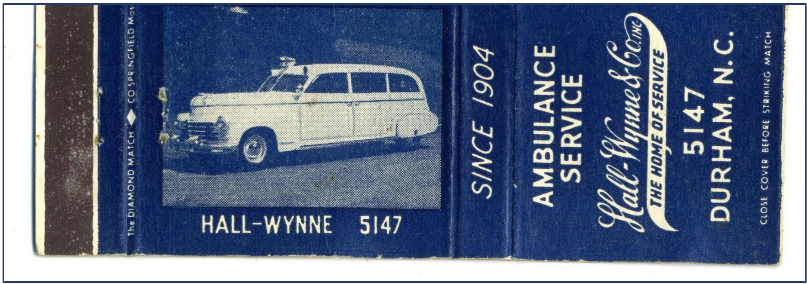
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hall-Wynne Ambulance Service of Durham, 1950s

03/21/12 40 W, 1 I - + 11 - 7

Found for sale on eBay, here's a matchbook from the Fifties advertising the Hall-Wynne ambulance service of Durham. They were a funeral home, and are still operating today. Pretty neat. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - UPDATED: Falls, « Hall-Wynne Ambulance ... » North Carolina Fire D... Wake Forest Fire Departments Celebrate Merger on Sunday, March 25

**UPDATED: Falls, Wake Forest Fire Departments Celebrate Merger on Sunday, March 25**

03/22/12 598 W, 10 I - + 11 - 3

At 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 25, a ceremony will be conducted at the Falls Fire Department at 11908 Falls of Neuse Road, to commemorate and celebrate the department's merger with the Wake Forest Fire Department. The departments signed an operational consolidation contract on July 25, 2011. The merger was first proposed in 2009, and originally included ideas to close the Falls fire station.

The Falls fire station will be renamed Wake Forest Station 5, and will retain the nickname "Home of the River Rats." The apparatus will be renumbered to include Engine 5, Tanker 5, Squad 5, Brush 5, Utility 5, Boat 5, and Car 6. (Wake Forest Station 4 is in the planning stages, and mostly recently in the news regarding town officials discussing funding. It will be located on the northwest side of town.)

Personnel from the Falls FD staff will serve in roles such as Asst. Chief of Volunteer Operations, Battalion Chiefs, and Captains. The response area of Falls and Wake Forest fire departments will be merged. The result will add a ladder response to some current Falls responses.



### Fire District Maps

These maps were distributed at Thursday night's Wake County Fire Commission meeting. The map on the left shows the current fire district boundaries for Falls, Wakette (the Wake Forest rural district), Wake Forest, and nearby Raleigh and Rolesville. Note the planned location for Wake Forest Station 4. The map on the right shows the proposed expanded Wakette fire district, now incorporating the Falls fire district. Click to enlarge:



### Established in 1970

The Falls Fire Department was established in 1970. They were incorporated on July 7, 1970. Donations were requested of \$10 per residence or business, and anyone who donated became a voting member. The fire department raised \$3,060 that first year. The fire district limit included east to the railroad tracks on Durant Road, and south on Falls of Neuse Road to the present location of Ravenscroft School.

Sam Perry was the first fire chief. The Falls Community Clubhouse became the fire house. Two fire engines were obtained, a 1956 Ford/American pumper from Six Forks FD and a 1966 military 6x6 tanker from Durham Highway FD. Readers are welcome to expand this history, and add their memories.

Mr Blogger, when spent nights a couple decades ago at the old mill-turned-condos with a girlfriend who lived there, particularly loved hearing their siren begin blasting.



### Earlier Mergers

This is the second merger for the Wake Forest Fire Department. On July 1, 1983, the Wake Forest municipal fire department and Wake Forest Rural Fire Department merged. ~~Their districts were joined.~~ Wake Forest Fire Department Inc. was chartered. At or about the same time, the town's second fire department was also merged into the organization, Wake Forest Fire Department #2, shown below, which operated from a fire station on Taylor Street.

Other fire department mergers in Wake County have included Six Forks Fire Department (1956-2002), which merged with the Bay Leaf Fire Department in 2002. And Fairgrounds Fire Department (1961-1998) and Yrac Fire Department (1961-1998), which merged to form Western Wake Fire Department in 1998. Plus a number of mergers of town and rural fire departments, in such places as Apex, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, Holly Springs, Morrisville, and Zebulon.

### Gone But Not Forgotten

The Falls Fire Department (1970-2012) will join the list of "gone but not forgotten" fire departments in Wake County (excluding aforementioned municipal and rural variants): Fairgrounds FD (1961-1998), Knightdale FD (1954-2003), Six Forks FD (1956-2002), Wake Forest FD #2 (1942-1983), Western Boulevard FD (1957-1960), and Yrac FD (1961-1998). [See much earlier blog posting](#) listing all Wake County fire departments past and present.



---

It will be interesting to see if the county or Wake Forest replaces station 5.

That is a very old and cramped building. I went by for a visit a year ago and those guy's are very dedicated and appreciate what they have. They have very nice equipment now they need a new larger facility to better serve them and their residents and businesses.



And no I'm not a memebr of Falls or Wake Forest.

**Buckwheat** - 03/22/12 - 10:44

Good luck moving forward with the merger. Hope it proves to be a success!

**Silver** - 03/22/12 - 17:05

Updated with fire district maps.

**Legeros** - 03/23/12 - 09:04

Just before 5:00 p.m. today, Wake County Fire Station 21, the Falls FD, was placed out of service, and Wake Forest Station 5 was placed in service. See some preliminary pics at <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2012-0..>

**Legeros** - 03/25/12 - 22:43

Isn't 19 Western Wake?? 21 was Falls right?

**Typo** - 03/25/12 - 23:08

Yes Falls was Station 21. Don't know who 19 is.

**RiverRat** - 03/26/12 - 02:41

Yes Western Wake is county station 19.

**911** - 03/26/12 - 10:38

Thanks for catching my error. I have corrected my comment above.

**Legeros** - 03/26/12 - 11:11

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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## North Carolina Fire Department Mergers

03/23/12 445 W - + 11 - 7

How many fire department mergers have happened in our state? Here's a quick list, based on my [database of former fire departments](#). Exclude are assorted municipal/rural mergers, where one joined with the other. And it's not indexed. Thus Black River FD is listed as part of Angier FD + Black River FD, for example.

- 54 East FD > Swepsonville FD (Alamance)
- 87 South FD > Eli Whitney FD (Alamance)
- Altapass FD + Grassy Creek FD > Parkway FD (Mitchell)
- Angier FD + Black River FD > Angier-Black River FD (Harnett)
- Battleground FD > Summerfield FD (Guilford)
- Burlington FD #2 > Burlington FD (Alamance)
- Cameron Rural FD > Circle V FD (Moore)
- Carbon City FD > Morganton FD (Burke)
- Carmel FD > Carolina FD (Mecklenburg)
- Catawba Heights FD > Mount Holly FD (Gaston)
- Chapel Grove FD > Crowder's Mountain FD (Gaston)
- Chestnut Hill FD > Salisbury FD (Rowan)
- Chestnut Ridge FD > Tryonota FD (Gaston)
- Coats FD + Grove Rural FD > Coats-Grove FD (Harnett)
- Deep River FD > High Point FD (Guilford)
- District 14 FD > Greensboro FD (Guilford)
- Edwards FD > Aurora/Richlands Township FD (Beaufort)
- Estatoe FD > Spruce Pine FD (Mitchell)
- Fairbrook FD > Hickory FD (Catawba)
- Fairgrounds FD + Yrac FD > Western Wake FD (Wake)
- Falls FD > Wake Forest FD (Wake)
- Fayetteville Airport FD > Fayetteville FD (Cumberland)
- Gilead FD > Huntersville FD (Mecklenburg)
- Guilford College FD > Greensboro FD (Guilford)
- Haw Creek FD > Asheville FD (Buncombe)
- Hazelwood FD > Waynesville FD (Haywood)
- Jamestown FD > Pinecroft-Sedgefield FD (Guilford)
- Kannapolis Sanitary District FD + Royal Oaks FD > Kannapolis FD (Cabarrus)
- Lafayette Village FD > Fayetteville FD (Cumberland)
- Lake Rim FD > Fayetteville FD (Cumberland)
- Lucama FD > Crossroads FD (Wilson)
- Manteo FD + Wanchese FD > Roanoke Island FD (Dare)
- Mt. Tabor FD > Vienna FD (Forsyth)
- Mt. Ulla-Bear Poplar FD + Centenary FD > West Rowan FD (Rowan)
- North Asheboro FD > Asheboro FD (Randolph)
- Pinoca FD > West Mecklenburg FD (Mecklenburg)
- Rocky River FD + Locust FD > West Stanly FD (Stanly)
- Salter Path FD > Indian Beach FD (Carteret)
- Shiloh FD + Oakland FD + Danielstown FD > Shiloh-Danielstown-Oakland FD (Rutherford)
- Six Forks FD > Bay Leaf FD (Wake)
- South Fork FD > Clemmons FD (Forsyth)
- South Gastonia FD > Crowder's Mountain FD (Gaston)
- Spray FD + Leaksville FD + Draper FD > Eden FD (Rockingham)

- St. Timothy FD > Conover FD (Catawba)
- Startown FD > Newton FD (Catawba)
- Tyler Town FD > North Raeford FD (Hoke)
- Viewmont FD > Hickory FD (Catawba)
- Wake Forest FD #2 > Wake Forest FD (Wake)
- West Asheville FD > Asheville FD (Buncombe)
- Wilkinson Boulevard FD + Moores Chapel FD > West Mecklenburg FD (Mecklenburg)
- Winecoff FD > Kannapolis FD (Cabarrus)

I think Long Acre VFD in Beaufort County merged with Pinetown VFD

**Steven** ([Email](#)) - 03/24/12 - 12:25

I understand that Beaver Lane FD in Union County was a merger of Beaver Lane Rescue Squad & Marshville FD from talking with one of their members.

**bfd1151** - 03/24/12 - 14:22

West Sanford Rural FD merged/absorbed by Northview Rural FD in Lee County last year.

**CFD72** - 03/24/12 - 23:52

Manchester FD was absorbed Spring Lake FD in Cumberland county in the mid 90s i believe

**justin** - 03/25/12 - 09:24

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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**Emergency Cigar Delivery Vehicle**

03/25/12 61 W, 2 I - + 11 - 3

Seen this weekend in North Myrtle Beach. Top is a converted Chevrolet ambulance or rescue truck outside Nick's Cigar World on Kings Highway. Bottom is a gutted Ford pumper outside a pawn shop, also on Kings Highway. That one's seen better days. [See a prior posting](#) with four other old engines from there. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name

Remember personal info?

## MOVED - Fort Fisher Fire Departments

12/17/14 19 W - + 13 - 12

This content has been moved to <http://legeros.com/history/military/fort-fisher/>

(Kure Beach is New Hanover County.)

The old Fort Fisher Air Base fire station was two bays if I remember correctly. I was a grommet then. I think it had an old Mack CF Engine which they donated to Federal Point after they closed. I don't think the building is still there.

**Ryan** - 03/25/12 - 23:18

<http://www.arff.info/forums/archive/inde..>

When Ft. Fisher was an active operation there was one fire protection specialist (the fire chief) assigned to the station. He/she had about 15 augmentees (polite military term to tell you that you're a volunteer) assigned to assist during fire operations. We got those people one day a month for training. Other duties for the chief were everything else that dealt with fire protection. I also had the additional duty of site safety officer. We had a 530B pumper (later replaced by a P-8D). If there was a fire they blew the base siren and everyone ran to the fire station and called operations on the phone to see where to go. It was definately an interesting assignment.

**Google Find** - 03/26/12 - 12:04

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

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Notify:            Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:        Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Topsail Towers - Operation Bumblebee

03/25/12 215 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

At the end of World War II, the United States Navy established a missile testing facility on Topsail Island. The site was one of three along the Atlantic coast, part of a top-secret project for assembling, firing, monitoring, and perfecting experimental ramjet missiles. Navy and Marine personnel, numbering 500 men, arrived in mid-1946 to begin installing the necessary facilities. The buildings included a number of masonry observation towers that are still standing, both beach- and sound-side.



The site was placed in operation in March 1947. They launched an estimated 200 rockets over the next 18 months. The site was closed, as the location didn't meet the needs of a permanent base due to weather conditions and increased sea traffic. But the towers are still standing, as is the assembly building, which most recently was converted to the [museum about the program](#). Read a bit more on [this Wikipedia page](#). Or read a [detailed history via Google books](#) in Ray McAllister's *Topsail Island: Mayberry by the Sea*. Very good history there. Some of the structures are also listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#). Read the [documentation from 1993](#), which contains quite a bit of details.

[See photos by Mike Legeros.](#)

[Read detailed information about each tower.](#)

Mike there is also a lot of history associated with this operation in the nearby town of Holly Ridge, 5 miles north of the island on Hwy 50. That's where a military base called Camp Davis was established in the 1940's to support Operation Bumblebee. You can google it and find a lot of information. Some of the building foundations are still visible on Hwy 50 and an air strip is still present today and being used by Camp LeJeune and New River Air Station. Jusy a little extra info, buddy.

**Don Johnson** - 03/25/12 - 11:59

Thanks, Don. Sounds like I need to plan another visit down there, to poke around the Camp Davis site, as well as find those other towers!

**Legeros** - 03/25/12 - 13:31

Updated with more photos and corrected locations and information about the towers. Think I got them all straight, now!



Legeros - 03/31/12 - 00:42

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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

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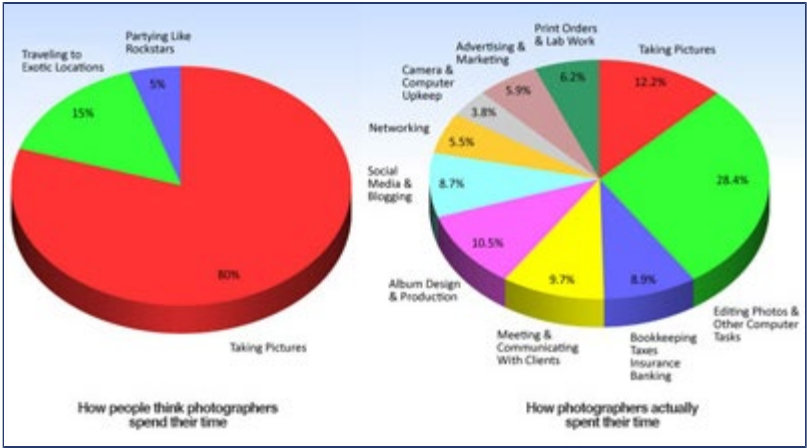
**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



How Photographers Spend Their Time

03/26/12 45 W, 1 I - + 11 - 7

Credit this great graphic to [www.ispwp.com](http://www.ispwp.com), in a posting titled *The Secret Life of Wedding Photographers*. It translates pretty well to fire photographers. Absolutely great graphic. Will party like a rock star for food. Click to enlarge:



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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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Caption This Photo / Big Drum

03/28/12 94 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums participated in Sunday's ceremony at the Falls fire station, celebrating the merger (e.g. operational consolidation) of the Falls Fire Department and the Wake Forest Fire Department. [See earlier posting](#) about same. [See event photos](#) from Legeros. The pictures were made with a pair of Canon DSLR cameras, one short lens and one long. External flash with diffuser, sometimes bounced, sometimes direct. Crazy lighting conditions at times. Slowly, steadily getting better at indoor photos.



When did Uncle Fester learn to play the drums?

This is John Lovett. He is quite a drummer and has played with the Top Secret drum corp. Youtube them. Pretty cool

**Mike** - 03/28/12 - 13:57

What kind of ISO can that lens give for night photos???

**2redline** - 03/28/12 - 23:25

"...wonder if I get a hawaiian print shirt to match my kilt..."

**Joe Brady** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 03/30/12 - 14:17

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

## Cary Rescue 2 Revealed

03/28/12 56 W, 1 I - + 10 - 6

Here's a nice shot of Cary Rescue 2 with all compartments open and the light tower in action. Photographer Lee Wilson snapped this and some others yesterday. [See more photos](#). The 2012 Pierce Velocity is one of two delivered in January, along with a 2012 Pierce Velocity platform also delivered that month.



*Lee Wilson photo*

Welcome to the area. Take a look at this thread, where the trucks were discussed and such questions were asked already:

<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

**Legeros** - 03/28/12 - 22:06

I think it's a good question, LAFD. Raleigh currently has 3 rescues. Soon Raleigh will be sending 2 ladder companies on all structure fire calls compared to the current 1 ladder on residential structure fire calls (4E,1L,1R,1BC) and 2 ladders on commercial and multi-residential (4E,2L,1R,1BC). When the change takes place near the end of this year Raleigh will be dropping down to only 1 heavy rescue which will have a minimum staffing of 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, and 4 Firefighters.

**Rescue Ranger** - 03/28/12 - 22:47

Rescue Ranger- RFD is increasing its rescue staffing? This is a great step in the right direction... 6 people on a rescue!!! Congrats to RFD for recognizing the need for additional people on a necessary unit!

**Bob P.** - 03/28/12 - 23:45

I will believe it when I see it on paper! Not trying be ugly but all the fluff about us going to 1 rescue with 6 versus 2 rescues with 4. Every couple weeks we hear it flip flopping back and forth! Most of us know 2 with 4 would fit us better! But just like every fire truck has a tail board big or small, it's just my 2 cents! But just for fun since we are discussing it lets talk about where to put the one heavy rescue? 9 is the center of the city, also we talked about it at work and a easy way to use our current rescues to ride 6, just take out the inside/cab storage compartment and put 2 seats in it like the new engines! Any way cool truck Cary! congrates!

**Jason Lane** - 03/29/12 - 02:20

Congrats to Raleigh for the upcoming reconfiguration! Is the City going to buy a new heavy rig or utilize one of the current Pierce rescues?

**Charlie H** - 03/29/12 - 03:56

The town of Cary has dual companies with well staffed apparatus at every station. They have the money to spend on apparatus, (overkill or not) to protect there citizens while still giving the crews raises... more power to them. I am glad I live and work in Cary's fire district.

**Brian** - 03/29/12 - 11:59

Oops Dual\*

**Brian** - 03/29/12 - 21:31

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Committee Approves Land Acquisition for Fire Station 29

03/28/12 122 W - + 10 - 4

Press release. The Raleigh City Council Budget and Economic Development Committee has approved acquisition of two parcels for the construction of Fire Station 29. The City of Raleigh Fire Department has been working with Williard Ferm Architects, P.A. for the development of the Fire Station 29 site located at [12113 Leesville Road](#). As a part of the design process it became apparent that the assemblage of additional property would greatly reduce the construction cost of the facility. The committee has approved the condemnation of one property and the swap of another. The property acquisitions must be approved by the entire City Council. They will be considered at the Council’s April 3 meeting. [Read entire press release](#).

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## Reader Mail - March 2012

03/28/12 578 W - + 11 - 5

Let's open the mailbag. Low creative energies at this time. And since I am already reading and filing mail at this moment...

Q: Mike, I saw this in the Wilmington paper. Thought you may be interested in it .Enjoy your website very much.

<http://www.starnewsonline.com/article/20120224/ARTICLES/120229802/1004/>

A: Thanks, that's an interesting story about the city testing preemption technology for stoplights.

--

Q: Hey Mike, some New Bern Fire Department trailers were recently broken into. If you can pass the word around up there about this, we would greatly appreciate. There are some low people out there. <http://www.newbernsj.com/articles/equipment-105333-fire-burglary.html>.

A: Thanks for the story link. Saw that [FireNews.net](http://www.firenews.net) had posted same. I will add to my next posting of morning or evening reading.

--

Q: Someone showed me a fire bucket they owned a while back and asked why the bottom of the bucket is rounded, and not able to stand up on it own. I could not think of a reason. I saw a similar bucket in the Raleigh Fire Museum. Do you know why they are made that way?

A: Such buckets had rounded bottoms so they couldn't be re-purposed for regular use. You couldn't set them down, or they'd roll over. Thus they had to hang on a wall, for fire use only.

--

Q: I have an idea for a blog topic. In Montgomery County, VA, earlier this month, the death of retired firefighter was reported. He had just retired from Elliston Volunteer FD, where he served as a member for 55 years. It may be interesting hear from your readers about some of the long-time firefighters in various departments around Raleigh and Wake County, and also who some of the long-time chief officers (past and present) are or were. Just an idea.

A: That's an intriguing idea. Let me ponder that one. And shoot back your thoughts on this, readers. How would one start such a quest?

--

Q: I moved to Raleigh with an old scanner my dad had, and since all the frequencies have changed, it will not pick up anything. What kind do I need to get to pick up police, EMS, etc? I think from what my neighbor told me, who is a Raleigh Police Officer, that I need a 800 megahertz? Also, do you know where I can get one that will not cost me a arm and a leg?

A: If you want to listen to Raleigh FD dispatches only (154.370) or Wake County FD dispatches only (154.190), a simple/old VHF scanner will work fine. But to hear the cross-traffic, a digital trunking 800 mhz scanner is required. Those run in the \$300+ range. Some years ago, the local agencies migrated from VHF to the statewide VIPER system. The two "alert" talkgroups, above, are rebroadcast on VHF, for the benefit of people with analog pagers. You could also "sample" the waters by listening to online feeds. Maybe start looking around here: <http://www.radioreference.com/apps/db/?ctid=1978> and <http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?ctid=1978>

--

Q: Hey, I was looking at a Radio Shack scanner on sale, PRO-163 1000-Channel Triple Trunking Scanner. Do you have any experience with it?

A: I don't believe that scanner is capable of monitoring our local VIPER traffic, e.g. the public safety talkgroups. See this thread:  
<http://forums.radioreference.com/north-carolina-radio-discussion-forum/218132-martin-county-nc-new-frequencies.html>

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - March Episode of « Reader Mail - March 2... » Tanker Rollover in Gr... FireWatch - Firefighters Recounts Flashover

### March Episode of FireWatch - Firefighters Recounts Flashover

03/29/12 115 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

The [March 2012 episode](#) of the Raleigh Fire Department's cable television series FireWatch is now available online. In the latest episode, Fire Educator Ron Campbell talks with Raleigh Fire Department Capt. Alan Lee, Senior Firefighter Shane Canady, and Senior Firefighter Marty Pleasant from Engine 2, about their experiences and lessons learned at a flashover at a recent house fire in Garner.

FireWatch airs on the RTN-11 cable television channel on Monday (12:30 p.m.) Friday (11:00 a.m.), Saturday (11:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.) and Sunday (2:30 p.m., 8:30 a.m.). [Or view archived episodes of FireWatch.](#) (Also [check this page](#), and scroll down about halfway, for links to all past episodes.)



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**Tanker Rollover in Graham County**

03/29/12 60 W, 1 I - + 14 - 5

[FireNews.net](#) has [posted photos](#) of yesterday's tanker rollover in Graham County. The apparatus from Stecoah Fire Department overturned on Highway 28 near Fontana. The driver received minor injuries. Notes the story, one of the first people on scene was a retired fire chief from Florida who was hiking the Appalachian Trail.



*FireNews.net photo*

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Yes  
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Commercial Roof Collapse Close Call - What it Looks Like

03/30/12 42 W, 1 I - + 11 - 4

Single-story commercial structure in Dearborn, Michigan, yesterday. See this [Firefighter Close Calls posting](#) or this [Statter911 story](#). Both with links to high-quality, very-close [aerial footage from WXYZ-TV](#).



Click On Detroit photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

Ladder Climbers: Female Fire Captains Love Their Careers

03/30/12 131 W, 1 I - + 14 - 2

The Greensboro *News & Record* published this story last week by staff writer Taft Wireback. Great opening paragraphs: "Save your 'Gee whiz, ain't that cute?'" reaction for some other challenge to gender stereotypes. City fire [Captains] Wendy Cheek and Carol Key say that they and hundreds of other female firefighters nationwide have moved way beyond that." The article is a profile of the Greensboro Fire Department's two highest-ranking female firefighters on active duty. The department has 25 female members in its ranks of 500-plus. (Doesn't say if that's line personnel or all personnel.) Theirs is heritage going back 30 years and which has produced a Deputy Chief along the way. [Read the story.](#)



Jerry Wolford/News & Record photo

Name: (real name preferred)

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Yes

No

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## Airport Drill, 1979

03/31/12 105 W, 1 I - + 14 - 7

While we ramp up (ha!) for this morning's disaster drill at the airport (camera, check. Umbrella, check), here's a blast from the past on that subject. November 4, 1979. Alarm sounded at 2:33 p.m. Within 30 seconds, recounted the news account, crash trucks were spraying water on smoke bombs. Eleven minutes later, Morrisville fire units arriving and began administering aid to the "patients." Response times from off-airport are considerably better three decades later. We might even have some readers who were there, and can tell about the "old days" at the airport fire department. Click to enlarge:



*News & Observer photo*

Yep. I was working that day. We even landed a MAST chopper from Ft Bragg. Of course, that patient had already been transported, along with a few other 'trauma' patients to Rex...

**DJ** - 03/31/12 - 15:05

More- On that day I was riding 2nd on #4 (then called CT-4). We had upstaffed for the drill to two per truck (we normally had, at that time, four people total on duty during the day and three at night). My job that day was to get out and 'triage' the 'victims'. I remember the three there that are in the picture at the 'beam'. My 'triage' kit that day consisted of a carpenter's apron (emblazoned with 'RDU CFR'), dozens of triage tags, fishing weights, and a hole puncher. I filled out a tag for each person, and tied it to them. I tore off a perforated corner of the tag, punched a hole in it, and attached one of the fishing weights to it, and then dropped it at the patient's location. Each tag, as well as the tear-off corners, had a serial number. By matching the numbers on the corners I dropped to the main tag number, FAA investigators would know where each patient was found, aiding in their investigation of the crash. I also had to wear full turnout gear while triaging that day- cotton duck turnout coat and pants with nylon liners, leather gloves from Pete's Hardware in Cary, and my brand new Cairns #770 Philadelphia helmet, complete with my number (9) on the front in Scotchlite, and EMERG MED TECH crescents on each side.

Oh yeah, and the reason it only took 30 seconds to begin spraying the smoke pots? The 'crash site' was about 100 yards from the fire station.

**DJ** - 03/31/12 - 19:30

Thanks for the memories, Dale. We really need a picture of you then to go with the narrative!

**Legeros** - 03/31/12 - 23:23

Mike- there is a slide somewhere. I will see if I can find it.

Airport Drill, 2012

03/31/12 133 W, 1 I - + 14 - 9

Here's the "now" photo from today's disaster drill at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. No smoke bombs this time, but quite a bit of real rain. The bus in the background was serving as a section of fuselage. Airport Emergency Services were first on scene, followed fire and EMS units from Wake and Durham counties. All were staged on airport property, but staggered their responses to replicate actual travel times. They included RDU CFR, Raleigh FD, Morrisville FD, Cary FD, Parkwood FD, Bethesda FD, Durham Highway FD, Wake County EMS, Cary EMS, Apex EMS, Eastern Wake EMS, Parkwood EMS, and Durham EMS. (Who got missed?) Plus law enforcement, fire marshal offices, emergency management, and more. Photos by Legeros forthcoming. Give me a day or so. Click to enlarge this picture.



Great photos of the Sky Drill.  
**Philyaw** - 04/04/12 - 01:37

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E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Attack of the Batmobiles!

03/31/12 107 W, 1 I - + 16 - 10

Now let's get our geek on with [footage from Josh Turchetta](#) shot last night in Hollywood, where Warner Brothers gathered five Batmobiles for filming. There's the 1966 television version by George Barris. There's the 1989 film version designed by Anton Furst for *Batman* and *Batman Returns*. There are the Schumacher sequel versions, from *Batman Forever* and *Batman and Robin*. And finally the Tumbler from the Christopher Nolan films *Batman Begins* and *The Dark Knight*. Wouldn't you love to take any of those babies for a spin? That's Danny Elfman's music from *Batman Returns* as background music, methinks. [Big nod to AICN](#). Click to watch:



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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

The Raleigh Fire Department is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Special events are planned including a birthday party in downtown Raleigh on Saturday, June 16. The celebration starts with a parade at 10:00 a.m. Departments and antique owners throughout the southeast are invited. After the parade, there'll be an apparatus muster with static displays and antique pumping demonstrations. As well as firefighter games, with four challenge events are planned. Fire departments throughout the state are invited to send teams. Plus activities that day for kids and their parents. Plus a shuttle bus to the fire museum. And a few more surprises. Learn more at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com), which was re-launched this weekend with an all-new site design and updated content.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CAPITAL CITY

 **RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT**

[RFD100.com Home](#) [Birthday Party Activities](#) [Events](#) [Maps](#) [Register to Participate](#) [RFD Historical Timeline](#) [Contact](#)

1912-2012

One Hundred Years of Bravery and Service







**Retiree Luncheon**  
Tuesday, April 30, 2012



**Birthday Party**  
Saturday, June 16, 2012



**Fireman's Ball**  
Saturday, November 17, 2012

Commemorative Items



Learn More about RFD

[Raleigh Fire Department](#)  
[Raleigh Fire Museum](#)

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Connect With Us



[About RFD100.com](#)  
This is the official website of the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Morning Reading - April 1, 2012

04/01/12 512 W - + 8 - 5

No fooling here. Busy with other things. Maybe can craft some satirical or spoofing postings tonight. Processing photos this morning from yesterday's airport drill. Maybe 350 keepers. Maybe more. Dreadful to think how many pictures would have resulted on a sunny day! Guess holding an umbrella didn't prove too hampering. Still another day need to get those posted.

- [Dial 919 not 911](#) - That's my headline for yesterday's News & Observer story about mandatory 10-digit dialing in the Triangle and the increase in accidental 911 calls. Makes sense that telephone systems ignore subsequent digits after the second "1" follows the sequence "9" and "1". Believe at least one local television station also covered that story.
- [Knightdale to change policy on volunteers for fire department](#) - FireNews.net posting of Eastern Wake News story, about the town's efforts to craft a new personnel policy with regard to nepotism. Three volunteer firefighters were fired on February 29, prohibiting employment of married couples or kinfolk.
- Who was Bum Farto? - The infamous story of a Key West Fire Chief as recounted by Tom Parquette as three-part series on Firegeezzer.com. Read [part one](#), and [part two](#), and [part three](#). Then take a photo tour of the area with Yours Truly and pictures of the [Key West fire museum](#), historic [Key West firehouses](#), and some old [missile towers in town](#).
- Speaking of the beach - Last weekend saw a short trip to Myrtle Beach and with a return ride by way of Topsail Island. All photos were taken with a iPhone 4S and posted in real-time to Facebook. Pretty good results, though battery issues were an issue. And, um, forgot to share the photo album on day one. So nobody saw anything until that evening. See for yourself: [photos from the road](#) and the [Topsail towers](#).
- [How does \\$1,000 for house fires and \\$600 for car fires grab you?](#) - CBS New York story about a Passaic, NJ, proposal to charge for fire calls. Saw this one as a headline on Drudge, and was also reader-submitted. Number of interesting issues there. But what are the unintended consequences? Makes me think of a discussion once had with a veteran responder, and his take on why citizens regard 'medics (and EMS services) differently than firefighters (and fire departments). Because, he noted, the former is the only one of the two that sends you a bill after you call them. What say you?
- [When firefighters argue](#) - That's my headline for a Statter911 posting about a house fire in Glenn Dale, Maryland, and raw video from Tom Yeatman of the Prince Georges County Fire Department. There are 99 comments so far and they're pretty heated throughout. Why do firefighters like to argue so much? Is simply (and perhaps admirably) a function of their passion for the profession? Does social media or the ability to anonymous post comments add, er, fuel to that fire? Dave's site is my favorite for such things. Things never seem to get too personal, nor stray too far off-topic.

---

Talking about chargeing for fires. Many departments in Johnston county are chargeing for MVC's. If you land a helicopter it can pay out in excess of \$1200. The insurance companies are the ones getting billed through a contracted company with the county.

**911** - 04/02/12 - 13:40

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Remember personal info?

Yes  
No



Here They Come

04/01/12 95 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

Let's have another picture from yesterday's drill at the airport. Still in the process of post-processing. Heard it's Sunday afternoon already and it might even be sunny outside! This shot is more low-resolution than high-resolution, due to lower light, higher ISO, and a fair amount of cropping. The guy with the camera (cough, cough) should've been a bit closer. Canon 40 D with an EF 70-200mm f/4L lens. Focal length 184mm. Program AE mode. 1/1600 shutter, 13.0 aperature. ISO of 1600. Saved as RAW, processed using Canon Digital Photo Professional. Click to enlarge:



Great pick, looks almost staged ;) Cool to see how they are staggered so the drivers can see rather than just play follow the leader

**Adam** - 04/01/12 - 14:55

We typically do stagger and the drivers communicate on a private channel on intentions (i.e. if passing or stopping short, going wide etc....)

**CFR** - 04/01/12 - 19:31

8V92 sounding off

**Rob Mitchell** - 04/01/12 - 21:58

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Old Engine Near McGee's Crossroads

04/02/12 71 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Lee Wilson photographed this old soldier last week, a Ford/Oren/Grumman engine that served Sarecta Fire Department in Duplin County. Former Engine 4. The truck is located off Highway 50 near McGee's Crossroads. That's also near Stephenson's Bar-B-Q, which is north of Highway 210 on Highway 50. Best barbecue (on bone) in these parts, says me. [See more photos](#) (of the engine, not of 'cue).



Lee Wilson photo

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Yes

No

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Haz-Mat 2 Moved to Station 27

04/02/12 138 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

The Raleigh Fire Department has affected some changes to its hazardous materials team effective yesterday, April 1. Notable is the moving of Haz-Mat 2 from Station 15 to Station 27. Their respective crews also swapped station. The lower call volume will help the engine company members with time requirements for their haz-mat duties.

Haz-Mat 2 is one of two tractor-drawn haz-mat trucks operated by the city. The 1995 International/Hackney is operated as part of North Carolina Haz-Mat Regional Response Team 4.

The units are Haz-Mat 1 at Station 2 (2006 Freightliner/Hackney), SR1 at Station 2 (1991 Simon-Duplex/E-One, haz-mat support), SR2 at Station 8 (2008 Ford F-350 Super Duty plus cargo trailers, air monitoring/recon), and SR3 at Station 22 (2005 Ford F-550 prime mover plus fifth-wheel decon trailer). Memo to self: update my web pages. [See a few more photos](#) from Lee Wilson.



Lee Wilson photo

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## Mini Tank and Mother Engine, 1969

04/02/12 189 W, 1 I - + 10 - 7

Here's an intriguing find from eBay, a concept drawing of an airport fire engine published in the *Boston Herald* on April 27, 1969. The caption read "mini tank and mother engine." Google finds a couple archived new stories about the drawing. UPI out of Frankfurt, Germany, reported: "The solution to the ever-present danger of landing or takeoff crashes, intensified by the 400-plus passenger capacity of a jumbo jet, is a small, radio-controlled mini-tank capable of climbing over blazing wreckage and blasting a fire-free patch to passengers with a foam cannon."

The article notes the "mini tank" is "about the size of a child's pedal automobile, can be released down a ramp, and directed from the cab." The small unit is connected via an asbestos-lined hose. Three West German firms were building the truck for Fire Chief Ernst Achilles at a cost of about \$200,000. The Chief's inspiration came from a German World War II failure, a radio-controlled tiny tank called the "Goliath" that was unsuccessfully used against Russian tanks. Wonder what the prototype looked like?



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## Early History of Falls Fire Department

04/03/12 1317 W - + 6 - 5

Here's an early history of the Falls Fire Department, which merged last weekend with the Wake Forest Fire Department. A version of this history was read during the ceremony by Asst. Chief Marcus Wells.

### Background

The Falls community developed around the falls of the Neuse River in northern Wake County. The Falls of Neuse Community Club was incorporated with the state on November 19, 1954. Land for a community center at the presently addressed 11908 Falls of Neuse Road was donated in November 1954 by Erwin Cotton Mills. The lot size was 0.29 acres.<sup>1</sup>

Rural fire protection in the county started during that decade, with unincorporated communities around Raleigh and Wake Forest protected by newly forming fire departments such as Six Forks, Stony Hill, and Western Boulevard.

By the late 1960s, the Falls community relied upon fire protection from Stony Hill, Wake Forest, Rolesville, Wake-New Hope, Six Forks, and Bay Leaf fire departments. Each of those fire stations, however, was a fair distance from the community.

In 1969, the Falls Community Club, and with the advisement of then county commissioner Hal Trentman, took on the organization of the fire department as their project.

### Incorporated

The Falls Volunteer Fire Department was incorporated with the state on July 7, 1970. Listed on the Articles of Incorporation were five directors:

- Melvin C. Jackson
- Bruce L. Fonville
- William H. Blackmon
- William D. Jackson
- Linwood E. Barham

The incorporators were listed as

- Melvin C. Jackson
- Linwood E. Barham
- William D. Jackson

### First Apparatus

They purchased their first piece of fire apparatus was a converted Army 2 1/2-ton, three-axle truck with a 1,400 gallon water tank. The truck was purchased for \$500 from the Durham Highway Fire Department. The money was raised through fundraisers, donations, and charging district patrons \$10 to join the Falls Fire District Inc.

The second piece of fire apparatus purchased was a 1956 Ford/American pumper with a front mounted Barton pump. It was equipped with a 500 GPM pump and carried 500 gallons of water. It was bought from Six Forks Fire Department for \$2,500.<sup>2</sup> The Ladies Auxiliary paid for most of the purchase, with money made from barbecues and craft shows.

### Training and Equipment

The first Fire Chief was the late Sam Perry and the department had 24 members at the start. They received permission from the Falls Community Club to build two apparatus to be attached to the community center building. Most of the work was done by members of the department and was finished by contracted builders. Two years later, two more bays were added.

Firefighting equipment was purchased as money became available, while neighboring fire departments donated hose, nozzles, and more. Training was provided by Captain Jimmy Warren of the Raleigh Fire Department. He came out once a week and taught basic firefighting to the

members. At the time, only one member had any prior firefighting experience.

In the early years of the department, several members would attend a yearly week-long class at Wilson Technical Community College to get their training.

## **Water and Taxes**

Since the nearest fire hydrants were 8 to 10 miles away, it became apparent that more water was needed in case there was a large fire. The department purchased a used oil truck from one of the local oil distributors. This unit was used as a second tanker. All three vehicles were parked in the two bays, until the other two bays were added.

On October 5, 1970 (see below), the Wake County Commissioners recognized Falls Volunteer Fire Department Inc. as a county department. A referendum was [later?] held and the residents of the Falls Fire District were asked to vote on receiving a 10 cent on the \$100 dollar valuation of taxed property to support the fire department. The referendum passed by a vote of 42 for and two against. The first full year of tax revenues was \$3,060.

Wake County provided each rural fire department \$125 per month at the time, and also matched funds for communication equipment. The county's rural fire departments (18 plus Falls) were dispatched by the Raleigh Fire Department, from a communications center at Station 1.

## **Fire District**

On October 5, 1970, County Civil Defense Director John C. Throne asked county commissioners to recognize the new Falls Fire Department district and approve its boundaries. They were presumably approved on that date.

The approval would allow the department to start operation, and which would result in lower fire insurance rates for residents. The fire department had 21 men at the time. The Board of Directors was led by Linwood Barham.

The 11-square mile district roughly bordered a six-mile stretch of Falls of Neuse Road, south to the present Ravenscroft School, east on Durant Road (then named Neuse Road) to the railroad tracks, west to Six Forks Road, and north to Highway 98. The district also included a northern section of Litchford Road.

The Falls Fire Department was assigned the Wake County fire station number 21.

## **More Apparatus**

In 1974, the department bought its first new fire truck chassis. They mounted the 1,200-gallon tank from the oil tanker onto the 1973 Chevrolet chassis. The tank was also modified for a quick dump system. In 1977, with increased tax revenues, fundraisers, donations, and a loan from FHA, the department purchased its first completely new truck, a 1978 FMC/Bean pumper with a 750 GPM pump and a 750 gallon tank.

Other early and later apparatus:

- 1984 Chevrolet Custom Deluxe 30 brush truck, 250 gallons.
- 1984 Chevrolet Suburban, purchased used.
- 1987 Ford 8000/E-One pumper tanker, 1250 GPM pump, 1000 gallons.
- 1989 Ford 8000/E-One pumper tanker, 1250 GPM pump, 1000 gallons.
- 1994 E-One Sentry pumper tanker, 1250 GPM, 1000 gallons.

## **Falls Lake**

In 1978, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers started construction of a dam at the river falls. Before that time, flooding of the Neuse River caused extensive damage to public and private properties down river. The Falls Lake project was created as a flood-control solution. The dam that holds the lake was completed in 1981. Among the changes created by the lake was the demolition of the Six Forks Road bridge. Today, Falls Lake is a 12,410 acre reservoir that extends into Durham and Granville counties.

## **First Responder**

In the early 1980s, fire departments in Wake County began offering First Responder services. In 1984, the Falls Fire Department initiated the program. The decision was made due to the length response times of EMS units responding from Raleigh (Wake County EMS), Six Forks (Six Forks EMS), and Wake Forest (Northern Wake EMS).

Linwood E. Barham, a charter member, taught the First Responder class twice weekly. The first females also joined the fire department as a result of the First Responder program.

**Paid Members and Duty Crews**

In the 1980s, the call volume was increasing and the need for daytime personnel was growing. The department was also looking into buying land across the street from the community center for a new fire station. Since the department was not receiving enough revenues from the fire district tax base to do both, they decided to hire paid day personnel instead of buying land.

The first all-volunteer duty crew was started in 2002. They were paid beginning in 2008, and received 25 dollars a night.

**River Rats**

The department's nickname "River Rats" was used by Falls Community members when they played baseball against Stony Hill Community members, the "Possums". The community members took the name from a group of local young men in the community that called themselves "The River Rats."

<sup>1</sup>Erwin Mills operated in a three-story granite building that's still standing. The structure was built in 1890 and expanded in 1895. The following year, it was converted from a paper mill to a textile mille. The names changed over the years until finally Erwin Mills. The textile operations, mainly warehousing, discontinued in 1959. The building was renovated for condominiums, which were completed in 1996.

<sup>2</sup>Both pieces of apparatus were the first fire engines for the Durham Highway and Six Forks fire departments, respectively.

Sources:

- Falls Fire Department.
- Mike Legeros records.
- New Rural Fire Department Planned for Wake County - News & Observer, October 1, 1970.
- North Carolina Secretary of State Corporation Records.

I work for a fire hose company in Ohio that has warehouses throughout the United States. I have recently began to read various blogs about rural and volunteer fire departments, especially about funding, grants and training. Your blog about the history of your fire department is interesting and very good. I am going to check our archives and see if we have ever sent any fire hose to your fire department. Thanks for all that you do.

**Keith Eriksen** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 04/09/12 - 18:00

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Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.



## What They See

04/04/12 396 W - + 7 - 7

[Dave Statter posted this nifty video](#) this week of an apartment fire in Indianapolis. The thirteen-minute clip is citizen footage, probably shot by a neighbor, and depicting what looks like a fire in the attic space. This is what they saw as they watched and moved around (and in fairly close proximity) to the burning building. It's also a good example of what people see when there's a "contained fire" where they live. Some flames sprouting, some smoke showing, but most of what's happening is inside and thus outside their view. There's audio as well, and you can listen to their reactions (though they're speaking Spanish).

This clip gets me thinking about public education and particularly fire service marketing. What's the difference, you ask? Public education is the broad label. It encompasses everything from teaching children how to "stop, drop, and roll" to the detailed station tours given to community groups. But let's look at a hierarchy of needs. The greatest priority is certainly citizen safety. Teaching the basics, such as (a.) how to react in a fire, (b.) how to escape a fire, and (c.) how to contact the fire department. The next level is probably contextual. What the fire department does, where the fire stations are located, why they send a fire truck when you call for an ambulance, etc. And from there, we start sliding into marketing.

What is marketing? We'll define the "M" as "communicating the value of something for someone else." But if everyone already knows that a fire department is necessary to extinguish fires when they happen, why is marketing needed? That's where this video gets me thinking. Communicating / explaining / teaching some of the basics of how fire departments do their work. Why do they take their hoses inside, for example, instead of spraying water from the outside (and from the moment they arrive)?

From there, the questions come rapidly. Logistics. How the heck do you communicate to such a large and diverse (including non-English speaking) audience? Resources. If you're already taxed performing core public education, where's the time or talent for more comprehensive marketing? Value. And what are your measurements? How do you quantify or qualify that marketing worked? Good questions, and maybe a good discussion starter this morning. Either here or where you are.

Navy Lab Tests Firefighting Robots

04/05/12 31 W - + 5 - 3

Found on the Firehouse.com forums. [Here's the accompanying story](#), from AolDefense. But will they add a big bushy mustache to the final version?

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Morning Reading - April 6, 2012

04/06/12 280 W - + 5 - 8

Good morning Raleigh. Holiday weekend and with good weather during the day hours. Bit chilly at night, though this Minnesota-born boy doesn't mind it. Will take cold over hot any day. Couple articles for your Friday reading...

- [Asheville bridge to be renamed for Capt. Jeff Bowen](#) - The state Board of Transportation yesterday reversed an earlier decision regarding renaming Smoky Park Bridge in Asheville for fallen firefighter Capt. Jeff Bowen. They unanimously reversed their March 7 decision, citing considerable public concern. Many parties campaigned for the decision to be overturned, including over 7,700 people who signed an online petition.
- [Local blogger medic wants Interstate 40 bridge renamed for fallen EMT](#) - Taking inspiration from the state's decision, local blogger medic Dale Johnson is starting a campaign to remember Michael Jackson. He was a part-time EMT for Mid South Ambulance Service in Smithfield, and was killed on Interstate 40 just west of Harrison Avenue on February 5, 1995. He and his partner had stopped to help at an motor-vehicle accident. Jackson was struck when the brakes failed on a truck that struck his ambulance, and that struck and killed him instantly.
- [Baltimore Fire Department announces company closures](#) - Statter911 reports on yesterday's announcement by BCFD to close Truck 10, Truck 15, and Squad 11 on July 1. They'll also move Engine 33, Truck 27, Truck 6, and Rescue 1. The changes are part of the department's efforts to end rotating closures. Among the reporting is the inclusion of [slides from a presentation](#) on the department's strategic analysis. Gives a little peek into the sausage-making process. Doesn't look like the [Baltimore City Watch Desk](#) is alive with the topic, yet. Believe participation on that forum has dropped in recent years.

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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Raleigh Fire Museum Photo Card

04/06/12 181 W, 1 I - + 13 - 5

Advertising is tricky. You want their attention, but also their trust. Whatever you're showing or selling or promoting, it's lose-lose if the targeted audience goes away unhappy. Thus this photo card that we've designed for the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#). That's the 501(c)3 non-profit organization formerly named the Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society.

The photo's from a [last year's shoot at Station 28](#), where the city's antique apparatus are stored. And it's a compelling photo and seemingly ready-made for advertising. Slap the museum name and be done, right? Maybe not quite. The museum's located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive. The antique are stored at Station 28, 3500 Forestville Road. Two separate locations on two sides of town.

Thus a bit more explanation is needed. And a clear explanation, so a museum visitor doesn't expect a larger facility filled with fire trucks. (That's the long-term plan.) Thus the two attractions listed under the museum name on photo below. Much better. Much clearer. See you next Saturday, April 14, at the museum. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

## Aftermath of Virginia Beach Fighter Crash

04/07/12 180 W, 1 I - + 8 - 8

[Found in this Firegeezzer post](#), here's a nifty Navy photo of the aftermath of yesterday's F-18 crash into an apartment complex in Virginia Beach. [Here's the original high-resolution image](#) from the US Navy. Observe the crash truck that's between the buildings in the center of the frame. Anyone seen a run card for this incident yet? The jet landed in the courtyard, which was miraculous unto itself. Google for coverage, or visit your regular fire blogs and news sites for more. Click to enlarge:



*US Navy photo*

Here's the caption, from [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil):

120406-N-DC018-423 VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (April 6, 2012) Firefighting foam covers the scene of a crash of an F/A-18D Hornet assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 106, April 6, 2012. Initial reports indicate that at approximately 12:05 p.m., the jet crashed just after takeoff at an apartment complex in Virginia Beach. Both air crew safely ejected from the aircraft and are being treated at a local hospital. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Antonio P. Turreto Ramos/Released)

---

This looks like it would have been taken from VBFD Ladder 8 (a tower).

**harkey** - 04/07/12 - 11:21

You can bet that scene perimeter got real tight real quick!

I am reminded of a story of the fighter jet crash in Morehead City, in 1983. Was the year I went to college, and had been away from Morehead for maybe two weeks? As the story goes, the jet entered the front door of a house, and the residents went out the back door. But before maybe even the MCFD fire chief had arrived on scene, military police were already there and had secured the scene. Maybe someone with more than an 18 year-old's memory (at the time) can add or correct on that one.

**Legeros** - 04/07/12 - 11:24

Here's a run card, posted by Jeff Harkey to the Facebook page of Virginia Beach fire photographer Martin Grube. Unit information from fireground audio that he transcribed:

First Alarm:  
BC1, E11, E8, E3, Navy E31, L11, L8, Fire Squad 3, R12, R14, R8, Safety 1.

Second Alarm:  
Believe there was a dispatch error. Third alarm may have been the second, and the subsequent special units may have been the third.

Third Alarm:  
BC3, BC4, E12, E21, E5, E16B, L21, 1720R, 921R, 1922R, Zone16.

Additional Units:  
SQ10, L16, ARFF7, C2, C1, C7, BC2, EMS3, 5, 6, C8, Zone14, Zone8, 827R, EMS3, 1425, 1420R.

Fourth Alarm:  
E5B, E20, E17, L9, R1214, 1426, 523B.

Fifth Alarm:  
E5B, E20, E17, L9, R1214, 1426, 523B.

Additional Units:  
E202, E4, E1, L1.

According to Wikipedia, WBFD has 20 engines (some of which are telesquirts), seven ladders, two squads, and some special units.  
**Legeros** - 04/07/12 - 16:34

It is nothing short of a miracle that no one was killed.  
**Marcus** - 04/08/12 - 01:24

Here's the fireground audio for same. Good listening! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=pla..>  
**Legeros** - 04/08/12 - 10:48

I don't remember the crash in Morehead but while assigned as Captain at one of the Prisons in Hoke Co. They had a couple crashes within a mile or 2 of the prisons. A helicopter in the late 90,s with several deaths and a special ops plane with 1 death. I had several Vol. Fireman who worked for me and in both cases they said when there departments arrived military personnel had already arrived and denied civilian firefighters to approach the crash sites. And they waited for Fort Bragg Fire Department to arrived and extinguish the fires and handle the scenes.  
**Galax,VA** - 04/08/12 - 15:29

Here's a Star-News article on the Morehead City crash. EA-6B prowler crashed into a house on Shepard Street in August 1983. Two civilian injuries, one transported by helicopter to a hospital in Winston-Salem. Four crewmen ejected.  
<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=ht5..>  
**Legeros** - 04/08/12 - 15:34

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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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Mystery Commercial Structure Fire04/08/12 50 W - + 7 - 2

Found while searching YouTube for any footage (rare chance, admittedly) of the multi-alarm house fire in New Bern yesterday. Posted in September 2007, so was probably around that time frame. Location believed to be outside Greenville, ~~NE~~ SC. How quickly will our readers identify this one...

mike, ain,t that Greenville,SC? At least that’s where FOX. Carolina television is located.

**Galax,VA** - 04/08/12 - 12:00

I think you are right on the correct Carolina. That also explains the SC tag on the YouTube post.

**Legeros** - 04/08/12 - 12:01

Also noticed engines and ladders were white with green stripe and I have seen several departments in the Asheville areal with that combo. Now that I think about it I see more white in the mountain depts. than I used to see when we lived in the east and Sandhills.

**Galax,VA** - 04/08/12 - 15:16

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Old Truck 6 - 1922 American LaFrance Type 14

04/08/12 136 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Actually the original Truck 6, a 1922 American LaFrance Type 14 combination service truck that was placed in service at Station 6 on June 27, 1949. Prior to that time, it served as Truck 2 at Station 2 and Service Truck 1 at Station 1. While at Station 1, from 1922 to 1941, it was part of a two-piece ladder company. For some fire calls, personnel took the aerial ladder. For others, they took the service truck.

This *News & Observer* photo is from April 1958, when the truck was a mere 36 years old! Look closely and you'll see the familiar equipment. It was removed service on July 24, 1961. The ladder rack was placed on a 1963 Ford chassis. The rest of the truck sat behind Station 8 until sold as surplus on December 20, 1976. [Read more about the truck](#). Click to enlarge:



News & Observer photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

## After The Fire

04/08/12 49 W, 3 I - + 9 - 3

Scenes from a structure fire on East Lenoir Street early this afternoon. One-story residence. Crews are still on scene. Photos from Legeros forthcoming. These are long-lens shots.





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Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Duck Rescue, Trench Rescue in Durham

04/09/12 256 W - + 5 - 5

Here's a pair of recent stories about unusual rescues in Durham. Last Saturday, reported [this News & Observer story](#), the Durham Fire Department responded to Southpoint Mall to save 13 duckings that had fallen into a storm drain. Engine 16, which staffs the department's USAR team and operates a Sutphen quint, arrived about 1:00 p.m. One firefighter climbed down into the drain and was able to scoop out most of the birds. A few had wandered into a separate pipe, so they were flushed to safety (there's a phrase you don't hear often enough) using a hose. The entire operation took about 40 minutes. We'll add a few duck puns later. Rescue most fowl. Crews quacked up. Etcetera.

Durham and Bahama firefighters performed a trench rescue a couple weeks ago, reported [this Durham Herald story](#). They received the call about 6:50 p.m. at a residence at 603 Appaloosa Trail. They found a man trapped in an eight-foot deep trench, where a dirt wall had collapsed on two men doing waterproofing and drainage work. One escaped, but the other was buried to his chest. Among the Durham firefighter's rescue techniques was placing a ladder from the ground through a window in the house, to secure a rope under the man's arms. Five different firefighters worked in shifts in the ditch (and in the rain), and freed the man at 9:13 p.m. He was transported with minor injuries. No firefighters were hurt, but their equipment was rendered mud-covered. And that's the dirt on that one.

They also had a high angle rescue of window washers a couple weeks ago  
**Mike** - 04/09/12 - 14:01

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

UPDATED: Specification For Fire House on Jefferson Street, 1926

04/10/12 146 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

For your Monday evening amusement and amazement, here's the original spec sheet for Fire Station 4 on Jefferson Street. The 32-page document is titled *Specification For Fire House on Jefferson Street, Glenwood, Raleigh, N.C., For the Raleigh Fire Department*. The author is H. P. S. Keller, Architect, of Raleigh.

The bungalow-style fire station was built just off Glenwood Avenue at 505 Jefferson Street. It operated until 1963 and still stands today. The station opened on June 15, 1926. Eight men were assigned there, one Captain, one Lieutenant, two Drivers, two Hose men, and two Hydrant men. The document was copied with the help of the City Clerk's office, who pulled some off-site records for Yours Truly some years ago.

[Read the original specifications](#) (PDF). **Link Fixed**

[Learn more about the history of Station 4.](#)

See vintage [American LaFrance](#) and [Gamewell](#) bid documents.



.pdf isnt working Mike

**H2O** - 04/10/12 - 14:58

The PDF link has been corrected. Thanks for notifying me.

**Legeros** - 04/10/12 - 19:03

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E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	



Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration Starts with Retiree Luncheon

04/09/12 132 W - + 7 - 3

Press release. This year the Raleigh Fire Department celebrates 100 years as a full-time fire department. The first event to celebrate the fire department's centennial is a retiree luncheon to be held on Tuesday, April 10, at the Keeter Training Center. The annual chicken and rice luncheon was started eight years ago by the Raleigh Professional Fire Firefighters Association and its member firefighters who wanted to pay tribute to the retirees. This year, the luncheon has moved to the training center, so retirees can have portraits made for a centennial history book that is in production. The Raleigh Fire Museum also will be open during the event. [Read the entire press release](#). Or learn more about the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

The Aftermath in Philadelphia

04/09/12 197 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

Here's an aerial view of the aftermath in Philadelphia, where two firefighters were killed this morning at a five-alarm fire involving an abandoned factory and other buildings. The photo comes from [WPVI-TV](#). There are probably better or wider shots coming, maybe in tomorrow's news. There's been ample coverage from both Philly outlets and fire news sites, such as [PhillyFireNews.com](#) and [Statter911.com](#). Stories, photos, videos, fireground audio, etc.

Lt. Robert Neary and Firefighter Daniel Sweeney, from Ladder 10, died after a wall collapse in a furniture store adjacent to the original fire building. Lt. Neary, 60, was a 38-year veteran of the Philadelphia Fire Department. Firefighter Sweeney, 25, was a second-generation Philadelphia firefighter, and joined the department in July 2006. The collapse also seriously injured two others: Firefighter Pat Nally and Firefighter Francis Chaney.

[As this FOX 29 story](#) notes, the deaths are the first fatalities on duty since 2006. In January of that year, Firefighter Tracy Champion suffered a heart attack at a fire in West Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Fire Department has lost 288 career members (organized 1870) and 75 volunteer firefighters (organized 1736) in its 265-year history. (Check my numbers for accuracy, please.) Click to slightly enlarge:



WPVI-TV photo

Here's a graphic showing the buildings involved in the collapse, [http://media.philly.com/images/20120410 ...](http://media.philly.com/images/20120410...). As found posted on the FireNews.net Facebook page.

Legeros - 04/10/12 - 19:06

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Charlotte Fire Muster Circa 1990?

04/10/12 43 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

FireNews.net Editor Jeff Harkey has posted a neat photo of a Charlotte fire muster circa 1990 or 1991? [Here's his posting](#). He asks readers to help identify the apparatus as well as any details.



Jeff Harkey/FireNews.net photo

The antique pumper on the left looks like Kernersville Fire-Rescue’s 1923 Brockway/American LaFrance

Curtis Teague - 04/11/12 - 00:07

Curtis you are correct I was there with Jeff Debell, Kevin Griffin, Herb Swaim, and Me. on E-126 a 1986 Duplex Grummen. We rode in the parade and were participating in the static display

Clay Simmons - 04/13/12 - 00:09

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Remember personal info?  
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No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Chicken 'n' Rice

04/10/12 39 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Scene from today's Raleigh Fire Department Retiree Lunch, [mentioned in a prior posting](#). Super crowd, super fellowship. Photos from Legeros and Lee forthcoming. Please don't drool on the screen.



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E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

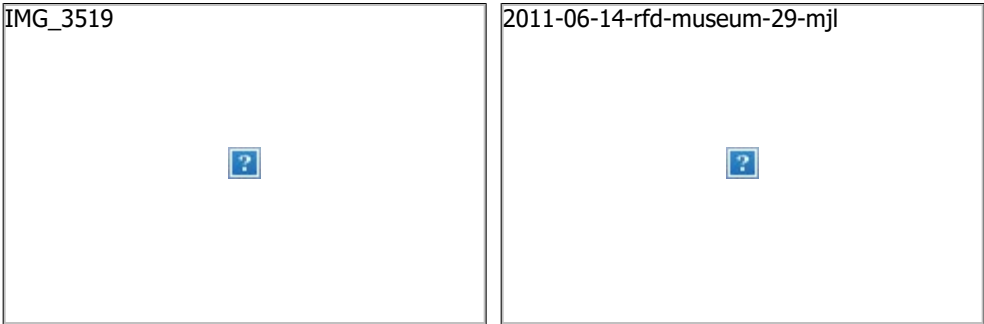
Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, April 1404/11/12 174 W, 2 I - + 5 - 5

It's fun, it's free, and it's filled with firefighting memorabilia. That's the Raleigh Fire Museum, which opens this Saturday, April 14. The hours are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The location is [105 Keeter Center Drive](#), in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center. There's parking, there are restrooms. Admission is free.

Displayed are hundreds of items relating the history of the Raleigh Fire Department, from both its volunteer and career eras. Among the attractions is the 1870 fire alarm bell that once hung at city hall on Fayetteville Street. There's also multimedia at the museum: color film footage from 1950, computer slideshows of old photos, and radio recordings of recent major fires.

Yours Truly will be one of the museum staff members on Saturday. Pay visit and talk some shop! Afterward, consider a drive to northeast Raleigh to see the city's collection of antique fire apparatus. They're house at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#). To learn more about the Raleigh Fire Museum, visit [www.raleighfirehistory.org](http://www.raleighfirehistory.org).



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## Camera Versus Phone

04/12/12 33 W, 2 I - + 7 - 4

Top image is Canon 50D. Bottom image is iPhone 4S. That's a 15.1 megapixels versus 8 megapixels. From Roller Court late yesterday afternoon. Click to enlarge:



Canon 50D DSLR



iPhone 4S



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morrisville Engine 1 « Camera Versus Phone » Holly Springs Station... and Rescue 1

### Morrisville Engine 1 and Rescue 1

04/12/12 62 W, 1 I - + 9 - 8

Expertly posed and photographed by Lee Wilson yesterday at Morrisville Station 1. Left is a 1989 Simon-Duplex/KME/Saulsbury heavy rescue, right is a 2006 KME Predator. [See more photos](#). The rescue came from somewhere up north. Open question for Thursday morning. How many other used rigs are serving around here, either locally swapped or obtained elsewhere?



Lee Wilson photo

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Clayton's Rescue Truck was obtained from Morrisville. Knightdale's ladder was purchased used, as was Selma's Ladder truck.

**Charlie** - 04/12/12 - 10:37

Buies Creeks ladder is a former Cary piece

**PGtruckie** - 04/12/12 - 12:24

Clayton Area Rescue's (now Clayton Area EMS) "crash truck" was bought by Morrisville FD (R2?)

**Jay** - 04/12/12 - 12:40

Locke Township VFD, Salisbury NC. Truck 62 is ex-Tower 1 from Kent Island VFD, Stevensville, MD and originally served as Tower 26 at The Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway, Hagerstown, MD

**George** ([Email](#)) - 04/12/12 - 12:51

RE: Locke Township Truck. It was used on April 15, 2011 at the Corriher Heights Baptist Church Fire before it was officially placed in service. It can be seen in action, still in Kent Island markings, in this article: <http://www.salisburypost.com/News/040511..>

**George** ([Email](#)) - 04/12/12 - 12:56

one of Swift Creek's old Tankers is now in service with Apex FD, as is one of Durham Highways old light rescue trucks.

I think Holly Springs had one of Fuquay's old engines for a while.

One of Western Wake's Suburbans was re-allocated to Swift Creek a few years back as well.

**shevais** - 04/12/12 - 17:55

Old Morrisville Engine 2 1989 Duplex Custom served us in Arapahoe for a few years and is now serving Triangle Fire Department (Pamlico Co.) sporting a Black over Red paint scheme. We currently have a Custom Grumman Fire Cat that served Toms River NJ and a Quint that served Ft. Myers Beach Fire-Rescue.

**Chris Murray** - 04/12/12 - 19:15

Apex has an old Fairview Tanker and and old Durham Highway Rescue.

**Scooter** - 04/12/12 - 20:19

In Duplin County old Garner E10 a 1984 Pierce Dash Pumper serves as E3 in Faison, Old Swift Creek Engine 3 a 1988 Pierce Dash Pumper/Tanker serves as Kenansville Engine 3, Old Eastern Wake Engine 5 & 1 a E-One Ford serves as Chinquapin Engine 1 and old Garner Tanker ?? a Pierce Ford serves as Northeast Tanker 2 near Wallace. Vann's Crossroads Fire Department in Sampson County is running an old Falls Engine a E-One Ford Pumper/Tanker as Engine 633, and Newton Grove Fire Department recently bought old Garner E11, a 1994 Pierce Dash Pumper and has it in service as Engine 511.

**car3550** - 04/12/12 - 22:21

Chapel Hill E34, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/7..>

2002 HME/4-Guys, originally served in Virginia, delivered in 2011.

**Legeros** - 04/13/12 - 08:18

Moville is actually getting ready to replace said rescue. It has not been put out for bid yet but it is in next years budget. Not sure if they have chosen a manufacturer yet. Medium rescue size I think. Probably will sell it so it can serve yet another department.

**Spanky** - 04/13/12 - 18:17

Parkwood Rescue 614, originally served Orange County Rescue, 2006 Spartan Diamond, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/7..>

Durham Tech, former Bethesda engine, 1998 Sutphen

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/leewilson/7..>

**Legeros** - 04/14/12 - 08:29

Any one have any idea as to what happened to Garner Rescue 881 the EVI truck. I know the old International ended up at newton grove

**curious** - 04/14/12 - 14:46

Is that Parkwood rescue the old Garner 881?? Sure looks like it...

**Legeros** - 04/14/12 - 15:15

Unless they have done away with the rotoray and made a few changes to the front end, I dont believe that this is the same truck though it sure does look very similar.

**Curious** - 04/14/12 - 17:56

Ah, yes, the Roto-Ray...

**Legeros** - 04/14/12 - 18:07

It is not the same truck... Newer 881 went to Sampson County as well as the old one...

**Chuck** - 04/14/12 - 18:54

One of Wake New Hopes International tankers went to Rose Hill recently, repainted white serving at Tanker 4. Not sure which department got the newer 881 in Sampson County, the old 881 is definately at Newton Grove serving at 551.

**car3550** - 04/14/12 - 19:44

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preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

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No

Holly Springs Station 2 Construction Photo

04/12/12 68 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

Lee Wilson took this photo on April 7 of Holly Springs Station 2, under construction on Avent Ferry Road. The facility replaces a prior structure that was damaged in last year's tornado. Alas, doesn't look like this one'll have a fire pole. Engine 2 operates at the same location, using a temporary station. See [earlier blog post](#). See [more photos from Lee](#).



Lee Wilson photo

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E-mail: (optional)  
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Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Firefighters Injured in Vehicle Accidents - Davie, Gaston Counties

04/12/12 113 W, 2 I - + 6 - 9

FireNews.net has posted a pair of stories about a pair of fire department vehicle accidents this week. Top photo is a Gastonia Fire Department Battalion Chief's vehicle that collided with another vehicle and then a tree this morning. Battalion Chief Woody Thomas was transported with Gaston Memorial Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. [Read that story.](#) Bottom photo is a Center Volunteer Fire Department quick response unit that collided with a tractor-trailer truck on Interstate 40 near Mocksville on Monday evening. Two firefighters were transported to Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. [Read that story.](#)



*Gastonia Fire Department/FireNews.net photo*



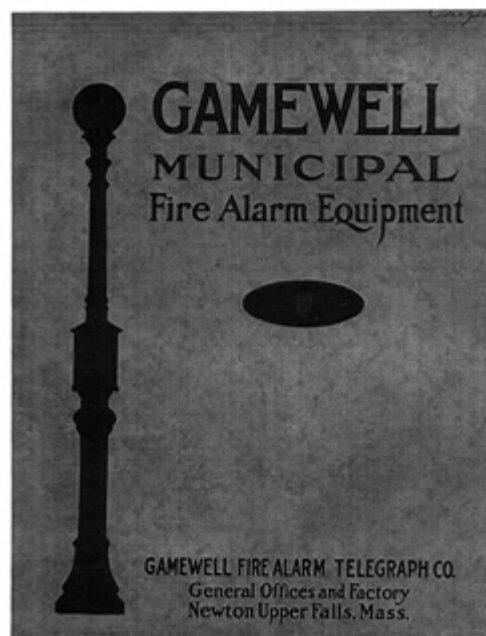
*MyFox8/FireNews.net photo*



**Gamewell Bid Document, 1925**

04/12/12 471 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

Here's another vintage bid document from the early 1920s, this one dated November 3, 1925. For purchase of fire alarm equipment from Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company in Boston, MA. Total \$17,318.50. This was both an upgrade and expansion, adding a more powerful switchboard, the first punch registers in the stations, and 35 additional alarm boxes. [Like the prior posted specs of Station 4](#) (and later posting about an [American LaFrance pumper](#)), this is a scan of a photocopy, obtained years ago from the City Clerk's office, from their deep records. Fascinating stuff... if you find electric-telegraph alarm systems fascinating, that is! [Read the document](#).



Here's a summary of what was ordered:

- Twelve-circuit automatic switchboard, made of slate and mounted on pipe frame.
- Ten-circuit automatic repeater with four (4) independent closed alarm circuits and mounted under a clear glass case, and atop a metal pedestal with a white marble top.
- Thirty-five fire alarm boxes.
- Five recording sets (for the five fire stations) consisting of a punch register, a take-up reel, and a clear glass case with wall mounted shelf and brackets.
- Four battery racks, complete with fuses and insulation.
- Generator, 220 volts.
- Battery cell, 360 of them.
- Pipe frame for the current four-circuit switchboard.

And this [fire protection report from 1924](#) provides plenty of detail on the city's fire alarm system, prior to the ordered equipment and the resulting upgrade. Here's a summary:

- Fire alarm system housed at Station 1 on West Morgan Street, in a pair of fireproof rooms. Repeater and switchboard in one room, batteries in the other.
- Four-circuit switchboard, installed 1903. Four-circuit automatic repeater, installed 1894, moved to present location 1914.
- System is powered by 106 batteries, charged via a 220-volt generator. Lightning arresters protect the system, and are provided at each fire station.

- Each fire station has a combination gong and numeric indicator, a Morse telegraph key, and an automatic lighting switch.
- Gongs also provided at the city pumping station, the electric power plant, the water department office, and the residences of the Fire Chief, State Fire Marshal (former Fire Chief Sherwood Brockwell), and the Water Superintendant. The bell atop Station 1 also has a striker that's in service (though only special-used, if memory serves).
- Alarm boxes number 71, one of which is private but accessible to public. All are trigger-pull type. Six boxes are mounted on iron pedestals. Others are secured to poles. Boxes are painted every two years. Five boxes have white lights. Red indicator lights are not used.
- Four circuits connected the fire alarm system. Total length of circuits is approximately 30 miles of wire, all aerial except three wires carried underground for about 60 feet.
- Circuits are tested daily. Boxes are tested monthly.
- Read the entire report, starting on page 9.

[Read the Gamewell bid document.](#)

[Read about the history of the fire alarm system.](#) (PDF)

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The spring 2012 edition of the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* has been posted to to the web site [raleighfirenews.org](http://raleighfirenews.org). This issue's includes information about the hydrant blitz, the rescue of an elderly man, haz-mat changes, Fire Station 29, saving old Engine 1, and a centennial history book. Also included is a two page statistical summary of the Raleigh Fire Department's activities in 2012. Edited by department historian Mike Legeros (with his wife Julie as proofreader), the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. [Read the issue](#) , or click to access:



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Raleigh Fire Department Volunteer Fire Company Medallions

04/13/12 156 W, 1 I - + 5 - 9

These two medallions are among recent items added to the Raleigh Fire Museum. They're from retired Capt. Dave Godfrey, a veteran fire memorabilia collector. They're also extremely rare. The medallions will be displayed at Saturday's opening. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Location is 105 Keeter Center Drive. [See prior posting about Saturday.](#)

These were issued to members of the Capital Hose Company (1887-1912) and the L.A. Mahler Steamer Company (1906-1912). The former was a hand reel company that organized after the installation of the city's first fire hydrants in 1887. They became horse-drawn in 1889. The latter operated the horse-drawn 1905 American LaFrance steam engine, and were named for a former Raleigh fire chief.

Both companies were disbanded after the formation of the career department in December 1912. Read a [history of the city's volunteer companies](#) (PDF). Learn more history at [www.raleighfirehistory.org](http://www.raleighfirehistory.org). Click once or twice to enlarge:



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Four Alarms in Salisbury on Friday

04/14/12 190 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

[FireNews.net](#) has posted a story about yesterday's four-alarm fire at a funeral home at 515 S. Main Street, along with a link to more detailed coverage in the [Salisbury Post](#). Here are a few more details, from [Carolinas Fire Page](#) and other coverage: One-story structure, 80 by 180 feet. Offensive operations to start, switched to defensive. Four ladders flowing at the height of the fire. Main Street was closed through area, with former Salvation Army parking lot across the street used for staging. Crews continued flowing water through the night. WCNC reporting 17 (!) different fire departments. Google for more news links.

First alarm: Salisbury Quint 1, Quint 2, Quint 3, Quint 4, Engine 1, S1, Squad 1. Second alarm: Cleveland FD, Granite Quarry FD, South Salisbury FD. Third alarm: Franklin FD, Miller's Ferry FD, Locke FD, Ellis FD. Fourth alarm (about an hour into incident): Landis FD, Faith FD. Fourth alarm companies later released for coverage. Also Spencer FD. Special calls for fuel truck and USAR assignment from Charlotte FD, special called to help assess structure. Two bodies in caskets were still in side. That's a 45-minute run for CFD.



WCNC photo

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## Risky Behavior Fuels Capital Boulevard Crashes

04/14/12 82 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

That's the *News & Observer's* headline for this week's story about pedestrian (and motorist) challenges on the five-mile stretch between I-440 and I-540. The story was likely prompted by last Saturday's collision at Brentwood Road that left a pedestrian critically injured. In the last five years, cars have struck and killed two and injured 16 others. Here's the photo that accompanied the print editions. Good shot by Takaaki Iwabu. [Read the story.](#)



*News & Observer photo*

Name: (real name preferred)

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No

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Raleigh Tornado « Risky Behavior Fuels ... » Old Garner Rescue 881... Response Summary, 1988

### Raleigh Tornado Response Summary, 1988

04/15/12 764 W, 1 I - + 13 - 6

Tomorrow marks the anniversary of the April 16, 2011, tornado that tore through the Capital City. Its path started near Tryon and Lake Wheeler roads, continued northeast through downtown and east Raleigh, and then along a parallel path east of Highway 401. It destroyed 146 structures and heavily damaged 719 others. Four people were killed.

For emergency responders, the severe weather brought one of their busiest days in years. See [original blog posting](#), see [photos by Legeros](#), see special [Raleigh Fire Department newsletter edition](#) (PDF). Also search the blog on "tornado" for more related posts.

But that wasn't the city's first experience with a tornado in modern memory. Many remembered the night of November 28, 1988, when a tornado plowed through northwest Raleigh. The 1:00 a.m. storm struck with virtually no warning, killing two and injuring 102 others. Townridge Square Shopping Center on Highway 70, shown below, served as command post and staging area for the hundreds of responders. It was also the site of a flattened KMart store, where an employee was trapped for more than two hours. [See closer view](#).



*Gary Knight/CCBI photo*

Two days later, on November 30, 1988, the fire department submitted this response summary to the City Manager's office. The Raleigh Fire Department in 1988 protected 201,111 residents and 86.95 square miles with 17 fire stations, 18 engines, 4 aerial trucks, 2 service trucks, and 2 rescue units. They had 355 authorized positions in FY88 (including 335 firefighters) and answered 9,409 fire calls that year. The fire chief was Sherman Pickard.

#### **Tornado Disaster Incident - November 28, 1988**

City of Raleigh Units and Personnel Responding

Number of personnel - Approximately 225

- 50 Captain
- 50 Firefighter II
- 125 First Class and Firefighter I

Number of units

- 12 Engines
- 2 Trucks

- 3 Mini-Pumpers
- 2 Rescue Units
- 1 Foam Unit
- 11 Cars
- 1 Special Risk Unit
- 1 Firefighter on personal vehicle using chain saw to remove trees and limbs from road - 8 gals.

Number of gallons of fuel - 638

Mileage of all equipment - 1,550

Number of overtime hours - Approximately 1443.75

[ Raleigh Police Department information was not included in report ]

Wake County Fire Units and Personnel:

- Apex Fire Department - 19 Personnel - 2 Brush Trucks - 1 Car - 1 Utility Truck
- Bay Leaf Fire Department - 33 Personnel - 3 Engines - 1 Car
- Cary City - 3 Personnel - 1 Brush Truck
- Fairgrounds Fire Department - 20 Personnel - 1 Engine - 1 Brush Truck - 1 Car \*
- Fairview Fire Department - 18 Personnel - 1 Engine - 1 Brush Truck
- Fuquay-Varina Fire Department - 5 Personnel - 2 Engines
- Garner Fire Department - 8 Personnel - 2 Engines
- Knightdale Fire Department - 24 Personnel - 2 Engines - 3 Brush Trucks
- Morrisville Fire Department - 11 Personnel - 1 Engine - 1 Brush Truck
- Six Forks Fire Department - 27 Personnel - 4 Engines - 1 Brush Truck \*
- Stony Hill Fire Department - 12 Personnel - 1 Engine - 1 Brush Truck
- Swift Creek Fire Department - 4 Personnel - 1 Brush Truck \*
- Wake New Hope Fire Department - 33 Personnel - 2 - Engines - 1 Light Truck \*
- Yrac Fire Department - 15 Personnel - 2 Engines

\*Indicates volunteer [department] that the city of Raleigh contracts with.

Wake County Fire Marshal's Office:

- 3 Personnel

Wake County EMS/Rescue [Squad] Units:

- Apex - 2 Ambulances
- Cary - 3 Ambulances, Crash Unit, Command Post
- Fuquay - 2 Ambulances
- Garner-2 Ambulances, Crash Truck
- Knightdale - 2 Ambulances, Crash Truck
- Northern Wake - Ambulances
- Six Forks- 2 Ambulances, Crash Truck
- Wendell - 2 Ambulances, Crash Truck
- Zebulon - 1 Ambulance
- Wake County EMS - Various Units

Wake County Sheriff's Department:

- Approximately Forty (40) Cars
- Forty (40) Personnel

[ Other law enforcement response not noted. Recall that Wake SO also brought their mobile command post to the scene. ]

Durham County Units and Personnel:



Bahama Fire Department - 2 Personnel

- Bethesda Fire Department - 9 Personnel - 1 Engine - 1 Rescue Truck - 1 Ambulance
- Durham County EMS - 4 Personnel - 3 Ambulances
- Lebanon Fire Department - 4 Personnel - 1 Engine
- Parkwood Fire Department - 8 Personnel - 2 Ambulances - 1 Crash Unit
- Redwood Fire Department - 9 Personnel - 1 Engine - 1 Ambulance - 1 Rescue Truck

[ Did the fire department response include counties other than Wake and Durham? ]

Other Outside EMS/Rescue Squad Units:

- South Granville Rescue Squad - 2 Ambulances
- Clayton Rescue - 2 Ambulances
- Kenly Rescue - 1 Ambulance
- Angier Rescue - 1 Ambulance
- Selma Rescue - 2 Ambulances
- Dunn Rescue - 1 Ambulance
- Erwin Rescue - 1 Ambulance
- Coats Rescue - 1 Ambulance
- Boone Trail Rescue - 1 Ambulance
- Orange County Rescue - 1 Ambulance
- Smithfield Rescue - 1 Crash Truck, 1 Ambulance - 1 Car

Gasoline/Diesel Used Other Than Raleigh:

- Redwood Fire Department - 15 gallons gasoline
- New Hope Fire Department - 16.5 gallons gasoline
- South Granville Rescue - 23 gallons gasoline
- Durham [Fire Department?] - 2 gallons gasoline
- Redwood Fire Department - 25 gallons diesel
- Bethesda Fire Department - 31 gallons diesel
- Parkwood Fire Department - 40 gallons diesel

[ The Wake County School System supplied a couple fuel trucks at the command post, in addition to the Raleigh Fire Department fuel truck ]

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Where is Durham Highway on any of the lists?

**Just wondering** - 04/16/12 - 16:12

Great question, and particularly when examined through the lens of a historian. Based on this single source— this report— can we establish with absolutely certainty that Durham Highway FD did not participate in the tornado response? No. In fact, given the proximity of the fire department's district to the tornado, just the opposite should be thought.

DHFD was certainly affected by the tornado. They had a station on Davis Circle, a stone's throw from the collapsed K-Mart. Their station was either damaged or blown over by the storm. Can't recall specifically which (and if you search the blog, we probably have that tale here). Did that preclude their availability as responders for the incident? Don't know. Readers can perhaps recall and enlighten.

How then to explain their absence in the cited report? The document also does not document participation of the Raleigh Police Department. But it's absolutely certain that city police officers responded to the incident. Thus we should conclude that the document is not 100-percent accurate. Though it's still a valuable document, for sure. Particularly better than having nothing, and playing the "can you remember" guessing game. But we'd want to research more.

And one more reason why you can never believe everything you're told, at least until confirmed or corroborated by a second source.

**Legeros** - 04/16/12 - 18:15

Listened to a tape of this incident years back with a younger Capt. Dunn calling some shots early in the incident.

**Chris** - 04/17/12 - 00:01

Johnston county dispatched every fire dept in the county that night and I believe most sent a least one piece if not two pieces of equipment to Raleigh.

**CaptMayo** - 12/01/13 - 09:54

Yes, there were and are 24 fire department agencies in Johnston County. Most departments still have the plaque on the wall that was given by the Wake County Commissioners for helping with the incident.

**Jason Thompson** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/01/13 - 10:24

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preferred)  
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Old Garner Rescue 881

04/15/12 57 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

[Asked in this thread](#) about formerly owned apparatus, this 2007 Spartan/EVI heavy rescue formerly served Garner EMS & Rescue Squad. Today's it's Rescue 133 for the Pumpkin Center Fire Department in Lincoln County. And still blue, albeit another shade! There's your next discussion thread. Blue apparatus in North Carolina. Thanks Benjy.



Benjy Grice photo

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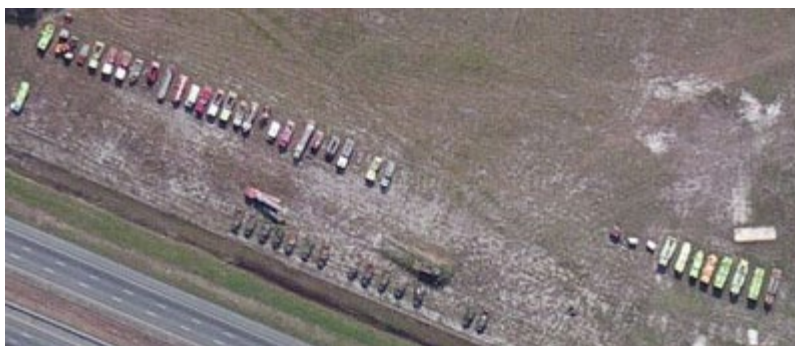
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## Field of Fire Trucks on I-95 in Georgia

04/15/12 158 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

More than one person has asked me in recent years about a field of fire trucks on Interstate 95 in Georgia. Google finds others with the same question, and even some photos (such as [these on Flickr](#)) and footage (see embed below). A couple dozen pumpers, ladders, and crash trucks are parked on the east side of the road, at the end of Tram Road in South Newport, GA. That's about Mile Marker 63. At the intersection of Tram Road and Highway 17 are a couple commercial-sized structures, from the looks of aerial maps. And more fire truck-looking vehicles. Plus military trucks, which are also roadside along the interstate. Still don't know the story, but we might get a closer view, as Mr. and Mrs. Blogger are heading to Savannah next month. This location is 45 minutes south. Sounds like a worthy diversion. Will report back!



---

It is a used fire truck sales company that has had about 5 or 6 different names, Firehouse 66 was one, search that to see some more info. I was by there about a month ago and almost everything was gone. Rumor has it, it went for scrap. Still a few trucks and a bunch of military units.

**Wade** - 04/15/12 - 18:26

Seek and ye shall find, <http://firehousebrandsllc.com>. Very interesting. Thanks Wade.

**Legeros** - 04/15/12 - 18:35

That website looked familiar. Here's a Firegeezzer post on that "business": <http://firegeezzer.com/2011/11/15/morning..>

**Lt. Lemon** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 04/18/12 - 22:14

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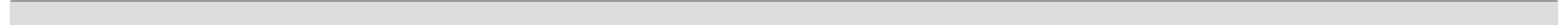
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Three Houses Burn on Outer Banks Overnight

04/15/12 96 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

[The Outer Banks Voice has posted](#) this stunning photo from an early morning fire in Corolla that destroyed two homes and heavily damaged a third. The quick-moving fire was fanned by southwest winds of 17 mph with gusts to 22 mph. The homes were located on Hicks Bay Lane and Cottage Cove Road. Several vehicles were also destroyed. The fire was extinguished shortly before sunrise. [WTVD has also posted](#) some video footage and a couple photos. Maybe our readers to the northeast will add details.



The Outer Banks Voice photo

First due truck reported heavy fire conditions in one house, exterior burning on a second, and two vehicles involved. Fire ultimately destroyed three vacation homes (two were occupied at time), damaged a fourth, and destroyed at least seven vehicles. Water supply was an issue because of system design and fire load (first home was 6800 sqft). Apparatus/manpower responded from Corolla, Carova Beach, Duck, Southern Shores, Kitty Hawk, Nags Head, Manns Harbor, Lower Currituck, and Crawford departments.

**Smokey** - 04/16/12 - 08:50

But...but...sprinklers would mean more cost. If I delete the addition of sprinklers I can add another 500 sq.ft. to the planned 2500 sq.ft. addition to my house. (from my own sister when I suggested the addition of sprinklers to her house)

**Rescue Ranger** - 04/16/12 - 20:35

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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

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Yes  
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Manchester Fire« Three Houses Burn on ... » Apparatus, Teams Want... Department - True Blue

### Manchester Fire Department - True Blue

04/16/12 146 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

Speaking of blue trucks (see [prior post](#) about Pumpkin Center FD, or think of Chapel Hill FD or Soul City FD or...), FireNews.net Editor Jeff Harkey posted this post of a light blue E-One pumper that served the Manchester Fire Department in Cumberland County. [See a second photo and read some details](#) on the truck's history.

Manchester FD operated from 1968 to 1998. It began as Lakeview FD, which organized in 1963 and was incorporated in 1964. It was renamed in 1968. The department disbanded after the board voted in October 1998, to let the county assume fire protection of the district.

Readers perhaps can provide the back story, which probably involves annexation and shrinking territory. (A fate that has befallen a number of Fayetteville-area fire departments.) Manchester FD's assets were absorbed by Spring Lake FD. Source: [Legeros database](#).



*Jeff Harkey/FireNews.net photo*

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Interesting another, or the first, dept which had light blue. I didn't know that before now. Thnx Mike! Interesting for me, as I'm not necessarily "committed" to red fire trucks, although I find myself kind of partial to ALF Red. I find the various different colors kind of neat, and have seen lots of other color combinations which I really liked. And I do like the Chapel Hill rendition, as well as the Greenville ECU paint scheme. From time to time, I've actually thought about doing a book on "alternate" fire trucks colors, thinking it might make interesting reading.

**Tim B** - 04/16/12 - 09:09

Must be more Wolfpack fans out there I suppose...

**Bob P.** - 04/16/12 - 16:43

Some of Manchester FD area was annexed into Spring Lake. If memory serves me correct, due to falling numbers of members and budget issues was also issues. Those members of MFD, went to other departments such as Spring Lake, Westarea and parts of Harnett County. Spring Lake FD used MFD station as a storage site with apparatus for some time. Not sure what happend after that when I left Cumberland County

**Swiman** - 04/17/12 - 10:33

Apparatus, Teams Wanted for Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration04/16/12 145 W, 1 I - + 12 - 8

The Raleigh Fire Department is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. An celebration is scheduled for Saturday, June 16, in downtown Raleigh. The all-day event is open to the public. Among the planned events are a fire truck parade down Fayetteville Street, an apparatus muster featuring antiques pumping, and a series of firefighter challenge events. Plus a kid's zone, a shuttle bus to the fire museum, and even birthday cake while it lasts.

Participation is sought from fire departments throughout North Carolina. Do you have an antique that you'd like to bring, both for the parade and the muster? Do you have a team of firefighters interested in competing in the challenge events? Registration is required. Forms and information, as well as full event information, are available at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).

Hope to see you there!



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment: <span>/ <a href="#">Textile</a></span>	

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Oldest Raleigh Fireman Passes, 1930

04/16/12 480 W - + 11 - 6

From the March 5, 1930, edition of the *News & Observer* comes this obituary for Eugene A. Lasater, one of the original members of Raleigh's career fire department. He was also a member of the volunteer Hook & Ladder Company. His name was mentioned at the recent Retiree Day, as he's the great step-grandfather on her mother's side of retired Captain Ann Lynn. The obit:

### OLDEST RALEIGH FIREMAN PASSES

E. A. Lasater, Over 30 Years in Service, Dies Suddenly at Home Here

E. A. Lasater, 67 year old veteran of the Raleigh Fire Department, died suddenly early yesterday morning at his home at 404 West Morgan Street. Death was unexpected, since Mr. Lasater had been active about Fire Station No. One where he was still employed on Monday.

Mr. Lasater had been a member of the Raleigh fire department for more than 30 years. He was on the force back in the old days when well-trained horses ran swiftly down the streets with smoking fire engines. He was the oldest fireman on the Raleigh fire force, both in point of years and service.

Broke World Record.

According to some of the older residents of Raleigh, Mr. Lasater used to excel at fireman's tournaments. He broke one of the world's records in carrying the ladder 300 yards and raising it with 11 men on it in 41 seconds. He was employed regularly back in the days when the fire department was largely a volunteer proposition. He was one of the few who drew any pay for services at that time.

Mr. Lasater was born in Chatham county, but lived in Raleigh for the major portion of his life. He is survived by his widow and the following children: E. L. Lasater, of Lakeworth, Fla.; Gradothe E. , Frank and Jack Lasater all of Raleigh; Miss Lillie Lasater, of Jersey City, N.J.; Mrs. Dosay Clement, of Greensboro; and Mrs. Otis Christie, of Fayetteville.

He is also survived by two step children, James Holleman and Mrs. A. T. Parnell, both of Raleigh and by the following brothers and sisters: Thomas Lasater, of Durham; John Lasater, of Pittsboro; Mrs. E. L. Singleton, of Durham and Mrs. Cornie Thomas, of Wilmington.

### Funeral Today

Funeral services will be held at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon at the Tabernacle Baptist Church, where Mr. Lasater was a member for many years. Burial will follow in Oakwood cemetery. Rev. E. Gibson Davis, pastor of the church, will conduct the ceremonies.

The following will service as pallbearers, active, Lieut. R. L. Matthews, L. E. Winters, N. L. Crabtree, D. C. Reynolds, R. L. Randolph, E. T. Warren. Honorary, Chief W. E. Holland, Assistant Chief E. B. Smith, H. L. Martin, Capt. W. L. Choplin, Capt. A. B. Lloyd, Lieut. E. B. Buffalo, J. G. Wilkins, H. R. Winston, W. R. Butts, V. G. Mims, J. M. Burnette, J. T. White, L. H. Glenn, and J. R. Marshall.

Orange Rural Fire Department Opens Station 3

04/17/12 109 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

On Saturday, April 14, [Orange Rural Fire Department](#) in Orange County celebrated the grand opening of Station 3 at [2510 Walker Road](#). That's located north of Hillsborough, off Highway 57. [See their Facebook page](#) for a few photos from that day. Below is a photo from Lee Wilson. [See a couple more photos](#).



Lee Wilson photo

We've also recently poked around the past of ORFD as well as the Hillsborough FD, an entity that today appears to exist only as a name on the side of a new town-bought ladder truck. See [this posting](#) and [this posting](#). One of these days we'll finish that research...

Looking at the map, this looks pretty close to their station 2.

**Andrew** - 04/17/12 - 08:27

It's closer to station 2 than I would have thought, but I don't know if either station 2 or 3 is staffed full time or manned by volunteers?

**Paul** - 04/18/12 - 10:50

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## Woods and Brush and Hay Fires

04/17/12 226 W, 2 I - + 7 - 9

[FireNews.net posted photos](#) and details about yesterday's 50-acre brush fire along the 17th Street Extension in **Wilmington**. Several residential streets were evacuated, as well as the Cameron Art Museum. The state forestry service brought aircraft to the scene. The Wilmington Fire Department had 65 firefighters on scene, along with county firefighters. Certainly at least a dozen fire companies. Maybe readers will share a run card. [See more photos from the Star-News](#). Looks like an EMS command post or rehab unit in one of the shots...



*Mike Spencer/Star-News photo*

[WTVD posted aerial photos](#) of yesterday's 30-acre woods fire near Bahama in **Durham County**. The state forest service assisted with a helicopter along with ground equipment. Three different sites were burned, but no structures were involved. The fire is expected to smolder for a few days. [See also this WRAL story](#).



Also burning yesterday were 108 bales of hay on a trailer that ignited on Interstate 40 at mile marker 308 near **Garner**. The full-involved trailer also ignited a bit of brush. Crews were on scene for two hours. Traffic was delayed in a major way, due to full closure of all eastbound lanes. Garner Fire Department responded, along with Cleveland Fire Department from Johnston County. As memory serves of the radio traffic, that is. See: [WRAL](#), [WTVD](#) (above).



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *This Morning's* « Woods and Brush and H... » You Have The Right To... *Fire on Jones Street*

### This Morning's Fire on Jones Street

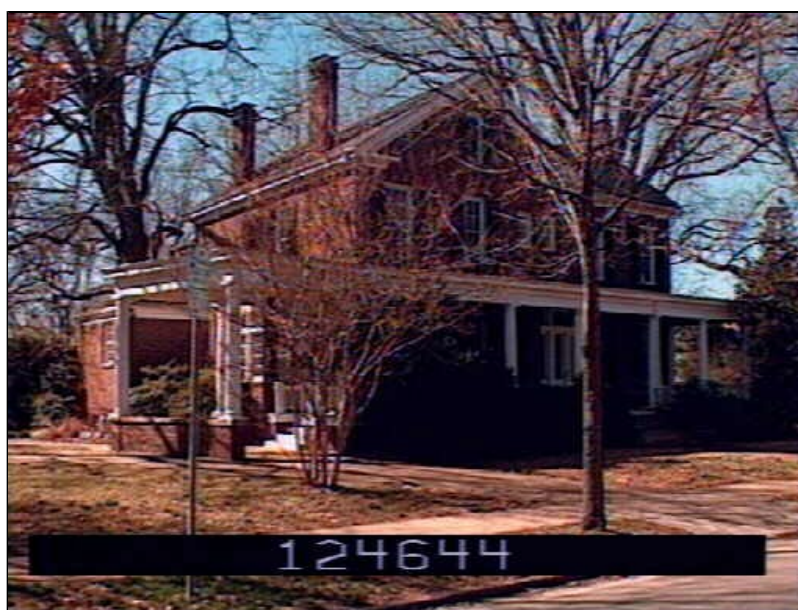
04/18/12 218 W, 2 I - + 7 - 5

News reports are slim so far about this morning's fire on East Jones Street that heavily damaged a pre-Civil War home. WRAL has posted [this news brief](#). The 4,810 square-foot structure at 516 E. Jones Street was built in 1854 (or 1851). Two stories with a brick exterior.

From the tax photo (below) and [Bing Maps Bird's Eye views](#), notable features included four chimneys. Looks like a former boarding house, or perhaps current office space. (Google lists a couple businesses at the address.) We'll probably see a profile of the occupants and the building before long.

Engine 3 arrived with heavy fire showing through the roof in the rear. Recalling radio traffic, interior operations segued to deployment of a portable monitor in the rear. Ladder 4 was subsequently deployed in the front, onto the roof and into the attic space. Exposure protection on the delta side. Additional engine special called to catch a second hydrant, for additional water.

Dispatched 1:47 a.m. Controlled 4:07 a.m. No injuries. Fifty-percent of the building damaged. Cause determined as accidental due to unspecified electrical failure. Units on scene included E3, E1, E13, E7, E17 (special called, was likely covering at Station 1), L4, R2, B2, A1, C10, C20, C40, EMS \_\_, EMS \_\_, EMS \_\_, (on the ball there, aren't we?) D1, T1.







WRAL photo

This residence was also the business office of the Raleigh Downtowner magazine, <http://www.raleighdowntowner.com/>.

They have posted interior and exterior aftermath photos on their Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/raleighdowntowne...>

They are also looking to borrow a few items, as they lost all their computers, cameras, files, equipment, as such. See their note on the above FB page. They are working to finish their current issue on borrowed equipment.

**Legeros** - 04/18/12 - 22:12

Such a loss! Most importantly, thank goodness no one was hurt. That is an irreplaceable house in Raleigh's treasure of a neighborhood, Historic Oakwood. I'm saddened to hear that the house is a total loss...a piece of history gone.

**Pam Katchuk** ([Web Site](#)) - 04/20/12 - 15:59

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

## You Have The Right To Remain Silent

04/18/12 276 W - + 9 - 4

And the right to speak your mind, at least with regard to constitutionally protected speech. That issue is [being discussed by Statter911 readers](#) in a posting yesterday about a Florida firefighter who is drawing attention for comments posted on Facebook. At the highest level, it begs a great question: just 'cause you *can* do something, *should* you do that thing? And are you prepared for the reality of the consequences, should they occur? (Observe my word "reality.") Here's my comment on the comments, posted late yesterday. Mind you, Mr. Blogger is neither a constitutional scholar nor plays one on television. I have however yelled "theater!" at a crowded fire scene before...

*Legeros says:*

*Any conclusions to draw, from the first day's discussion? I keep thinking about school teachers, and the repeated stories that I hear about them getting disciplined for, say, being seen or photographed drinking a beer away from work.*

*There are probably "teacher's personal codes of conduct" out there that we would shake our heads about. But let's apply that line of thinking to emergency services.*

*Are there personal behaviors that are (a.) perfectly legal but (b.) entirely problematic if announced or advertised to the world? I think we know the answer, and its compounded by the digital age.*

*Much like the reports from Key West the other week, and all the school kids behaving better during spring break. Why? Because they all feared Facebook photos and other postings would reveal their indulgent activities.*

*There are more eyes for the watching than ever before.*

*April 17, 2012*

---

More and more agencies and corporations are adopting social networking policies – and many are also conducting background checks via social networks. Bottom line is once you post it – the content is there FOREVER so you better be prepared to stand by (or don't do it).

**Joe Brady** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 04/18/12 - 09:12

It is amazing the change during my career at the speed at which photos (and other stuff) gets in the media. You can have your photo taken and seconds later it is readily available worldwide. The way that information (good and bad) can travel to the masses is amazing, too.

As to "personal behavior issues", I think that the public probably expects us (as emergency providers) to behave in similar ways that they expect our teachers to. Maybe not to the extreme of not being seen with an adult beverage in your hand, since, thanks to TV, it seems to be an acceptable behavior to have a drink or two (or three or four) for firefighters, paramedics, and police officers, but I do believe that they hold us to a higher standard. At the same time, I think we are more prone to being allowed 'second' (and third) chances more so than teachers.

I think that the digital age and the advent of social media has outpaced our ability, in some sorts, to set reasonable policies and expectations. The advent of My Space, and then Facebook, accelerated the change faster than most folks could fathom.

The problem is, sometimes, in the haste of action in the event of perceived bad behavior, knee jerk rules are set, and the real potential of this new 'social media' is lost upon the powers that be. Its use is restricted, or in some cases, banned. Good idea? I don't know, but I don't think so.

Sure, there are considerations such as privacy, HIPAA, good tastes, and just plain old common sense, but I don't think they are enough to throw the baby out with the bath water.

And finally, you are a master of what you don't put out there, and slave to what you do. And I am certainly guilty of that, being a regular poster here, a blogger myself, and a regular presence on Facebook. And I am perfectly willing to stand by anything I say, type, or blog about, knowing that there may be consequences. Mostly from the misinformed or insecure.

At the end of the day, I can look at the person in the mirror and be OK with him. And that, in my final words on this post, is all that really matters to me.

**DJ** - 04/19/12 - 12:08

Thanks for adding your thoughts DJ. One interesting aspect of this involves requests for service. I'll wager that just about any social media scandal will NOT affect someone's dialing 911, when they have a fire, or a heart attack, or...

Could there be a collective affect? If an agency received bad press after bad press, might their customers loose confidence in their ability to help? Maybe. But in high-panic mode, I think we're probably hard-wired to dial 911.

Thus, reputation management is for affecting a different set of outcomes. One's personal employment, for example. There's also public support, which is invariably tied to funding and approval for things asked for.

**Legeros** - 04/21/12 - 11:51

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Wilmington Fire Department Plans Station Consolidations04/18/12 215 W - + 5 - 7

[FireNews.net is reporting](#) on a story [from WECT](#) about the Wilmington Fire Department's plans for consolidating four fire stations. Fire Chief Buddy Martinette wants to shutter four stations that need renovations, and build two new fire stations. The new stations will accommodate larger trucks and thus improve those coverage areas. The plan would save the city about \$6 million and without affecting the jobs of any firefighters. The particulars of the plan aren't reported. We'll see if the *Star-News* has news tomorrow.

If the idea of "four for two" sounds familiar to Raleigh readers, let's turn our time machine to February 1993. That's when the Raleigh City Council began a consideration of a station consolidation plan. Fire Chief Sherman Pickard proposed closing four stations in and around downtown: Stations 1, 3, 5, and 6. Two new stations would be built near Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Haywood Street, and near Wade Avenue and St. Mary's Street. The plan also proposed cutting 24 firefighter positions, and saving up to \$800,000 in annual salaries. Citizens and other groups protested and the plan was eventually dropped.

Question for readers. What are some of your stories of station consolidations from around North Carolina, either proposed or implemented? Seems like there have been a few, here and there.

As a little kid in '93 I remember my family wrapping a large red bow around a tree in our front yard as a sign of solidarity with RFD and to symbolize our opposition to the consolidation plan. I can't imagine it being a better idea for Wilmington than it was for Raleigh.

**Eric** - 04/19/12 - 20:30

Wilmington station map, [http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov/fire\\_departm..](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov/fire_departm..)

Don't see obvious overlaps, but...

**Legeros** - 04/21/12 - 15:29

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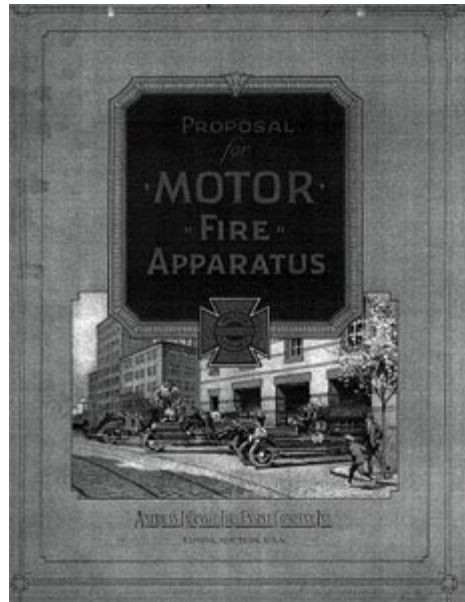
([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

## American LaFrance Bid Document, 1925

04/18/12 302 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

For our third and final vintage bid document, this one's dated January (?) 30, 1925. One Type #75 triple pumper chemical engine and hose motor car for the Raleigh Fire Department. To be built and shipped in about 60 working days after receiving and executing contract. Price \$12,500, subject to delivery, test, acceptance, and regular periodic inspection.

The serial number was #5097. The manufacturing date was April 14, 1925. It was one of four Type 75 pumpers delivered in 1922, 1925, and 1926 (two). Like the prior posting [about Station 4](#) and the [Gamewell alarm system](#), this is a scan of a photocopy, obtained years ago from the City Clerk's office. [Read this document.](#)



Some of the specs:

- Triple combination pumping, chemical, and hose car.
- 750 GPM, rotary gear pump
- 40 gallon Champion chemical tank
- 200 feet of 3/4-inch chemical hose on a reel
- Hosebed capacity for 1,200 feet of 2 1/2-inch hose
- Pneumatic tires
- Locomotive bell and "penetrating siren horn"

Among supplied equipment:

- Two lengths of suction hose
- One metal suction strainer
- Double-swivel hydrant connections, for 2 1/2" inch and "large" sizes
- Suction hose coupling wrench
- 2 1/2-inch spanner wrench
- One 28-foot extension ladder
- One 14-foot roof ladder with folding hoses
- One 11-foot ladder
- Natural finish ladders with ends painted black
- One 8-foot pike pole, with natural finish and black ends

- Two 2 1/2-gallon Boyd plunger-type extinguishers with shut-off.'
- Two Alfco Little Giant play pipes with LaFrance shut-off nozzles, with 1 1/8-inch, 1 1/4-inch, and 1-inch tips
- One Boston Special play pipe with LaFrance shut-off nozzle, with 1 1/8-inch and 1 1/4-inch tips
- One revolving hose nozzle
- One set of mounted, reverse couplings
- Four cotton hose straps
- One Peerless hose clamp
- Four hydrant wrenches
- Eight pocket spanners
- Tool box with standard S.A.E and special wrenches and tools.
- Two lanterns.
- One heavy pick axe.
- One steel crowbar, mounted on running board.

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
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Curious Fire Photo From Rocky Mount

04/19/12 87 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

For your morning reading, here's a curious fire photo from the *Rocky Mount Telegram*, what looks like an HDR image by Bob Bartosz, after a small fire Monday night at a home improvement store. There's been a debate about HDR and its use in photojournalism. [Here's one report](#), from Digital Photography Review. What do you think about HDR or heavier digital processing in general? Anyway, [read the story](#) and see a larger version, plus a second shot.



Bob Bartosz photo

I like the pictures. Also, Bob Bartosz is an outstanding asset to our area, just google the guys name to see all the work he did while living in Camden, NJ. He is at just about every major event in our and the morning after he's at every fire department that responded dropping off a disc full of pictures. We are very fortunate to have him in our area as Raleigh/Wake is fortunate to have you.

**captainchaos** - 04/19/12 - 08:51

Bob is indeed the man. And he has shot some serious fire in his lifetime!

**Legeros** - 04/19/12 - 08:56

Born and bred in Rocky Mount, and a stint in both Fire and EMS and even though I had the good sense to flee the crime riddled area over 40yrs. Ago I read the telegram daily. Bob Bartoz does a great job but I am off course partial to Mike and Lee.I ain,t got no ideas what HDR photography is but in the telegram photo section on page 6 there is a photo tribute To RMFD by Bob. These photos are done somehow to make them near bout cartoonish and the whole set of photos is very different and very interesting. Whatever the process is may not be that suitable for fire scene photos, but they sure look cool in this tribute. Mike if you get chance to look at them maybe you can Explain what type of photography they are.

**Galax,VA** - 04/20/12 - 21:36

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes

## Eno Brush Truck

04/20/12 112 W, 1 I - + 15 - 7

Here's a sharp-looking remount, Eno Fire Department Brush 355. The body of their old brush truck was remounted on a 2011 Dodge chassis. Lee Wilson photographed same during this week's Orange County roamings. [See more photos](#). And did you know EFD operates a second station? It opened in 2009 and is located on St. Mary's Road.

Also, Carrboro Station 2 is in operation. It opened in September 2010. Here are a [couple pics from Lee via Firenews.net](#). (He also spent some time in Chapel Hill, photographing their [famous blue rigs](#). Good shots. Go State.)

Who else has opened new stations lately? Or is preparing to open a new station?



*Lee Wilson photo*

---

That's an interesting looking rig. You don't see too many Rams being used.

Cary has broken ground on Firehouse 8, and the land has either been purchased or is being purchased for the new Firehouse 2 to be located at 601 E. Chatham St.

**shevais** - 04/20/12 - 09:37

I'm digging the front bumper! Reminds me quite a bit of Brush 69 from Wake Forest. Oh how I miss that truck.

**Drives a Ladder** - 04/21/12 - 00:50

Station 2 relocation to Chatham Street! Great for train watching **and** lunch at the Circus...

**Legeros** - 04/21/12 - 10:26

Wish Raleigh had these... Any new apparatus in the near future?

**Will** - 04/21/12 - 22:53

At last check, everything is on hold for now.

Raleigh doesn't use the brush trucks much, and to me, for as much as we use them, what we have works fine. The one at 16's has insanely low mileage, and if it gets scratched up, no biggie. For a brush truck, you're designing something that you know will be scratched up and take

a beating. Throw a skid in the back of a red or white heavy duty pick-up (lights and siren too) and let it ride.

Love the bumper on the above though!

**Silver** - 04/21/12 - 23:08

if Raleigh gets funding for a new ladder truck, hopefully it is the personnel for the truck, although another apparatus might be nice too.

**charlie** - 04/25/12 - 17:40

I agree Charlie....funds for a Ladder COMPANY and a Ladder TRUCK are two different things. It would be great to see Ladder 9 added to the city, let's keep our fingers crossed.

**Silver** - 04/25/12 - 23:07

The city's reserve fleet of ladders is presently:

1999 American LaFrance / LTI Aerial Platform, 93' with pump

1988 Pierce Arrow platform, 85'

1995 Simon Duplex/LTI aerial platform, 100' with pump

I still remember the first time that I saw the 1995 truck, which is old Truck 16. That was the first ladder truck in a few years, and the first platform ladder. I almost drove off the road, doing double-takes as I passed the station on Lead Mine Road. Maybe that's why I bought a house a block from the place!

**Legeros** - 04/26/12 - 07:39

@Jon I can imagine that Ladders 1 and 2 might be involved if it's apparatus only; I could be wrong though

**Will** ([Email](#)) - 04/26/12 - 17:11

L1 does a little something but really not much of anything. I imagine if a replacement ladder were ordered it would be slated for L2 due to the call volume and the amount of fire that truck has. Current L2 would make a great replacement for L1.

**Rescue Ranger** - 04/26/12 - 21:49

I wonder the cost of a new tiller; no pump, no tank. NOT trying to start the pump/tank versus no pump/tank debate, just wondering the cost. I know it is attractive in the long term, because as long as the ladder passes annual testing you can still use it, only replacing the tractor as needed.

I agree RR, L-2 is a workhorse and should get a new rig. The only problem I see is that it is pretty tight with any tandem axle truck in and out of 4's. I'm sure the can make it work though....

**Silver** - 04/27/12 - 09:28

RR, not to mention that E4's current truck is L2's former stablemate

**Will** - 04/27/12 - 13:50

You are correct, Bob. We have a host of smaller-sized stations that won't accommodate modern ladder trucks. Plus a couple have other restrictions. Station 8 has a weight limit, due to the basement space. Station 6 has a turning radius restriction, I think.

(There's a great story that the retirees tell of the 1950 Mack, old Engine 6. Around 1952, it had an accident, and the front axle was inadequately repaired. So the thing couldn't make the right turn. They'd have to stop, back up a hair, and turn more. Finally one of the firefighters figured out the problem, and fixed it themselves (or helped the mechanic fix same.)

(When the engine was out of service for the aforementioned accident, one of the old 1920s LaFrance pumpers served as reserved. That was the truck that wrecked in 1952, injuring Driver Vernon Smith. Brake cable broke, I think. He died from his injuries four years later, and was the first duty death for the Raleigh Fire Department. But I digress as usual...)

Most of our smaller stations are the single-story, two-bay variety that we've seen all through the region. Greensboro, Durham, Burlington, etc. Big bay block space, and some living quarters on one or both sides.

**Legeros** - 04/28/12 - 08:31

nothing says that L1 has to remain at station 4. they could put it at another station in its first due area. or customize a new ladder truck to fit in

station 4, perhaps something like a single aixle suthphen ladder like Durham uses at stations 7 or 16.

**charlie** - 04/28/12 - 10:42

Moving L1 to another firehouse in its' current first due would then re-adjust all of the other Ladder's first due areas as well. There comes a time when you just have to add Ladder Companies (which is trying to be done but the economy is hurting the chances) instead of constant re-aligning.

The reason I brought up a tiller sans pump and tank is because they are noticeably shorter, and the tiller-man gives you the tight steering ability.

**Silver** - 04/28/12 - 13:26

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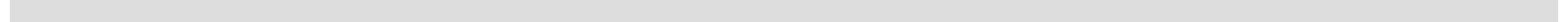
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## Cary Fire Station 8 Under Construction

04/21/12 156 W, 2 I - + 8 - 5

The ground has been broken for Cary Fire Station 8 at [408 Mills Park Drive](#). The two-story station will have three apparatus bays, measure 14,410 square-feet, and include a 1,160 square-foot satellite police station. The station will house an engine company, but is built to include a ladder company and Battalion Chief in the future. It's also the town's first "green build" building. (This blog is also environmentally friendly, by the way. It's built from 100-percent recycled thoughts!)

The cost of the project is \$5.9 million. The designer is ADW Architects of Charlotte. [Read more about the project](#). Here's a reader photo of the construction site. Thanks Jeff. And maybe we can dig up a map showing all Cary fire station locations, current and planned. e.g., new Station 2 at 601 E. Chatham Street, Station 9 in O'Kelly Chapel Road Area, Station 10 in West Lake/Middle Creek area.



Hey Cary guys, are they still planning the big area of development to be the Cary Park and 55/540 corridor? Obviously growth has slowed, but is it still proposed later down the road?

**Silver** - 04/21/12 - 16:41

Hey Jeff, yes, and they are working with Chatham County now to extend the Land Use plan almost all the way to the lake. From what I

understand there are a number of things still being planned for that area west of 55, and I'm sure that will speed up once 540 is completed through there.

**shevais** - 04/22/12 - 09:17

Any news on additional staffing or when the hiring process may be?

**Charlie H** - 04/24/12 - 11:50

CFD will be hiring staffing for an Engine Company for this house. That will mean 15 positions, plus any additional vacancies. As for time frame I would say to look for something towards the end of the year. I would submit an interest card on the Cary Human Resources site if you are interested.

**shevais** - 04/24/12 - 17:35

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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Charlotte Reacquires Hand Engine04/21/12 87 W - + 7 - 6

Neat videos out of Charlotte, where the fire department has reacquired an 1866 Jeffers hand engine (both hand-pulled and hand-powered) that originally served the Neptune Fire Company. It later served Newbury, MA, and is thus lettered for same.

By my research, at least 44 hand engines have been used in North Carolina. [See the database](#), which is likely incomplete. Salem's two engines survive. Isn't Smithfield's hand engine still around as well? Raleigh had five engines through its history. Their dispositions remain unknown.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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This week's *Midtown Raleigh News* [reports on new traffic-calming measures](#) approved for the Capital City. Eight neighborhood streets are getting humps and bumps and something called speed cables. And you know you're good if you already know each street's first-due engine company! Here's the list:

- Shelley Road between North Hills Drive and Six Forks Road. Seven speed humps.
- Rose Lane between Maplewood Road and Poole Road. Nine humps.
- Baugh Street between Starmount Drive and Old Buffaloe Road. Seven humps.
- Wimbleton Drive between the two sections of Shelley Road. Three speed cables, which is a wider version of a speed hump.
- Northbrook Drive between North Hills Drive and Pamlico Drive. Three humps and one raised crosswalk.
- Glascock Street between Wake Forest Road and Norris Street. Four humps.
- Merrie Road between Avent Ferry Road and Merwin Road. Six humps.
- East Rowan Street between Six Forks Road and Lakemont Drive. Five humps.

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Marcus - 04/23/12 - 00:43

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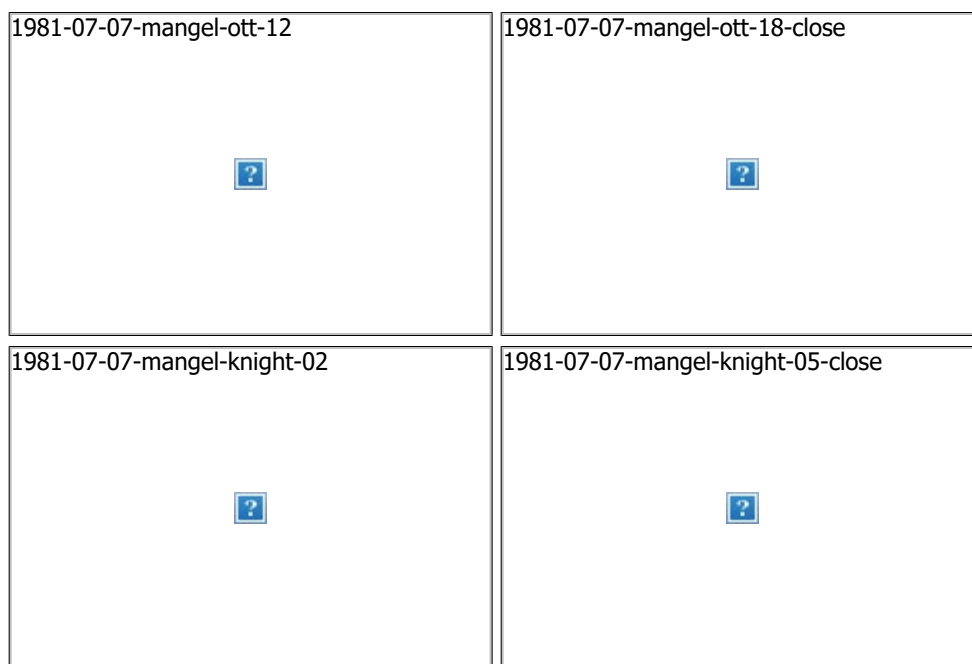
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

# Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - UPDATED: New « Detroit Fire Departme... » Wake Forest Fire Depa... Old Photos From The Mangel Fire, July 1981

UPDATED: New Old Photos From The Mangel Fire, July 1981

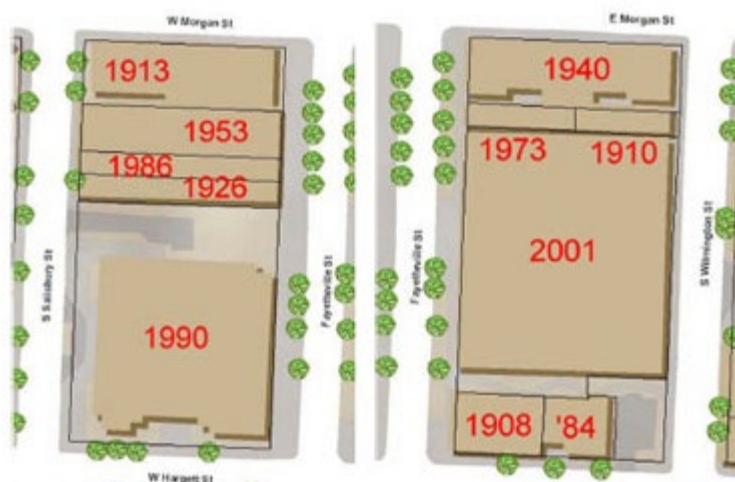
04/23/12 140 W, 5 I - + 8 - 11

The Raleigh Fire Museum has posted two sets of photos from the Mangel's Building fire on Fayetteville Street Mall on July 7, 1981. The photos are from veteran hobby photog [Robert L. Ott Sr.](#) and retired CCBI photographer [Gary Knight.](#) Their photos, other photos, and other information (including a run card) are linked from this new [historical incident summary page.](#)



*Robert Ott (top) and Gary Knight (bottom) photos*

The Mangel's Building was built between 1890 and 1900. How many really old buildings remain on Fayetteville Street? Based on tax records, here's a [document with diagrams and ages](#) (PDF). (That document was created last year. Please advise corrections!) Looks like a number of structures dating to the 1900s, though balanced with numerous more modern buildings.



Bill, thanks for this fantastic contribution to RFD's history!

**A.C. Rich** - 04/22/12 - 21:06

For your reading (and contextual pleasure), here are the first couple pages of a monograph-in-progress, about the events that day. It'll get finished one of these years:

## Memories of the Mangel Building

### Setting the Stage

Let's travel back in time to the early Eighties, to the second year of that decade. The summer of 1981. Ronald Reagan is President, and has survived an assassination attempt. Pope John Paul II is also recovering from being shot. The Oakland Raiders are the year's Super Bowl champs. Major League Baseball has gone on strike. The Centers for Disease Control have identified the first recognized cases of an acquired immunity deficiency disease.

The City of Raleigh is less than half its present size at 56.63 square miles. The population is 149,771, making Raleigh the third largest city in the state. G. Smeades York is serving his second term as Mayor. The Fayetteville Street pedestrian mall has been completed. The Raleigh Civic Center is four years old. The merged Raleigh and Wake County school system is five years old.

The Raleigh Fire Department has 15 fire stations, with 16 engine companies, three aerial ladders, three service ladders, two rescue units, and three District Chiefs. They'll answer 5,214 calls in 1981. This is the second year of the city-wide first responder program. They have 325 authorized positions, and a budget of 45.6 million. The Fire Chief is Rufus Keith. The Assistant Chiefs are C. T. May and Norman Walker.

### Smoke Investigation

On Tuesday July 7, 1981, about 8:45 a.m., the attendant in a parking lot on South Salisbury Street noticed smoke coming from a window on the second floor of the Mangel Building. He went inside into building, into the Corkscrew Restaurant, and informed the owner of what he saw. The owner called the fire department. At 8:50 a.m., Engine 1, Engine 3, and Truck 1 were dispatched to a smoke investigation.

The three-story, brick and wood Mangel Building was located at 124 Fayetteville Street Mall, in the middle of the block bound by Morgan, Salisbury, and Hargett streets. It faced both Fayetteville and Salisbury streets, and was divided into two main businesses and ten smaller ones.

It adjoined a second building on the north side and a small parking lot on the south side. Additional buildings were located on the block, south of the parking lot. The Mangel Building was built between 1890 and 1900, had 24,940 square-feet, and lacked a sprinkler system.

The first fire apparatus arrived at 8:54 a.m. and saw nothing but thick black smoke. Within minutes, a second alarm was dispatched. Engine 2, Engine 5, Truck 5, Truck 7, and Rescue 12 were sent at 9:04 a.m. They were dispatched to 100 South Salisbury Street, likely a staging location. Second-alarm companies began arriving by 9:13 a.m.

The third alarm was dispatched at 10:44 a.m., with Engine 13, Engine 11, Engine 9, Engine 6, and Truck 16. Additional units, perhaps a fourth alarm, added Engine 10, Engine 7, Engine 8, and Engine 3. They were dispatched to Fayetteville and Morgan streets, likely a staging location.

Additional units engine and truck companies were requested through the day and evening, at 2:33 p.m. (Truck 1, Engine 15 to Wilmington and Hargett streets), 5:18 p.m. (Engine 7, Engine 14), 8:38 p.m. (Engine 14, Engine 9), and 12:43 am. (Engine 10).

### Fighting the Fire

Crews had difficulty controlling the fire, as the building was heavily partitioned. "It was like fighting five separate fires at once" said District Chief L. V. Chopin. The structure had numerous false walls and false ceilings added as the result of renovation work over the years. "You name it, they had done it in there," said Fire Chief Rufus Keith. "We couldn't find [the fire]. We never really found [it]."

The intensity grew as each hour passed. The owner of the Bookmark, another store on the block, was planning to open at 10:00 a.m. But, he

recalled, the building next door was blazing. "But it seemed to get worse and worse," he recalled. "The more firemen that came, the worse the fire got." By 11:00 a.m., the store owner was forced to abandon his store, and taking memorabilia and some books with him. Black smoke covered the Fayetteville Street Mall like a blanket, and shoppers found fresh air inside stores.

Three pieces of aerial apparatus were utilized, directing streams onto the roof and into the second floor. On Salisbury Street, two aerials operated: Truck 1 with a 1977 Mack/Baker 85-foot aerial platform, and Truck 16 with a 1961 American LaFrance 100-foot aerial ladder. On the Fayetteville Street Mall, truck 5 was using a 1979 Mack/1958 American LaFrance 100-foot aerial ladder.

See also this diagram of the building: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

**Legeros** - 04/22/12 - 22:18

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Dangerous Driving Study

04/22/12 95 W - + 7 - 8

Did you catch this this week, about an NHTSA study showing gender differences in accidental acceleration in automobile accidents? And studying North Carolina crashes, no less? [This Car Connection story](#) has a howler of an opening paragraph:

*Gentlemen: on a scale of one to ten, how much do you value your relationship with your wife? Girlfriend? Mother? Sister? Female co-workers? If you answered more than, say, a five, you might want to skip this article entirely, because it could get you into a lot of trouble.*

Continue reading at your own peril...

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Detroit Fire Department Demolition Squad

04/22/12 220 W, 1 I - + 11 - 5

[As cited in this Statter911 story](#), the Detroit Fire Commissioner has some innovative ideas for dealing with cuts to his coming budget. He's focused his attention on vacant structures, which is the major fire problem in motor city.

Idea #1: Allow vacant homes that are 50% involved or greater on arrival to burn to the ground, as long as no lives (and presumably exposures) are jeopardized.

Idea #2: Asking the U.S. Navy's Seabees to demolish 10,000 vacant or dilapidated homes. Can you get your head around that one? Ten thousand vacant homes.

Idea #3: Creating a DFD demolition unit, with heavy equipment to raze the remnants of newly burned buildings. Much in the style of the heavy equipments used by LAFD, where the Commissioner last worked.

By way of historical perspective, demolition was a proven technique for controlling fires in the 19th Century (and probably earlier). Hooks were carried with ladders. They were attached to chains and rope, and could help pull down a burning (or unburned!) building. Blasting powder served the same purpose.

Or as happened in the great New Bern fire of 1922, a Norfolk and Southern steam engine pulled down six houses along Queen Street. Another nearly 100 homes were dynamited. Read that account as part of this [New Bern Public Library special program transcript](#).



And a heck of a good article from Fire Engineering from last month on Detroit: [http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/..](http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/)

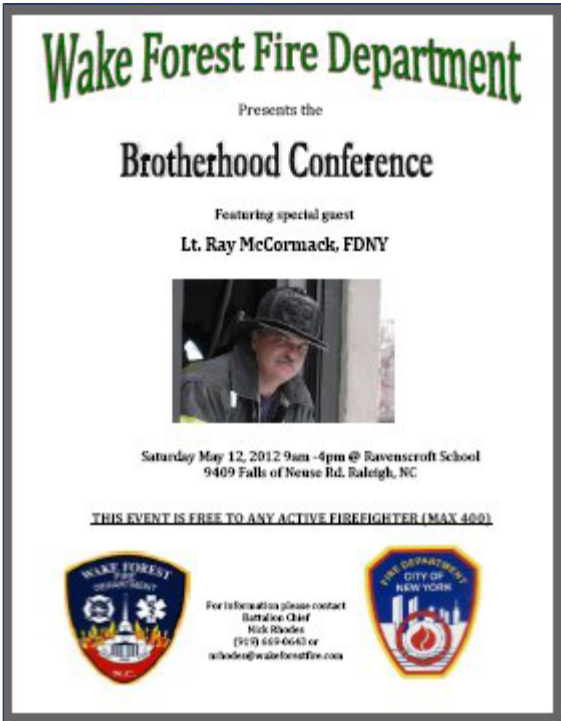
Legeros - 04/25/12 - 08:31

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	Yes
	No

**Wake Forest Fire Department Brotherhood Conference, Saturday, May 12**

04/23/12 73 W, 1 I - + 11 - 9

The Wake Forest Fire Department is hosting a Brotherhood Conference on Saturday, May 12. The location is Ravenscroft School at [9409 Falls of Neuse Road](#), Raleigh. The event time is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The special guest is Lt. Ray McCormack, FDNY. This conference is free for any active firefighters. There are 400 slots max. [Download the flyer](#) (PDF), or click to read for contact information:



Spread the word..... Cocktail hour at Piper’s Tavern immediately following the conference, 8304 Falls of Neuse Road. Great to see some instruction from outside the area. Let’s fill the seats gang!

**Silver** - 04/24/12 - 10:51

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

**National Fallen Firefighters Golf Tournament, Monday, June 11**

04/23/12 129 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

The Raleigh Fire Department is hosting the sixth annual National Fallen Firefighters Golf Tournament on Monday, June 11. And with a new location this year: Bentwinds Country Club, [6536 Dornoch Place](#), Fuquay-Varina, NC, 27526. Web site: [www.bentwinds.com](#).

Tee time is 10:00 a.m., but arrive early for complementary breakfast, complimentary range balls, and the putting contest. Entry fee for a single golfer is \$80. That also buys a full meal immediately following the tournament, and where door prizes and trophies are awarded.

Sponsorships are also sought. Individuals or organizations can sponsor a hole for \$150. That includes signage and other recognition.

[Read this flyer](#) for more information. [Or see photos](#) from past tournaments. Such as this handsome bunch below...



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Air Force One

04/24/12 97 W, 1 I - + 13 - 6

As photographed this morning by Yours Truly, during a ride-along with Raleigh-Durham Emergency Services. That's the big plane arriving, for the President's trip to Chapel Hill. The full white fleet was deployed to stand by: CFR 1 (mini-pumper), CFR 2, CFR 3, CFR 4 (three crash trucks), and CFR 10 (command vehicle). Plus Raleigh Engine 24, Ladder 6, and Battalion 4 (riding in CFR 10 along with some guy in a Hawaiian shirt). More photos to be posted. Next question, just how many law enforcement agencies were on scene today? Bet there were quite a few shades of blue... Click to enlarge:



Who rides in that ambulance the president has with him?

**gitto** - 04/26/12 - 23:38

Orange County Emergency Services employees staffed the ambulance that was in the motorcade from RDU to Chapel Hill and Back.

**CHFD** - 04/27/12 - 23:06

Was that the all black ambulance with the federal plates?

Thanks

**Gitto** - 04/28/12 - 12:57

The all-black ambulance was the US Secret Service HAMMER team (Hazardous Agent Mitigation / Medical Response Team). The team is composed of EMT/officers (uniformed division police officers, not special agents) who are haz-mat/chem-bio/decon experts. Their job is to care for and decon the man in the event of a threat that requires it. The ambulance is interesting – like a normal ambulance, but contains extrication tools, water tank, hose reel, and a stretcher that is built for decon on it.

When POTUS came to Raleigh a few years ago, the WEMS medics who were in the motorcade ambulance got a quick "tour" of the HAMMER unit, and a quick talk about the training and the job. It was pretty interesting.

Here's a pic: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/av8pix/2574..>

And the story: <http://henney.com/chm/1204/CHM1204.pdf>

**CH-100** - 04/28/12 - 13:22

I forgot to answer the other half of the question.

Given that RDU sits central to the three counties, whichever county is the destination will provide the motorcade ambulance – Durham, Orange, or Wake. If there are events at the airport (speech, walk the rope) then Wake County provides EMS support at the request of the USSS (‘cause all that is in Wake County). The host county for the event will (usually, depending on anticipated crowd, etc.) provide EMS for the venue as well – bike team, civilian rehab, stand-by units.

**CH-100** - 04/28/12 - 13:37

Hammer time. Couple pics of the truck in my photos: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2012-0..>

We’ll see about an EMS embed next time...

**Legeros** - 04/28/12 - 13:55

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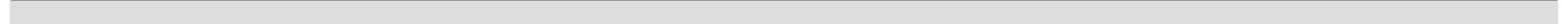
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Vintage Fayetteville Patch

04/25/12 34 W, 1 I - + 12 - 8

Found for sale on eBay, here's a vintage Fayetteville Fire Department patch. Unusual shape and colors, compared to current designs. Maybe a reader can advise its history. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.



911 Misdialing Persists

04/25/12 141 W - + 13 - 9

As today's [News & Observer story reports](#), accidental dialing of 911 is still a problem in Raleigh and Wake County, three weeks after the recent switch to 10-digit dialing. And if you *do* call 911 by mistake, please remain on the line. Otherwise, an officer will be sent. (They're dispatched on a daily average once every 7 1/2-minutes.) Data shows the majority of accidental calls are coming from senior citizens and business telephones. Notes Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center Director Barry Furey, ""If you have an elderly friend, relative, or neighbor, I'd like to personally ask you to take the time to make sure they understand to carefully dial 9-1-9." Finally, for your midweek amusement, here's an [audio clip of Homer Simpson](#) on the subject.

Mike – thanks for posting. To give everyone an idea how bad this is, in a typical month we historically dispatch about 900 hang-up calls. We are on a pace to handle about six times that number in April. This counts only those calls dispatched. It doesn't come close to representing all of those that we handle in-house when someone stays on the line or answers our call back. Those numbers are much, much higher. The other day I was standing behind a call taker who took 15 of these calls in a row. Fifteen! I can assure you that her ability to help anyone with a real emergency during that period just didn't exist. We're asking EVERY department that provides public education on emergency reporting to add this to their program. Staying on the line when you mis-dial saves the sending of an officer, but it still ties up our resources for a non-emergent event. We really need for people to take an extra second or two and take care when dialing.

RWECC - 04/30/12 - 00:09

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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## Vintage Color Slides of Raleigh Fires

04/26/12 143 W, 2 I - + 15 - 11

To complement our [Mangel's fire photos from 1981](#) that we posted last week, here are some more [vintage color photos of the Raleigh Fire Department](#). These are again from Robert L. Ott Sr., and courtesy of his son William Ott. His father passed away in 1993, but left a photographic legacy that his sons Lee and Bill are working to preserve.

This latest crop of fire shots are some of first color photos we've seen of these incidents. (For reasons unknown, color pictures and slides from back in the day have been exceptionally hard to find.) These are scans of 35mm color slides. The images include Hayes Barton Baptist Church in 1962, Warren Restaurant in 1964, and Baker Roofing Company in 1977. Read about those fires in our [Raleigh Fire Department timelines](#).

[See the photographs.](#)



*Robert L. Ott Sr. photos*

Look closely and you'll see some Raleigh landmarks since gone (or transformed).

Union Station at the corner of Martin and Dawson, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

Gas works in the background on the right, <http://raleighfiremuseum.org/photos/ott/..>

More vanished Raleigh: <http://legeros.com/vanished-raleigh/>

And <http://legeros.com/hidden-raleigh/>

**Legeros** - 04/26/12 - 08:14

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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Competition Teams, Antique and Modern Apparatus Wanted!

04/26/12 7 W, 1 I - + 12 - 9



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes
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Video of LP Tanks Burning, Explosion at a McDonald's Drive-Thru

04/27/12 73 W - + 13 - 5

This compelling citizen video is making the rounds. Two LP tanks ignited, burned, and exploded (is BLEVE'd a verb?) in the back of a pick-up truck at a McDonald's drive-thru window in Coachella, CA. Better bloggers than myself have ably covered this story, notably [Firegeezer](#) and [Statter911.com](#). Dave calls this one a "must see" video. Believe I'd agree.

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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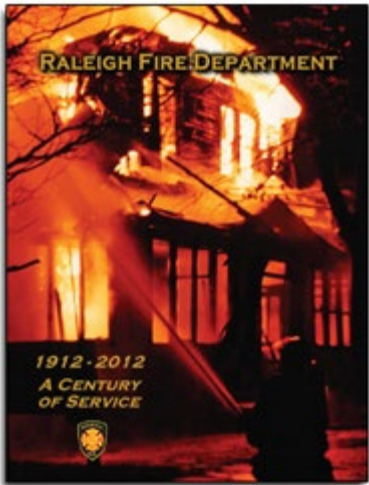
To help commemorate this year's 100th anniversary of the Raleigh Fire Department, production has started on a centennial history book. Produced in partnership with Strawbridge Studios, the book will feature a text history of the fire department, 100 years of historical photos, station histories, apparatus photos, personnel portraits, and more.

Measuring 9 by 12-inches, the coffee table-sized hardcover will contain 260 full-color pages. The cost of this limited edition is \$60.00 through December 1, 2012. Order forms are available at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).

Over 100 years of historical photos will be featured, drawn from the archives of the Raleigh Fire Museum. "We have pictures dating to the 1880s," notes fire department Historian Mike Legeros. "That's the hand- and horse-drawn era," he adds. Plenty of modern fire photos will also be included. The book will draw upon the extensive work of the department's photo unit, which has been documenting incidents and events for over a decade and a half.

A group of firefighters are working on the book, which will be completed at the end of the year. They're collecting materials, historical information, and the hundreds of photos to be included. They're also hoping for photo contributions from both inside and outside the department. "We're still finding new old photos," says Legeros. "And you don't have to order a book to submit photos," he adds.

For more information about ordering a copy or submitting photos, visit [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Remember personal info?  
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Next question, how many departments in North Carolina have produced yearbooks, history books, or commemorative books over the years and decades? Anyone have a new book in production, and that's available for ordering? (For tips on producing your own fire department yearbook, [see this article](#).)

Commemorative Books

- Asheville - 2000?\*
- Charlotte - 1988\*, 2000, 2007
- Durham - 1995
- Greensboro - 1984\*, 1990, 2001
- Lenoir - 2002
- Raleigh - 1984, 2002, 2007, 2012 (in production)
- Rocky Mount - 1996\*
- Wilmington - 1985\*
- Winston-Salem - 1992, 2000\*

Commercial History Books

- *Firefighting in Charlotte*, Shawn Royall, Arcadia, 2007
- *Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting*, Mike Legeros, Arcadia, 2003
- *Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting Volume II*, Mike Legeros, Arcadia, 2004

\* Notes book wanted! Will pay cash money to expand my library...

Did Charlotte have a fourth book, maybe in 1995?

**Legeros** - 04/28/12 - 08:27

Rocky Mount has a book, that came out in 1996 (100 year).

**Todd** - 04/28/12 - 15:46

Thanks Todd!

**Legeros** - 04/28/12 - 20:18

Durham Fire History is in the research stage with lots of great photos and stories being uncovered.

**durhamfire.net** ([Web Site](#)) - 04/30/12 - 20:23

Since 2013 the Rocky Mount Fire Department has a new book out, titled Rocky Mount Fire Department. It is a 204 page pictorial history book.

**Todd Joyner** ([Email](#)) - 06/23/14 - 11:54

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info?
E-mail: (optional)	Yes
	No

## Mystery Street

04/28/12 19 W, 1 I - + 12 - 7

Can you place this cul-de-sac? Perhaps the picture offers clues...



Let's see... A very old double-yellow (triple, really) line and fog lines, so I'm thinking an old, established road that was suddenly cut off for something new, such as... maybe an interstate? But then, the trees are tall and well-established, so it can't be anything recent like NC-540 or the 64 Bypass. Am I warm?

It's interesting there's a curb on one side but not the other. And from the missing sign, I'm guessing at least one driver failed to recognize the cul-de-sac for what it was.

**rfburns** - 04/28/12 - 23:20

Good lines of thinking, there!

Here's a tip. The location can perhaps be triangulated from my Facebook postings of late. If you solve the mystery, please show your work! Brag a bit!

**Legeros** - 04/29/12 - 11:08

I was originally thinking the airport area, since the first sections of 540 made a lot of old, established roads become sudden dead-ends. And I see you were at the airport for the president's visit. But browsing Google Maps, I just can't find any cut off streets that seem to look like this.

**rfburns** - 04/30/12 - 10:33

Okay, Mike, I'm also at a loss and actually have given this location much thought but to no avail. Any more hints?

**Rescue Ranger** - 05/02/12 - 11:23

Not every old, established road is a major road! This one's outside I-440 but inside I-540.

**Legeros** - 05/02/12 - 13:18

Really curious about this one. From your clues, can we assume that the road wasn't cut off to make I-440 or I-540?

**mark** ([Email](#)) - 05/04/12 - 14:58

Sorry for the delayed response. This road was NOT terminated during the construction of either I-440 or I-540. It's near both a movie theater and a sports bar. Those could gleaned (maybe) from my Facebook postings. Let's add that this location is in a pleasant area.

**Legeros** - 05/07/12 - 10:43

Grr, my part of town too. Pleasant Grove Church Rd at the dead end past where it turns off to Millbrook Rd.

**RPD** - 05/07/12 - 19:33

4000 block of Pleasant Grove Church Rd. Found on google maps. The bar would probably be Lynnwood Grill and the movie theater is the Raleigh Grande.

**Marcus** - 05/07/12 - 19:50

Darn it... I looked right at that dead-end on Google Maps, but from the aerial view, you can't see the center line on the road so I bypassed that road.

**rfburns** - 05/07/12 - 21:40

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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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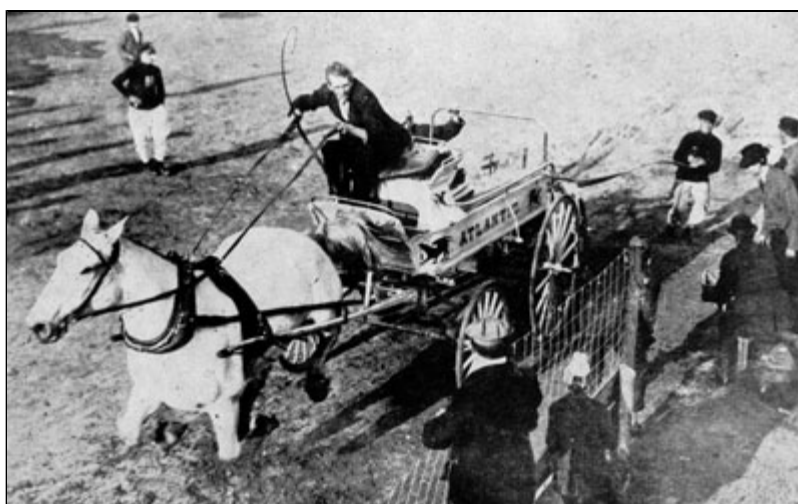
## Firefighter Games a Long Tradition in North Carolina

04/29/12 248 W, 2 I - + 12 - 14

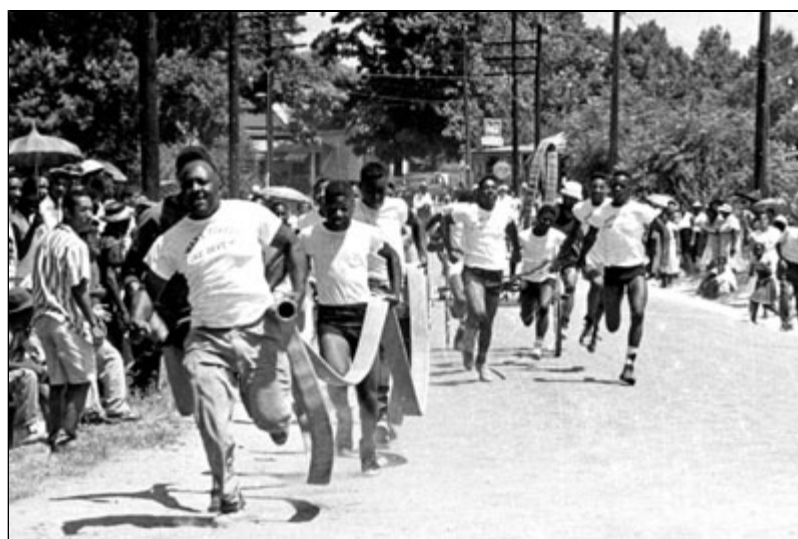
Contests between North Carolina's firefighters are as old as many of the departments themselves. After the Civil War, newspapers reported the excursions of firemen from one city to another. In September 1869, for example, some 30 members of Raleigh's Merchants Independent Fire Company were received by the Steam Fire Engine Company of New Bern. Inevitably, such visits included competitions between the visiting and home firefighters. In August 1882, the colored firefighters of Wilmington received Raleigh's Victor Company. Among the activities was a "reel contest." The prize was awarded for the best time for pulling a hand hose reel for 250 yards, laying 100 feet of hose, detaching, attaching, and flowing water from a hydrant. Wilmington's Cape Fear Company No. 3 made the best run.

[Read the rest of the story in the latest issue of Carolina Fire Rescue EMS Journal](#), Vol. 26, No. 4. The article is accompanied by a detailed overview of the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial events in downtown Raleigh on Saturday 16. Included are descriptions of the four firefighter challenge events. Have you registered your team yet?

[And here's our web page version of the story](#), with clickable photos and some NCSFA tournament rules excerpts from 1916.



*Atlantic Fire Company of New Bern in hose wagon contest, circa 1900.  
That year's tournament was held in Wilmington.*



*Wake Forest Fire Department #2 competing in a closing event of the  
67th annual session of the North Carolina Volunteer Fireman's*

*Association, July 1957. News & Observer photograph.*

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - This Morning's « Firefighter Games a L... » Maxton's 1957 GMC Pum... Fatal House Fire in Fuquay-Varina

### This Morning's Fatal House Fire in Fuquay-Varina

04/29/12 114 W, 1 I - + 10 - 14

WTVD has posted a [short video story](#) about this morning's house fire in Fuquay-Varina where two men were killed. The fire was reported about 7:30 a.m. at 128 Bridge Street. The one-story, ranch-style dwelling with a full basement measured 1,320 square-feet and was built in 1959. Seven people reportedly lived at the residence. The fire started in a downstairs area, reports [this NBC17 story](#), but investigators haven't determined the cause. Units on scene included Fuquay-Varina E5, E4, E3, E2, L1, R1, Tanker 2, Tanker 3, B1, C20, C1, Holly Springs E2, Wake County EMS 9, EMS 14, EMS 17, EMS 8, D2, T1. Wake County Fire Services WC1 and Raleigh Car 20 were among the investigators.



Kudos to all that worked the scene. Double fatality is hard enough. Good Job Fuquay! Looks like there was some pretty good fire in that basement. All the training you guys do looks to have paid off real well. Again Good Job to all!

**South Side** - 04/29/12 - 22:04

This blog is read by firefighters mostly. I understand what your saying but it isn't directed to residence of Fuquay but to the men and women that protect the town. You should be proud to live where you have such great protection. I just hope the personnel who worked this scene don't read your comment but the ones that are praising their heroism and bravery for the job they do each and everyday.

**south side** - 04/29/12 - 23:34

Fuquay-Varina E3, rescue 1, tanker 2 & 3 and car 20

**south** - 04/30/12 - 00:50

Thanks for everyone's notes. Sensitivity is good with regard to balancing the tragedy of a fatal house fire (as well as any non-fatal or non-injury producing property loss) with the "pride of the profession" that manifests at most or maybe every structure fire. Firefighters train and train and train to be effective on "that worst day." And they express themselves afterward, and support and reinforce each other, in a manner that can seem puzzling to the outsider. And might seem downright insensitive in some contexts. But that's what makes a good firefighter. They remain positive and enthusiastic about their work, despite the dour (or worse) outcomes. (How's that for a lofty-sounding summation?)

**Legeros** - 04/30/12 - 08:12

With the fire conditions that were present upon arrival, there was nothing that could have been done for the 2 victims. FVFD and HSFD did an outstanding job with the scene. Fire was knocked down quickly and everyone returned home safe!

**Food for Thought** - 04/30/12 - 20:07



Fairview Engine 3 moved up to Fuquay Station 1 for coverage, Garner Engine 2 moved to Fuquay Station 2.

**FFD** - 04/30/12 - 20:43

Thanks for the coverage from Fairveiw E-3 and Garner E-3.

**911** - 05/01/12 - 11:04

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Maxton's 1957 GMC « This Morning's Fatal ... » North Carolina Fallen... Pumper For Sale (and Some History)

### Maxton's 1957 GMC Pumper For Sale (and Some History)

04/29/12 521 W, 1 I - + 14 - 14

Here's a gem as found for auction on GovDeals, a 1957 GMC pumper from the Maxton Fire Department. Twelve bids at present. Truck doesn't run, alas. Operating condition isn't known, either. Looks like a heck of a restoration project for someone! [See many more pics and details.](#) Looks like the truck was serving as late as 1982, based on subsequent Google News Archives research (!).



Next question, what happened to Maxton FD? Looks like they were a town-based department until 1984, when MFD was approved to start serving a rural district named Queheel. By 1997, they were named Maxton-Queheel Fire Department. That same year, Queheel Fire Department took over protection for the town. (What the heck is a Queheel? No idea...) See sources and Sunday night research below the jump. Need to stop and poke around on my next trip to Myrtle Beach!

Google News Archives finds...

- Oct 1972 - Open house planned at new Maxton fire station on Central Street. Also housed Maxton Rescue Squad. From Google Maps, looks like corner of Central and Middle streets. Might have served as city garage in recent decade. Next question, where was fire station prior to 1972?
- Dec 1977 - Maxton FD to seek funding from neighboring Scotland County for answering calls in eastern part of county. Robesonian story notes that most of Maxton's fire equipment was donated by the Laurinburg-Maxton Airport Commission, and thus they haven't charging the airport for responses. (The airport, a former military air base, is midway between Laurinburg and Maxton. [See some recent pictures.](#)) Most of the equipment is noted as outdated for insurance purposes, but still functional. The town was looking at a "scat truck" (Air Force term for a small, quick response rig that carried Purple-K powder) but that was deemed inappropriate for MFD's needs.
- Jan 1982 - The 27-man department is entirely volunteer. The 1957 GMC pumper is still in service, but doesn't pump to capacity.
- Aug 1984 - Maxton FD forms ladies auxiliary.
- Jan 1984 - Maxton FD approved to serve Queheel Fire District, an area outside the town's perimeter. Was this the first formal "rural district" outside Maxton?
- May 1994 - Maxton FD still named in news reports. Department is entirely volunteer. Only a small percentage live within city limits.
- Sep 1997 - Queheel-Maxton FD now cited as department name.
- Nov 1997 - Town authorized to pay QFD the sum of \$20,000 to "serve as Maxton's fire department."
- May 2001 - Ground broken on new QMFD station on East Rockingham Street.

Secretary of State corporation records find Queheel FD incorporated in August 1993. Seems a logical conclusion that a town-funded and/or town-operated Maxton FD evolved into a private Queheel FD.

How did that happen, historically? Maxton was probably a thriving (if small) railroad town for decades. They had a fire department, which drew

on volunteers that lived and worked in the town. Then people started working and living outside the town center. By the end of the 20th Century, the resources to run a fire department were not sufficiently town-based. We've seen that story before in our state.

Looks like it has already sold. I would love to have it since I like old GMC trucks. I hope it gets restored.

**fire1983** - 05/02/12 - 17:47

All I can tell you is that the town wasnt giving us enough money so they became queheel and started getting money from the county

**BJ** - 07/06/12 - 01:01

So here's the history I can remember of that truck. I started volunteering with the Maxton Junior Volunteer Fire Dept in 1989. That truck, was our oldest engine, housed at Station 2 located under the town's only water town (at the time) on Water St. We kept it there because it was on the other side of the railroad tracks that divided the town, and it was the only other place we had space.

That truck actually had a Pontiac V-8 in it, a small block with a 2 barrel carburetor, but it was the fastest truck we owned. It would do 70 mph easy. It also had hydraulic brakes, which was a pain. And if I recall correctly, it also had a 2-stage pump. It was built by American LaFrance on a GMC chassis.

When I started volunteering, it was "Maxton Fire Dept" and 100% volunteer. We were provided a small budget from the Town of Maxton. We had 3 engines, one tanker (tender), a brush truck, and an equipment van. Maxton Fire Dept also provided fire protection to the surrounding community, but received no tax revenues for doing so. All funding came from Town of Maxton tax revenues only.

QUEHEEL FIRE DEPARTMENT was officially incorporated on 08/05/1993. That was official dept of the established rural fire district. But no taxation was approved for the geographical area, so the organization really existed only on paper. Sometime in the 1990's we got a voter referendum passed allowing \$.10 per every \$100 of property evaluation. Once a revenue stream began, the Dept switched to functioning as Queheel. It was the same people in the same fire station riding the same trucks fighting the same fires. But just the name changed. In turn, the Town of Maxton signed a contract that paid the Queheel Fire Dept to provided all fire protection in the Town of Maxton in exchange for \$20,000 and use of the existing apparatus.

Sometime in the early 2000's the Dept moved from the old Station at the intersection of Central and Middle Streets, to 108 E Rockingham Rd.

On 1/12/2016 the name was officially changed to Queheel Fire and Rescue Department.

**John Dixon** - 10/06/18 - 22:34

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**North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service, Saturday, May 5**

04/30/12 202 W, 1 I - + 17 - 11

The Seventh Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service takes place this Saturday, May 5, in downtown Raleigh. There are two events planned for the day: an apparatus and honor guard procession at 10:00 a.m. and the memorial service at 1:00 p.m. [See the memorial service web site](#) for more information. [See photos by Legeros](#) of past year's ceremonies.

The procession starts at 10:00 a.m. at Hillsborough and St. Mary's streets, and continues south on Dawson Street to the memorial at Nash Square. That's in front of Fire Station 1. Participating are fire departments that have lost one or more members in the line of duty.

The service starts at 1:00 p.m. at Nash Square. Six names of fallen firefighters will added to the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Memorial:

James Walters Sr.	Parkton Volunteer Fire Department	Jan. 29, 2011
Richard Leo Barbour	Wilson's Mills Fire Rescue	Feb. 4, 2011
David Hunsinger Jr.	Tar Heel Rural Volunteer Fire Department	Apr. 7, 2011
Jeffrey Scott Bowen	Asheville Fire Department	Jul. 28,. 2011
George W. Fisher III	Sandy Bottom Volunteer Fire and Rescue	Sep. 22, 2011
Johnnie Lynn Norton	Hot Springs Volunteer Fire Department	Nov. 24, 2011



## One Sweet Tanker

05/01/12 50 W, 1 I - + 12 - 7

Here's a sharp-looking tanker [featured as a new delivery on FireNews.net](#). 2011 Kenworth/Crimson tanker, 750 GPM, 3,000 gallon tank. Love those chevrons. What are some of the monster tankers serving around our area? And are any tractor-drawn tankers still used in the central Piedmont?



*FireNews.net photo*

I believe Halifax FD has a tractor-drawn unit.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 05/01/12 - 09:08

Not sure of the Central Piedmont, but i know Hargett's Crossroads VFD in Jones Co. had one. Also I think Winnabow FD in Brunswick CO. had one but it was for sale. It isn't listed on their website anymore.

**Maynard** - 05/01/12 - 10:32

Halifax FD is not the one with the tractor drawn unit, it is Scotland Neck Fire Department unit.

**Evans** - 05/01/12 - 12:18

Parkwood has twin 3,000 gallon tankers

**shevais** - 05/01/12 - 13:48

Down in cumberland county we have 2 currently, Wade Community Fire Dept (Sta 16) has a 3000 gallon freightliner tanker/pumper. Prior to receiving this vehicle they were running a tractor drawn tanker that I believe was either 5000 or 6000 gallons. Also Vander Fire Dept (Sta 2) placed in service a monster 3500 gallon pumper/tanker last year.

**justin** - 05/01/12 - 14:33

Hargett's Crossroads has gotten rid of their tractor trailer and replaced it with a Fouts 3000 gallon tanker.

**car3550** - 05/01/12 - 16:18

Hampstead FD in Pender County used to have a tractor drawn 6 or 8 thousand gallon tanker. Unsure if it is still in service or not

**Chris** - 05/01/12 - 21:42

Wake County's most recent crop of tanker deliveries were based on two-axle specs developed a few years ago. If memory serves, the committee that created those specs chose fewer (two) versus more (three) axles (and the resulting larger capacity) based on reasons including safety concerns.

In prior decades, a number of departments operated beastly tankers, notably Durham Highway and Fairgrounds. Those two were the largest around here, I recall.



**Legeros** - 05/01/12 - 21:45

Rolesville had a 2500 gallon tanker (Bertha). From those of us that haul water a super large tanker really doesn't work well in a water shuttle. It's too difficult to maneuver and dump, especially in a subdivision. The super large ones usually just pull up and set the brake.

[ Photo added... ]



**AB** - 05/01/12 - 23:46

Over the years the 2 tractor trailer tankers that come to mind are the former Oakhurst VFD in Mecklenburg Co had one that later went to Flowes Store VFD re-tractored with the same tank attached and Atwell Twp in Rowan County ran a tractor drawn tanker at one time. Both of these are long gone.

**BFD1151** - 05/02/12 - 08:07

Old Swift Creek Tanker 6 was 2500 gallons.

[ Lee Wilson photo added... ]



**Bob P.** - 05/02/12 - 11:33

Way back when it was established in several places that when establishing a water shuttle around these parts, a 1200-1500 gallon tanker allowed for more fireground water flow by being more maneuverable, faster to fill, and faster to dump.

As to other big tankers, Moncure had one similar to Swift Creek's, Wilson's Mills had a 2200 (they may still have it, only remounted now), and Cape Carteret ran a 3000 gallon on a Ford C8000. I also think Parkwood at one time had a big one, but not sure of the capacity.

**DJ** - 05/02/12 - 12:10

North Whiteville Fire Department in Columbus County has a mid 90's Freightliner tractor trailer tanker, I believe the trailer is 3000 gallons and is old



**car3550** - 05/02/12 - 13:25

Old Richmond Fire Department in Forsyth County recently placed a KME pumper tanker in service, 3000 gallon tank and I want to say a 1500GPM pump. Also carries in the area of 150 feet of ground ladders.

**CRK** - 05/02/12 - 19:57

Here's that bad boy at ORFD.



Wow!

**Legeros** - 05/02/12 - 20:01

Selma also use to have a tractor-trailer unit, which ran as 'Selma 6'. It was also Johnston County's foam unit. It was not kept at the fire station, rather at the town shops. If memory serves, it had a White tractor. The pump and pumping motor were mounted at the back of the trailer.

**DJ** - 05/02/12 - 20:50

Selma's tractor-drawn foam truck, photo by Jeff Harkey.



**Legeros** - 05/02/12 - 20:55

That Old Richmond Pumper/ Tanker is nice. Speaking on the large tankers, they like most apparatus has their time and place. In a nurse feed operation they seem to work really well, but in the water shuttle operation, like someone said before, they screw the rotation up. A tractor drawn or even a 3500 gallon tanker would be nice nurseing the first in engine in the rural setting on your regular 1000- 2000 square foot dwellings. At the dept. I work for we very rarely use drop tanks and stick to nurseing unless you have a 3500 square foot home burning from one end to the other, in the middle of the night, with 1 1/2" of ice and snow on the road. Or even when you have 3 10,000 square foot each hay barns and numerous small buildings and machinery involved when you pull up. this has been a great discussion thus far.

**911** - 05/02/12 - 21:31

Correction to crk's post on the Old Richmond Pumper/ tanker, it has 115' of ground ladders and an added and rare 4000 foot of 5" supply. Their website and pictures show 2 preconnected handlines in the front bumper as well as 2 speedlays behind the cab. Do you all think this is over kill?

**911** - 05/02/12 - 21:38

@911, knew it was over 100', couldn't remember for sure though. As far as over kill.....I've got a opinion on it but won't voice it here

**CRK** - 05/03/12 - 12:53

I hear ya. Thats still a lot of ladders for a engine and hose. Imo.h

**911** - 05/03/12 - 20:04

In Cabarrus County, Georgeville VFD has a 2500 gal pumper/ tanker, Odell has a 2200 gal unit, Kannapolis has a 2000 gal that actually runs as Engine 51 and Harrisburg had a tractor drawn unit that is now privately owned.

**JP17** - 05/08/12 - 10:00

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Bill of Sale, Yrac Rural Fire Department, 1962« One Sweet Tanker » Remembering Fairgroun...

Bill of Sale, Yrac Rural Fire Department, 196205/02/12 72 W, 3 I - + 10 - 9

This is a bill of sale from American LaFrance to the Yrac Rural Fire Department for "one (1) American LaFrance Chevrolet 750 GPM pump and hose car with 500 gallon tank." Purchase price \$13,781.05. Includes \$120 sales tax. Shipped on April 27, 1962. Method of delivery was "driven away." [Read some history](#) of Yrac FD. That's Cary spelled backward, if you didn't catch it. Click to enlarge:

<b>AMERICAN LAFRANCE</b> 100 EAST LAFRANCE STREET ELMIRA, NEW YORK, U.S.A.		SALES ORDER NO. 8649 DATE		INVOICE NO. 10227	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER NO. Contract REQUISITION NO.		DATE CONTRACT NO.		INVOICE DATE April 27, 1962	
SOLD TO ADDRESS Yrac Rural Fire Dept., Inc. P. O. Box 274 Cary, North Carolina		SHIP-NO. FROM Elmira, N. Y.		DATE SHIPPED April 27, 1962	
SHIP TO DESTINATION As charged		TERMS Per Contract		HOW SHIPPED Driven Away	
SHIP VIA		F.A.B. Fact.Frt.Alld.		SHIPMENT NO.	
COUNTY	SUB. CLASS	REG. NO.	DEL. PERMS REG.	NO. COPIES OF INCL.	
ITEM NO.	QUANT.	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	NET PRICE	QUANT. SHIPPED BAL. DUE AMOUNT
			One (1) American LaFrance CHEVROLET 750 GPM pump and hose car with 500 gallon tank, per contract dated January 20, 1962 Reg. No. 1-148849 N. C. Tax		13,661.05 120.00 13,781.05







Now that was a fire truck. Awesome. Drove good, and the pump just purred. I remember riding the back step, too. I was tall enough that I could see way on down the road in front of us.

DJ - 05/02/12 - 12:05

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

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## Remembering Fairgrounds Engine 196 and Durham Highway Unit 8

05/02/12 103 W, 2 I - + 8 - 6

Continuing on [yesterday's topic of tankers](#), here's a pair of big ones that once served Fairgrounds and Durham Highway fire departments. Can't find any real good (e.g. Lee Wilson style) posed photos in my digital archives. We'll make do with these shots. Top is a 1985 Kenworth/Grumman Firecat, 1250 GPM, 2500 gallon pumper-tanker. ([Read about](#) "The Beast.") Bottom is a 1984 Mack/Darley 1500 GPM, 1800 gallon pumper-tanker and which was the longest unit in the county at the time. (Those specs correct?)



8 ball

**Mike** - 05/02/12 - 10:38

Where are they now?

**fire1983** - 05/02/12 - 17:38

8 Ball (Durham Highway’s truck) was donated to Kerr Lake Fire Dept which was then shut down/acquired by the county over there. I am assuming they still have it though.

**DH** - 05/03/12 - 12:09

I didnt know that the newly formed Kerr lake fire dept was shut down. Was it forcea-kinda merge?d it did they sort-

**911** - 05/03/12 - 20:08

After the merger of Kerr Lake with Vance County, I believe that the former Durham Highway truck was donated to Hicksboro Fire Department.

**102** - 05/04/12 - 20:58

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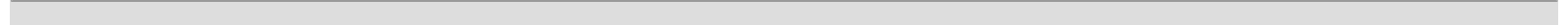
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## Wake County EMS System Reunion 2012

05/02/12 107 W, 2 I - + 7 - 7

Members of the Wake County EMS System family are invited to a reunion event on Thursday, May 17, at the Wake County Conference Center, 4011 Cary Drive, Raleigh. The festivities start at 10:00 a.m. with a meet and greet. Lunch is served at 11:00 a.m., barbecue, \$10 at the door. Historical fun is planned from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. They'll have a photo booth, service member recognitions, and then and now display of EMS vehicles and equipment. [Visit this web site for more information](#), including an RSVP form. See you there!



**Fire Chief Ed Brinson Named Assistant Director of NCSFA**

05/02/12 118 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Press release. Edward P. Brinson has been selected to serve as the Assistant Director of the North Carolina State Firemen’s Association. Chief Brinson is known to many and currently serves as the Chief of the Fairview Fire Department in Apex. He has been involved with the fire service at the local, regional and state levels over the years. He served as President of the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation from 2004 to 2007, and is a member of many national and international fire service organizations. Chief Brinson begins his work with the NCSFA on May 14. [Read the entire press release.](#) Congratulations, Chief!



Congrats Chief.  
**Silver** - 05/02/12 - 22:34

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## DCFD Engine 10 Newly Remodeled

05/03/12 105 W, 8 I - + 8 - 6

Firefighter/photographer [Stanley Jaworski](#) passed along a couple shots of DCFD Engine 10. The station at 1341 Maryland Avenue NE was recently remodeled into a four-unit, loft-style condo building. The remodeled preserved the historic facade of the 1894 structure, while adding two three-level townhomes and two "affordable-rate" condos. [See this PDF document](#) and [this web site](#) for more info. Below is the "before" shot, when Mr. Blogger found and photographed all former firehouses in DC. [See those photos from 2009](#). Or see my history page about [DC historic firehouses](#).



*Mike Legeros photo*





Stanley Jaworski photos

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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

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Four Guilford Fire Departments Brace for Budget Cuts

05/03/12 127 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

Found via [hpfirefighter.com](http://hpfirefighter.com), here's an interesting MyFOX8 story about budget cuts in Greensboro and Guilford County. The city is trying to tighten its budget by \$4.1 million. The fire department is cutting \$1 million from their budget. They've passed \$300,000 of the cuts to the "rural" fire departments that they contract with. As the story notes, Colfax FD, District 13 FD, McLeansville FD, and Pinecroft-Sedgefield FD (misnamed Pine Cross Sedgefield) are affected. [Read or watch the story](#). Google doesn't (yet) find any other stories on the Greensboro Fire Department budget, or its further plans. That's certainly a tricky area, public reporting about public safety budgets and budget processes. [ Insert additional pontifications as desired. Have to get ready for work... ]



How much duplication of service exists between the contract departments and city? Do they think the costs be saved by cutting administration positions and allowing the city department to run that minor stuff, therefore saving the tax payers money overall, and not cutting service to the citizens.

ncems - 05/03/12 - 09:55

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

Separated at Birth?

05/03/12 147 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

These two highly suspicious characters have been seen hanging around fire stations in Raleigh and Wake County. They should be considered armed with cameras and dangerously funny-looking. John Doe #1 is easily spotted by his clothing, except when walking among tropical plants. He's known for immobilizing his victims with lengthy stories of fire department history. Approach with caution, especially if you're not wearing your PPE on scene. He can be easily subdued, however, with large servings of chicken and rice. John Doe #2 is identified by his characteristic fire department t-shirts. His modus operandi involves frequent requests of station crews to pose their apparatus. He hibernates during early daylight hours and can be trapped using a length of charged five-inch hose. Recommended bait is either barbecue or a UNC basketball game. Please contact local authorities if you see them. Click to enlarge... if you dare:



Are we sure this is not a Raleigh PD Wanted Picture? ;)

Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/03/12 - 20:19

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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## Lake Norman's New Pierce Engine (and Others)

05/04/12 165 W, 2 I - + 8 - 7

Found on the [Pierce Flickr page](#), this sharp-looking Pierce Arrow XT was delivered to [Lake Norman Fire Department](#) in Iredell County. Serves as Engine 2, says the department's web site. [See larger version](#). Lake Norman, by the way, is the largest fresh water body in North Carolina. Over 50 square miles. And which compels the obvious question: how many fire departments in how many countries serve Lake Norman? And with how many fire boats??



The company's Flickr page is a great site for armchair apparatus viewing. Check out the [Spring 2012 deliveries set](#) and the assorted rigs delivered to China. Couple monster three-axle, industrial-looking pumpers in there. Here's [another Flickr user's shot](#) of job 25130 on a flatbed in Los Angeles (I think), headed probably to the port.

The Pierce New Delivery site has a smaller subset of photos, but still some interesting finds. Here's [Fayetteville's Pierce Arrow XT pumper](#) that was delivered in January. Nice looking truck!



“how many fire departments in how many countries serve Lake Norman?”

Is that like a fusion of a country and a county? USwake? ;)

**Websters** - 05/04/12 - 11:38

That Lake Norman truck is one good looking piece.

Any new Pierces coming to Wake Co/Raleigh that we know of yet?

**Buckwheat** - 05/04/12 - 14:07

Rolesville just received a new engine this Wednesday come check it out wont be in service for a week or two tho

**RRFD** - 05/04/12 - 14:25

Is it a Pierce?

**911** - 05/04/12 - 16:08

Davidson, Cornelius, and Huntersville in Mecklenburg Co; Lake Norman and Mt Mourne in Iredell Co; Sherrils Ford-Terrell in Catawba Co, Denver and East Lincoln in Lincoln Co serve Lake Norman. I think just about each dept has a boat with the exception of Davidson, Mt Mourne and East Lincoln.

**BFD1151** - 05/04/12 - 19:05

yes its a pierce

**RRFD** - 05/04/12 - 20:45

The Lake Norman engine is one of the sharpest I’ve seen. I especially like the covering over the light tower being red instead of diamond plate. Diamond plate on the roof really detracts from some beautiful trucks.

**Jason T** ([Email](#)) - 05/04/12 - 22:03

Also shepherds fire dept in iredell county has a fire boat.

**cody** - 05/09/12 - 17:18

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

## S.O.B. Security

05/04/12 55 W, 11 I - + 11 - 6

With travel on our mind this week, how about an oldie but goodie? Shot this six years ago at South of the Border. While we're here, how about some photos of Pedro's fire station? [Here's the blog thread](#) from back then. You never sausage a place. Click to enlarge:



Pedro's upgraded his apparatus. The old Engine 1 has been replaced with a Ford/American LaFrance of more recent vintage:



See pics: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/set..>

**Legeros** - 05/10/12 - 09:12

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



That's one of Raleigh's reserve ladders at last night's commercial structure fire at [2809 Brewton Place](#). It's operating as Ladder 2, which found the fire after investigating smoke they and Engine 11 smelled/saw while returning from another call. The [1999 American LaFrance/LTI platform ladder](#) (1500/300/93') arrived at a one-story metal garage building with 2,400 square-feet. Built 1969. Occupied by an auto repair business. Heavy smoke was showing. Lines were pulled and a supply line connected to the ladder truck. Crews made entry, first to the gated property and then to building, and quickly controlled a fire inside. Run card included E11, E19, E27, E21, L2, R2, B2, A1, C10, C20, C40. Finding fires by finding smoke is the oldest story in the book. What are some your great stories of sighting or sniffing out structure fires? [See a few photos](#) from last night.



Name: (real name preferred)

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Remember personal info?

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/ [Textile](#)

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## North Charleston Fire Department Group Photo

05/07/12 156 W, 1 I - + 16 - 9

How about an old-fashioned fire department group photo, with a complete fleet of apparatus and vehicles *and* all personnel ? The North Charleston Fire Department in South Carolina made this stunning image, which is found [on their web site](#). View a larger version as the cover page of their [Strategic Plan document](#) (PDF). Give a gold star to the planners of that shot! NCFD operates 12 stations and what looks like 12 engines (including a quint?), five ladders, and two rescues. Plus some other special units. (They're the third-largest city in the state. Are they the third largest fire department, also?) Believe the background is City Hall and the photographer perhaps on the roof of a nearby commercial building? Talk about a perfect setting! What other fire department group photos have you seen that you liked, either on the web or hanging in stations? Click to enlarge:



Wow, and to think that a single fire alarm or medical call could have ruined it!

**rfburns** - 05/07/12 - 21:43

What is most interesting to me is that North Charleston is a relatively new city – just incorporated in 1972. I have taught several EMD classes in North Charleston. Yes, that's their city hall. I've been nothing but impressed with NCFD and also the county EMS system. They also have an awesome 911 center that has just consolidated from several smaller PSAPS. I look forward to each class I teach down there – very professional group!

**Jason T** ([Email](#)) - 05/08/12 - 02:32

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)



## Mystery Slabs

05/07/12 60 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

Seen this weekend on the grounds of the old Charleston Naval Yard, which is located along the Cooper River in North Charleston. Uniformed shaped concrete slabs, located beside abandoned rail spurs. Sections of foundations or flooring? Used for barrier reef building? Inquiring mind wants to know! More photos later.



I had to try to research these concrete pylons a bit, I thought I knew what they were but I tried to prove it. I was able to find where they are mentioned but not specifically. They are a jig system referred to as the "Steel Crib or Cribbs" in my opinion. They would be for laying out the beam and ribs of the ship while another ship was still under construction in the dry docks. The rail line would be for transporting the steel into the crib and the assemblies out.

**stretch** - 05/08/12 - 09:19

Tremendous! Thanks for being a resource, Stretch.

**Legeros** - 05/08/12 - 09:29

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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**Fire Commission Meeting Notice & Documents - May 10, 2012**

05/07/12 283 W - + 6 - 3

The next meeting of the Wake County Fire Commission is Thursday, May 10, at 7:00 p.m. The location is the Wake County EMS Training Facility, in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building, [4011 Cary Drive](#). Below is the agenda and a list of meeting documents, [that are posted here](#).

**Agenda**

- Call meeting to order Invocation
  - Roll of Members Present
  - Approval of Agenda
- Minutes Adoption of Minutes for March 22nd, 2012, Regular Meeting
- Regular Agenda
  - Fire Tax Budget Committee
    - Committee Recommended FY 2013 Fire Tax Budget
    - Staff Recommended FY 2013 Fire Tax Budget
  - Consider Recommended Fire Protection Agreement
  - Consider Recommended Amendment to Fire Compensation Administrative Guidelines
  - Apparatus Committee
    - Recommended Wake New Hope Apparatus Replacement
- Information Agenda
  - Fire Tax Financial Report
  - Chair Report
  - Fire and Emergency Management Director Report
  - County Budget Update
- Other Business
- Public Comments
  - 30 minutes maximum time allotted, Maximum 3 minutes per person
- Adjournment - Next Meeting July 19th , 2012

**Meeting Documents**

- 1. Agenda  
(See 01 \_5-10-2012 Agenda.pdf)
- 1(A). Draft Minutes March 22, 2012  
(See 01A \_Minutes, March 22, 2012.pdf)
- 2. Fire Tax Budget Committee  
(See 02 \_Committee Recommended FY 2013 Fire Tax Budget.pdf)\  
(See 03 \_Staff Recommended FY 2013 Fire Tax Budget.pdf)
- 3. Recommended Fire Protection Agreement  
(See 04 \_Fire Contract amended 03.01.12 REDLINE.pdf)  
(See 05 \_Revised Fire Agreement for May 2012 Meeting\_Fire Commission.pdf)
- 4. Recommended Amendment to Fire Compensation Administrative Guidelines  
(See 06 \_Amendments \_ Compensation Administrative Guidelines.pdf)  
(See 07 \_Compensation Administrative Guidelines\_Amended v1.pptx.pdf)  
(See 08 \_Compensation Committee Recommendation.pdf)  
(See 09 \_County\_FD Leave Accrual Comparisons.pdf)
- 5. Apparatus Committee Report  
(See 10 \_Apparatus Committee Recommendation - Wake New Hope Apparatus Replacement.pdf)
- 6. Fire Tax Financial Report  
(See 11 \_Fire Comm Finance Reports - July 1 to May (FY12 YTD).pdf)

[See documents](#)

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Scenes From a Shipyard

05/08/12 159 W, 4 I - + 8 - 4

Here are a few fire-related sights from the old [Charleston Naval Shipyard](#), which is located on the Cooper River in North Charleston, S.C. Top is the yard's old fire station. Not sure if there was more than one. Next is North Charleston Fire Station 2. Might be a converted building that wasn't a fire station. (The Navy ceased operations at the yard in 1996.) There's a gate in the rear to allow access into the old shipyard, which is now a commercial and industrial development area. (And with at least one residential area as well.) Below that is a reserve E-One engine and a USAR rig, parked at Station 2. [See more photos from the shipyard](#). Thanks to Stretch for identifying the mystery slabs in [our prior posting](#).





Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**



What a Cistern Lid Looks Like

05/09/12 160 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

This cistern lid is located in Washington Square in Savannah, GA. The lid, which measures four or five feet in diameter, is located 20 feet north of a brass plaque that sits upon a brick stand. The plaque reads:

Washington Fire Company No. 9 - 1847 to 1875

Located at this site. The volunteer Washington Fire Company No. 9 provided fire protection to Washington and adjacent wards for 28 years. The top of a cistern visible 20 feet north served as a water reservoir for the fire apparatus. The men of the Washington Fire Company were memorialized by the placement of this cornerstone at Fire Station No. 1, which was built at 522 East Brought Street in 1878. This was Savannah's first municipal fire station, which was demolished in 1962.

Dedicated to the brave firemen of Fire Station No. 1

Who also served as mentors and role models for the youth of the "Old Fort" section of Savannah.

October 14, 2007.

Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Hilton Head Island Airport Fire Department

05/09/12 96 W, 2 I - + 14 - 6

Here's a peek inside the bays of the Hilton Head Island Airport Fire Department. The station is staffed with two career firefighters, who operated an Oshkosh crash truck and a Ford quick-response vehicle. Didn't get the model years or specs, alas. The department is operated by Beaufort County, versus HHIFD. The latter, however, has their headquarters and training facility across the street from the airport fire station. More photos later, including some inside shots of their about-a-year-old station.



Name: (real name preferred)

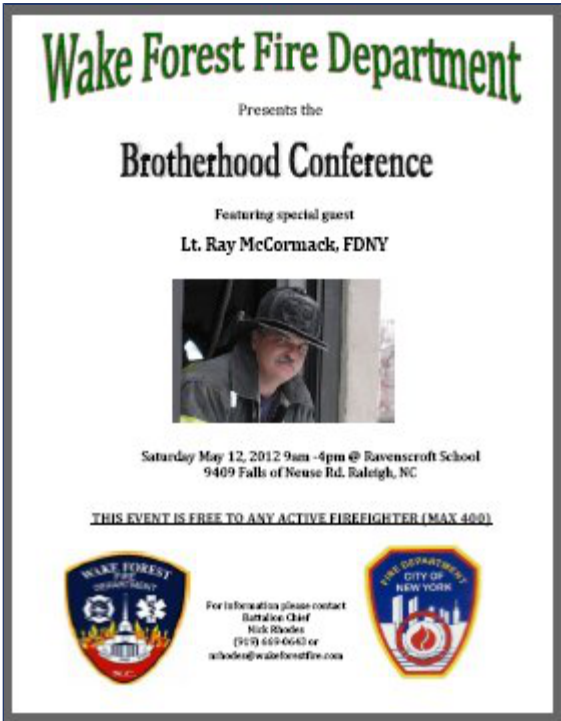
Remember personal info?  
Yes



Reminder: Brotherhood Conference on Saturday, May 12

05/10/12 76 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

This is a reminder that the Wake Forest Fire Department is hosting a Brotherhood Conference on Saturday, May 12. The location is Ravenscroft School at [9409 Falls of Neuse Road](#), Raleigh. The event time is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The special guest is Lt. Ray McCormack, FDNY. This conference is free for any active firefighters. There are 400 slots max. [Download the flyer](#) (PDF), or click to read for contact information:



Fellowship immediately following at Piper’s Tavern, 8304 Falls of Neuse Road.  
**Silver** - 05/10/12 - 10:10

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>
E-mail: (optional)	
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## Charleston Building Their Largest Fire Station Ever

05/10/12 140 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

Check out this monster fire station that Charleston's getting ready to build. New Station 9 at King and Heriot streets. Five bays, with the department's headquarters on the second floor. It replaces an existing station at the same location, though that building (and a much smaller facility) is closed because of mold problems. The \$5.5 million, 19,500 square-foot building was designed by Rosenblum Coe Architects. It'll house Engine 9 plus the haz-mat team. It also has space to accommodate one of the four downtown engine companies, which will be needed on a temporary basis, as the city works to retrofit its older stations for earthquake protection (!). [See this Post & Courier story](#) for more information. See pictures of [Charleston's historic stations](#), photographed by Legeros in 2007.



Funny you should say this is q 'large' station, whenever I see a video on Youtube from 911rescue I'm always amazed by the size of the stations in Germany.

Take this video for example -> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=iGBQyEk916s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=iGBQyEk916s)

**Paul** - 05/10/12 - 10:15

I have always heard that German cities and towns build monster fire stations, but they don't have similar scattering's of medium-sized stations. Everything is consolidated, versus spread across multiple facilities, like in our country.

**Legeros** - 05/10/12 - 10:26

OK, I figured you'd either know or be able to find an answer :-)

**paul** - 05/10/12 - 11:08

Looks nice. I've always loved the stations/houses that have bays on multiple sides. Growing up near Fall River, MA I always loved the Fall River Bedford St. HQ ([http://massfiretrucks.com/Fall\\_River\\_Station\\_1.jpg](http://massfiretrucks.com/Fall_River_Station_1.jpg)) – it had 4 bays on the front and 3-4 along the West facing side.

**Trevor James** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/10/12 - 12:31

Additional drawings, etc. here

[http://www.fierofirestation.com/awards\\_2..](http://www.fierofirestation.com/awards_2..)

This was a very difficult site to work with.

**harkey** ([Email](#)) - 05/10/12 - 14:25

Jeff, do southeastern urban fire stations match those around the country? Or are there trends in our region that are unique to the south or the

Carolina's?

**Legeros** - 05/10/12 - 14:31

Name: (real name  
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Historic Savannah Firehouses

05/10/12 335 W, 1 I - + 12 - 7

The [Savannah Fire Department](#) dates to 1867, and its career department was formed in 1890. The first fire company was formed over a century earlier in 1759. That was a couple decades after the first fire in 1737. The first officially organized fire department was formed in 1825, and the first independent fire companies were organized in 1845.

The department used hand-powered apparatus until 1866, when all hand engines were converted to steam power. Motor apparatus arrived in the 1910s. After the successful operation of an American LaFrance combination chemical hose wagon, eleven more were purchased in 1911. Savannah became the first fully mechanized fire department in the United States.

Three engine houses from the late 19th and early 20th century are still standing in the city. Other historic fire stations include two from the 1930s and two from the 1940s. One of each is active, notably the monster Headquarters Fire Station on Oglethorpe Avenue. Also at that location resides Big Duke, the alarm bell and tower that previously sat in front of the police station.

- 604 Barnard St. – Built 1886 - Closed 1952 – Sta 4
- 2202 Barnard St. – Built 1900 – Closed 1982 – Sta 6
- 801 E. Gwinnett St. – Built 1909 - Closed 1999 – Sta 7
- 2102 Ott St. - Built 1936 - Closed 1955 - Sta 8
- 121 E. Oglethorpe Ave. - Built 1937 - Sta 3/ Big Duke
- 1943 Capital St. - Built 1945 – Closed 2008 - Sta 9
- 6 West Henry St. - Built 1946 - [Closing 2012?](#) - Sta 5
- 230 East Lathrop Ave. - 1952 – Closed 1999 - Sta 4
- 2824 Bee Rd. - Built 1955 - Sta 8
- 535 East 63rd Street - Built 1959 - Sta 1
- 7 Martin Luther King Blvd. - Built 1970 - Closed 1999 - Sta 2



[See photos of the stations](#), shot this week on our vacation. Criteria was (a.) age 50 years or older or (b.) no longer serving as a fire station, built any year. Or [read more information](#).

Sources:

- [Savannah Fire Department history](#) (short)

- [Savannah Fire Department history](#), via IAFF Local 574 (Word document, long)
- [Savannah Fire Department records](#), via City of Savannah Research Library & Municipal Archives (PDF)

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

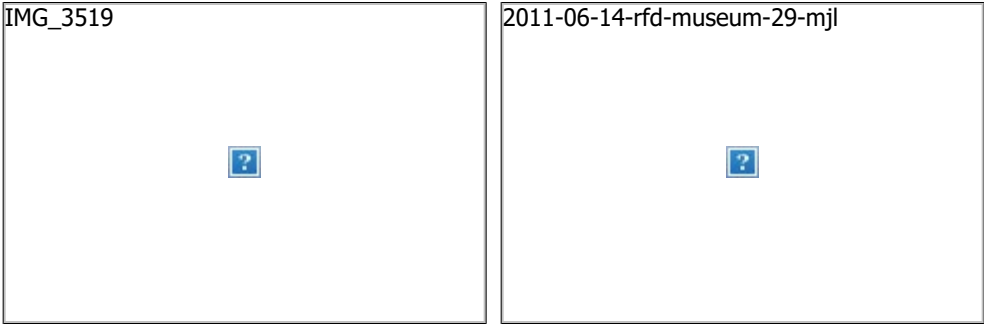
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, May 11

05/11/12 125 W, 2 I - + 10 - 5

Don't forget that the Raleigh Fire Museum is open this Saturday, May 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month, and is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free. Learn more about the museum, and the group that operates it, at [www.raleighfiremuseum.org](http://www.raleighfiremuseum.org).



Please note that the Raleigh Fire Department's collection of antique fire apparatus is housed at a separate location, at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#) in northeast Raleigh. The collection includes a 1905 steamer, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.



## Boeing Fire Department in North Charleston

05/11/12 111 W, 2 I - + 9 - 6

Back from vacation but still processing photos and observations from our trip to Savannah by way of Charleston. Heard there's a new airport fire department in North Charleston, serving the Boeing plant that opened last year. Google finds a couple apparatus delivery photos. Top photo is a 2011 Oshkosh Striker 3000, from [this E-Vehicle News story](#). See larger photo on that page. Bottom is a 2011? Ford F-550/American LaFrance mini-pumper slash light rescue, [from this ALF page](#). Perhaps readers can add details about BFD as well as main airport fire department in North Charleston.



From a reader: The USAF provides fire protection for both the military and civilian sides of the airport. Since they fly C-5 Galaxy cargo planes from there, they have an impressive fleet. They maintain a minimum of four large ARFF rigs at all times, which you don't see much any more.

**Legeros** - 05/11/12 - 20:06

Did you happen to hit up the LaFrance Fire Museum while in Charleston? It's a really cool place!

**McK** - 05/13/12 - 12:43

Agreed, it is a nifty place. I've been there a couple times a couple years ago, see pics: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros/set..>

On this trip, I had to balance “wife time” with “fire stuff.”

**Legeros** - 05/13/12 - 12:45

Name: (real name  
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Web Site: (optional)

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Historic Urban Firehouses of the South

05/11/12 116 W - + 7 - 3

Slowly but surely we're amassing a collection of current photos of historic urban firehouses in the South. As posted to the [Mike Legeros Flickr site](#), you can tour these cities:

- [Baltimore](#)
- [Charleston](#)
- [District of Columbia](#)
- [Richmond](#)
- [Savannah](#)

There's also an [omnibus of North Carolina stations](#), which mixes urban, suburban, and rural. For specific cities, see this history page and these articles therein:

- [Asheville](#)
  - [Charlotte](#)
  - [Durham](#)
  - [Fayetteville](#)
  - [Goldsboro](#)
  - [Greensboro](#)
  - [High Point](#)
- [Kinston](#)
  - [New Bern](#)
  - [Raleigh](#)
  - [Rocky Mount and Wilson](#)
  - [Wilmington](#)
  - [Winston-Salem](#)

Memo to self, create individual Flickr sets for the above North Carolina cities. Add links between each new set and its corresponding history page. Oy, photo management never ends.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Evening Reading - May 11, 2012

05/11/12 531 W - + 9 - 2

Good evening Raleigh. Summer appears to be here! Days are getting longer, days are getting hotter. Good time for summer projects and summer vacations. Regarding the former, Yours Truly is compiling a list of all Wake County fire chiefs past and present. Started as question, which chiefs have been the longest-serving? That led to a longer list, which is a few departments shy of being completed. Names plus start and stop years, where possible. Watch this space.

- [A parade is coming and you're invited!](#) - FireNews.net posting about the Raleigh Fire Department centennial celebration on Saturday, June 16. An all-day celebration is planned downtown. The festivities start with a parade on Fayetteville Street. Your department is requested to send modern or antique apparatus. You can also participate in the apparatus muster and the firefighter challenges. Learn more at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).
- Fairview hiring for Fire Chief - The Fairview Fire Department in Apex is hiring to fill a full-time Fire Chief position. Applications accepted through June 1. [See this PDF document](#) for more information, including an application. Congratulations again to outgoing Chief Ed Brinson, who's continuing the family name in the North Carolina State Fireman's Association as Assistant Director.
- [FireNews and Bartosz cover triple-truck crash on I-95](#) - FireNews.net posting about Wednesday's fatal, fiery truck crash on I-95 in Rocky Mount. The city department was assisted by Red Oak FD, Coopers FD, West Mount FD, and Battleboro FD. Plus a crash truck from the airport. (Full run card, anyone?) Photographer Bob Bartosz contributed some 20 photos.
- Speaking of fire photographers... - Mark your calendar for Friday, August 10. That's the date that a Fire Photography Panel will be held at the [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#) in Raleigh. The 90-minute workshop is scheduled from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. The moderator is FireNews.net Editor Jeff Harkey. The participants include myself. More on that one, later.
- Speaking of the Fire Expo - After you've learned about fire photography, plan to attend my workshop at 3:15 p.m. on the same day. Historian Mike Legeros will present a Centennial History of the Raleigh Fire Department. The 90-minute session will include a contextual history of the fire service in North Carolina as well. And probably a lot of neat old photos.
- [Salary freezes often mean double duty for area firefighters](#) - *Star-News* story about Wilmington firefighters making ends meet, and as the city faces an estimated \$4.5 million budget hole.
- [Volunteer cartographer sets Google Map record straight on Triangle](#) - *News & Observer* story from Sunday about a WakeMed police officer whose a citizen cartographer off-duty. Pretty neat.
- [14 tips for raising the bar on memo writing](#) - Modern Meeting Standing posting on writing better. Learn from the thing, okay? You'll become a better texter, tweeter, and e-mail writer. Might even help some folks with blogging!
- Vacation photos from Charleston and Savannah - Mr. Blogger is about finished with his post-vacation post-processing. Posted so far are shots from the [Charleston Naval Yard](#), [Savannah Historic Firehouses](#), and [Savannah Temporary Firehouses](#) (!). Pending is the Hilton Head Island Airport Fire Department and general shots from around Savannah.

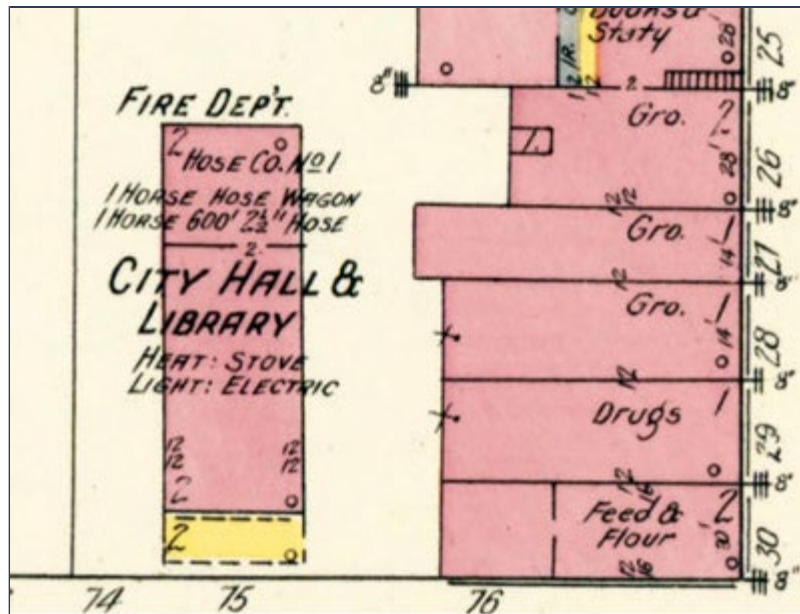
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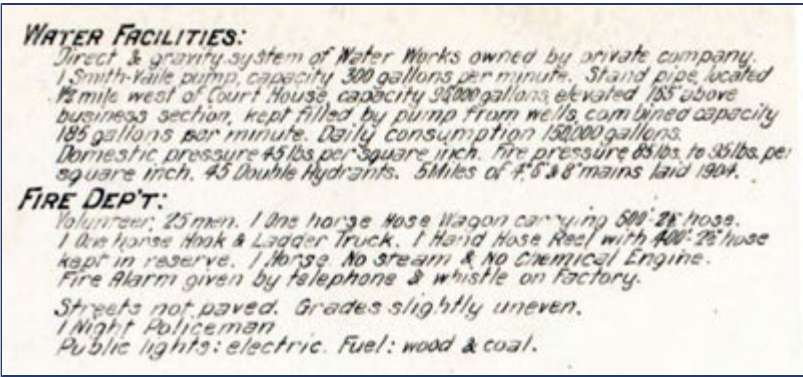
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## Morganton City Hall and Fire Station, 1910

05/12/12 95 W, 3 I - + 11 - 4

Found for sale on eBay is this postcard of the Morganton City Hall building, which included a fire station in the rear. Never seen this photo before! Sanborn Maps from April 1910 show the structure located on King Street, just west of West Union Street. The volunteer fire department of 25 men operated a horse hose wagon and a horse hook and ladder truck. The town had 45 hydrants. The population was 3500. Don't know when the building was built, or when it was demolished. [View the Sanborn Maps](#). Click to enlarge:





Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Centennial Celebration Invitation From Fire Chief John McGrath

05/12/12 83 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Fire Chief John McGrath extends his invitation to the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration in downtown Raleigh on Saturday, June 16, in this short video clip. The all-day event begins at 10:00 a.m. and will feature a fire truck parade, firefighter competitions, antique apparatus pumping demonstrations, a Kidde Kid's Zone, and a huge birthday cake. Learn more at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com), including registration information for your apparatus for firefighter team. Click to watch the video:



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preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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My [deadliest disasters database](#) includes military aviation accidents with fatalities numbering five or greater. A reader informs of an incident not listed. Nine crew members aboard a C-130 transport plane were killed when their craft crashed into Blewett Falls Lake in Anson County on April 29, 1992. The plane was based at Pope Air Force Base, about 40 miles east of the crash site. The incident ties for ninth deadliest military plane crash in the state's history. The highest fatality count was an Army transport crash on September 20, 1943, at Laurinburg-Maxton Army Air Base. The crash killed all 25 aboard, and was also the first fatal crash at the base. Memo to self: updated my database with the Anson County incident.

- Laurinburg-Maxton AAB - Sept. 20, 1943 - 25
- Pope AFB - Mar. 23 1994 - 23 killed, 100 injured
- Camp Lejeune Onslow - Jun. 23, 1967 - 22
- Laurinburg-Maxton AAB - Jun. 7, 1943 - 20
- Gingercake Mountain - May 17, 1943 - 18
- Camp Lejeune - May 10, 1996 - 14
- Camp Mackall - Oct. 30, 1943 -14
- Greenknob Mountain - Jun. 13, 1944 - 10
- Cherry Point MCAS - Oct. 16, 1975 - 9
- Blewett Falls Lake - Apr 29, 1992 - 9

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Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Temporary Fire Stations

05/13/12 165 W, 2 I - + 10 - 7

Here's Station 12 on Ogeechee Road in Savannah, one of three temporary stations operating on the far west and south sides of the city. We photographed all three while visiting the historic city last week. [See those photos](#). (Yeah, you're pretty much crazy person if spend your vacation cruising the perimeter of a place like Savannah, instead of spending every last moment downtown. We don't even need Mrs. Blogger to comment on that one...)

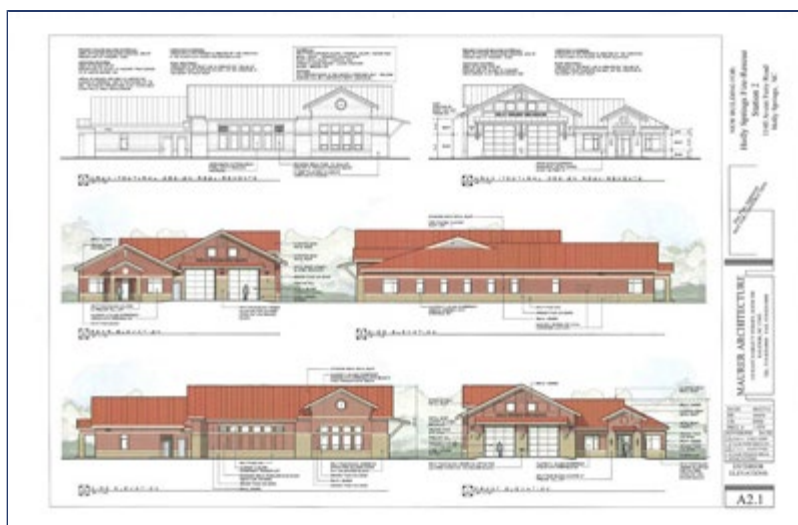
Locally, we've seen a number of temporary fire stations around Raleigh and Wake County. In the Capital City, Engine 8 occupied a rented house on Method Road from 1960 to 1963. In Holly Springs, the municipal fire department's early locations included a warehouse circa 1995. Their Station 2 is currently operating in a trailer on Avent Ferry Road, while their new building is completed on the same site. What other temporary stations have served or are serving around here/this region?



## Drawing of Holly Springs Station 2

05/13/12 38 W, 1 I - + 13 - 10

Found on the [fire department's stations page](#), here's a drawing of Holly Springs Station 2, which is under construction on Avent Ferry Road. See [earlier blog post](#). See [construction photos from Lee Wilson](#).



I hate to nit-pick but the building elevation drawings aren't drawn correctly. The front and rear elevations are the same drawing just one is inverted left to right. The entrance portico, which I would assume is only on the front of the building is shown on both front and rear elevations but is not shown on left elevation. If I paid for these drawing I would be a bit ticked off!

**stretch** - 05/13/12 - 18:36

Lesson in life #1: Be sure of the details and double check things before speaking on them. (Look at the side elevations and the entrance roofs of the front and rear.)

**Josh** ([Email](#)) - 05/14/12 - 00:19

Josh,

Portico- A porch held up by columns in front of a doorway.

Canopy Roof- A roof, often over a balcony or porch, that is suggestive of the curvature of a suspended cloth canopy. (Architects terminology)

There are two canopy roofs over the apparatus bay doors one front and one rear. The front and rear Elevation drawings show a portico on the front and rear however the side elevation drawings only show a portico at the front.

**Stretch** - 05/14/12 - 05:06

The elevations appear to be correct. The portico is not shown in Side Elevation (Side B) (2/A2.1) because the face of the portico stops almost in line with the bays. Side Elevation 3/A2.1 (Side D) shows the front portico roof just slightly in front of the apparatus bay roof. Omitting the small portion of roof that sticks from the the Side B elevation is a common drafting practice, as that roof actually happens on the other building is not important to the Side B elevation.

Also, while the front and rear elevations appear to be similar, there are several big differences. The Side A entry roof is much taller the the

rear, with different detailing, and the door has a glass sidelight. Also notice how the front entrance is perpendicular the the roof ridge while the rear is parallel with it. The overall form of the front and rear apparatus bay are the same. That seems to make sense because it is likely one large drive through bay space. The canopies over the front and rear bay are different sizes.

**A Different Josh** - 05/14/12 - 21:49

I dont care about the nit picking or whatever. Congrats to Holly Springs. As a Engineer I think the drawings look good. When I say Engineer its my position on the fire department.

**911** - 05/15/12 - 08:59

Hey I was just messing with you, but anyways just glad to see a different Josh agrees. Rode by the station the other day and it looks good, a lot better than the barn & construction office. When is the expected completion date?

**Josh** ([Email](#)) - 05/15/12 - 11:34

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Vintage Benson Beauties

05/14/12 116 W, 2 I - + 8 - 8

As photographed by Lee Wilson at Saturday's open house at the Benson Fire Department. Top is a 1950 Ford/Howe. Love the lines on that one and the overhead ladder rack. (Wake Forest had a similar style rig in that era.) Bottom is an early 1900s horse-drawn, gas-powered pumper. That one was recently returned to the fire department and has been undergoing restoration. [See prior posting from 2010](#). The engine dates to 1907, though that might be an approximate year. Here's a [history page of mine](#) with a photo of the engine operating circa 1907. Our readers to the south can perhaps add more information. [See more photos from the Open House](#).



*Lee Wilson photos*

The Tripp Lite beacon on the Benson pumper is unique. I have not seen but a small number around these parts. Most from that era had the mechanical siren-light combinations.

**DJ** - 05/14/12 - 09:45



Wake County Recognizes EMS Week

05/14/12 217 W - + 7 - 9

This week is Wake County EMS week. [Read press release](#). There are a couple events planned, both public and private:

- EMS Healthy Living Open House at Station 1 - Monday, May 14 - 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Residents are invited to stop by for blood pressure screenings, fresh fruit, tours of ambulances and to meet Pete the Paramedic Panda. Attendees can also learn about automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and hands-only CPR techniques. At 10:00 a.m., Wake County EMS will host a news conference to launch a new initiative with local businesses aimed at improving cardiac arrest survival rates.
- Cardiac Arrest Saves Ceremony at Fletcher Opera Theater - Wednesday, May 16 - 7:00 p.m.  
The County’s EMS System will celebrate the 69 survivors of cardiac arrest in 2011. No other community in the U.S. benefits from a higher pre-hospital cardiac arrest survival rate.
- Wake County EMS System Reunion at the Wake County Conference Center - Thursday, May 17 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Past members of the EMS departments and rescue squads are invited to a reunion event. Starts with a meet and greet at 10:00 a.m., barbecue lunch at 11:00 a.m., and historical fun from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. [Visit this web site for more information](#), including an RSVP form.

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Wake County Firefighters Association Quarterly Meeting, Meal - Tuesday, May 15

05/14/12 102 W - + 12 - 5

From the Wake County Firefighters Association: The next quarterly supper / meeting will be held this Tuesday, 5/15/2012, at Wake Forest Fire Department Station 1, 420 East Elm Ave. The meal will be served around 6:30p with the meeting to follow around 7p. There will be a speaker from the new retirement system that the State Fireman's Association has put together. We will also be announcing the scholarship awards. Please feel free to bring any new apparatus that you have recently received so we may all take a look. We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Notify:

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Hide email:

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**Citizen Video of Charlotte Townhouse Fire**

05/15/12 56 W - + 13 - 5

Found via random YouTube search, here's some citizen video of a Charlotte townhouse fire on April 20, 2012. Only about 80 seconds of footage. Some citizen commentary. Sound of evacuation tones about a minute in. Google searching finds these [WSCO](#) and [WBTV](#) stories. Two alarms on Duke Lancaster Drive. Five families displaced.

Thats not Evac horn that's just first due calling for his water From the hydrant man

**Salty** ([Email](#)) - 05/15/12 - 10:32

So thats what the the blasts of the horns mean. I will know next time I hear em.

**911** - 05/15/12 - 22:15

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Old Wilson, Williamston Engines

05/16/12 45 W, 2 I - + 8 - 12

Photographer Lee Wilson found these two trucks in Johnston County last week. Top is an American LaFrance 700 Series in Clayton, former Wilson Engine 2. Bottom is a 1948 Mack outside Smithfield that once served Williamston. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Raleigh's Old Engine 1 Returns Home

05/16/12 142 W, 2 I - + 14 - 6

The Raleigh Fire Museum last week acquired a 1961 American LaFrance 900 Series pumper that originally served the Raleigh Fire Department. It was purchased with donations from active, retired, and former members. [The engine served the city](#) from 1961 until 1982, and was sold to the Stem Fire Department in Granville County in what we believe was 1986. It was later sold to a private owner.

The truck's in good condition and the museum will continue to raise money for maintenance and, hopefully, restoration. [See photos of the engine's journey](#) from Jan Chamblee and others, as well as [photos from Lee Wilson](#). To learn about the Raleigh Fire Museum or donate money, see [www.raleighfiremuseum.org](http://www.raleighfiremuseum.org). The engine will be participating in the Saturday, June 16 centennial celebration in downtown Raleigh. Hope to see you there!



*Lee Wilson photo*



*Dean Narron photo*

---

the truck looks nice. i hope they repaint it Raleigh red, and re letter it for RFD. Since it is owned by the historical museum and not the FD, will it be housed with the antique apparatus at 28 or is it going to be housed elsewhere.



## Rolesville's New Engine 151

05/16/12 30 W, 1 I - + 10 - 6

Delivered last week, a 2012 Pierce Saber. More photos forthcoming from Lee Wilson. We'll get some specs for the thing, too. [Click to enlarge:](#)



*Lee Wilson photo*

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Good looking rig Rolesville. Congrats.

**911** - 05/16/12 - 23:25

Is this their first Pierce?

And agreed 911...It's a good looking truck.

Congrats Rolesville.

**Buckwheat** - 05/17/12 - 11:35

And Wake Co wants to get away from Pierce,,,what a shame

**Enginedriver** - 05/17/12 - 19:17

Lee what was it's first call?

**911** - 05/17/12 - 19:40

Enginedriver...has that been decided on?

I wonder why? Im not being a smarty pants but I havent heard that one.

Seems like they are better now than the Contenders from previous years.

**Buckwheat** - 05/17/12 - 21:02

The Wake Co. Apparatus Committee develops specifications and reviews the submitted bids. Pierce meets the current spec. at the lowest bid. No plans to change unless the spec is re-bid and someone else comes in lower.

**A.C. Rich** - 05/17/12 - 23:07

I don't know 911.

**lee** - 05/17/12 - 23:55



Historic Firehouses of Raleigh

05/16/12 230 W, 1 I - + 13 - 5

Let's apply the travel treatment to our own town, shall we? Here are the historic and former fire department buildings in Raleigh. The oldest dates to the volunteer years, with the Capital Hose House built in 1887. Then leap to the 20th Century, with a number of former firehouses, including the rear of what was once called Memorial Auditorium. The oldest fire department building still in service is the old alarm house behind in Station 1. [See the photos by Legeros](#), all of which were taken a couple years ago. Will do a fresh photo tour one of these months! [Read more history](#) about these buildings.

- Sta 1 - 220 S. Dawson Street - Built 1953
  - Sta 3 - 13 S. East Street - Built 1951
  - Sta 5 - 300 Oberlin Road - Built 1961
  - Sta 6 - 2601 Fairview Road - Built 1949
  - Sta 7 - 2100 Glascock Street - Built 1959
  - Old Alarm House - Behind 220 S. Dawson Street - Built 1942
  - Old Capital Hose House - 117 W. Morgan Street - Built 1887 - Closed 1889
- Old Sta 2 - Memorial Auditorium, rear - Built 1932 - Closed 1969
  - Old Sta 2 Repair Shop - 263 Pecan Street, rear - Built 1969 - Closed 2004
  - Old Sta 4 - 505 Jefferson Street - Built 1926 - Closed 1963
  - Old Sta 4 - 2913 Wake Forest Road - Built 1963 - Closed 1993
  - Old Sta 6 - 2519 Fairview Road, left half - Opened 1943 - Closed 1948
  - Old Sta 8 - 903 Kent Road - Opened 1960 - Closed 1963



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Comment:

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Mystery Patient Compartments - Then & Now

05/17/12 46 W, 2 I - + 11 - 7

Pair of patient compartments in a pair of ambulances. One is vintage, one is modern. Can you identify? Marvel at the simplicity (then) and the complexity (now).



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Evening Reading - May 17, 2012

05/17/12 460 W - + 8 - 4

Good evening Raleigh. Great time today at the second annual Wake County EMS System reunion. There's such a rich vein of history in our area, with decades of service by volunteer rescue squads and career EMS agencies (and variations in-between). [See photos by Legeros](#), including a couple sweet rides shown outside the Wake County Commons Building, where the luncheon was held. Enjoy some reading and these stories that caught my eye this week:

- [Death of fire dog brings community outpouring](#) - *Midtown Raleigh News* story about Durham Highway Fire Department, and what's happened since the passing of Angus three months ago. Both [Lee](#) and [Legeros](#) documented his last day on February 23.
- [Knightdale paves way for ousted firefighters to return](#) - *Eastern Wake News* story about a new town policy that will allow three firefighters to return to work, who were dismissed due in February due to policies prohibiting employment of spouses or relatives.
- [Wake County announces 100 day heart safe AED campaign](#) - Press release about an initiative announced Monday, to help citizens survive cardiac arrests and by increasing the availability of public access Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). Also on this subject, cardiac survivors and the responders who help save them were recognized Wednesday night at the annual ceremony at Fletcher Hall. [Read the N&O story](#) or see [photos from Lee Wilson](#).
- [Who's in that ambulance?](#) - WTVD investigative report and a curiously timed one at that, what with EMS week starting next week. They reviewed five year's worth of disciplinary records for emergency medical providers statewide. Can't tell the reason behind this one, beyond the obviously lower-hanging editorial fruit. Local EMS blogger 9-Echo-1 has already weighed in with [his response](#).
- [Raleigh Fire Department producing centennial history book](#) - Press release about an all-new history book that's in production. Hardcover, full-color, 260 pages. Price is \$60. Can be pre-ordered online, or via forms available at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com). Some historian guy is helping at the helm.
- [What a croc](#) - Actually, 'twas an alligator (in Carteret County!) that made the news in the widely-reported WITN story. The video clip has played everywhere, and should be tagged "Don't Try This at Home." Alligator 1, Scientist 0.
- [What the investigation into Facebook comments by a firefighter looks like](#) - Statter911 story from earlier this week, about the Miami-Dade Fire Department's demotion of a captain due to comments posted on the popular site. What's unique about this story is the 33-page investigative report, which accompanies the story. It's a blow-by-blow account that turns "yet another social media story" into a cautionary tale of considerable magnitude. You might find yourself rethinking your online conduct after this one.

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Regarding the WTVD story, here's a meta-question about my calling attention to same: Is it better to whisper and try to forget that such a story was broadcast? Or just the opposite, in talk openly and let everyone look at the thing and form their own opinions and, hopefully, expose the flaws therein? Obviously I'm doing the latter. Am I wrong in doing same?

**Legeros** - 05/18/12 - 08:00

Nobody's suggesting that we whisper about nonsense like this. Mom always told me to ignore things that don't amount to a hill of beans, and this story surely did not. But ranting about it on world-wide media makes it seem far more significant or important than it is. Remember, the news guys don't care if you LIKE it or DISLIKE it – they just care that you watched it. Many also think that the number "hits" on a web site or "comments" on a news story are a measure of success. Do we really want to help them inflate their numbers?

Not me!

**Skip K** - 05/18/12 - 09:31

Thanks for your perspective, Skip. That’s a good point about the motivators behind ratings-based journalism. Conceptually, news exists (or was created) to add social value. But to sustain the mechanisms required to find and report news, money/ratings/likes are required. And invariably, the tail ends up wagging the dog at times.

But there’s also the meta-issue. If this story is nonsense and isn’t worth anyone’s attention, then why are so many EMS people reacting so strongly, and talking so passionately about it? Does that in turn transform a non-story (miniscule percentages in employment data) in a real story (reactions of employees to [something])?

Not sure what the “something” is. The story doesn’t even target any Triangle-based EMS providers. But it’s making medics (and others) hot. As someone wise once said, when something makes us mad, it’s also telling us something about ourselves.

One more thought about press and emergency services. It would take a seriously scandalous scandal to stop people from 911 when they have an emergency. No one’s call volume dropped after that story aired, that’s for sure!

**Legeros** - 05/19/12 - 09:18

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Letter to the Editor / Memo From Fire Chief, Circa 1958

05/17/12 1181 W - + 12 - 6

Found in my files. These date to around 1958, based on the citations regarding a second aerial ladder (delivered 1958) and construction of Station 7 (opened 1959).

To the Editor:

Yesterday I spent a most enjoyable and enlightening hour and a half in the Raleigh Fire Station on Dawson Street.

Like too many of our Raleigh Citizens, I have always subconsciously taken for granted that if a fire were occur in my home, I would pick up the telephone, call the fire station, and have the fire put out. It never occurred to me stop and think what operations might be behind this very prompt and efficient service.

Also like many citizens, I had never seen a fire engine except as it flashed past, hurrying to answer a fellow citizen's distress call. Those big gleaming, clean-as-a-pin engines sat there, ready to go into operation at a second's notice. When I saw them, I knew exactly how my young son feels when he is around a fire engine.

Many of us, I feel sure, don't know that there is a definite science in the art of fighting fires. I peered with awe at the banks of complicated dials, knobs and fixtures that each fireman must know how to operate in order to extinguish a fire. I learned that these engines carry their own supply water which can be used to instantly start fighting the fire while the other hose lines are being attached to the hydrant.

Do you know that from the instant the first "licks" hit the alarm bell until the firemen are on the truck and ready to go into action takes only 18 seconds. Sounds incredible but that's true. Our fireman are on duty around the clock, seven days a week. They sleep in the station house with an ear open for that first sound of an alarm bell, ready to leap into action--to protect our lives and property.

Except to answer a fire call, these men never leave the station house while on duty. They have a kitchen and sleeping quarters right in the station house. When it is said that they are on duty 24 hours a day, it means just that. Meal time, coffee break time, sleeping time-- all subject to interruption at any time, day or night, for the citizens of Raleigh.

The firemen of Raleigh have a proud tradition. Their salaries are small, their glory minor, but their service int he face of constant danger is tremendous.

Our Fire Chief, Jack Keeter, is to be highly commended for his wonderful organization of our fire department and for the services that he and his men render the people of Raleigh. I don't know how others feel, but as for me, I'll never again "take for granted" such important service.

(Mrs.) Becki Brenner, Raleigh

### Municipal Memo

By Jack B. Keeter, Raleigh Fire Chief

We have, in my opinion, as fine a fire department as there is in the state of North Carolina, or anywhere else. It is our constant aim and effort to give the citizens of Raleigh first class, efficient fire protection.

The Fire Department is composed of 123 personnel. Because of the 24-hour shift system, there are approximately 60 persons on duty all times. There are six fire stations in use and it is expected that a seventh will be constructed within approximately a year. There are 20 pieces of firefighting apparatus.

[ Those apparatus being seven engines, two aerial ladders, one service ladder truck, two rescue trucks, one auxiliary truck, and probably two reserve engines. Maybe three. Wonder if he was counting chief's car or the shop truck or... ]

The fine quality of the personnel, a good training program and, the finest equipment that money can buy are what makes this fire department a good one.

#### Fire Protection

The old adage, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," is applicable to fire protection service as it is to anything. The fire department has a fire prevention bureau which inspects primarily buildings and grounds in the central fire district and outlying, built-up commercial areas.

When conditions are found which are dangerous from a fire standpoint, a report is made and the occupant is made aware of the condition and the method of correction.

Another prevention service which was very recently begun which is directly primarily toward fire prevention in dwellings. The new type fire inspection program is a result of a considerable amount of study in the fire department and its purpose is to thoroughly familiarize the citizens of Raleigh with the types of equipment, personnel, and function of the fire department.

In this program the equipment goes out into the territory in which it serves. The truck is equipped with a radio and every two-man inspection team is equipped with a Handi-Talky. This method is used so the truck is never out of service for fire calls. The aim of this inspect program is to work with each citizen to helping him understand the fire department and to pass on to him knowledge of fire prevention, such as the proper size fuses, where and when to store flammable liquids, furnace inspection, etc.

In addition, the citizen is acquainted with the methods used to [ missing text ].

#### The Rescue Squad

The idea of the Rescue Squad was instigated a few years ago when a truck driver was penned under a truck on Hillsboro Street and criticism came to the fire and police departments because this man could not be extracted for some time.

Criticism also came concerning one particular drowning when a man stayed in the Neuse River several days without anyone making a concentrated effort to recover his body.

The Rescue Squad was organized by: 1) getting a charter from the State of North Carolina, (2) a group of firemen and civilians getting together and drawing up rules and regulations showing how it would be operated and to what extent it would be able to render service to those in need.

After the organization the rescue squad personnel (composed firemen and civilian volunteers) took a Red Cross First Aid course to prepare them for rendering this service.

Money was secured from the city and the Civil Defense to buy one truck, two boats and two motors. Then \$2,500 was secured from the county for another truck and some additional equipment. Several citizens contributed money and equipment to the Rescue Squad. The squad stands ready at all times to serve anyone in Raleigh or Wake County in any emergency that might require first aid. The equipment is designed for rescue, first aid and drownings but not for extreme emergencies and should not be competition for the ambulance services.

#### Two Aerial Ladder Trucks

In 1917 the City of Raleigh purchased a 75' aerial ladder truck which has been in operation in the city ever since. Due to the growth of the city, increased population, additional schools and hospitals, and all types of buildings where there is a considerable number of people, it has become necessary to have more than one aerial truck.



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Wake County Fire « Letter to the Editor ... » Camp Celebrate Appara... Chiefs Past and Present - Version 1

### Wake County Fire Chiefs Past and Present - Version 1

05/18/12 326 W - + 14 - 5

For your Friday enjoyment, here's a project that I've been idly playing with. Wake County fire chiefs past and present. If my math is correct, same contains 244 unique names from 36 departments and dating to 1870. Still incomplete for a few departments, alas. Apex, Cary, Fairgrounds, Falls, Holly Springs Rural, Morrisville, Rolesville, ~~Six Forks~~, Wake Forest #2, Wake Forest Rural, Wendell, Western Boulevard, Yrac, and Zebulon. But top people are researching the gaps. Thanks for everyone's help so far, and going forward.

#### [View the list of Wake County Fire Chiefs](#) (PDF)

The list is presently posted to this blog. We'll place it in a better location on legeros.com later. Readers are entirely invited to check my work. Corrects are encouraged! Now, let's slice and dice and the data and bit...

#### Longest Serving

- W. Lee Rowland, Fuquay-Varina, 1925-1963 - 38 years
- George Gupton, Knightdale/Eastern Wake, 1978-2012 - 34\*
- Sidney Perry, Zebulon, 1980-present - 32
- Billy Wayne Perry, Zebulon Rural, 1954-1986 - 32
- Willie Hopkins, Zebulon, 1946-1975 - 29
- Phil Mitchell, Garner, 1982-2010 - 28
- Jimmy Thompson, RDU, 1986-present - 26
- Tom Vaughn, Wendell, 1988-present - 24
- L. D. Warner, Swift Creek, 1965-1987 - 22
- Cecil Parker, Holly Springs, 1992-2012 - 20
- Frank Woods, Hopkins, 1992-present - 20
- Albert Perry, Wake Forest, 1958-1978 - 20

#### Died in Office

- Lewis Hicks, Raleigh, 1923
- Alvin Lloyd, Raleigh, 1955
- Clarence Puryear, Raleigh, 1974
- Terry Edmundson, RDU, 1985
- Lewis Bartholomew, Six Forks, 1978
- Jimmy Keith, Wake Forest, 2004
- Others?

#### Common Last Name\*\*

- Perry - 7
- Keith - 5
- Bailey - 4
- Jones - 4
- Ray - 4
- Harris - 3
- Johnson - 3

#### Future Computations

Would be interesting to calculate total service for folks who served as chief for two or departments. And to calculate who also served in other departments, and outside Wake County. That list would be pretty honkin' huge.

\*In 2003, Knightdale FD changed their name to Eastern Wake FD.

**\*\*Check my math on those counts. And we'll be adding more names to the master list, of course.**

Mickey Denning was chief at Yrac in January 1979. That's when I started. Sam Matthews was chief when I left in 1986 or so.  
**DJ** - 05/18/12 - 08:32

Chief Jimmy Keith of Wake Forest Fire died while in office, 2004.  
**The Real JG** - 05/18/12 - 13:07

A correction for Wake Forest – should read “Albert Perry”  
**A.C. Rich** - 05/20/12 - 12:16

Thanks JG and AC. Not sure who “Albert Woods” was! Must be mysterious kin to FW...  
**Legeros** - 05/20/12 - 12:19

Danny Rogers was chief at YRAC for a term so was TIm Murphy. Not sure of the dates.  
**Kermit** - 05/20/12 - 19:43

Version 2 posted, and adds an index!  
**Legeros** - 05/26/12 - 09:30

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Comment:	

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Camp Celebrate Apparatus

05/19/12 67 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

Quite a collection of apparatus participated in yesterday's [Camp Celebrate](#) procession from Triangle Town Center in Raleigh. Top to bottom, left to right are Chapel Hill, New Hanover County (!), Apex, Roxboro, Stony Hill, and Rocky Mount. Photos by Lee Wilson. [See more photos from Lee](#). Maybe someone can post the complete roster. Big thanks to everyone who participated and helped.



Lee Wilson photos

Carolina Trace Vol Fire Pierce is one good looking truck.  
I would love to know the specs for that engine.  
Anybody know what they are?

**Buckwheat** - 05/22/12 - 19:57

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Old Engine at Durham Junkyard

05/20/12 46 W, 3 I - + 6 - 6

Reader Paul Attryde found this Ford/American LaFrance pumper while rooting around a junkyard on Wrenn Road in Durham. Observe the interesting warning lights on the roof. Beacon plus two strobes (?). Can anyone identify? Click to enlarge:



Paul Attryde photos

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

[Dave Statter surfaced this video](#) last week of a flaming van on a San Jose freeway that started rolling just after the engine arrived. Like the reader comment suggesting a chock-throwing device on the roof of the pumper. There's your million-dollar idea right there. Inventors, start your engines. It's worth noting that Statter911 has become a superb site for viewing fire videos. Dave has a knack for curating compelling content, and his readers provide equally rich entertaining and education in their comments. What vehicle fire-that-surprised-you stories can you share?

Vehicle fire at the Food Lion on New Bern (@Trawick). It was leaking gas and every time we knocked it down, it would re-ignite. One of us had the bright idea to use the dry chem extinguisher to lay a blanket over the puddled gas. Older ff (name withheld to protect the innocent?) was crouched down applying the dry chem when the tires started blowing. Then, we saw the extinguisher rolling across the parking lot and the ff standing on the sidewalk in front of Food Lion. Happy Ending though, the tires blowing leveled the van out and stopped the flow of gas onto the ground and which point the fire was quickly extinguished.

**Joel Rieves** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 05/21/12 - 08:19

Commercial strucure fire over on Overlook Rd off of Gresham Lake Rd at an auto repair shop. Myself, two other Falls FF and two Raleigh FF went in on the first or second line. There were two cars actually burning inside. We fought fire until our bottles started running out and did not even put a dent in the fire. When in later to find that someone had the bright idea to use dry chem extinguishers as well. We also realized what that we had just walked under two cars on jacks as well.

**Marcus** - 05/21/12 - 12:29

I was on the line when the dry chem extinguisher was used at that fire. The extinguisher was pulled off a hanger inside the building by an undisclosed New Hope Captain. I was also under the car that sat on a lift with another car under it. We didn't know the car was there till we hit our heads on it. Surprise!! The fire was actually contained to only one car. Fortunately that night the fire didn't light up the oxy/acetylene set or the propane forklift sitting right in front of the car. Could have ended very differently. What was deceiving to me that night was the entire end wall was mirrored. Kept trying to put that fire out too. Couldn't figure out why we weren't making a dent in it.

**Doppler** - 05/27/12 - 01:12

Morning Reading List?

05/21/12 166 W - + 6 - 8

Been a while since we asked this question. What's your morning reading list look like, for fire and emergency services web sites? These days, my daily fare consists of these four:

- [Lee Wilson's photos on Flickr](#)
- [FireNews.net](#)
- [Statter911](#)
- [Firegeezer](#)

Plus local news media, looking for stories on same: WRAL, WTVD, News14, *News & Observer*. Less frequently visit Firehouse, the Firehouse forums, FireCritic, and smaller local news sites like *Cary News*, *Eastern Wake News*, *Midtown Raleigh News*, and the *Wake Weekly*. The latter local rags get hit a couple times a week, usually midweek.

Also watch Facebook for posted links that catch my eye, including the frequent link posts from both FireNews.net and [HPFirefighter.com](#). The latter, which started as an unofficial High Point Fire Department site, has also started aggregating fire news in recent months. Also have Google alerts which send daily e-mail with links to newly posted (or newly indexed) web pages that mention "Raleigh Fire Department."

Yours?

My daily stuff is not necessarily EMS/fire related. However, I do have a daily, every few days, and weekly routine...

Daily- WRAL, WTSB, CNN, Firegeezer, Military.com, various stuff from Facebook posts, updates from my Reading List on the 9-ECHO-1 site.

Every few days- News and Observer, various Flickr sites, Jems, EMS1.com, FireRescue1.com

Every week or so- Dustoff.org, Army Times.

Blogs that I hit regularly- Other than Firegeezer, they include Legeros Fire Blog, Day In The Life Of An Ambulance Driver, Too Old To Work Too Young To Retire, The Happy Medic, Burned Out Medic, Dr. Wes, Rogue Medic, Prehospital 12-Lead, The EMTSpot, and a few others.

DJ - 05/21/12 - 12:34

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Ten-Digit Misdials Continue to Plague Raleigh/Wake ECC

05/21/12 129 W - + 7 - 7

Press release. Ten-digit dialing continues to cause significant problems for the Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center. Instead of dialing the area code 919, callers are mistakenly dialing 9-1-1 and hanging up. Misdials and hang-up calls divert resources away from actual emergencies, as dispatchers must dial back on hang-ups to assure that an emergency is not taking place. If no response is received, a police officer is sent to the source of the call to make certain that no assistance is needed. Ten-digit dialing became mandatory in the area in late March. For the first two weeks of May, the average rose to 181, more than six times [ ! ] the normal amount for days prior to the area code overlay. [Read entire press release.](#)

Mike – thanks, as always, for posting. I want to remind readers that the numbers published are just for those calls we DISPATCHED and not for the total load that this change has placed upon us. All told, we have doubled the amount of 9-1-1 landline calls we get from homes and businesses. So, please try to remember that fact when dealing with our telecommunicators. So many of our stats have gone completely through the roof that it’s almost impossible to convey the burden created. Our ring to answer rate has slipped, and so obviously will the time it takes to answer a radio call. We are working the public education aspect in many directions, but as the numbers show, there has yet to be a positive impact. Again, if your department does any public education – especially with businesses or seniors – please make this a part of your program.

RWECC - 05/24/12 - 10:04

Does anyone know how the call volume now compares with the anticipated volume before the change-over? I mean, it’s not like no-one saw this coming, so a larger number of mis-dials should have been expected.

Paul - 05/24/12 - 12:32

Paul, emergency servers are pretty good at predicting unexpected situations. I’ll wager that this increase is perhaps astronomically above— or longer in duration— than was planned. But it might also be a new cost of doing business, at least in the 919 area code, and perhaps in communities with large populations of people prone of misdialing.

Legeros - 05/24/12 - 13:02

Paul – while we predicated an increase based upon incidents of past misdials from people who historically used 10 digits, it was impossible to anticipate the magnitude of this impact. While we did some pre-cutover pub ed, there are so many variables. For example: Why does Durham have a significantly lesser impact than Raleigh and Cary? We haven’t figured that one out yet. Also, even had we predicted such a major increase, we could not have suddenly found trained staff to handle the overload. Double or triple in some categories was within reason. But, we are double or triple that in a variety of areas. And none of our predictions showed the problem getting worse instead of better.

RWECC - 05/24/12 - 18:47

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Guilford County Fire Departments, 1981

05/21/12 103 W, 1 I - + 12 - 5

Here's a treat from three decades ago, two pages of station and apparatus photos from the *Guilford County Fire Protective Association Annual Yearbook and Fier Safety Manual: Summer/Fall 1981*. Bought that baby on eBay. [Shown on these two pages](#) in PDF format are PGFD, AFD, GFD not Greensboro FD, MFD, SFD, the airport FD, BFD, another SFD, FD13, FD14, ORFD, CFD, GCFD, DRFP, GRFD, PSFD, FD28, SFD, WFD, NFD, a second CFD, JFD, MHFD, and LFD. Got that? Dig all the custom cab rigs that are shown. No explanation is provided for the annotations, however. Click to view:



One of the Deep River C-8000's was featured in a Pierce brochure way back when.

DJ - 05/21/12 - 22:14

Name: (real name preferred)  
 E-mail: (optional)  
 Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
 Yes  
 No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

**Video of Wilmington Brush Fire Crossing 17th Street**

05/22/12 109 W - + 12 - 7

For your morning interest, sundry YouTube searching finds this five-minute video of the Pine Valley Fire in Wilmington on April 16, 2012. This citizen-shot footage shows the flames approaching and then crossing the 17th Street Extension. [Here's a page of WWAY stories](#) about the fire. [Here's a city information page](#) about the fire, which includes a nifty fact sheet summarizing the resources used. Included 14 pieces of apparatus and 60 personnel (including 50 call back) from Wilmington FD, one engine and two units for city fill-in from New Hanover County FD, and two EMS units, one rehab unit, and one supervisor from New Hanover EMS.

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Pilot's Engine 72

05/23/12 30 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

Here's an interested apparatus photographed yesterday by Lee Wilson, Pilot Fire Department in Franklin County, and their 1989 Mack/EEI pumper(-tanker?). [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Good looking fleet Pilot. What is you all's call volume?  
**911** - 05/24/12 - 16:20

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Spreader

05/23/12 67 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Extrication in action this afternoon by Cary Fire Department Rescue 2, part of a "here's what a fatal accident involving teens and drinking looks like" demo for students at Cary Academy. Good reds in this shot, helped by bright sunlight, two red "collided" cars, and a red running track as roadway. [See more photos](#). Please don't drink and drive. Click to enlarge:



This is really GREAT outreach to our kids! Also, and in concert, the "VIP for a VIP" program is NC based and provides a real "class act" vehicle accident prevention program for high school students across our state. Here is a recent Enloe HS VIP event: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnbF2vol0..> ...and a previous Granville Co. (Webb HS) VIP event: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LTdLW04J8..> If any are interested in assisting the program, contact may be made from the VIP website: <http://modernrescue.com/VIP.htm> ...or their FB page: <http://www.facebook.com/VIPforaVIP>

A.C. Rich - 05/26/12 - 00:52

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Historical Revision - Six Alarms « Spreader » Portrait or Landscape... at Pine Knoll Townes

Historical Revision - Six Alarms at Pine Knoll Townes

05/24/12 365 W - + 10 - 6

For years, Yours Truly has called Pine Knoll Townes a five-alarm fire. That is incorrect, as demonstrated by this recently found resource summary. As compiled by then-Battalion Chief Peter Brock, it shows six alarms for the \$4 million fire that destroyed or seriously damaged 32 homes and displaced 29 families and 72 people. Commence correcting your historical information, which may include:

- [Fire & Rescue Journal article](#) by Mike Legeros, Spring 2010, pages 6-7.
- [Raleigh Fire Department 2007: 95 Years of Tradition](#), published by M.T. Publishing, page 159.
- [Raleigh Fire Department historical timelines](#) by Mike Legeros
- Raleigh Fire Department historical [presentation slides](#), ditto.
- Incident photo descriptions by Mike Legeros and Lee Wilson
- Assorted blog postings, such as this [Big Fire Summary](#).

We'll get to work on those...

--

Pine Knoll Townes Resources  
3525 Oneonta Place  
February 22, 2007  
Compiled by Battalion Chief Peter Brock

Time	Alarm Level	Assignment	Notes	Resource Commitment
15:04	still	E27		1 engine
15:04	still	E19, BC4		2 engines
15:08	1st	E9, E7, E22, L16, R19, BC1		5 engines, 1 ladder
15:12	2nd	E6, E16, E4, E18, L23, L26		9 engines, 3 ladders
15:18	3rd	E2, 14, E25, L22, BC3		12 engines, 4 ladders
15:19	special called	E15, E21, Haz-Mat 15		14 engines, 4 ladders
15:22	4th	E26, E8, L20, R14	brand patrol	16 engines, 5 ladders
15:25	5th	New Hope E1, E2, Tanker 10, Brush 7, Falls Brush 219	brand patrol	
15:28	6th	E5, E10, E20, L1		19 engines, 6 ladders
16:00	special called	Two chiefs, 5 instructors, 32 recruits	recruit academy	
17:52	relief	E26, L20, R14		
21:06	relief	E25		
21:21	relief	E13, E20		
00:32	relief	E23, E5		
03:31	relief	E1, E11		
03:42	relief	L22		

Other Raleigh Fire Department resources on scene:



- Car 1 (Command)
- Car 4
- Car 5 (Operations)
- Car 10 (PIO)
- Car 12
- Car 72
- Car 198 (Investigator)
- Air 8
- Field Command 1
- Other staff members

Raleigh Fire Department coverage provided by outside departments included:

- Bay Leaf engine at Station 9
- Bay Leaf L25 at Station 16
- Bethesda E421 at Station 24
- Cary E10 at Station 8
- Cary L1 at Station 8
- Durham Highway engine at Station 4
- Falls engine Station 4
- Garner E11 at Station 1
- Garner L1 at Station 1
- Knightdale squirt at Station 12
- New Hope at their station, covering Station 19 and Station 27
- Rolesville engine at Station 15
- Swift Creek engine at Station 20
- Wake Forest engine at Station 19
- Wake Forest ladder at Station 25

I remember going through the roof access to watch the large column of smoke on top of FV sta. 3. I have watch quite a few large fires in Raleigh from up there. You can also see some of the rides at night when the fair is in town.

**remember** - 05/24/12 - 22:21

New Hope Tanker 9 was also on the 5th alarm. Its what fed the tiller, as the hydrant they caught was dead.

**Doppler** - 05/27/12 - 02:18

@ Doppler,how much water on that tanker? and pump size? Just wondering, since it “supplied” the tiller

**sayitaintso** - 05/27/12 - 12:02

T-9 has a 1250 tank and at that time about a 300gpm pump. Don’t know how that ended up being but we have pictures.

**Doppler** - 05/28/12 - 16:10

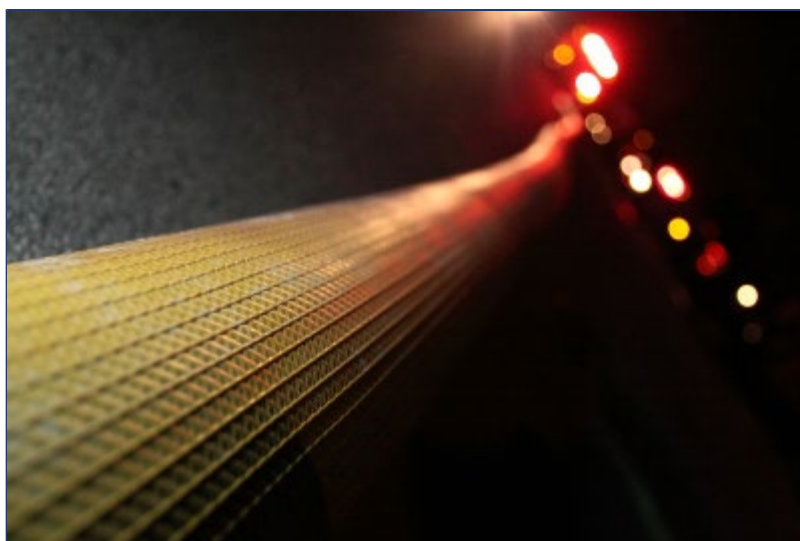
Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## Portrait or Landscape?

05/25/12 67 W, 2 I - + 6 - 7

Here's an artsy shot from last night's house fire on Fieldcrest Drive. That's Engine 16's supply line to Engine 9. But is the picture better turned on its short end (portrait) or long end (landscape)? Someone schooled in art theory can probably explain which one "works" better. Can't decide, myself. And no cheating by turning your head sideways! Click to enlarge:



We can have some fun with semantics. Lee Wilson called this fire a sixth-alarm equivalent. Looking at resource list, and excluding the relief and overnight companies, should it now be called a seventh-alarm equivalent? But that’s in 2007 terms. What’s the equivalent in 2012, where dispatch assignments have since been expanded? Fifth-alarm equivalent? Now let’s get historical and go back to the old “two engines, one ladder” method of computing alarm levels. Or “two engines” once you ran out of ladders. Ninth-alarm equivalent, no?

**Legeros** - 05/25/12 - 08:34

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

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No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Old Engine From Cana

05/25/12 40 W, 1 I - + 7 - 7

Photographer Lee Wilson's spending the holiday weekend in western North Carolina. He found this old engine somewhere between here and Spruce Pine. Vintage Dodge and lettered for Cana, VA. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Durham Highway Updates Web Site

05/25/12 39 W, 1 I - + 8 - 7

The Durham Highway Fire Department recently updated their web site. Notably are the addition of news stories and photo galleries. Visit the site at [www.dhfd.org](http://www.dhfd.org).



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Six Forks Fire Chiefs

05/26/12 370 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Here's another blast from the past, a list of the fire chiefs of the Six Forks Road Fire Department. They were Raleigh's first suburban fire department, organized in June 1956. (Soon followed by New Hope FD in September 1956 and Western Boulevard FD in January 1957.) Their members also formed Six Forks Rescue Squad in 1976 and for the first ten years of the squad's operation, members were required to be either SFFD members or their spouses.

The Six Forks Road Fire Department-- later shortened to just Six Forks FD-- had four station locations, three on Six Forks Road and the last one on Lynn Road. Their house became Bay Leaf Station 3 when the department merged with Bay Leaf Fire Department on July 1, 2002. [Here's a short timeline](#) of their history (compiled some years ago). Need a good picture gallery to go with that, though. Any ideas? Say a Wake County Fire Departments historical photo gallery?? (Might know just the buff/historian to make that one happen...)



Search the blog for more SFFD history, including these postings (three of which repeat the same photo above!):

- [Six Forks Fire Department, Photos](#)
- [Six Forks Fire Department, 1971 - Part 2](#)
- [Six Forks Fire Department, 1971](#)
- [Six Forks Fire Department, Circa 1974](#)
- [Six Forks Fire Department](#)
- [Six Forks](#)

Here's the list of Fire Chiefs as compiled by longtime SFFD and BLFD member Bob Edmundson. We've added them to our [Wake County Fire Chiefs list](#). Thanks Bob!

First	Middle	Last	Start	Stop	Total	Notes	Dates
William	T	Howell	1956	1957	1	First Fire Chief	Apr 30, 1956 – Oct 14, 1957
Allen		Thompson	1957	1958	1		Oct 14, 1957 - June 30, 1958
David	H	Pattishall	1958	1959	1		July 1 to June 30
Raymond	C	Jones	1959	1960	1		July 1 to June 30
William	T	Howell	1960	1961	1		July 1 to June 30



Peter	J	Harris	1961	1963	2		July 1 to June 30
Norman	C	Champion	1963	1964	1		July 1 to June 30
Raymond	C	Jones	1964	1965	1		July 1 to June 30
David		Barham	1965	1971	6		July 1 to June 30
Hunter		Averette	1971	1973	2		July 1 to June 30
Joe		Terry	1973	1975	2		July 1 to June 30
Lewis	E	Bartholomew	1975	1978	3	Died in office Feb. 14, 1978	July 1 to Feb. 14
Phillip	C	Woodlief	1978	1986	8		March to June 30
Alfred	E	Lynn	1986	1991	5		July 1 to June 30
Don		Adams	1991	1998	7		July 1 to June 30
Rodney		Warner	1998	2002	4	SFFD merges with BLFD	July 1 to June 30

Lots of good memories from that old blue shack and its people! Miss you SFFD!

**AB** - 06/01/12 - 12:43

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Architecture Students Design Fire Museums For Raleigh

05/26/12 306 W, 2 I - + 7 - 6

On May 4, 2012, a fire museum design project review was held in the Rotunda at Brooks Hall at North Carolina State University. A jury reviewed the work of students in an six-credit architectural design studio class, which was comprised of eight graduate and three fourth-year undergrad architecture students. This studio-type course is required of every architecture student for every semester they are in the program, noted their instructor Roger Clark. Unlike a lecture or seminar course, the studio class requires students to apply information from other courses while designing a particular project located on a particular site. (Any readers who've been through this program, you know who you are, feel free to add perspectives...)



The students were assigned a hypothetical project of designing a new Raleigh Fire Department Museum on one of three sites: (a.) urban street, (b.) prominent corner on the fringe of downtown, and (c.) prominent road on a suburban site. The museum was to house the department's current antique apparatus, as well as any they might obtain in the future. It was also to house historical images and other two-dimensional information and three-dimensional objects related to the history of firefighting and the Raleigh Fire Department.



There was to be a meeting/community room, a children's area, a library for log books and materials, and a memorial to honor fallen members or all past members. The facility was to serve as a history museum, as well as an education center and a place to honor firefighters. [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) members participated at the beginning of the semester, providing tours, presentations, and other information to the students.

[See photographs by Legeros](#). And read a [subsequent blog posting](#) by designer (and new graduate) Sara Horn.

Did I miss it or is there more main stream media/city-wide attention to this effort? Solid designs NCSU...!

**A.C. Rich** - 05/26/12 - 12:10

The school project started back in November, I believe. But the museum is definitely getting more attention these days and weeks as we approach our June 16 centennial celebration.

**Legeros** - 05/26/12 - 12:21

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

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Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Fire Station Information on Web Pages

05/26/12 265 W - + 8 - 6

You know what would be great? If every fire department listed their fire station locations on a single web page, with street addresses *and* the year opened or built. Just a single, simple, flat list. Easy to read, easy to print. Plus bonus points if they include companies or apparatus, locations of prior locations, and/or which direction the building faces. (The last one's great for buffs or media, both of whom might take pictures or film in front of the station.)

The above was a Facebook status update this week. It prompted a couple comments on fire station phone numbers. Didn't mention phone numbers, as that's its own kettle of fish. But let's the blog audience. Good or bad, making fire station phone numbers public?

Arguments against include (a.) people might call there instead of 911 to report a fire and (b.) reporters will call in the middle of night for details about fires on the other side of the city or county. Arguments for include (a.) easier for community members to contact their neighborhood fire station, (b.) people with forethought will call the station instead of 911 to ask about checking their smoke detectors.

I've observed both. Some cities (and big cities) list all their station addresses and phone numbers right along side. Maybe the crews hate it? Maybe they love it? And I've seen the opposite, where you can't find but a single phone number for an entire fire department. (What other angles am I missing here? Homeland security concerns? Traditions of secrecy or withholding? You tell me...)

As a member of a dept with our number avail through information and in the phone book, I can say it increases phone activity a little bit. We do receive calls that should have been directed to 911, of course at that point we direct them there. They are not numerous thou. We receive them from Raleigh and Durham. Much of the time they are simply looking for general information or help with a smoke detector. I think it would be much easier for the public to have access to said list. However the larger problem is most of the public really doesn't know which fire dept services them. Even after explaining we aren't their fire dept, they still want us to come right over. They may just continue to call the first number on the list.

Doppler - 05/27/12 - 01:28

Per ISO you should have your fire departments number posted in your local phone book in at least 2 sections a)Under the stations actual name and b)under the listing of "Fire Department". You are supposed to list them with the 911 number and a non-emergency number.

John Maynard ([Email](#)) - 05/27/12 - 16:58

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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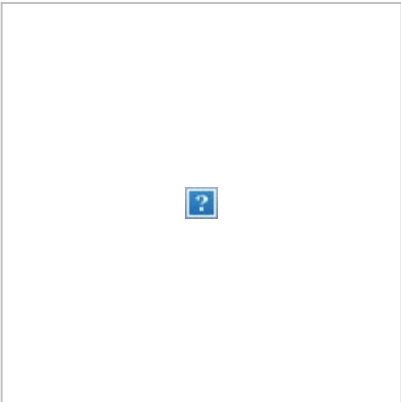
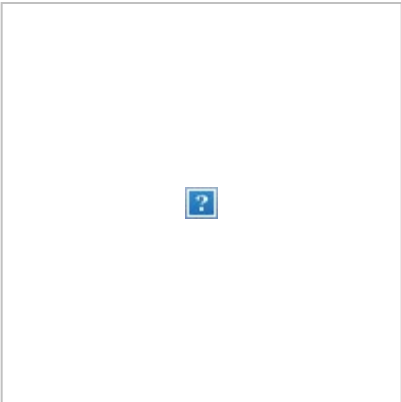
**Kid's Zone Sponsored by Kidde to be Part of Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration June 16**

05/26/12 164 W, 2 I - + 12 - 3

Press release. What child hasn't at one time played firefighter or was thrilled to be up close to a real fire truck? Kidde, the world's largest manufacturer of fire safety products will make these dreams come true for kids attending the Raleigh Fire Department's Centennial Celebration in downtown Raleigh on Saturday, June 16.

Kidde is sponsoring the Kid's Zone that will be located at the corner of Salisbury, Lenoir and South streets. At Kidde's booth, there will be a bean-bag toss, toy fire truck races, and a smoke alarm testing station for children. Kids who participate will get a balloon, temporary tattoos, and other giveaways. Educational fire and carbon monoxide safety information from Kidde will be available for parents as well as kids.

[Read entire press release.](#) And learn more about the cenetennial celebration at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Raleigh's Past Treasures - Questions From a Reader

05/26/12 338 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Longtime resident Cliff Small sends the following comments and questions. He's lived in town since 1967 and remembers much of "old Raleigh." He has four questions, which we're punting to our blog readers. Answers? More questions? Thanks for everyone's help.

1. He's a covered bridge buff and last year was stunned and thrilled to find that there had been a covered bridge on the old Louisburg Road, now Capital Boulevard, over Crabtree Creek. His only real source about this is [from this web page](#).

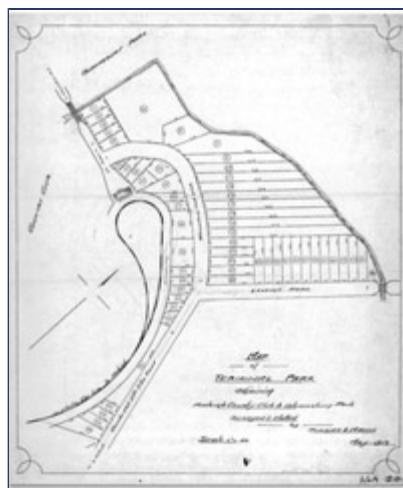
He's been going mad trying to find out more information on this bridge. All he has found is that there was a bridge there named the Jones Bridge. This is the same family of the Crabtree Joneses, maybe? There was an encampment North of the site during the Civil War. There is a parallel railroad bridge and some curious metal pieces sticking out of the ground along the greenway trail nearby.

2. He currently lives off Lead Mine Road and has seen a photo online of the mine shaft, but doesn't know exactly where it was/is. (He can't find that online article currently.) There is the old red building across from Mine Shaft Road. [He did find this story](#), however, about a mine inside the Beltline.
3. He can remember when you could cross under the train tracks off Capital Boulevard, where you get onto Wake Forest Road and go over to Atlantic Avenue. This was a one-lane deal. I wish this could be opened up again for at least bicyclists as a part of a bike trail access to the downtown area.
4. Are there any plan views of the old Bloomsbury Park that anyone knows of?

--

May 28, 2012

This isn't quite what Cliff is asking for, but it's still interesting. It's a 1913 plan for Terminal Park beside Bloomsbury Park. It's featured in the recently published book *Stories to Tell - A Centennial Celebration of Carolina Country Club: 1910-2010*. Click to enlarge:



Regarding question #2, the linked story is about a cave off Airline Drive that's beside a creek bed, and that we've blogged about before: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>



Save is on private property, on the back of someone’s residential lot. I’d heard, somewhere, that the cave was used for storing or hiding things during the Civil War. Unsure if that’s a former mine.

Regarding the “lead mine” of Lead Mine Road, that refers to the land north and west of the Lynn and Lead Mine road intersection. There was a graphite mine there, with three shafts, I believe. If you climb that hill, along Lead Mine, you’ll find graphite traces on the ground. Pretty cool.

Maybe twenty years ago, the N&O featured a property owner there, who had pumped out one of the shafts, and taken a picture in there. More than a few people have probably tried to find that place!

I am also sending Cliff some reader-sent information, for further sources.

**Legeros** - 05/28/12 - 17:12

Regarding #4, see drawing added above.

**Legeros** - 05/28/12 - 17:28

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Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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## Old Snow Hill Fire Station

05/27/12 195 W, 1 I - + 11 - 4

Took this picture early this afternoon, returning from a morning jaunt to Kinston. This is a former fire station in Snow ~~Camp~~ Hill, in Greene County. It's located a couple blocks from the downtown. Looks like a fire station built in the sixties or seventies, perhaps? Maybe in two stages or two eras, flat roof at start, pitched roof when remodeled? The bay sizes are uniform, so it doesn't appear to be a station that started small and was expanded. The number of bays suggest both municipal and rural apparatus. Maybe separate departments?

Based on the age and historic designation of the downtown, Snow Hill almost certainly had a fire department earlier in the century. Next question, where was the prior or perhaps original fire station? Best guess is a early-century municipal building or town hall, maybe with a single bay for a fire engine. (Though there looked to be a 1930s era municipal building on First Street, with a WPA plaque. Didn't see any bay or garage space. Perhaps by the 1930s, a dedicated fire station was operating?) Readers perhaps can answer.



I believe you mean Snow Hill, Mike. I used to ride EMS there and our bay was the far right bay.

**John Maynard** ([Email](#)) - 05/27/12 - 18:06

The 2 right bays were the original station. The left three bays were added. Paul Miller, Executive Director of the NC Sate Firemans Association, was the Asst. Chief here for years. He may be able to shed more light on the history if someone can make contact with him. Their new station is now in an industrial park off of Hwy 58 just south of the intersection of US 258. It is between the Trade Mart and Beaman's restaraunt.

**John Maynard** ([Email](#)) - 05/27/12 - 18:14

Snow Hill Fire? Never heard of Snow Camp.

**2redline** ([Email](#)) - 05/27/12 - 18:18

Never heard of Snow Camp either! Thanks for the corrections.

**Legeros** - 05/27/12 - 18:20

Mike, actually there is a Snow Camp, NC. It is an unincorporated community in southern Alamance County and they have a fire department. <http://www.snowcampfire.com/> Here is the link to their website. So technically you were not wrong, just the wrong county.

## Scenes from the Kinston Regional Jetport

05/27/12 234 W, 3 I - + 9 - 6

As photographed this morning at the Kinston Regional Jetport. Top is a former fire station building, part a former maintenance building. Located beside the terminal building and dates to at least twenty years ago. Then the fire station was moved "up the ramp" to another combination building (since demolished), located where the Forest Service currently sites. (They have a big base there.) At the time the fire station was moved, the fire siren was also moved. That's the second photo, showing a utility building located just east of the control tower, and a couple hundred feet from terminal.

Third photo is the airport's reserve crash truck undergoing service in the maintenance garage. Those bays are part of a combination fire station and maintenance building located on John Mewborne Road, just "up the ramp" from the Forest Service base. The fire station has two bays in the building, facing air-side. Their primary apparatus is an E-One Titan triple-agent crash truck. Firefighters are maintenance personnel who do double-duty.

[See more photos](#), including a couple close-ups of the rig below. That's a late-eighties/early-nineties (?) Walter that's been refurbed in more recent years, probably by CRES. Wonder how many other airports in our state have cross-staffed firefighters?





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Fire stations of last 20 years:

- Combination maintenance building and fire station, with two fire station bays. Located on John Mewborne Road. Recently built.
- Combination building on or around current location of Forest Service base. Demolished.
- Combination building beside terminal building. Still standing.

Fire siren located on utility building between control tower and Forest Service base. Moved there when fire station moved from third most recent location to second most recent location

Apparatus of last 20 years:

- 2008 E-One P501 4x4, 1500 GPM, 1500/205/550, water/foam/dry chemical. Delivered in recent years. Replaced Walter crash truck and dry chemical truck.
- Walter crash truck, water/foam. Replaced prior crash truck. Later refurbished. Present reserve.
- Dry-chemical truck.
- Crash truck.

**Legeros** - 05/27/12 - 18:27

The NC Division of Emergency Management's Eastern Branch Office was also located in the now-demolished building next to the Forest Service air base. The SHP helo pilots also had an office in that building until they moved to a new hanger and office. The NCEM EBO moved from there over to a new building, adjacent to the GTP Training and Education Center on NC 58N; this is about a mile from the north end of the runway. The EBO also activates as a regional coordination center for 33 counties when necessary during an emergency, such as a hurricane or winter storm.

**D.L. Humphrey** - 05/27/12 - 19:19

The Walter is very similar to RDU's 1977 model. I would bet they added the reel to the front during the refurb, as well as the new nozzle for the roof. More than likely, it came from the factory originally with a Rockwood dual agent turret.

**DJ** - 05/27/12 - 21:52

## Bull Head Fire Department

05/27/12 84 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

Would you believe a Bull Head Fire Department? This one's also in Greene County, between Snow Hill and Stantonsburg. How 'bout that building adornment! Guess we'd be better include a few puns to complete the fun. Wouldn't want to steer you wrong, or put my reputation at steak. Hopefully this posting is well done, lest we descend into udder silliness. (Not exactly a meaty topic, mind you, but that's rare. Just don't grill me about it.) Click to enlarge:



We pass it all the time heading to the beach!

**Jason Lane** - 05/27/12 - 19:07

I pass it a couple of times a week. Only once have I seen there trucks or for that matter anybody there. I do know they were broken into a couple of years ago and had a bunch of equipment stolen. No Bull

**Doppler** - 05/28/12 - 16:04

Now thats funny to me on a personal note

**Rob Mitchell** - 05/28/12 - 19:53

The Bull Head VFD is in the Bull Head community of Greene Co. The name comes from the Revolutionary War period when a land owner turned his prize bull out of the pasture when the British were coming, rather than have them take the bull. Legend is that that bull charged the Red Coats who then shot him, cut off his head and mounted it on a fence post on the owner's land. I heard this story many times when growing up in Snow Hill.

**Bob Edmundson** - 05/28/12 - 21:38

I more like Meat Camp VFD in Watauga Co. Just down the hill from Elk Knob State Park. I understand they're building a new firehouse. I'll see if I can get some pics next time I go out that way.

**Mike Duda** ([Email](#)) - 05/28/12 - 23:17

Its almost as good as the Buckhead Fire dept in Columbus co. who have a deer head adorning their station out front.

**Jim McArthur** - 05/29/12 - 19:46

There is Skull Camp Fire Dept. in Low Gap,NC. But I don,t think they have a Skull on the front of the station.

**Galax, VA** - 05/30/12 - 09:41

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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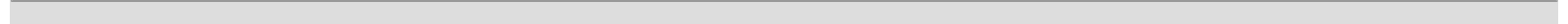
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Johnson City Central « Bull Head Fire Depart... » Big Burn in New Bern Fire Hall

### Johnson City Central Fire Hall

05/28/12 68 W, 1 I - + 6 - 8

Vacationing photographer Lee Wilson found this historic firehouse late last week in Johnston City, TN. That's their Station 3 and fire department headquarters. The building was built in 1929. [Read more about JCFD engine houses.](#) And what other departments around these parts also call their houses halls? [See more photos from Lee](#), which include other Johnson City stations and apparatus.



Lee Wilson photo

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Big Burn in New Bern

05/28/12 78 W, 1 I - + 11 - 2

The *Sun Journal* has posted this reader photo of this evening's commercial structure fire on the New Bern waterfront. It was reported about 7:00 p.m. at 901 N. Craven Street. The building is occupied by Precision Molding. New Bern FD, West of New Bern FD, and Township 7 FD are among the reported agencies on scene. [Read more](#). Or see this [FireNews.net story](#) with more details and photos.



@basicallyrachel (Twitter) / Sun Journal photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
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Johnson City's New Tower

05/30/12 62 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

Speaking of Tennessee, here's another photo from Lee Wilson's explorations of the Johnson City Fire Department last week. This beauty is Truck 3, a 2012 Smeal aerial platform, 2000 GPM, 300 gallons, 100-feet, that was placed in service on week ago. Was originally built for the Chicago Fire Department. [See more photos](#) from JCFD and Lee's mountain trip.



Lee Wilson photo

What’s the story behind “was originally built for Chicago Fire Department”? Did they reject, purchase cancelled, or what?

Chris - 05/30/12 - 20:15

agreed im curious for for more information into this story

curious - 05/31/12 - 10:04

Maybe they rejected it because it is a quint...

quint - 05/31/12 - 22:03

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preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

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Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

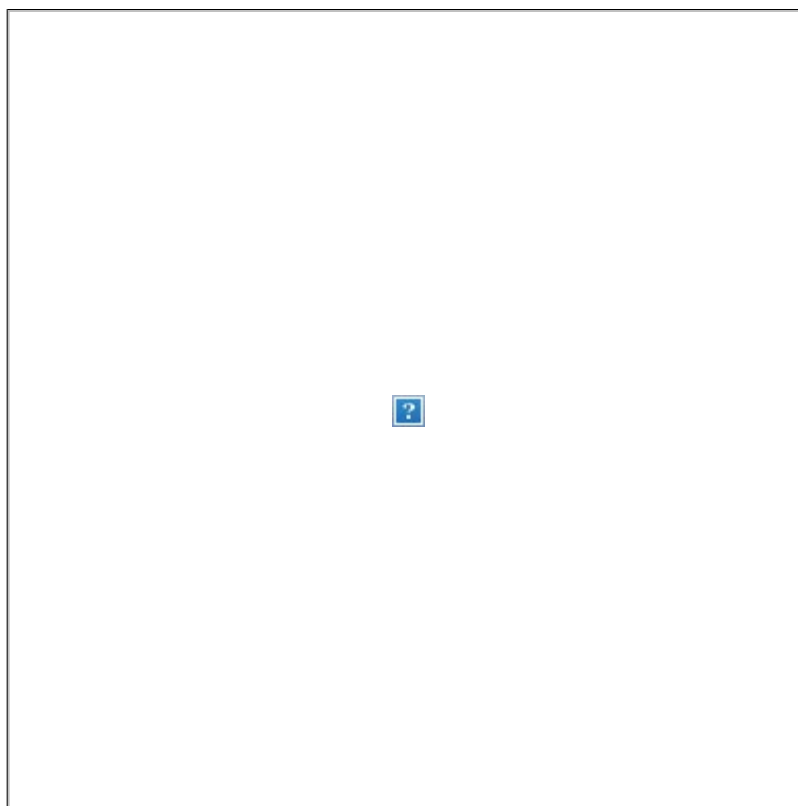
## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *The Adventures of « Johnson City's New To... » Raleigh's Fire Alarm ...* Charlie LeDuff

### The Adventures of Charlie LeDuff

05/30/12 139 W, 1 I - + 11 - 6

[Here's your investigative reporting video](#) of the week, highlighted by Dave Statter of Statter911 and featuring Detroit's famous (infamous?) reporter Charlie LeDuff. The story contrasts the city's spending on a new public safety building with physical problems (notably plumbing) in some firehouses. Tough situation, for sure. And nothing (right?) like we have in the Carolinas, and on either side of the camera.

There's lots to reflect on here. The nature of investigative journalism, as well as LeDuff's "gotcha" style. The business of public relations and reputation management. The problems in urban fire departments with old stations and tight budgets. The city of Detroit, and it's one-of-a-kind fire problem. Very interesting in many ways, both the story and the issues. For more Charlie, see some of the other links in [Statter's posting](#).



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Seems like there is a lot of subject matter for Mr. LeDuff in Detroit. I have been following his reports for some time.

**DJ** - 05/30/12 - 11:08

I would be curious to know the real story behind the firehouses. The reporter said one house didn't even have an engine company in it. I find it hard to believe the houses with sewage issues are in service. Surely our brothers haven't become so cowardly to live in such conditions and not stand up for themselves.

**Rescue Ranger** - 05/30/12 - 11:49

There's a provocative label, cowardly. Is the man behind the brick door a coward or a realist for not trying to break the door down with his fists? (It's early, weak metaphor.) I'm guessing the Detroit system simply isn't strong enough to provide resources that would be obtained through such standing-up for selves. And the fires continue to start, and the trucks continue to roll. What's Joe or Jane Employee to do? No answers here, but sympathies for sure.

**Legeros** - 06/01/12 - 07:59

A simple call to OSHA would surely remedy the situation if the firefighters were truly living in those conditions which is why I stated I'd like to hear the true story because all of us public safety workers know how much the media can bend the information that they own.

**Rescue Ranger** - 06/01/12 - 23:11

That DC got canned for his actions in the video

**Mike** - 06/01/12 - 23:45

RR, Big City Politics is pretty tough at times. People on the payrolls of whoever. There are no doubt OSHA rules about everything it seems, but what has happened in Detroit did not happen over night. And LeDuff is not the only one reporting it. DFD has long been know as being a neglected department. I am sure the IAFF local has fought, as best they can. But at the core is the inherent corruptness that seems to be Detroit itself.

**DJ** - 06/02/12 - 07:56

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Web Site: (optional)

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Yes  
No

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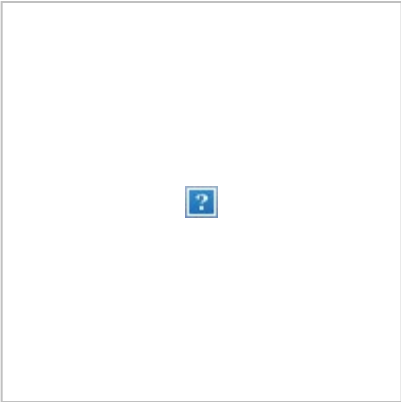
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**Raleigh's Fire Alarm Bell Will Hold Place of Honor at Centennial Celebration on June 16**

05/30/12 136 W, 2 I - + 12 - 1

Press release. A centerpiece of the Raleigh Fire Department’s 100th anniversary celebration was middle-aged the day the department was established. In 1912, the city established its first paid, professional fire department. By that time, Raleigh’s fire alarm bell had been atop City Hall for 42 years. These days, except for very special occasions, the 1,000-pound, solid bronze bell rests in its place of honor surrounded by a specially built curved wall in the Raleigh Fire Museum. But the beautiful old bell will be at center stage on Saturday, June 16, when the Raleigh Fire Department celebrates this century of exemplary service with a downtown party. [Read entire press release](#). Or learn more about the centennial celebration at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).



Name: (real name preferred)

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Yes

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## Old-Fashioned Firefighter Games in Raleigh on June 16

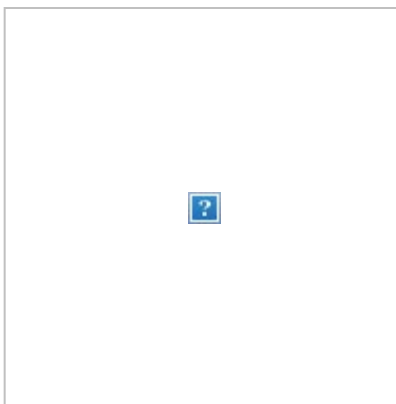
05/31/12 275 W, 2 I - + 11 - 4

Time is running out to enter your team in the firefighter games planned in downtown Raleigh on Saturday, June 16. The contests are part of an all-day centennial celebration, celebrating the [100th anniversary of the Raleigh Fire Department](#). And it's real easy to participate. Have four firefighters on your team. Bring your PPE. Must be 18 or older. Sign a waiver. That's it. Departments can enter more than one team. And teams can compete in any of the four events. Here's what's planned:

- Bucket Brigade - Fill buckets, throw water on a simulated roof top, gutters drain into barrel, time stops when barrel is full. Best time wins.
- Command and Control - Three firefighters with blindfolds and a hose, fourth member standing in a water container and shouting orders. Elimination event, most water in container wins.
- Hose Stream Deployment - Run to gear, dress in gear, run to hose, connect hose to nozzle and hydrant, flow water, spray target. Best time wins.
- Quick Dress - Run to gear, dress in gear. Best time wins.

Longer descriptions and the registration forms are available on [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com). And the games are just one of the events that day. We'll start with a fire apparatus parade at 10:00 a.m., continue with a muster including live pumping. There'll be birthday cake, historical displays, and a Kidde Kids Zone with activities for children.

Here are photos of similar firefighter games, as annually held in [Warrenton](#) and [Southport](#). And read a [historical perspective on firefighter competitions](#) in North Carolina. Departments competed annual in statewide tournaments going back to the 1880s. See you on June 16!



Car 20 > Station 1

05/31/12 191 W - + 11 - 1

Time to update our Raleigh Fire Department unit rosters. Effective tomorrow, June 1, the fire investigation unit (Car 20) will move from Station 9 to Station 1. Also moving is Car 21, the secondary / reserve unit, and the supporting personnel from Engine 9. They'll be swapped with personnel from Engine 1. The fire investigation unit will utilize newly vacated and newly expanded office space and living areas at Station 1 and around the corner at Fire Administration.

Welcome back to the big house to the investigators. The "arson squad" started at Station 1 and was moved to Station 9 by June 3, 2000. (Exact date to be determined.) They utilized space previously occupied by the Division Chief, who moved to Station 8 in December 2005. As for who else has been housed at Station 9 over the decades...

Engine 9	Feb. 14, 1963 to present
Rescue 9	Oct. 28, 1974 to July 24, 1978
Mini 9	Apr. 24, 1987 to Mar. 14, 1997 Jan. 7, 1998 to June 3, 2000 Jan. 25, 2006 (?) to Aug. 17, 2007.
Tanker 9	Feb. 14, 1963 to Oct. 27, 1974
Car 51 (Battalion Chief, formerly Car 4)	July 24, 1978 (?) to January 2, 2001
Car 10 (Division Chief, formerly Car 5)	Jan. 2, 2001 to Dec. 10, 2005.
Car 20 (Fire Investigator, formerly Car 198), Car 21 (secondary / reserve)	Jun. 3, 2000 (?) to Jun. 1, 2012

Read more Raleigh Fire Department company and unit histories in this [PDF document](#).

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

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No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

Second Annual Garner Softball Tournament, Saturday, August 405/31/12 276 W - + 11 - 7

Our friends at the Garner Fire Department pass along this announcement:

The second annual Garner Fire Rescue Softball Tournament has been scheduled! It will be held on Saturday, August 4, 2012, at Clayton Recreation Park. This is the same location as last year. All proceeds from this year's event will go to the construction of the Garner Veterans Memorial to be constructed in Lake Benson Park in Garner. The memorial will honor servicemen and servicewomen from the Garner area who've served in armed conflicts.

Our tournament last year was a great success and we hope to build on that. Last year, six teams participated. Our goal is to double that amount to twelve teams. The entry fee is again \$200 per team. Each team may be comprised of up to two different public safety agencies and credentials are subject to be checked. As this is a public safety charity tournament, and we would like only public safety personnel to participate in teams.

Teams may be co-ed but we will play by male rules. Softballs will be provided by Garner Fire Rescue. It will be a one-day tournament, though the exact format is TBD. (Last year we were able to guarantee four games per team with pool play. We are looking to possibly do the same this year.) Team Registration forms, Roster forms, and Sponsorship forms are [available on this web page](#). Money and rosters are requested no later than Friday, July 27. Preregistration is welcome by either phone or e-mail. Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate to contact me with further questions.

Ronnie Correia  
[rcorreia@garnerfire.com](mailto:rcorreia@garnerfire.com)  
919-625-7112

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Durham's New Engine 4

06/01/12 87 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

As photographed by Lee Wilson, this 2012 Sutphen Shield Series pumper (1500/500) was placed in service on Tuesday as Durham Engine 4. [See more photos](#). Speaking of the Bull City, The Durham Fire Department has a [nifty Facebook page](#), if you haven't seen it. They post everything from event announcements to incident "tweets." Here's an example of the latter: "3-20-2012 Trench Rescue @ 603 Appaloosa Trail (C-Shift). Bahama VFD, E7, R7, E16, T16, L2, SQ1, B2, SAF1, MS1, DCEMS." Neat.



Lee Wilson photo

Nice looking rig!

Curtis Teague - 06/02/12 - 17:43

Nice to see some more Sutphens In the tarheel State. WSFD has two more Custom Monarch chassis engines that should be delivered in June/July.

Clay Simmons - 06/03/12 - 13:31

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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The Thorny Thicket Today

06/01/12 285 W - + 7 - 3

Remember the [Watch Desk](#) and the Raleigh-Durham forums therein? They were active for a little while, a couple years ago. Withered on the wine, and certainly never approached the volume of postings (and ferocity of opinion) seen in the Baltimore-DC area forums. (Which is where the site originated.) Both [Statter911](#) and [Firegeezee](#) are talking this week about the Watch Desk's pending temporary closure and issues relating to a site administrator's employer's reaction. Mike Ward, on of the Firegeezers, recounts the history of the Watch Desk and asks if such messages are even important today, given the explosion of personal digital channels. Facebook, YouTube, personal blogs, personal web sites, etc. My question slash observation involves the anonymous component and employer/employee perspectives. Below is a comment posted in both stories. Reflect, react, or add your opinion to the story comments.

Legeros says

In days of old, when knights were bold, and Internet hadn't been invented, employees showed their faces and their names when criticizing their employers.

The thorny thicket today (or one of them, perhaps, related to this issue) is this: how should we regard an employee's role in participation, facilitation, or enabling of anonymous criticism of their employer?

I have personally wrestled with this issue locally on my own fire blog, as I have witnessed the personal reactions (and tangible outcomes) that result from anonymous online criticism of departments and their actions.

(Because of course, ever entity and action traces back to a person. A living, breathing, feeling, and reactive human being. And a person within a chain of command, with peers, with rivals, with people to lead and people they follow.)

No answers here...

May 31, 2012

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Yesterday's Ambulance Accident Johnston County

06/01/12 51 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

WTVD has posted a photo and short story about yesterday's collision of a Johnston County EMS unit and a pick-up truck on Highway 222 near Kenly. Two paramedics and an occupant of the truck were transported and treated with non life-threatening injuries. [Read more.](#)



WTVD photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

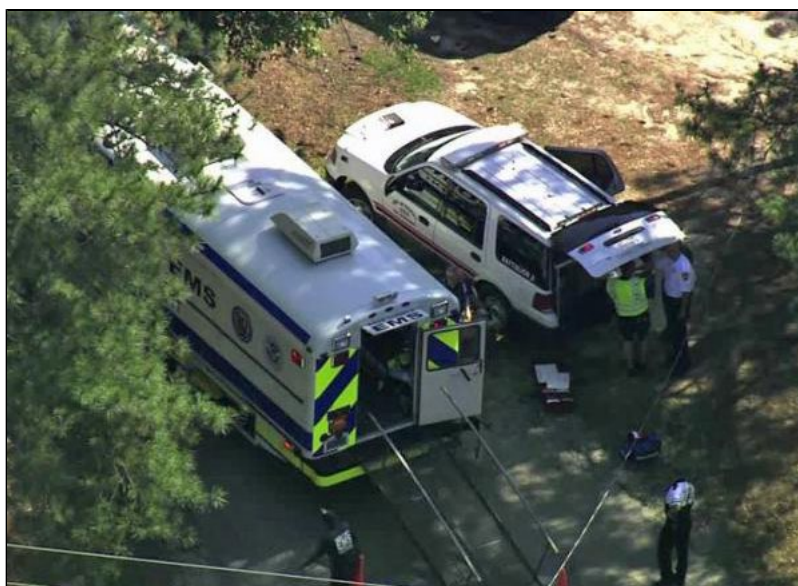
Yes, hide my email address.



## Yesterday's MPI in Raleigh

06/01/12 95 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

WRAL posted this photo and story about yesterday morning's Multi Patient Incident on Saunderford Road in Raleigh, where some 60 children and eight adults were evaluated for carbon monoxide poisoning. None required treatment, reports the story. The location is a day care, the cause was a gas stove left on overnight. E10, L8, B2, EMS 5, EMS 62, D5, D2, M92, MD20, T1, and EVAC 1 were among the units on scene. That's the big bus and Battalion 2 shown below. And they're no longer called Mass-Casualty Incidents, right? [Read the story.](#)



*WRAL photo*

---

"Casualties" makes people thing of "dead" – so unless you have lots of deceased, you have a multiple patient scene.

Many kudos to those who ran this call – very well handled.

**Skip K** ([Email](#)) - 06/01/12 - 20:09

Just don't get a bunch of you guys in the same room, discussing the factors and phenomenons of such multi-patient events. Otherwise, you might end up with... wait for it... a mass causality incident.

**Legeros** - 06/01/12 - 20:18

'Casualty' is a word I had to use in the second language I learned in the Army. I was to use an M16A2, M67s, and an M9 to inflict casualties (amongst the enemy).

**DJ** - 06/01/12 - 23:03

Skip is this name change a county thing or something you all got somewhere? This is the first I had heard of them not being called a mass casualty incident

**Mike** - 06/01/12 - 23:41

Nothing official – just a trend ...

**Skip K** - 06/07/12 - 06:40

And this wasn't so much anything as a "multii-want-to-be-checked-out"!

Skip K - 06/07/12 - 06:41

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

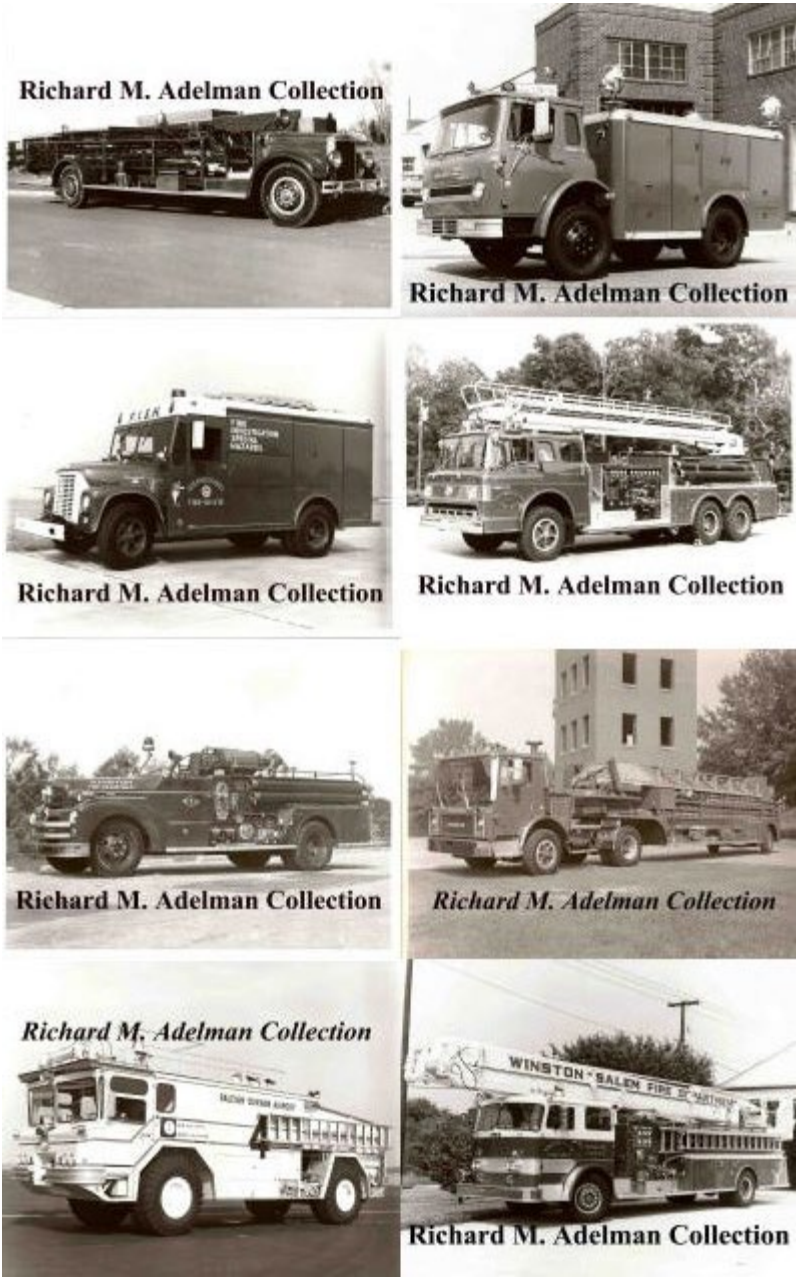
**The Richard M. Adleman Collection**

06/02/12 186 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

A treasure trove of historic apparatus photos has started appearing on eBay. The pictures are from the collection of the late Richard M. Adelman of Memphis, TN. During his decades in the fire service, he shot and traded thousands and thousands of photographs. His son Bill Adleman, a retired firefighter, is making them available on eBay. He's 8x10 photographic prints from the original negatives. Using a darkroom and everything. Among the offerings so far are dozens of North Carolina rigs.

Here's a sampling from his most recent auctions. Left to right, top to bottom are trucks from Goldsboro FD (no windshield!), Greensboro FD (light/power truck), Guilford County FD (FISH team), Guilford College FD (and later Knightdale Public Safety), Kinston FD, Raleigh FD (pre-cab extension and white-over-red), Raleigh-Durham Airport FD, and Winston-Salem FD (two-axle snorkel!).

Great stuff, and he welcomes queries about specific trucks and departments. As his description notes, the collection features hundreds of thousands of shots. [See all his current items for auction](#). And keep watching for more, as he regularly adds items.



I noticed on ebay that there was a sold photo of an American LaFrance Aerial that my company used to own. I was wondering if I could purchase a reprint.

**craig** ([Email](#)) - 10/04/12 - 13:11

looking for any slides of my old fire department. TRURO TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPT. Reynoldsburg, OH if you can help let me know. thanks

**mike** - 04/06/17 - 16:52

I found a picture on ebay of a truck I sold as a new unit. Bay City Florida is the title, actually Bay County Fl. Had the word Southport on it. I ordered it and I notice it is a side a picture is way more prefered over the slide, he also took a picture of my dealership Panama Fire Apparatus had a lot of extrem neon on the building, I would LOVE to purchase that picture if possible, please contact if that can be done Thank you

**Michael Woolford** ([Email](#)) - 08/31/17 - 16:08

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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**Aftermath of Extended Extrication**

06/02/12 65 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Overturned tractor-trailer truck in Johnston County, on ramp from westbound Highway 70 Bypass to southbound Interstate 40. Driver extricated after just under two hours. Garner Fire Department (E1, E4, R1, BC), Cleveland FD (E2, E5, T1, Chief), 50-210 EMS (ambulance), Johnston EMS (car), Wake EMS (EMS 19, D1, M93, MD1). Plus heavy lifting by Ivey's. [See photos by Legeros](#). Click to enlarge:



Since responders came from two counties, I'm curious: What radio channel did they use?

**rfburns** - 06/02/12 - 14:44

Each county used their respective channels, and a patch was established between the two. That's the common method for cross-county communications.

**Legeros** - 06/02/12 - 16:42

Johnston County would be on Viper FE

Wake County would be on JC911

**Doc** ([Email](#)) - 06/02/12 - 17:49

EMS 19 was the unit

Wonder how many personal total there from the two counties. Looks like an excellent job by both sides!!

**ncems** - 06/03/12 - 00:48

If my numbers are correct there should have been about 28 total.

**CVFD** - 06/04/12 - 10:25

Medic 1 was the johnston county ems car that responded. It's a shift supervisor for JCEMS

**BW** - 06/04/12 - 11:56



## Aftermath of Apartment Fire

06/02/12 76 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Two alarms at 319 Railroad Street in Knightdale, just a block or so from Smithfield Road. Two-story apartment building with heavy fire showing on arrival. Second alarm requested. Fire controlled in about 20 minutes. Knightdale PS (E132, E134, E131, L135, plus E133 on 2A), Eastern Wake FD (E2, plus E1, E4 on 2A), Wendell FD (L116, E113 on 2A), and Eastern Wake EMS (EMS 62, EMS 63, D6). [See photos by Legeros](#). Click to enlarge:



The Wendell firefighters are indeed the ones wearing the black gear.

Regarding alarm levels, these were the units dispatched on the second alarm yesterday: KPS E133, EWFD E1, EWFD E4, WFD L116. Three engines and a ladder. Unsure if that's the norm county-wide/CAD-wide, or if it's a district-specific specification.

**Legeros** - 06/03/12 - 09:32

Raleigh has set alarm assignments. County departments have a set up for it but it has glitches. Sometimes it will pull trucks that are not staffed but are in service and the crew assigned to that station is already at the incident. County units are better off requesting certain apparatus when they need more.

**LT** - 06/03/12 - 09:32

Thanks LT. Yes, a second alarm in the county can result in the dispatch of units that are not staffed. (That's an old horse on this blog that we've beaten a few times!) Telecommunicators provide help in this process, when they monitor the units en route versus still silence, and can adjust the response or communicate to command as needed.

**Legeros** - 06/03/12 - 09:47

Yes, black gear does cost more to the tune of \$60-70 per set.

**Black PBI** - 06/03/12 - 11:04

Black gear in the pbi outer shell does cost more where as black gear in advance runs the same as the other colors.

**Gear guy** - 06/04/12 - 09:08



There are no second alarms set up in CAD for any departments in Wake County the RWECC dispatches for except for Raleigh. In Raleigh, we can just change the incident type on the call and dispatch the correct assignment all the way up to a fifth alarm. In the county, the best thing to do is just for the IC to request exactly what they want and from where.

**Marcus** - 06/04/12 - 21:39

Fire Units on the scene. Knightdale Car 130, E131, E132, E134, L135, Truck 138, Eastern Wake Pumper 1, Pumper 2, Pumper 4, Car 20, Wendell L116, WC1. Initial dispatch per cad was EWP2, KCE132, KCE131, KCE134, KCL135, KCC130. Second dispatch included KCE133, EWP1, EWP4, WEL116.

**Chris** - 06/04/12 - 22:26

@rookie Different departments set up their alarm parameters for what fits their cities. For example, since you mentioned Philly and FDNY, they both don't send a RIT/RIC/FAST company until a "working fire" is declared. Doesn't mean anyone is right or wrong, just the way they choose to do business.

**Silver** - 06/04/12 - 22:47

Silver you answered my ques. I always wondered what fast was when buffaloe dispatches a "report of house on fire"

**911** - 06/04/12 - 22:54

Why isn't there additional alarms set up for county department. Is this something RWECC can not do or hasn't been set up for county departments or somrthing the departments decided not to have. As an IC it would seem easier to ask for a 2nd alarm than for "X" number of engines, ladders, rescues, etc.

**Jeff** - 06/05/12 - 13:28

And here comes the dead horse on the apple cart. Jeff a short answer for you is that yes CAD can be set up to pull a second alarm and will if asked. The problem that arises is the CAD will do what its supposed to do, that being pull units that are marked in service. Well although some units are marked in service in this county doesn't mean that there is staffing for those units. If you need a second alarm you want staffed units. On top of that what a rural department might need as a second alarm (ie lots of tankers) is not what a more municiple based dept needs that have hydrants need. They may need the manpower. CAD also doesn't recognize city units when it considers pulling units for an alarm. So if the IC knows that a certain city unit is closer and what they need is manpower then it is easier currently to just call for that unit.

**Mike** - 06/05/12 - 13:56

@911 yeah, stands for Firefighter Assist Search Team.

@Mike yup, get the shovels to dig him up. It is something that SHOULD be done, but hasn't. Why? Maybe the "we've always done it this way" mentality? Who knows.....

**Silver** - 06/05/12 - 22:32

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Yes  
No

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The Original Truck 8

06/03/12 475 W, 1 I - + 11 - 7

Posed photos of Raleigh's [service ladder trucks](#), which operated from 1922 to 1988, have been exceptionally hard to find. My ten (?) years of photo research has found just a handful. Plus this one, from the [Richard M. Adleman collection](#) as bought on eBay. It's the first posed shot of the city's 1964 GMC service truck that we've found to date, shown as Truck 8 sometime in the 1980s. Chassis by GMC, body either by the fire department shops or Alexander Welding. Probably the latter. Suspect the only shop-built ladder truck was the 1963 Ford, a year prior. As the story goes, the ladder rack was reused from the 1922 American LaFrance service truck. Memo to self, revisit that research, and the newspaper story that year about the fireman that built the thing. Anyway, here's the new old picture. Click to enlarge:



The Raleigh Fire Department had five service trucks in its fleet: 1922 American LaFrance, 1963 Ford, 1964 GMC, 1971 Chevrolet., and 1980 Ford. The original was part of a two-piece truck company at Station 1 until 1949, when it was moved to Station 6. The others served at varying stations, which we'll detail below. The 1963 Ford was damaged in a vehicle accident in 1979, and rebuilt with a 1980 Ford chassis. It's last assignment was Truck 12, which was disbanded as a company on September 20, 1988. Believe that's the only instance in the department's 100-year history of a permanent company closure.

Here's what should be an accurate chart of the service trucks, combining my [apparatus registry](#) with my [company histories](#) (PDF). See a couple discrepancies, Truck 6 at the end, and Truck 15 with two rigs. Readers are hereby empowered to check and correct my work!

Truck 1 Truck 2	1922 American LaFrance	1922- 1949	Named Service Truck Company 1. Second of two-piece ladder company. Moved to Station 2 in 1941. Unsure when Truck 2 designation started.
Truck 6	1922 American LaFrance	1949- 1960	Replaced with another apparatus, 1922 ALF disassembled to create body for 1960 Ford as Truck 7.
Truck 6	???????	1960- 1962	May have operated 1939/1916 American LaFrance tiller, which was a reserve since 1958. Removed from service until 1965.
Truck 6	1964 GMC.	1965- 1979	Moved to Station 16.
Truck 7	1922 American LaFrance.	1960- 1962	Replaced with 1963 Ford.
		1962-	Rebuilt after accident.

Truck 7	1963 Ford.	1979	Replaced by 1980 Ford.
Truck 7	1980 Ford.	1980-1982.	Moved to Station 12.
Truck 8	1964 GMC.	1981-1987	Replaced by aerial apparatus. 1964 GMC moved to Station 15.
Truck 11	1971 Chevy	1972-1986	Replaced by aerial apparatus. 1971 Chevy moved to Station 15.
Truck 12	1980 Ford	1982-1988.	Company disbanded.
Truck 15	1964 GMC	1987-1988	1964 GMC. Replaced with 1971 Chevy.
Truck 15	1971 Chevy	1988-1989.	1964 Chevy. Replaced with aerial apparatus.
Truck 16	1964 GMC	1979-1981	Replaced with aerial apparatus. 1964 Chevy moved to Station 8.

Oh, and why are they called service ladder trucks? Because in the days of hand-drawn ladder trucks, they were sized both small and large. The former were good for "village service" and the latter good for "city service." Which was later shortened from "city service trucks" to "service trucks." [Read that explanation](#) from a 2010 posting.

Did Truck 6 operated as an aerial ladder company from 1960 to 1962? Believe so, based on a couple things. When Cary Firefighter Vernon Thompson died in a tanker rollover 1960, one of the scene photos shows the 1939/1917 ALF in the background. DJ caught that one, years ago. It conceivable responded with other "west side" Raleigh units. Also, at least one retiree remembers the original tiller housed at Station 6. It was too long for the building, however, and a window or two had to be removed. Believe they built a "box" or shelter for the ladder section that stuck out! Guess we'll ask the retirees again, and look for any period photos of Station 6 we might've missed. We, that means me!

Legeros - 06/03/12 - 10:19

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

No

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DARPA Developing New Fire Suppression Method

06/03/12 104 W - + 9 - 3

Saw this mentioned in [this morning's New York Times story](#) about a innovations that will change our lives tomorrow. [The video and accompanying news release](#) is from January. The technology involves suppressing fire by destabilizing flame plasma. The technology involves electromagnetic fields and acoustics techniques. The demonstration is very small scale. The issues are certainly many, the least of which is scalability. Makes for exciting forward thinking. What if fire suppression was no longer water- or materials-based? What would the resources and equipment and support system (e.g. the fire service) look like, after *that* transformation!

I don't know, but I would be all the engines and pumpers would have big flux capacitors. I mean, you gotta get one point twenty-one gigawatts of power from \*somewhere...

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 06/04/12 - 09:37

Let's say this becomes the predominate method of extinguishment some decades in the future. Maybe through in-building and in-equipment systems, which addresses the majority of fires. In turn, let's imagine that water and hose and other "heavy tools" become the exception, or the rarity. How does that alter the human resources equation? Fewer "strong backs," more "strong minds." Maybe a cadre of fire protection engineers becomes the norm? Of course, by this time, there will be robots or exoskeletons or such, to do the proverbial heavy lifting. Maybe even room and contents searching and such!

**Legeros** - 06/04/12 - 09:43

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Fuquay-Varina's New Engine

06/03/12 30 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

Delivered on June 1, this 2012 Pierce Saber 1500/100 will be placed in service in a few weeks. Photographed by Lee Wilson yesterday. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

I can assume that Engine 2's old truck, the KME, will replace Engine 1's current truck?

**Will** - 06/04/12 - 07:36

Thats correct. Current Engine 1 will go to reserve. Current Engine 3 will go to Engine 4 at station 1 and current Engine 5 will go to Engine 3.

**911** - 06/04/12 - 10:23

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Bokeh

06/03/12 62 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

In photography, "bokeh" is defined as the blur-- or the aesthetic quality of the blur-- in out-of-focus areas of an image. The picture below has good bokeh, as taken at [yesterday's vehicle accident](#) in Johnston County. Particulars: Canon EOS 40D, Program AE, 1/320, 5.6, Evaluative Metering, EF70-200mm f/4L USM, 149.0mm, RAW.



Hey I know that stache and the guy attached to it

**Mike** - 06/03/12 - 19:51

Loving the mustash too. Food for thought. Who has the meanest fire service stash in the area?

**Stash** - 06/03/12 - 23:18

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

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Yes  
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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Cary Rural Fire Department Badge

06/03/12 92 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

From a reader, here's tonight rare artifact photo. This is a Cary Rural Fire Department badge, circa early 1960s. The department was organized on September 15, 1960, when the Cary Fire Department was split into two separate organizations. One department served the town, and the other the unincorporated areas. CRFD soon adopted the name of their fire district, Yrac. That's Cary spelled backwards. [Read more CFD and YFD history](#). And see a [Yrac FD badge](#) that recently appeared on eBay. Thanks Dustin!



I will give you ten bucks for it Dustin!

Kermit - 06/03/12 - 23:59

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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

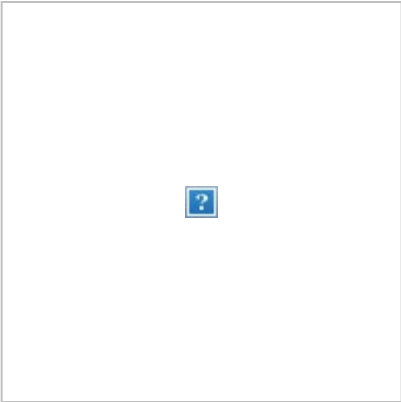
Raleigh Fire Museum Preserves 100 Years of Bravery and Service to City Residents

06/04/12 315 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

Press release. The threat of fire is constant. You can't escape the possibility that your home, your possessions and all those you love could be the victims of a disastrous fire. For the past 100 years, the Raleigh Fire Department has provided protection to Raleigh residents as a full-time professional fire department. The [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) provides an important role by chronicling the history of the City's career fire department, and the preceding 50 years of protection provided by volunteer firefighters. The museum is located in a classroom trailer at the City of Raleigh Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive. "We're trying to build awareness through the museum," said Alan Walters, who serves as the museum's vice-president, "so that the services of past firefighters will never be forgotten."

The museum opened in May 2011 under the organization name of the Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society. The group was formed in 2008 by a cadre of firefighters and Fire Department supporters. It was incorporated as a non-profit charity in 2010, and raised \$1,300 in donations from firefighters to make the museum a reality. "The funds allowed us to build displays," said Mr. Walters, who retired last month as a battalion chief after 31 years of service. "One of the first things we did was to build a curved wall to surround the 1870 fire alarm bell." Firefighters and museum staff members also donated their time to catalog artifacts, build displays, and frame photographs. [Read entire press release.](#)

Visit the Raleigh Fire Museum this Saturday, June 9. We'll be open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. And don't forget about Saturday, June 16. That's the all-day Raleigh Fire Department centennial celebration in downtown Raleigh. Starts at 10:00 a.m. with a parade. Read more at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Round Down

06/05/12 53 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Today's *News & Observer* story reports that the Hillsborough Street roundabout will be reconfigured from two lanes to one lane. The objective is reducing accident rates since the traffic circle began operation in 2010. [Read the story](#). Below is the paper's graphic with pithy headline.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)

New Fire Station For Calabash, No Fire Station For Scotts Hill06/06/12 169 W - + 8 - 4

FireNews has a pair of station stories from down south. Calabash Fire Department in Brunswick County has approved up to \$2 million in bonds for a new fire station. They're replacing their 40 year-old, 8,000 square -foot structure with one almost twice the size. Same location, so they'll utilize a temporary location during the building's building. Believe they're also razing a building beside the station, that served as the original firehouse. [Read that story.](#)

In Pender County, commissioners voted to cancel a planned fire station in Scott's Hill. The Hampstead Fire Department had been pursuing the project for two years. Scott's Hill residents petitioned the commissioners with signatures from 176 residents-- about 25 percent of the community. The project has cost over \$200,000 to date. [Read that story.](#)

And recall that the area was originally served by Scott's Hill Fire Department, which operated in the late 1970s through the early 1990s. Read earlier blog posts [about SCFD](#) and a cookbook its [members once produced](#).

The Scott’s Hill area is currently covered by New Hanover County (through auto aid) and Hampstead FD.

Andrew - 06/06/12 - 18:12

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	
<div>/ <a href="#">Textile</a></div>	

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Changes Coming to Clayton EMS

06/06/12 101 W, 1 I - + 6 - 9

Here's a *News-Star* story from last week about the coming change to Clayton EMS. On July 1, the 50 year-old agency will transition from independent to county control. The objective is long-term financial stability. In the process, the story notes, Clayton EMS employees will be required to reapply and the cadet program will be discontinued. Princeton EMS is making this change this year. This will leave only three communities with independent EMS agencies: 50-210, Four Oaks, and Selma. Included in the story is a nifty historical picture from 1974, courtesy of their historian Jason Thompson. [Read the article.](#)



Thanks for posting, Mike! I learned to drive a manual transmission on unit 48, the command post shown in the photo. I ended up going as much backward as forward and avoided every hill in town! The command post was state of the art for its time, having a VHF High, UHF, and CB radio on board, as well as maps (all with state road numbers, as the roads weren't named at the time).

Jason Thompson ([Email](#)) - 06/06/12 - 17:19

As an update, Johnston County EMS recognized the importance of the cadet program, and has reinstated it. The third Cadet Academy will be held in September. A lot of EMS folks around Johnston County got their start in local cadet programs, and we have already had a couple of our current cadets transition to EMT and employee.

DJ - 06/23/14 - 21:00

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration, Saturday, June 16 - Promotional Video06/06/12 44 W - + 6 - 3

This nifty promotional video was added to [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com) yesterday. Nice title screen in particular. See you on Saturday, June 16, in downtown Raleigh, starting at 10:00 a.m. for the fire truck parade.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

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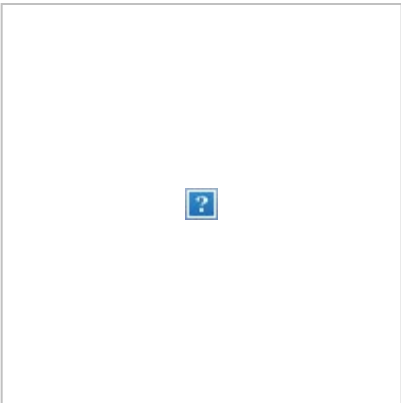
Raleigh Fire Department's Centennial Roll Call a Place of Honor

06/06/12 166 W, 1 I - + 11 - 4

Press release. The names below are listed in alphabetical order as the first three entries in the City of Raleigh Fire Department's Centennial Roll Call: Darrell Lee Adams, Kevin Paul Adams, Kim Adams. Behind these names are hundreds more.

The Centennial Roll Call contains the names of men and women who have served in the Fire Department since it was first established in 1912. The document was created by Fire Department Historian Mike Legeros to help commemorate the department's 100th anniversary this year.

"The Centennial Roll Call is designed as both a historical record and as a means of honoring those who have served the city for 100 years," Mr. Legeros said. A total of 1,541 names appear in the Centennial Roll Call. Counting names listed more than once, the number of entries grows to 1,602. [Read entire press release](#). Or view the roll call document, as available [from this page](#).



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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## Wake Forest Squad 5 and Engine 5

06/07/12 124 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Here's are two trucks from Wake Forest Station 5, recently opened after a merger with a Falls Fire Department. Left is Squad 5, a 1994 E-One Century 1000/1000. Right is Engine 5, 2007 Pierce Contender 1250/1000. Also housed there is Tanker 5 (2009 Pierce Contender, 1250/1000), Brush 5 (2005 Ford F-550, 250/300), and Boat 5. Photos by Lee Wilson. [See more shots.](#)

And speaking of the [Wake Forest Fire Department](#), they've upgraded their web site in recent months. They've added news articles to their home page, which include individual incident photos and short descriptions. There seems to be a trend these days, with new web sites for local fire departments. New and improved sites have included [Durham Highway FD](#) and [Garner FD](#). Who else is sporting a version 2.0?



*Lee Wilson photo*

What exactly is a squad in Wake county, just a rescue engine or something more?

**PGtruckie** - 06/07/12 - 08:11

The squad carries service truck equipment. There is not a hose bed but more tools. There is only one Crosslay on the rig. The truck acts as an extension of the ladder company or rescue company on scene of a box. It also responds to MVA calls in the 5 district.

**That guy** - 06/07/12 - 08:39

Tanker 5 was actually moved to Station 2

**206** - 06/07/12 - 13:50

I know larger cities use the Box's to define a pull box area within the city, is Wake County moving towards using the term box instead of individual call types?

**Watson** - 06/07/12 - 14:10

@thatguy What's this "box" you speak of? Wake County FD's don't use that term....c'mon maaaaaan!!!

@pg Go to one part of the area and it's a pick-up with EMS equipment, go to another part and it's a Rescue-Engine. Just like the East Coast; go to Fairfax or DC and it's what I would call a "Rescue" but go to Baltimore, Philly or NYC and it's an Engine, beefed up with extrication and rescue equipment that operates as an Engine or Ladder Company on the fireground, depending on the needs of the IC, but also is part of the

Special Operations Command. Seems to me there isn't a set definition in the nation as to what a "squad" is or isn't.

**Silver** - 06/07/12 - 14:27

So whats in the place of the other speed lay? And what kind of tools are there in the hose bed. I know you said that there isnt a hose bed but I have been in this county long enough to know that it used to run first out like "the 5 engine" does now. Im not gonna bust on your box.....

**911** - 06/07/12 - 21:28

Maybe some walk around pics of the squad to show what it now carries ...

**Jim** - 06/08/12 - 08:01

@ Silver: Sorry man. I forgot where we are..... Code 2 Condition red (insert 10 codes) LOL

**That guy** - 06/10/12 - 00:39

NICE!!!!

**Silver** - 06/10/12 - 13:33

Or maybe not.....

**911** - 06/10/12 - 19:58

@ That guy. Hey can you take some pics of the compartments and list equipment on the Squad?

**Ronald** - 06/11/12 - 15:47

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**Wake County EMS Station List**

06/07/12 382 W - + 13 - 6

Effective June 14, here's the latest and greatest station list for Wake County EMS system units and their locations. CAD identifier include, since some of our readers ride the trucks. Memo to self, update earlier list located on [my scanner page](#). That one's merely two years old. Here's the numbering scheme: EMS 1-39 (Wake County EMS), EMS 41-49 (Apex EMS), EMS 51-59 (Cary EMS), EMS 61-69 (Eastern Wake EMS). For extra credit, identify the facilities for non-EMS buildings.

CAD ID	STATION NAME	STREET ADDRESS	TOWN	EMS UNIT(S)	NOTES
APM	Apex Main	315 W. Williams Street	Apex	41	
BTC	Bethany Church	6529 Bethany Church Road	Wendell	68, 66	
CRM	Cary Main	107 Medcon Court	Cary	51, 53, 55, District 5	
CRW	Cary West	2101 High House Road	Cary	52	Cary FD Station 5
DRN	Durant	10000 Durant Road	Raleigh	15, 33	
DWN	Downtown	331 S. McDowell Street	Raleigh	1, 11, 13, District 1, Truck 1	EMS 13 runs out of Raleigh FD Station 2 during day.
ERL	E Raleigh	2910 Kidd Road	Raleigh	7, 31	
FRG	Fairgrounds	4017 District Drove	Raleigh	4	
FRV	Fairview EMS	3609 Ten Ten Road	Cary	42	Cary FD Station 6
FUQ	Fuquay	301 S. Fuquay Avenue	Fuquay	9	Fuquay-Varina FD Station 2
GRE	Garner East	125 Spaceway Court	Garner	19, 37	Garner FD Station 4
GRM	Garner Main	1695 Timber Drive	Garner	18	Garner FD Station 3
GRS	Garner South	9115 Sauls Road	Garner	16	Garner FD Station 2
HLT	Hilltop	5627 Hilltop Road	Fuquay	14	Fuquay-Varina FD Station 2
HSP	Holly Springs	700 Flint Point Lane	Holly Springs	17, 32, Medic 91	Holly Springs FD Station 1
	Holly Springs	1140 Avent Ferry Road	Holly Springs		Holly Springs FD Station 2. Closed due to tornado.
KDM	Knightdale	949 Steeple Square Court	Knightdale	61, Medic 92	Knightdale Public Safety
KDS	Knightdale South	4828 Clifton Road	Knightdale	62	Eastern Wake FD Station 1
MNC	Mini City	4704 Hargrove Road	Raleigh	5, 36	
MSV	Morrisville	10632 Chapel Hill Road	Morrisville	54	Morrisville FD Station 2
NCS	NC State	1361 Varsity Drive	Raleigh	8	

NHL	North Hills	5305 Six Forks Road	Raleigh	3	
RDU	Airport	6901 Mt Herman Church Road	Raleigh	34, 35, Medic 95	
RVM	Rolesville Main	108 E. Young Street	Rolesville	64	
SFM	Six Forks Main	1431 Lynn Road	Raleigh	6, District 4	
SFN	Six Forks North	13116 Norwood Road	Raleigh	22	Bay Leaf FD Station 2
SHL	Stony Hill	7045 Stony Hill Road	Raleigh	12, Medic 93	Stony Hill FD Station 1
WEN	Wendell Main	401 E. Third Street	Wendell	63, District 6	
WFM	Wake Forest	706 S. Franklin Street	Wake Forest	10, District 3	
WML	Whitaker Mill	2024 Noble Road	Raleigh	2, Medic 94	
ZEB	Zebulon	115 E. Vance Street	Zebulon	65	

---

EMS Station 3 is still closed with fire repairs being performed. EMS 3 is currently housed at Station 6 (Six Forks Main)

**Brendan** - 06/08/12 - 04:41

EMS 13 runs out of RFD sta 2. They just get parked at EMS sta 1 after hours

**Mike** - 06/08/12 - 09:43

District 2 runs out of Fairview FD Station 1

**FFD** - 06/08/12 - 10:18

Spare unit is parked at FRG (#4). It is used sometimes as EMS37 (when extra personnel are available) and as EMS25 (hockey game special event unit).

**DJ** - 06/08/12 - 13:53

EMS12: 7045 Stony Hill Road is actually the address!! ... not that anyone will be sending Christmas cards!

**A.C. Rich** - 06/08/12 - 14:43

amazing to see how many ambulances are running out of firehouses these days. I count 13?

**shevais** - 06/08/12 - 15:16

Flip flop 63 and 61

**KDM** - 06/09/12 - 18:16

If you count them individually, including DIST2 and all of the medic units, it's 23 according to this list that run out of fire stations. At least, they park there sometimes.

**DJ** - 06/09/12 - 19:54

EMS 3 is slated to move back into Station 3 the later part of this week. Finishing touches currently underway as we speak.

**NHL** - 06/10/12 - 07:46

EMS-3 will be moving back into the North Hills station on Six Forks Rd tomorrow morning.

**Olson** - 06/11/12 - 15:40

The North Hills station was both repaired and partially renovated. Cracks in the exterior walls were repaired, new roof, new electrical, paint, carpet, Plymovent replaced with a new system that doesn't require exhaust connection. It was not made any larger :-(

**CH100** - 06/15/12 - 08:08

What Ems is on the eastern wake side of wake County



**Meme anderson** ([Email](#)) - 05/13/13 - 22:16

Eastern Wake EMS which is a merger of the old Wendell, Zebulon, Knightdale and Rolesville Squads serves the eastern portion of the county. Those units are in the EMS 60 series (61-68) and District 6

**shevais** - 05/15/13 - 08:46

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Comment:	
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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Morning Fire Video

06/08/12 47 W - + 7 - 3

For your Friday viewing, from Statter911.com, some ladder and entry action in the District of Columbia on Wednesday. With enjoyable comments as always on the [original posting from Statter](#). How often are barred first-floor windows found these parts, by the way?

They are popping up more and more. A lot of businesses have them, but I'm seeing them showing up on houses now. Luckily more residents aren't installing them real securely so you can pop them off with a halligan or NY roof hook.

Mike - 06/08/12 - 09:40

A lot on the south side of Wake county in your shotgun style home neighborhoods and/ or streets in town.

911 - 06/09/12 - 17:28

Imperative the outside team of the Ladder Company or Rescue Company remove them. Insurance will replace the bars on the windows, we didn't start the fire but while we are here we need to establish egress routes for our members.

Side note; I guess we are looking at side Charlie, a fireman ended up performing a rapid egress from the second floor via ground ladder. So keep throwin' those ladders!!

Silver - 06/09/12 - 21:32

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

**One Hundred Years of Raleigh Fire Apparatus**

06/08/12 109 W, 1 I - + 4 - 5

Photo gallery as presented by the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#). Numerous contributors and sources, and notably lots and lots from Lee Wilson. He's been shooting these forever! Lots of engines and ladders. Some interesting and special pieces. Couple horse-drawn. And how many of those rigs have you ridden? Put me down for some of the engines active around 1990: Macks, EEIs, and the first Pierces. Plus the tiller and the Aerialscope. Maybe a couple others in there. [View the gallery](#). And pay attention on the streets this month. These new centennial logos are starting to appear on city fire apparatus. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Yesterday's Condominium Fire in Fayetteville

06/10/12 106 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

Here's your morning fire photo from Fayetteville, where a 14-unit condominium building burned on Saturday. The fire is believed to have started on the third floor. Sixteen people were displaced, one resident suffered minor smoke inhalation, and two firefighters were treated for heat-related injuries. This [short story from WRAL](#) has a pair of viewer photos. No parking in the rear, due to water. Exposure on another side. Probably parking or road on the remaining to sides. Guess at least a pair of aerial streams set up. Maybe our readers can post a run card or other details.



WRAL photo

Taking a guess, but crews that were likly on scene would enclude but are not limited to are: E8,R8,E6,T6,E9,T9,Sq9,BC3,BC1, E12,E15,T11,SQ.3 for air refill.

**Anonymous** - 06/10/12 - 23:45

Likely, and Include. Sorry for the spelling.

**Anonymous** - 06/11/12 - 00:07

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

/ [Textile](#)

How Much Per Click?

06/10/12 307 W - + 5 - 3

In the days of film photography, there was a per-shot cost that could be calculated. The equation was something like this: cost of film + cost of developing / number of shots. With the advent of digital photography, the expense of film immediately evaporated. Same for the cost of developing, if you were sticking with digital viewing and digital storage of said shots. Does that make digital photography entirely "free?" Just shoot like there's no tomorrow, with no worries, mate? Not entirely.

Most digital cameras have moving parts, and those parts can break. They can range from the battery cover to the shutter itself. Let's talk about the last one. The shutter, which is an integral (or maybe *the* integral) part of a digital SLR camera. The shutters on DSLR cameras have design life expectancies. Usually in the tens of thousands, maybe higher, based on the brand. My primary camera body is a Canon 50D. The shutter life expectancy is 100,000 actuation. One actuation equals one shot. What's our per-click cost? Here are some numbers:

- \$900 (body only, new) / 100,000 = \$0.009, or just about a penny
- \$500 (body only, used) / 100,000 = \$0.005, or a half-cent
- \$250 (shutter replacement, estimated) / 100,000 = \$0.0025, or a quarter-cent

But what if the shutter fails earlier? Let's trim the life expectancy by half:

- \$900 (body only, new) / 50,000 = \$0.018
- \$500 (body only, used) / 50,000 = \$0.01
- \$250 (shutter replacement, estimated) / 50,000 = \$0.005

Now let's translate those numbers into real money. At a fire department event yesterday, took over 1,400 photos. All-day thing, but still a bit extreme. (They have medication for that, yeah, yeah. Save money, shoot video. Yeah, yeah.) What did that potentially "cost" me? Looks like anywhere from \$25 down to \$3.50. Quite a range, based on the above parameters. But worth keeping in mind. Endless clicking isn't free. And we haven't even talked about the *time* costs. For someone like myself, that's as valuable as money!

And cost of storage?

Interesting breakdown.

jcollins (Email) - 06/10/12 - 19:16

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Careless 911 Misdials Continue to Plague Raleigh/Wake ECC

06/11/12 135 W - + 9 - 3

Press release. Now that the month of May has ended and all the statistics have been complied, it is abundantly clear that 9-1-1 hang-up calls and misdials continue at an alarming pace. The Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications center has released its analysis from the last half of May that shows no improvement over numbers experienced earlier in the month. Ten-digit dialing continues to cause significant problems for the Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center. In March, prior to the area code changes, telecommunicators processed an average of 1,434 calls per day. The number climbed to 1,780 per 24 hour period in April, and to 1,820 each day in May. [Read entire press release](#). Or [read this WRAL story](#), that also notes that the number of 911 hang-up calls in Cary has tripled.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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## Let There Be Steam!

06/11/12 232 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

On Friday, June 8, the Raleigh Fire Department's old steamer chugged to life for the first time in about three decades. The historic event took place at Fire Station 28 on Forestville Road, where the department's fleet of antique apparatus is stored. The 1905 American LaFrance Metropolitan steam engine first underwent a hydrostatic pressure test on the boiler. Passing that benchmark, the crew of Raleigh and Charlotte firefighters (and local steam engine enthusiasts) then began firing the boiler.

Paper served as kindling for wood, which served as kindling for the coal. Slowly, steadily, the boiler pressure was raised until sufficient steam was available to power the pump. Drafting water from a drop tank (borrowed from nearby New Hope Fire Department), the old engine successfully supplied a deluge gun, which sprayed the station's north lawn. They soon swapped the fog nozzle for a set of straight tips, for further reach.

The steamer is being prepared for an appearance on Saturday, June 16, at the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration in downtown Raleigh. It'll be drawn by horses in the parade, which starts at 10:00 a.m. And it'll be fired and pumping started at noon. See more event information at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com). For more on the steamer, see photos from Friday by [Mike Legeros](#) (shown below) and [Lee Wilson](#), or watch a short video below.



Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Firefighter Games 100* « Let There Be Steam! » Raleigh Retired Firef... Years Ago

### Firefighter Games 100 Years Ago

06/11/12 496 W - + 8 - 5

On July 23, 1912, the twenty-fifth annual North Carolina State Firemen's Association convention opened in Fayetteville. Some 1,500 firefighters attended from the state and region, including delegates from 94 fire departments in North Carolina. The first day's activities included a number of sessions and business meetings. Opening session speakers included Governor W. W. Kitchin and Association President James D. McNeil.

The second day, which was the first of two tournament days, opened with a "grand fireman's and floral parade" including nineteen horse-drawn hose wagons, six hand-drawn hose reel teams, two steam fire engines, one auto fire truck, a score of "gaily decorated motor car floats", carriages containing "distinguished citizens and fire chiefs", and 25 racing horses that would later compete in the firefighter games.

Fifteen cash prizes were offered for the best decorated floral and industrial vehicles and fire department vehicles. A carnival company and several other amusement organizations were also present to "take advantage of the gala week and off their attractions to the crowds."

The convention was also a "dry" one, as eight saloons were raided that week by Sheriff N. H. Geachy. He arrested every "no tax" dealer in the city and charged them with "retailing intoxicating liquors and beer and having more of the same in their possession than allowed by law." Five to six hundreds of barrels of beer were seized.

#### Tournament Day 1

- Two classes of steam engine contests
- Hand reel contest
- Grab reel contest
- Horse hose wagon contest
- Hook and ladder contest
- American LaFrance motor engine demonstration, with "exhibitions of actual fire fighting with motor-driven apparatus, both chemical and water engines."

#### Tournament Day 2

- Interstate contests along same lines of state contents.
- American LaFrance motor engine demonstration again.

#### Selected Results - Day 1

##### Horse Hose Wagon Race - Fifteen Teams

- New Bern No. 1 - 38 2/5 seconds - First
- Rescue of Raleigh - 34 seconds - Second (three-way tie)
- Fourth Ward of New Bern - 34 seconds
- Capital Hose of Raleigh - 34 seconds
- Caswell of Kinston - 34 1/5 seconds - Third

##### Hand Reel Context

- Chapel Hill - 25 seconds - First
- Chestnut Hill of High Point - 25 4/5 seconds - Second
- Salem - 27 1/5 seconds - Third
- Cannonville [Kannapolis] - 30 seconds - Fourth

##### Grab Reel Contest

- Chestnut Hill of High Point, 18 seconds - First
- Salem, 18 1/5 seconds - Second
- Chapel Hill, 18 4/5 seconds - Third

Selected Results Day 2

Horse Hose Wagon (Interstate) - Eighteen teams

- Goldsboro - 33 seconds - First, tie
- Sumter, SC - 33 seconds - First, tie
- Kinston No. 2 - 33 2/5 seconds - Third
- Morehead City, 33 3/5 seconds - Fourth
- Riverside of New Bern - Fifth

Four "blow outs" resulted during the context for the Atlantic of New Bern, Fayetteville, Capital Hose of Raleigh, and New Bern No. 1 teams. The Rescue of Raleigh missed a coupling in their attempt. Burlington's horse had a harness failure.

Hand Reel Contest (Interstate)

Chapel Hill - 25 1/5 seconds - First

Grab Reel Contest (Interstate)

Chapel Hill - 18 2/5 seconds - Third

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
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Raleigh Retired Firefighters Invited to Participate in Saturday's Parade

06/11/12 272 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Raleigh Fire Department retirees are invited to ride in Saturday's fire apparatus parade, part of the all-day centennial celebration in downtown Raleigh.

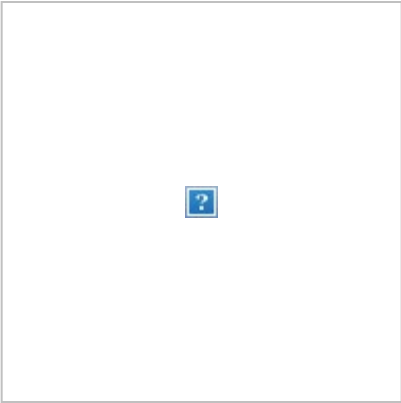
The parade starts at 10:00 a.m. and will feature both antique and modern fire apparatus, pipe bands, marching personnel, and more. As a special treat, the city's horse-drawn 1905 steam fire engine will make its first appearance in many years.

Retirees are requested to park in the public parking deck at the intersection of Wilmington and Cabarrus streets. This is free parking. They'll board a tram shuttle to the parade staging area. **The trams will leave the parking deck at 9:15 a.m.** The trams will carry the retirees in the parade, which starts at 10:00 a.m.

The parade begins at the intersections of Hillsborough and Boylan streets, continues to the State Capitol, turns on Salisbury and Morgan streets, and finishes to the end of Fayetteville Street. The best viewing of the parade will be on Fayetteville Street, and a short walking distance to the other activities.

After the parade, retirees can enjoy the day's many centennial celebration events. The location for all activities after the parade are in the parking lots along Lenoir Street at Fayetteville Street.

An apparatus muster starts at 11:00 a.m. with static and live displays. The 1905 steamer will be fired and pump at noon. At 1:00 p.m., firefighter games will start with four-person teams from around the area. Other attractions include the Kidde Kid's Zone, which opens at 11:00 a.m. Birthday cake will also be served as supplies last. For more event information, visit [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com).



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## Harnett County Firefighter Death

06/11/12 92 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

[FireNews.net is reporting](#) that Asst. Chief Donald Suggs of the Summerville Fire Department in Lillington has died. He was 55 years old. He collapsed at home shortly after returning from a fire, [reports WRAL](#). Arrangements have been posted:

### Visitation

Wednesday, June 13

6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

O'Quinn Peebles Funeral Home, 1310 S. Main Street, Lillington, NC

### Funeral and Burial

Thursday, June 14

11:00 a.m.

Lillington Baptist Church, 210 W. Lofton Street, Lillington, NC

Burial to follow at West View Memorial Gardens on US Hwy 421, Lillington.



Hey Mike any word on if this is being treated as a LODD & if so does the family want fire departments there or do they want a private service? Just wandering since it is so close and the ease of being able to go and honor a fallen Chief.

**LetsHonorOurBrother** - 06/13/12 - 18:38

While I cannot speak to the classification of the death, I can confirm that out-of-county agencies are apparently planning to attend the services with personnel and apparatus.

The NCSFA transmitted this message, in addition to the arrangements:

Out-of-county agencies that are planning to attend services on Thursday, June 14: contact Michael Martin with Harnett County FMO with number of attendees and apparatus. This will assist in planning. 910-984-6293 (mobile) or [mmartin@harnett.org](mailto:mmartin@harnett.org).

**Legeros** - 06/13/12 - 20:13

Thanks Mike



**LetsHonorOurBrother** - 06/14/12 - 00:50

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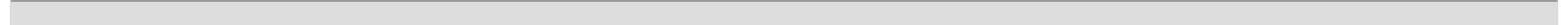
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## Reporters Train with Raleigh Fire Department

06/16/12 128 W, 2 I - + 7 - 8

June 16

Here's a second video segment, with WRAL reporter Stacy Davis recounting her experience at last weekend's Fire Ops 101 event. Lots of well-shot footage from throughout the day in this one, including a slow-motion replay of the hand line that got away from her. We've all been there and done that. Was a rewarding and educational day for everyone. [Watch the video story](#), or read the [accompanying article](#).



June 11

[This video segment](#) was broadcast this weekend on WTVD, after they participated in a Fire Ops 101 education event at the Raleigh Fire Department Keeter Training Center on Saturday. Both city officials and members of the media were invited to participate. See photos of the event from [Lee Wilson](#) and [Mike Legeros](#).



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**Wake County EMS Station Reopens**

06/12/12 188 W, 1 I - + 9 - 10

The North Hills EMS station at 5305 Six Forks Road reopened today, a mere 166 days after a vehicle fire damaged the structure on December 29. [As we originally reported](#), the paramedic ambulance EMS 3 caught fire inside the bay. The engine compartment was fully involved, and the bay ceiling was also burning. The fire was quickly controlled, but the ambulance was a total loss. The 1962 structure, formerly the Six Forks Fire Department fire station, was also damaged. The facility was closed, and a EMS 3 was temporarily relocated to the Six Forks Main EMS station at 1431 Lynn Road.

Repairs and renovations to the building included a complete reconstruction of the interior of the apparatus bay, including a new roof, new electrical components, and a new ventilation system. The crew quarters received new carpet and floor. Some remaining electrical items will be installed this week, including new lighting in the bay and on the outside of the building. The bay was repainted, and some exterior cracks in the building were also repaired. Welcome home, welcome back. [See photos by Lee Wilson](#). Click to enlarge:



Lee Wilson photo

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**Schedule of Events for Saturday's Centennial Celebration**

06/12/12 462 W - + 5 - 5

Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration – Saturday, June 12, 2012

Downtown Raleigh

[www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com)

**10:00 a.m. – Fire apparatus parade begins at Hillsborough and Boylan streets.**

Parade proceeds east to the Capitol, turns south on Salisbury Street, left on Morgan Street, and continues onto Fayetteville Street.

Please note that the best viewing will be on Fayetteville Street.

Planned participants:

- Horse-drawn steamer
- Antique motor apparatus
- Modern fire engines
- Honor guard
- Pipe bands
- Retirees riding tram shuttles
- And more.

**11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. – Apparatus muster, in parking lots at the end of Fayetteville Street along Lenoir Street.**

Antique apparatus will be pumping, as well as both antique and modern apparatus in static (stationary) display.

Special feature:

- Raleigh’s horse-drawn, 1905 steam fire engine will be fired and demonstrate pumping at noon.

Planned displays:

- Antique apparatus
- Modern fire engines
- Raleigh’s antique apparatus: 1926 American LaFrance, 1950 Mack, 1982 Mack pumpers
- Raleigh’s recently acquired old Engine 1, 1961 American LaFrance pumper
- Raleigh’s tiller, Ladder 4
- Raleigh’s haz-mat and USAR apparatus.
- Winston-Salem hand-drawn hose reel

Trophies to be awarded for:

- Oldest Appearing Apparatus
- Farthest Distance Traveled
- Best in Show.

**11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. – Kidde Kid’s Zone in parking lots bordered by Lenoir, McDowell, and South streets.**

This family-friendly event will feature numerous activities as displays for children of all ages.

Features:

- Bucket brigade for kids

- Squirt water, spin the helmet
- Smoke alarm house target shoot
- Remote controlled fire truck races
- Bean bag toss and other games
- The Home Depot Kid’s Clinic
- Meet Smokey Bear, Blaze, Sparky, and other mascots.
- Learn about safety and fire prevention, with displays from NC Forestry and NC DOI.
- Get free temporary tattoos, a piece of birthday cake, and other giveaways!

**11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. – Raleigh Fire Department and Raleigh Fire Museum displays, in parking lots on Lenoir Street at the end of Fayetteville Street.**

Come inside the large white tent and:

- Learn about the Raleigh Fire Department.
- Learn about the Raleigh Fire Museum.
- Purchase museum memberships.
- Purchase centennial-stickers, t-shirts, and challenge coins.
- Pre-order the centennial history book.
- View the city’s 1870 fire alarm bell.
- Have a slice of birthday cake!

**1:00 p.m. until... – Firefighter challenges (games) begin in parking lots bordered by Lenoir, Wilmington, and South streets.**

Four-person teams from around the area will compete in four events:

- Bucket brigade.
- Command and control.
- Hose stream deployment.
- Quick dress.

**Also at the Event**

Food vendors will be present all day, including Barry’s Café. Portable restrooms will be present. Free parking is available at all city of Raleigh parking decks. See maps to parking locations at <http://rfd100.com/maps>

Learn more about the event at [www.RFD100.com](http://www.RFD100.com)

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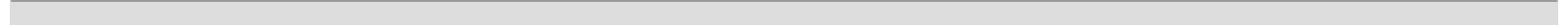
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morning Reading « Schedule of Events fo... » Sanford's Mack CF Pum... - June 13, 2012

### Morning Reading - June 13, 2012

06/13/12 398 W - + 8 - 5

Good morning Raleigh. Getting things ready this week for Saturday's centennial celebration. What, you haven't heard about that? We'll fix that in a moment. Camera Boy's been busy all week, [shooting and processing photos](#) from a number of fire department events. Steamer firing. Fire Ops 101. Fallen firefighters golf tournament. Will continue through the weekend! Meanwhile, here's some morning reading. Probably forgot something, so another story or two might get added!

- [Raleigh Fire Department reflects and celebrates...](#) - *Midtown Raleigh News* story about the department's 100th anniversary. Includes an interview with retired captain Clyde Carter, one of the oldest living retirees. And contrasts his experience with today's firefighters, and through the eyes of Senior Firefighter Lenoir Epps.
- [Downtown to Host Fire Department's Centennial Celebration Saturday](#) - Public Affairs press release about the activities planned on Saturday, June 16, in downtown Raleigh, plus a recap of some of other commemorative activities including the Centennial History Book and Centennial Roll Call.
- [Schedule of Events for Saturday](#) - Blog post from yesterday, with an easy-to-follow listing of everything that's planned for Saturday's centennial celebration. Yeah, yeah, new game, take a hit every time a blog posting mentions the thing. Will be grand fun. Hope to see you there.
- [Increasing population and decreased funding puts strain on emergency services](#) - *Raleigh Public Record* story about growth in the Capitol City and its impact on the Raleigh/Wake Emergency Communications Center, Wake County EMS, and the Raleigh Fire Department. Nice map of fire stations, as well!
- [Ghouls gone wild](#) - Dave Statter drips sarcasm in reporting the story of Colorado wildfires and one law enforcement agency's request to media. Constitutional considerations (and witty banter) aside, it can inspire some good thinking about good intentions with regard to sympathies for fire victims.
- [Hazing, hard play, and other pontifications](#) - Another Statter911 story, about a hazing incident in Texas, and this time with a pair of reader comments by Legeros. First is some logic-based pondering about hazing and hard play; second are some windy speculations about scrutiny of the fire service. Key quotes on the latter, on the subject of "an explosion of information sharing" that has happened. "Is perhaps a... vetting taking place, where all aspects and behaviors of firefighters are receiving collective attention?" You tell me. Will speculate for food.

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Sanford's Mack CF Pumper For Sale

06/14/12 56 W, 2 I - + 10 - 4

The Sanford Fire Department is selling a 1977 Mack CF pumper on [GovDeals this week](#). Five-speed manual transmission, two-stage Waterous 1000 GPM pump, 500 gallon tank. Current bid is \$2,225.00. Below is the truck as photographed by Lee Wilson. [See more Macks](#) that he's shot around the state.



GovDeals photo

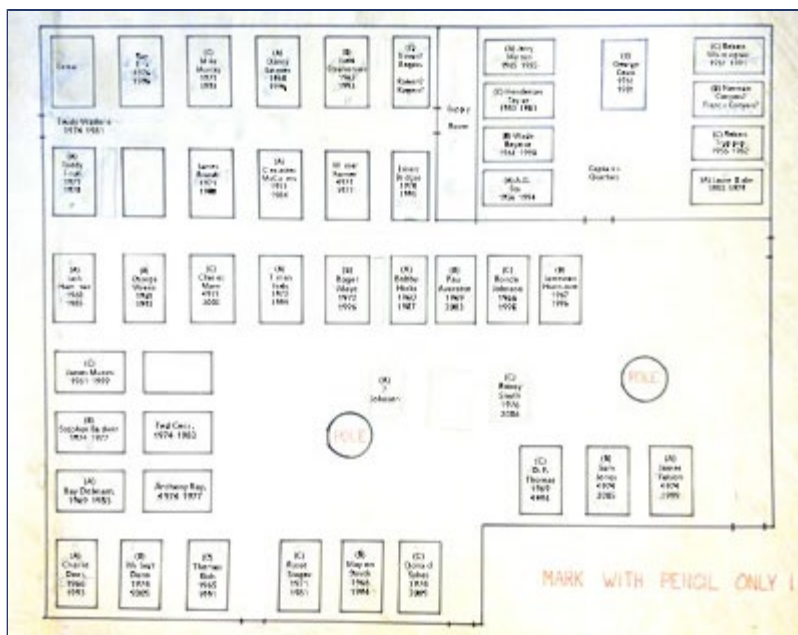


Lee Wilson photo

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06/14/12 105 W, 2 I - + 7 - 6



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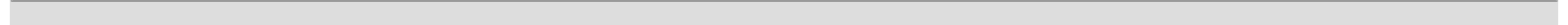
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Old Engine at Big House

06/14/12 48 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Speaking of Station 1, Raleigh's [1926 American LaFrance](#) is spending a couple nights downtown. It's parked in preparation for [Saturday's parade and centennial celebration](#). You've heard about that thing, right? Might have a bunk mate by tomorrow night. We'll check back. Click to enlarge:



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Holly Springs' New Fire Chief

06/14/12 105 W, 1 I - + 12 - 6

The town of Holly Springs has a new Fire Chief. LeRoy Smith, former deputy chief of the Fire and Rescue Department at Baltimore-Washington International Airport, took command of the town's 37-member fire department on June 4. He succeeded long-time Fire Chief Cecil Parker, who resigned in January. Chief Smith was chosen from more than 50 applicants, seven of whom went through an intensive two-day assessment of their managerial skills. He joined the BWI department in 2010 after 22 years with Prince George's County Fire/EMS in Maryland. [Read press release from April 30](#), which tells more about Chief Smith and his background. Welcome aboard!



Welcome to Wake Co. Chief Smith!

**A.C. Rich** - 06/15/12 - 07:46

Welcome to the south chief. Miss having you around in the 4th battalion you taught many of us a lot about the job, good luck to you and to Holly Springs.

**PGtruckie** - 06/15/12 - 13:07

Welcome Chief. From your neighbors at Fuquay Fire Department.

**FVFD** - 06/15/12 - 21:20

Good Luck Chief. We will miss you at BWI!

**BWI FRD** - 06/18/12 - 14:23

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## Postal Police Mobile Command Center

06/15/12 52 W, 1 I - + 13 - 3

Here's your unusual law enforcement vehicle of the week, a mobile command center operated by the Charlotte Division of the [United State Postal Inspectors](#). The truck was in town yesterday for a haz-mat exercise on Floretta Place. [See more photos](#) from Lee Wilson.



*Lee Wilson photo*

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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**Raleigh's New Foam Trailer**

06/15/12 251 W, 1 I - + 10 - 10

Speaking of haz-mat, the Raleigh Fire Department has taken delivery of a foam trailer. The two-axle unit is equipped a 500-1000 GPM monitor and twin 275-gallon portable tanks, called totes. Each carries alcohol-resistant Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) concentrate, a foam designed for class B (flammable liquid) fires. The foam is proportioned between one and three percent. The trailer and the foam add an additional layer of protection for the many hazardous materials that are transported by road and rail through town.

The trailer is stored at the Keeter Training Center and will be towed by either training vehicles during day hours, or by the mini-pumper at Station 3. Three additional 275-gallon foam totes are planned to be stored at the training center as well. The trailer is supplied by two five-inch intakes, and can also supply a couple hand-lines. The estimated reach of the big gun is 100 to 150 feet. There's also a transfer pump, for connecting to other totes or foam concentrate supplies. The trailer is a Raleigh Fire Department asset, and can be requested as mutual aid equipment through the usual channels.

Next step, how about a history of Raleigh's foam apparatus and equipment? (Foam powder, then high-expansion generators, then inductors for hand lines...) We'll work on that. Who else has notable foam equipment in and around town? The airport, of course. The Apex Fire Department also has a foam trailer. [Here are some action shots](#) of same from a tire fire in 2010. Click to enlarge:



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## Facts About Raleigh's Old Steamer

06/15/12 268 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

Here's a bit of background about Raleigh's old steamer, which will be appearing in tomorrow's [Raleigh Fire Department centennial celebration](#) events in downtown Raleigh. We'll call this thing a fact sheet.



### **1905 American LaFrance Metropolitan Steam Engine**

- Built by American LaFrance Fire Engine Company, Seneca Falls, NY.
- Registration number 3061.
- Third-size steam engine with 600 GPM capacity.
- Fox boiler with a two-piston pump on a crane frame.
- Delivered July 1905.
- Second steam fire engine for city. First was delivered in 1870, made by Gould.
- Purchased to replace the 1870 steamer, for purpose of fighting major fires and protection in the event of water system failure.
- Beginning 1887, nearly all fires in the city were fought using hand lines connected directly to hydrants. This continued into the 1910s and perhaps much later.
- Operated by the volunteer L. A. Mahler Steamer Company from 1905 to 1912.
- Operated by the career fire department from 1912 until the 1930s, or later.
- Housed at Fire Station 1 on West Morgan Street.
- Drawn by horses from 1905 to 1912.
- Motor-towed in early 1913.
- Responded to alarms in the fire district, or as a special called unit.
- Listed as reserve apparatus by 1931.
- Served as auxiliary fire pump at State Fairgrounds in 1940s.
- Returned to the Raleigh Fire Department in 1947.
- Permanently mounted on a two-axle trailer in the late 1970s.
- Boiler was last fired in the early 1980s.
- Restoration to operational capacity started in late 2011.
- Read more history at <http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/history/writing/steamers.shtml>
- Or read more about steam engines in North Carolina at <http://legeros.com/history/steamers>

So you ask, what, that linked history page about the steamer(s) isn't enough? You have to create a second, smaller version? Well, yes. Here's a not-so-little known fact about people and reading. Less is more. Way less is way better. These bullet points, with much shorter sentences, is probably twice as easy to consume as the linked history page.

(Why isn't said history page written in this style? Well, longer sentences and longer paragraphs have their place. Plus, the history page is probably for more... dedicated readers. This "fact sheet" is designer for a wider audience, and for more readily grabbing attention.)

Now that everyone is reading and writing on a regular basis— through this newfangled thing call e-mail— we've all discovered a couple important things about people and words. When it comes to certain types of text presentation (web pages, e-mail), people do a lot of skimming. Or ignore text outright. Heck, we see this in ourselves. How many times have you thought "wait, I remember seeing that e-mail, but I think I just skimmed over what was written."

**Legeros** - 06/15/12 - 10:47

How many fires did the 1905 steamer fight in the city? Perhaps a couple dozen or even fewer. There were comparably few fire calls in those days. From March 1, 1903 to Feb 29, 1904, for example, there were 59 alarms for that fiscal year. Only 25 of those fires saw hose streams in service.

Two years later, from March 1, 1905 to February 28, 1908, there were 106 alarms. (Why did they double? No idea.) The companies that responded are not noted, and only about 16 of the fires are listed as having monetary damage.

Of those, only a handful had significant monetary damage. My guess, the steamer probably pumped a half-dozen times that year.

Here are some fires that saw the 1905 steamer in action, or poised for action:

Feb. 25, 1908 – Cary's largest building – Grist mill and office building. Raleigh Fire Department requested, with steamer and hose sent on special train. By the time it arrivals, the spread of the fire to other buildings is controlled, and the steamer is not removed from the rail car. Loss \$11,475.

Apr. 12, 1909 – Two homes on West Jones Street – Low water pressure is a problem, and the steamer soon responds. Both buildings destroyed. Loss about \$6,000.

Apr. 30, 1908 – W. H. King Drug Company at Martin and Wilmington streets – Four streams used, including one from the steamer. Loss over \$30,000.

Apr. 24, 1913 – News & Observer building on Martin Street – Firefighter hampered by water main break. Steamer directed to the location of an old underground cistern, and continues fighting fire. Building destroyed. Loss over \$75,000.

Mar. 3, 1914 – Jenkins Memorial Chapel in the Glenwood and Brooklyn "suburbs" – Hose companies have two streams and insufficient pressure. Steamer is summoned, to be towed by motor car. The vehicle's driving chain breaks, and two horses must be found. By the time of the steamer's arrival, the church is nearly entirely destroyed.

Mar. 24, 1914 – Textile building at A&M College – Steamer and hose wagons respond to the college that is located outside the city, assist students and faculty using hose streams from campus hydrant system. Most of building destroyed. Loss \$80,000.

**Legeros** - 06/15/12 - 13:56

Next question, so hydrant pressure works for those decades, from 1887 past 1912. When did they start connecting their hoses to the pumpers? When did they stop using hydrant-pressure for hose lines? That's a good question. To be answered some time. Certainly by 1950. Have film footage showing training on pumping by that time.

**Legeros** - 06/15/12 - 14:04

How volunteer companies were operating in the city prior to the start of the paid department? Also what present day companies can trace their roots back to those volunteer companies ie the Capital Hose Company and the Mahier Steam Company?

**Mike** - 06/16/12 - 16:38

Mike, there were five volunteer companies operating when the paid department started. Engine 1, Engine 2, and Engine 3 can trace their roots

to three of the companies, or at least with regard to their equipment, apparatus, and facilities. This chart details that lineage:  
<http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/histo..>

**Legeros** - 06/16/12 - 18:13

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Yes  
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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Vintage Photo of Fayetteville Engine 2

06/15/12 50 W, 1 I - + 12 - 5

Found for sale on eBay, here's what looks like a delivery photo of a 1940s Mack for the Fayetteville Fire Department. Lettered for Engine 2. Dig that triple suction rack. Seller says Fayetteville, NC. Presuming accurate unless hear otherwise. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Not sure that this is North Carolina. Sanborn Maps for 1950 list FFD apparatus as follows. Unless the above truck is a 1950s Mack, though didn't they start buying 1950s American LaFrance 700 pumpers?

Station #1 – 1940 Seagrave pumper, 1926 Seagrave pumper, 1947 Ford/American LaFrance pumper, 1949 Studebaker (!) pumper, 1938 Chevrolet ladder truck, 1950 American LaFrance aerial truck, Dodge auxiliary truck

Station #2 – 1944 Ford/American LaFrance pumper, 1924 American LaFrance pumper.

Station #3 – 1944 Ford/American LaFrance pumper, 1924 American LaFrance pumper.

**Legeros** - 06/15/12 - 18:46

A 30 second Google search reveals Fayetteville Fire Departments in a lot of other places- AR, GA, NY, OH, and PA on the first page. I don't know...to me it just doesn't have the 'NC Mack look'...meaning I have never seen pictures of but two 'covered' Mack fire trucks like the one above, or older. One from Hamlet and the sedan pumper from Charlotte. Of course, I could have missed a couple....

**DJ** - 06/15/12 - 22:08

<http://www.fayettevillefd.org/apparatus...>

**DJ** - 06/15/12 - 22:12

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Looking Into the Sun* « Reporters Train with ... » Trip Planning... Phil... at a Very Large Flag

### Looking Into the Sun at a Very Large Flag

06/16/12 94 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

As seen on Fayetteville Street this morning, which was part of the parade route for the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial Celebration. That's Holly Springs' ladder holding one end of the Very Large Flag. On the other end is Bay Leaf's ladder. 'Twas a tremendously enjoyable day. Big thanks to the many, many people that made it happen! Your hard work is appreciated. Next question, when will Mr. Blogger's 2,052 photos get processed and posted? In due time, my friends. In due time. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

## 06/17/12 41 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

[illegible]

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Congressional Recognition for Maryland Firefighters Injured in February

06/17/12 189 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Speaking of our friends in and around Maryland, an event was held last week at the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department in Prince Georges County, MD. The occasion was congressional recognition for seven volunteer firefighters who were injured at a house fire on February 24. Framed copies of the Congressional Record were presented to Bladensburg vounteer firefighters Kevin O'Toole and Ethan Sorrell, Riverdale volunteer firefighter Michael McClary, and College Park volunteer firefighter Ari Schloss. (Riverdale members Michael Olszewski, Roberto Ramirez and Michael Naples were unable to attend.) Prince George's County Fire Chief Marc S. Bashoor was also presented a plaque on behalf of his entire department.

Recall from our [February posting](#) that the fire resulted in severe injuries to O'Toole and Sorrell. They were severely injured when a sudden gust of wind created a "blowtorch effect" inside the residential structure that the crews had just entered. Sorrell is a Buies Creek native with many ties to Wake County. He's been a volunteer member of BVFD while attending college. Read the [entire press release](#), that includes photos and this video. Congratulations.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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## Scenes From Saturday's Parade

06/17/12 408 W, 7 I - + 7 - 6

~~Still working on the photos from Saturday. Gonna take a while...~~

The first photos from Saturday [have been posted](#). Partial collection from Legeros, and a full series from Lee Wilson. More to follow...

### Seeing Double

That's Division Chief Garry Spain (left) and Battalion Chief Barry Spain (right). The brothers marched behind the honor guard. Barry is a graduate of the 1989 recruit academy, or Academy #13 for those counting at home. Training officers Gattis and Dunn worked some serious magic that year. The academy has produced (to date) four Battalion Chiefs, a mess of Captains, some Lieutenants, and, ahem, one Historian. Click to enlarge:



### Driver Cam

Did the participants have as much fun as those who were watching? By all accounts they did. Here's a view from behind the driver's seat of Old Engine 1, with Lt. Jan Chamblee at the wheel of the 1961 American LaFrance pumper that was recently purchased by the Raleigh Fire Museum through firefighter donations. Click to enlarge:





### Horse Tales

Raleigh has an old steam engine? Yes, the 1905 American LaFrance Metropolian later pumped in a demonstration. Did Lee Wilson really provide the horses? Yes, it's a little-known fact that the prolific photographer is also secretly a horse-trainer. In Johnston County. Click to enlarge:



### Crazy Lights

What the heck is the spinning thing with three lights? That's a Roto-Ray. Best viewed at a distance, or with a helmet if you get really, really close.





**Taking Care of Business**

Did Elvis make an appearance? No, but one of his catchphrases appeared on the side of Mar-Mac's monster rescue rig. They came from Wayne County, which is a fair hike. Also saw trucks from Brunswick, Durham, Johnston, and Mecklenburg counties (to name a few). Had at least one out-of-state attendee, a former Baltimore Salvage Corps truck from Virginia. That Pennsylvania ladder truck that you saw, however, is locally-owned.



**The Big Turn**

Why did some of the trucks turn on Davie Street, instead of continuing to the end of Fayetteville Street? That's because there's a weight limit in those last couple blocks, because there's a parking deck underneath. Thus the heifers were routed to Salisbury Street, and some of which were parked as displays at Lenoir and South streets. Click to enlarge:



**Tiller Time**

Finally, is the best job in the fire service driving the back of a tiller truck? That's what they say... Click to enlarge:



Congrats to the entire committee for their hard work and dedication with this project! I was blown away by the turnout; fist bumps to everyone that made this event the success that it was!!

**Silver** - 06/18/12 - 15:48

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Looking Closely* « Scenes From Saturday'... » Today's Smoke Forecas... at Raleigh's Old Macks

### Looking Closely at Raleigh's Old Macks

06/19/12 55 W, 3 I - + 6 - 6

Here are three of Raleigh's old Mack CF pumpers, Engine 4, Engine 7, and Engine 13. Model years 1973, 1971, and 1970, respectively. What differences do you observe? From the [Richard Adleman Collection](#). Learn more about [Raleigh's old engines](#). Or recall our earlier discussion about the [Macks and hard suction hose](#). Click to enlarge:





---

Did the hard suction just get moved to the other side or removed from the truck?

**Mike** - 06/19/12 - 11:21

Straight vs. angled axe mounting, Q siren vs. electric siren speaker in nose, Logo on drivers door, Pump panel layout varies, Mike already noted the ladders/hard suction storage.

**NotSo** - 06/19/12 - 12:01

Mike- they were removed. I remember a couple of differences. E1, E13, and E7, the first three, had rotating lights on top and Q2B sirens when delivered. The had Raleigh Fire Dept. on the panel behind the cab doors, and the engine number on the trimmed out circle on the cab door (FIRE RESCUE lettering came way later). The newer Macks (E3, E4, etc) had an electronic siren and a cheesy strobe light on the cab roof.

**DJ** - 06/19/12 - 12:02

You are correct, AP. Before the Macks, all of the city's engines were open cabs, ALF 900s, four 1950s ALF 700s, two 1950s FWDs, and a 1950 Mack B.

**Legeros** - 06/20/12 - 07:56

Was recently reading about Raleigh around 1940. There were plans to greatly expand the fire department. They were planning to add more men, more modern apparatus, and build two stations (Station 6, new Station1).

They already had land for the latter. That's where the alarm house was erected in 1942. Then Pearl Harbor was attacked, the country was plunged deeper into war, and new vehicles and new buildings and other resources became scarce.

The city didn't end up building a new Station 1, for example, for another decade. And the only pumper purchased was a 1919 ALF, purchased used from Farmville. (An auxiliary truck— mini-pumper, sort of— was added during the 1940s, however.)

Raleigh also lost firefighters, as they left to take higher-paying jobs for the war effort, or were drafted and entered the service.

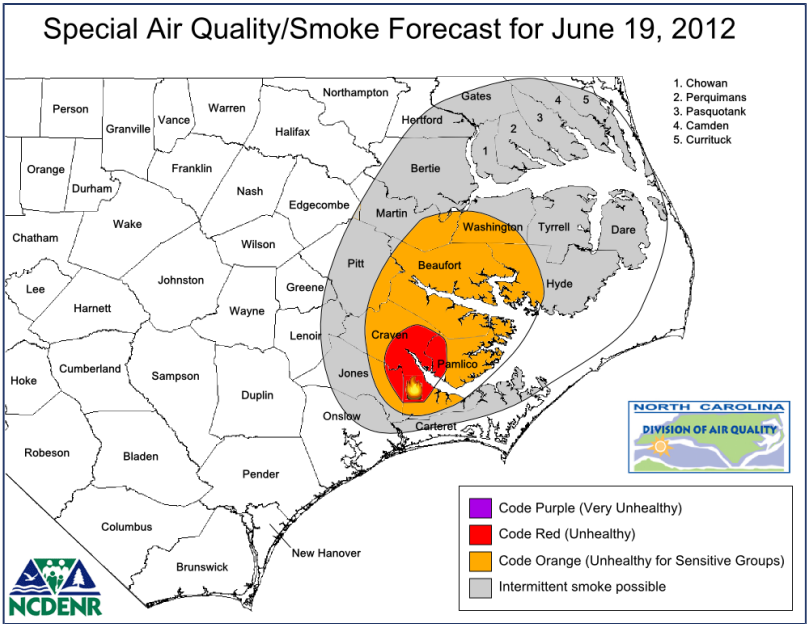
As a result, RFD had a developmental lag, of sorts, during the 1940s. And that's why they were still operating some 1920s pumpers at the start of the 1950s.

**Legeros** - 06/20/12 - 08:46

Today's Smoke Forecast Map

06/19/12 82 W, 1 I - + 12 - 3

From the North Carolina Division of Air Quality, mapping the smoke from the Croatan National Forest in Craven County. The forest fire is now 10,800 acres in size and will reportedly take a week to fully contain. Same started as a controlled burn on Thursday, and grew out of control on Saturday. [Read WITN story](#). Will be making a day trip to New Bern this week or next. Might bring back some interesting in-the-distance photos. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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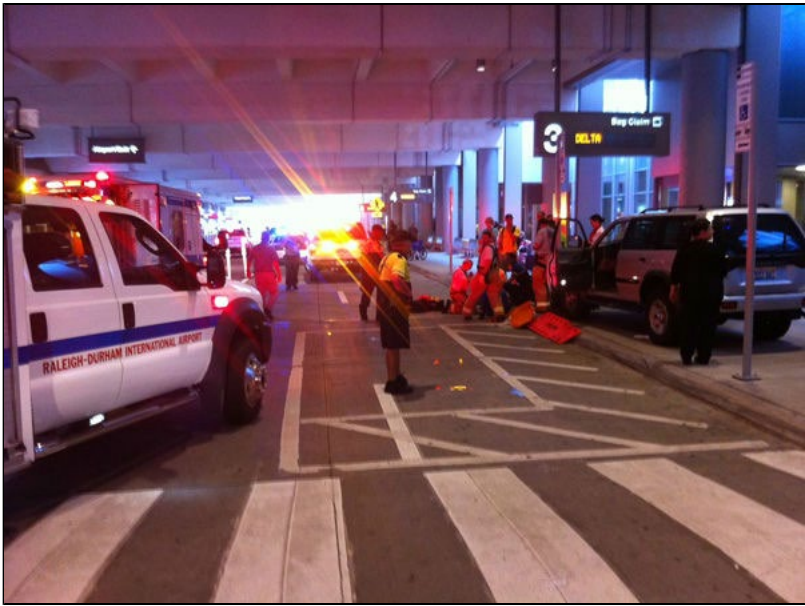
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**



Yesterday's Vehicle Accident at the Airport

06/19/12 76 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

Here's an unusual accident photo as posted by WTVD, where a sport utility vehicle struck three pedestrians in front of a terminal at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. [Read that story](#). It's a viewer photo, and those are increasingly common as citizens snap 'n' send pictures to media outlets. Don't believe we see a lot of bloody stuff in such shots and such coverage. Or do we?



WTVD/Suzanne Snipes photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## General Assembly Recognizes Raleigh Fire Department

06/20/12 552 W - + 3 - 7

This joint resolution was passed by the General Assembly on June 14, 2012. [See the original document](#) (PDF).

House Joint Resolution DRHJR11382-LG-207 (06/14)

Sponsors: Representatives Jackson, Weiss (Primary Sponsors); Avila, Gill, Murry, Martin, and Ross.

A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department protects the citizens of North Carolina's capitol city in the county of Wake; and

Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department was organized in December 1912 as a full-paid fire department after over 50 years of service by citizen fire companies; and

Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department was led by Fire Chief Sherwood Brockwell, the first full-time Chief of Department; and

Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department was placed in service in December 1912, with two fire stations, two horse-drawn hose companies, and the following 15 members: Fire Chief Sherwood Brockwell; Assistant Chief Charles Farmer; Company No. 1 members, Captain T. G. Welsh, Lieutenant S. H. Horton, W. M. Niblock, M. J. Martin, W. B. Barker, E. J. Lassiter, R. M. Simmons, and D. B. Jones; and Company No. 2 members, Captain A. A. Doolittle, Lieutenant H. C. Joyner, B. B. Parrish, O. K. Hester, and W. K. Justice; and

Whereas, in 1913 a third hose company and a third fire station was placed in service, and the first two motor fire engines were delivered; and

Whereas, in 1915 the Raleigh Fire Department was fully motorized and the last horse was retired from duty; and

Whereas, in 1915 the Raleigh Fire Department's force of 24 firefighters protected a population of over 24,000 residents living within four square miles; and

Whereas, in 1950, as the City of Raleigh grew in size, the Raleigh Fire Department consisted of six engine companies, protecting 65,679 residents, encompassing 10.9 square 23 miles. The department was staffed by 84 members and answered 911 calls that calendar year;

Whereas, by the end of the 20th Century, the Raleigh Fire Department continued to expand in both size and scope. Today's Raleigh Fire Department responds to fires, provides emergency medical care, responds to rescue calls, performs inspections and plan reviews of buildings, conducts fire and life safety education, and is equipped with special technical rescue, hazardous-materials, and urban search and rescue teams; and 30

Whereas, today the Raleigh Fire Department's 27 fire stations and 28 engine companies, eight ladder companies, and three rescue companies protect a population of 403,892 and 144.8 square miles. The Raleigh Fire Department has 575 uniformed and civilian 33 members. The Raleigh Fire Department responded to 37,781 fire, emergency, and service calls in the 2011 calendar year; and

Whereas, the Raleigh Fire Department will be celebrating its centennial anniversary throughout 2012 with a number of public celebrations; and

Whereas, this occasion is worthy of recognition and should be enjoyed and supported by all North Carolinians; Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

**SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the founders of the Raleigh Fire Department and the men and women who have served the department in protection of the citizens of Raleigh.

- SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its sincere congratulations and best wishes to the Raleigh Fire Department on its 100th Anniversary as a career fire department.
- SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Fire Chief of the City of Raleigh.
- SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No	
E-mail: (optional)		
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Comment:		/ <a href="#">Textile</a>

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Here's a very short collection of clips of the Raleigh Fire Department's 1905 American LaFrance Metropolitan steam engine in action, at this weekend's centennial celebration and one week earlier at Station 28. The video is also included in this [excellent FireNews.net article](#) about Saturday's events.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Old Fire Van

06/20/12 32 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

Reporting from the road. Found this old workhouse at a service station on the west side of New Bern. Former Tri-Community Fire Department, would seem. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Forestry Rigs in a Parking Lot at Night**

06/20/12 71 W, 2 I - + 5 - 7

Spotted these trucks at the hotel beside our hotel in New Bern. Looks like they've seen some service, probably or certainly at the Croatan National Forest that's burning to the southeast. Plus a couple light trucks and SUVs. Might see more the of the fleet come daybreak.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## North Lenoir Fire Station Construction

06/21/12 56 W, 2 I - + 7 - 6

Seen outside Kinston is this fire station construction on Highway 258. Shown in the second photo is a residence beside the fire station, where a mini-pumper currently occupies a car port. We'll presume temporary quarters, there. What stories of temporary stations can you share, both local and regional? Click to enlarge:



Holly Springs station 2 and 3.

**Maybe** - 06/21/12 - 22:08

Wake Forest Station 3 was in house during construction of the new station



**firemedic** - 06/22/12 - 00:38

Here’s a full list of earlier temp stations in Wake County, from an earlier thread: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

**Legeros** - 06/22/12 - 08:08

In Chatham County, in 1997, the EMS station in the northern area of Chatham County was located in a skilled nursing facility off of Whippoorwill Rd. The upscale facility had just opened and it had just opened and did not have many patients. EMS was located on the bottom floor with no patients. We were allocated two rooms for sleeping and a small day room. That lasted for a few months, then the station was relocated to an apartment off of Mt Carmel Road across from Governor’s Club. Finally, that unit (FirstHealth of the Carolinas EMS #1771) was moved to the old North Chatham Fire Station on Farrington Point Road.

The Cary Area Rescue Squad once operated out of a house on North Academy Street for a short time until their facility on Medcon Dr was opened.

**DJ** - 06/22/12 - 09:05

While I was a member of the Grifton VFD Station 43 in southern Pitt Co. ,back in 1999, we were flooded by Hurricane Floyd. We had close to 4ft of water in our station. After the water receded, we had to relocate to a temporary location in the old Cox Trailers building north of town while our station was gutted and remodeled.

**John Maynard** ([Email](#)) - 06/22/12 - 11:08

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Yesterday's House Fire on Pettigrew Street

06/21/12 104 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Here's your (late) Thursday hot shot by Lee Wilson, from yesterday's house fire at [109 N. Pettigrew Street](#). Rescue 2 and Battalion 2 were first on scene with smoke showing from the one-story residential structure. Engine 3 deployed a pair of hand lines, Engine 7 laid the supply line, and Engine 1 connected to the hydrant for boosting. Subjects were reported possibly still inside, but all evacuated safely. Special call for extra engine and extra ladder. Dispatched 11:12 a.m. Controlled at 11:30 a.m. One firefighter with minor hand injury. [See more photos from Lee Wilson](#), and read more incident details.



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Raleigh Fire Department Recognizes Promotions

06/22/12 207 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

In a ceremony last night at the City Council Chambers, the Raleigh Fire Department recognized the achievements of individuals who obtained appointment or promotion through a competitive process over the last six months. The ceremony opened with a presentation of colors by the Raleigh Fire Department Honor Guard and remarks by Fire Chief John McGrath.

Recognized were Asst. Chief Bradley R. Harvey; Division Chief Kendall T. Hocutt; Safety Officer/Battalion Chief A.C. Rich Jr.; Battalion Chiefs John P. Fanning, and Franklin C. Hobson; Captains Lee C. Allred, Brandon K. Hopkins, Richard L. Ketchie, Roy T. McGee, and Dominic O. Orlando; Lieutenants Kent A. Davis, Michael R. Gerke, Grant R. Hall, Robert J. Harper, C. Tim Houston, C. Bryan Kirk, and Jeffrey M. Silver. (A couple others were unable to attend and will be recognized at the next ceremony.)

Also last night, recently retired members were recognized for their service, including Battalion Chief L. Alan Walters and Safety Officer/Captain Sammy G. McIntyre. A reception was held at Fire Station 1 afterward. A procession from City Hall to Station 1 was a Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums piper. [See more photos](#) from the event from Lee Wilson.



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

/ [Textile](#)

Going Wide

06/22/12 117 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

This shot from Saturday has proved popular, looking straight up Fayetteville Street as [Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums](#) bears down. That's Drum Major and Raleigh Fire Department Lt. Jason Lane in the lead. Below's a panoramic-style version, which is just a cropped version of the regular one. Aspect ratio 6 x 2 instead of 3 x 2. Added a bit more sharpness, and a couple other tweaks. (Canon 50D in SRAW1 format. Program AE, 1/250 Tv, 7.1 Av, 100 ISO, EF17-40mm f/4L at 40mm, flash fired with -2 compensation.) [See all of my photos](#) from Saturday's parade, which was part of the fire department's Centennial Celebration. Exceptionally fun day. Click **once or twice** to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Engine A, Engine B, Engine C

06/23/12 141 W, 2 I - + 8 - 2

Did know you that Raleigh's reserve engines were originally identified with letters? Engine A through Engine C. Was there ever a Engine D? Haven't seen such a reference. (And which is why some of the equipment on our antiques bears "A" or "B" or "C".) When were the reserve engines changed to numbers? Don't have that handy. Maybe someone can read through my various web site and tell me! (Secret fact about historians. They don't commit every single factoid to memory. What they can do, though, is usually find where they recorded or found such facts!) Anyway, here's Engine A (1950 Mack) and Engine C (1968 American LaFrance) from around 1982. From photo copies recently privately acquired from the [Richard Adleman Collection](#). Learn more about [Raleigh's old engines](#). Click to enlarge:





## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morning Reading - « Engine A, Engine B, E... » Cary Station 8 Constr... June 24, 2012

### Morning Reading - June 24, 2012

06/24/12 411 W - + 10 - 5

Good morning Raleigh. Here's some stuff that's caught my attention or the last week or so. Recapping here both for your enjoyment and to get my brain working on a Sunday morning, between breakfast and the first round of computer work at the man cave.

- [Raleigh Fire Department centennial celebration recap](#) - FireNews.net article from Wednesday, with an excellent recap of last Saturday's activities. Includes the winners of the firefighter games and the trophies for the apparatus muster. Plus numerous photos and links to photos, and a couple videos.
- [Area code mistakes still jam Triangle 911 lines](#) - News & Observer story from last week, about the continued "flood of fumbled phone calls" to emergency communications centers. So what's the long-term solution here? Is there a long-term solution beyond the obvious, continued aggressive public-education campaigns?
- [Durham choose Locution for altering and dispatching](#) - Press release from November, in case you missed it. They've been testing the new system lately. Readers, or one particular reader (you know who you are) can provide more.
- [Two hospitalized after car crashes into house in Benson](#) - The latest vehicle versus building, from last night in Johnston County. Recall at least year ago, when a Charlotte reader talked about CFD responding to these on a nearly daily basis. How many do we have weekly in the Raleigh-Durham metro area, do you suppose?
- [Blocking procedures at roadway incidents](#) - New learning module from ResponderSafety.com, with a number of local photos by Mike Legeros and Lee Wilson.
- [Carolinas Fire Page updates their web site](#) - Nice new look. Great service, and invaluable for keeping tabs on what's happening in the Carolinas. They also have some nifty resources on the site, include lists of all fire stations in North Carolina and South Carolina.
- [Ethics, freebies, policies, and news](#) - Interesting story and good reader discussion on Statter911, and covering both the issue and the implications of the issue being reported upon. In short, when another department makes news, your department might get asked about the same thing. And how you respond (timeliness, demeanor, etc.) can be as important as what you respond with (facts, info, etc.).
- [Five alarms and two hats](#) - Another interesting story on Statter911, and a passionate discussion about two-hatters after a big fire in Baltimore. Some very strong feelings there.

---

There was an alternative to the area code overlay scheme they went with. There's no reason the entire swath of central and eastern North Carolina needed to maintain the same area code. Since most people were accustomed to only dialing six digits they could have just changed the area code for say Raleigh to a new one, or maybe Durham, or Goldboro instead. So far as anyone was concerned their number would have stayed the same in normal usage. Then requiring dialing a 1 before dialing one of the new area codes would make the misdialing a non issue, because 1-911 does not get you an overburdened emergency operator.

PJ - 06/24/12 - 16:43

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes



Cary Station 8 Construction Photos

06/24/12 45 W, 2 I - + 8 - 3

Here's a pair of reader photos of Cary Station 8, under construction at [408 Mills Park Drive](#). Search the blog for prior postings. Or [read more from CFD](#). Thanks, Jeff!



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - UPDATED: « UPDATE #2: Wake Count... » Raleigh Chamber Names... 1944 Diamond T Pumper

**UPDATED: 1944 Diamond T Pumper**

09/21/13 124 W, 8 I - + 7 - 9

September 21

Reader Chad Simon recently found this rig parked outside Loop Road Auto Parts in Garner. Same was purchased from the auction mentioned in the below prior posting. Owned by current or retired employee of the store. The Diamond T pumper has a 1944 chassis with 1945 adds-on. Thought to have served in the Lynchburg, VA, area. Click to enlarge. Thanks Chad!



*Chad Simon photos*

June 25

Look at the lines on this beauty, a 1944 Diamond T pumper as photographed by Lee Wilson at a classic car auction at the State Fairgrounds this weekend. [See more photos from Lee](#). Or see a couple other shots [on this auction site](#). No idea where the truck originally served.



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**



## June Episode of FireWatch - Centennial Celebration

06/25/12 101 W, 1 I - + 11 - 5

The [June 2012 episode](#) of the Raleigh Fire Department's cable television series FireWatch has been posted online. In this episode, Fire Educator Ron Campbell talks with Raleigh Fire Chief John McGrath about the fire department's centennial celebration on June 16. He also talks with Asst. Chief Bert Richards about the restoration of Raleigh's 1905 American LaFrance steam engine, with Lt. Chris Barrows about the firefighter games that day, and Heather Caldwell from Kidde Fire Safety about their participation at the event. You can also see earlier episodes of FireWatch [on this page](#) and [on this page](#).



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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☐ Yes  
☐ No

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## Holly Springs Station 2 Construction Photos

06/26/12 58 W, 2 I - + 6 - 6

Here's the latest look at Holly Springs Station 2, under construction on the site of the old station on Avent Ferry Road. The earlier building was demolished after being damaged by the tornado last year. Search the blog for that story and prior postings. [See more photos from Lee Wilson.](#)



*Lee Wilson photos*

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Hmm, only one portico after all!

Glad to see the progress.

**stretch** - 06/26/12 - 12:44

Johnston County Takes Over EMS in Clayton, Princeton, and Smithfield06/26/12 47 W - + 8 - 4

Effective July 1, Johnston County EMS takes over emergency medical services duties in Clayton, Princeton, and Smithfield. [Here's a prior posting](#) about Clayton EMS. Below are some other stories. That is all.

- [Clayton News-Star](#)
- [New14](#)
- [Smithfield Herald](#)
- [WRAL](#)

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



**UPDATED: Here Comes the BOSS**

07/25/12 151 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

July 25

This has started. What are observations or opinions so far, regarding impact on emergency vehicles that must also use said shoulders? [Read recent News & Observer story.](#)



*Chris Seward/News & Observer photo*

June 26

Are you ready for buses on the shoulders of Interstate 40 in Durham County? That's the plan on a ten-mile stretch between the Durham Freeway and 15-501, plus eastbound between the Durham Freeway and Page Road. These will be Triangle Transit buses only. They'll be allowed on the shoulders only when traffic is moving slower than 35 MPH. The buses can travel no more than 15 MPH faster than the I-40 traffic, and no faster than 35 MPH period. Trial period starts today. Formal program starts July 16. Dubbed Bus on Shoulder System. BOSS. At least they're not using the accident-prone stretch between Wade Avenue and the airport! [Read more from the News & Observer.](#)

---

Emergency services should not change a darn thing that they do. Follow your procedures, block lanes for safety, etc. This is a wierd idea, but the burden should be on the bus to make safe use of this additional privilege.

Just my humble opinion.

**Skip K** - 07/26/12 - 17:29

Ditto what he said. Also, got to wonder how that is going to work with the minor fender-benders that are supposed to be 'moved to the shoulder' rather than block lanes. Then the traffic backs up due to 'onlooker delays'. And the traffic speed limit drops. Then the TTA bus takes to the shoulder. Then they come up on the fender-bender moved to the shoulder. Then no one will let the bus back on the road. Oh, the humanity.

**DJ** - 07/27/12 - 10:58

I agree with both the Chief and DJ! We have got to work harder to train EMS personnel to pass on the left!!! I see too many ambulances passing people on the right and that is entering a huge danger zone. In NC, by statute, drivers are supposed to pull to the right and stop (if they can). If an emergency vehicle attempts to pass on the right and the vehicle in front of them pulls right, they collide. I have seen it too many times to include more than one police car overturned from doing this.

Wake Forest Sells Fire Engine For \$1

06/27/12 73 W, 2 I - + 7 - 3

The Wake Forest Fire Department sold a fire engine for one dollar yesterday. The availability of the 1998 FMC/Duplex pumper, old Engine 61, was announced to fire departments in need. The Woodland Fire Department of Northampton County fire department was chosen, and members from both departments met at Station 1 to complete the transaction Tuesday afternoon. Photographer Lee Wilson documented the event. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photos

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes
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Old Hose Wagon, Old Station 3

06/27/12 162 W, 1 I - + 9 - 8

Here's today's random historical photo, a copy of a poorly preserved photograph of a horse-drawn hose wagon outside old Station 3, which was located at 135 E. Hargett Street. That's the present parking lot on the northwest corner of the intersection of Blount and Hargett streets. Before opening as Station 3 in 1913, the engine house served the Victor Fire Company. It was built in 1898. The Victor Company was all-black, so we'll presume this picture was taken in 1913 or 1914. Hose 3 was motorized in 1914, after the department's third motor apparatus was delivered. (Have any photos survived of the Victor Company? Not as we've found. Pictures from that period are exceptionally scare.) As for the fire station, believe we're seeing the back of the building. The columns on the far left were on the front of the building. The bay was drive-through, and this was the first fire station in the city with one! Click to enlarge:



North Carolina State Archives photo

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Learn About Steam Fire Engines

06/27/12 33 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

New page on the Raleigh Fire Museum web site, about the Raleigh Fire Department's 1905 American LaFrance Metropolitan steam engine, and other North Carolina steamers. [Visit the site.](#)



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Old Six Forks Rescue Heavy Rescue

06/28/12 99 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

As photographed by Lee Wilson, this 1993 Freightliner/RoadRescue heavy rescue originally served Six Forks Rescue Squad in Wake County as unit 1281. (And should we call that a medium rescue, versus a heavy rescue?) Was disposed to Myrtle Grove FD in New Hanover County, then to New Hanover County FD, and now serves Summerville-Bunnlevel FD. Those departments are merging effectively July 1. Now, if there's a Bunn and Bunnlevel in North Carolina, why isn't there a Dunn and Dunnlevel? We ask the hard questions on this blog... [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Always wondered what happened to the ol 1281. Nice to see it still in service.

**Emory** - 06/28/12 - 11:59

I drove this truck some when it was with Myrtle Grove/NHC as R31, that is a tired truck...but a truck with some history to it.

**Andrew** - 06/29/12 - 09:31

I guess it depends on what equipment said truck carries...

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 06/30/12 - 20:05

Any good pictures of this truck with its Six Forks graphics?

**PJ** - 07/01/12 - 13:30

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Memorial Run to Remember Raleigh Firefighters, Saturday, June 30

### Memorial Run to Remember Raleigh Firefighters, Saturday, June 30

06/29/12 121 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

The Raleigh's Finest 5K Memorial Run is tomorrow morning at Fire Station 6 at 2601 Fairview Road. Runners and walkers will start at Station 6, proceed on Oberlin Road to Station 5, and return. The event starts at 8:00 a.m. The organizers are Melissa Johnson and Jill Kissinger-Hawks, whose husbands were killed in automobile accidents in December 2008 and December 2009, respectively. They want to remember and recognize all city firefighters who have died both on-duty and off-duty. Proceeds of the event benefit the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters and the 200 Club of Wake County. [Read this WTVD story](#). See [event details](#). See photos from [last year's race](#), which was held in September.



Name: (real name  
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Remember personal info?

Yes

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/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))



## Not a Former Firehouse

06/29/12 214 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

But it sure looks like one, doesn't it? That's the challenge in cities with older buildings with engine house characteristics such as arched doorways. This one's in Philadelphia and is a former mounted police station. It's also, we're told, a common question about the city's fire department history. Is that the old quarters for Ladder 3? Negative, that building was a few blocks north on Frankford Avenue.

Mr. Blogger is prepping for his summer trip to Baltimore, and his trademark "what's nearby" excursions. This year he'll return to Philly, and with an objective to find and photograph as many historic fire stations as possible. (Shot a half-dozen in 2010, so at least those are done!) He'll be there two nights. He's found, notably by pairing the appendix of "Hike Out!" with Google Maps street view, some four dozen buildings to find. Most of those are closed stations.

Read about this research on the [Philly Fire News discussion board](#). Read about earlier urban explorations, from Baltimore to Detroit to St. Louis, on [Mike's history page](#). Or see photos on [his Flickr site](#). See you in a couple weeks. Watch for the guy in a Hawaiian shirt who's talking in the third person. George likes spicy chicken.



Like this building, Mike.

**stretch** - 06/29/12 - 11:24

Crash Truck For Sale

06/29/12 88 W, 1 I - + 13 - 7

[Found for sale on eBay.](#) 1975 Oshkosh M1500 airport crash truck, came from an airport near Madison, NC. That's where the seller's located. Caterpillar diesel engine, automatic transmission. Buy It Now for \$9,995.00. You know want to buy it...

Saturday morning update. From a reader, this truck originally served as Crash 4 at the Greensboro Airport. In later years it was a reserve truck, and then was sold for scrap. The M1500, he adds, is the civilian version to the military P4 crash truck. Thanks Pete!



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Chief 103

06/29/12 40 W, 1 I - + 9 - 7

Speaking of former Six Forks Rescue Squad vehicles, here's a former Six Forks EMS vehicle. The Dodge Ram covered pick-up, photographed this evening in downtown Raleigh, now serves as Wake County EMS Chief 103's vehicle. Click to enlarge:



Mike, do you have a list of the admin numbers for EMS such as Chief 103, what thier rank/job title is? I've seen 100's and 200's on vehicles and I am curious.

**curious** - 06/30/12 - 00:20

Any clues as to the disposition of the other Ram? Two of the old Six Forks ambulances just sold off at State Surplus.

**PJ** - 06/30/12 - 13:07

chief 104 has it.

**DJ** - 06/30/12 - 16:54

Here's who's who in Wake County EMS system numbering scheme:

- CH-100 – Chief
- CH-101 – Not used
- CH-102 – Deputy Director/Professional Development
- CH-103 – Technical Services
- CH-104 – Logistics
- CH-200 – Operations
- CH-201 – Executive Officer
- CH-202 – Special Events Chief (multiple users)
- CH-301 – Training Supervisor
- CH-302 – Training Supervisor
- CH-400 – Apex EMS Chief
- CH-500 – Cary EMS Chief
- CH-600 – Eastern Wake EMS Chief
- MD-1 – Director/Medical Director

MD-2 – Deputy Medical Director  
MD-20 – Deputy Medical Director/Clinical Affairs

Oddly, there are no unit numbers for the official photographers. We'll work on that one!  
**Legeros** - 07/01/12 - 13:28

I thought I saw an EMS vehicle today marked DC 9, is this a new position in the system?  
**curious** - 08/31/12 - 17:26

DC9 is the APP supervisor.  
**in the know** - 08/31/12 - 19:20

Q: What is District 9, that I have heard on some calls in Wake County?  
A: That's the Advanced Practice Paramedic supervisor. They work 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily, and their office is at the Crisis & Assessment Services (CAS) center on the WakeBrook campus on Sunnybrook Road. They don't have a geographic district, and are currently not recommended for dispatch on any call types.  
**Legeros** - 09/01/12 - 13:58

DC 9 was dispatched with us on a subject burned a couple of cycles ago. I asked what his position was and he told me APP supervisor.  
**fuquay** - 09/01/12 - 15:57

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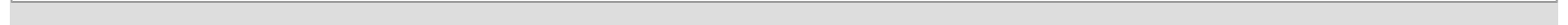
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## Road Closed for Big Fire

06/29/12 39 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

That's a recycling plant that's burning in Cayce, SC. That's near Columbia. The fire started about 9 a.m. and has been burning all day. Check local news sites for more coverage.



*WMBF photo*

news link with video

<http://www.wistv.com/story/18914031/recy..>

**chris NCFireArt** - 06/29/12 - 22:03

Name: (real name  
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## Vintage Engine From Coats

06/30/12 82 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

This 1963 Dodge/American LaFrance engine is still on the roster at the Coats-Grove Fire Department in Harnett County. The department was created in 1990 as a merger of Coats FD and Grove Rural FD. The town fire department was organized in the 1940s, says [my information](#). They were incorporated with the state in 1954. Grove Rural FD was organized in 1973. [See more photos](#) from Lee Wilson, who did some apparatus explorations in Harnett County this week.



*Lee Wilson photo*

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Yes

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Summerville and « Vintage Engine From C... » The Right to Record t... Bunnlevel Fire Departments Merge

### Summerville and Bunnlevel Fire Departments Merge

06/30/12 200 W, 2 I - + 12 - 6

Effective July 1, 2012, the Summerville and Bunnlevel fire departments of Harnett County will merge into... Summerville Bunnlevel Fire & Rescue. As a *Fayetteville Observer* story from April 17 notes, the merger will lower fire insurance rates for a large section of rural Harnett County.

It is expected to reduce tax rates for the Bunnlevel service area. Summerville's service area may see a slight increase, however. The merger will also reduce staffing problems for both departments, [notes the news story](#). SFD is located at 111 E. Harnett Street in Lillington. BFD is located at 6896 Highway 401 South in Bunnlevel.

Summerville FD was incorporated on December 29, 1966, as the Summerville Fire Department District. On April 21, 1975, they changed their name to the Summerville Rural Fire District. On October 3, 1991, they changed their name to Summerville Fire & Rescue. On May 5, 2012, they changed their name to Summerville Bunnlevel Fire & Rescue, with articles of merger filed the next day.

Bunnlevel FD was incorporated on February 24, 1984, as Bunnlevel Emergency Services. They changed their name to Bunnlevel Fire Department on April 11, 1984. The department was incorporated again on September 17, 1992, as the Bunnlevel Volunteer Fire Department. Their articles of merger were filed on May 18, 2012.



The Right to Record the Actions of Police06/30/12 187 W - + 12 - 4

Here's some slightly older news, about a recent statement from the Department of Justice that (a.) citizens have a First Amendment right to videotape the actions of police officers in public places and (b.) seizure or destruction of such recordings is a constitutional violation. [Here's a New York Times editorial](#) that includes a link to the statement, made in a letter from the DOJ to the Baltimore Police Department. Use Google to find other stories on this subject.

From here, we could take a discussion in a couple of different directions. What are best practices when confronted while recording police actions in public? (Depends, based on personal preference for short- and long-term outcomes.) What are best ways to avoid such confrontations? (Civil conduct always goes a long way.) What about taping or photographing anyone or anything in public places? (Totally legal.)

We'll end with a big fat disclaimer. Mr. Blogger isn't anything remotely resembling a legal scholar. He probably couldn't even pass as a substitute teacher in a media studies class. The kids would probably love his shirts, though.

If public officials are performing their job correctly, they should not be concerned about the videotaping. Don't forget, we work for the "videotapers." If concern of what may be seen is an issue (privacy, etc.), simply extend the perimeter. Video or not, we do have the legal ability to secure the scene due to safety. Problem fixed. Oh, and BE NICE and explanatory to the public – again, make sure "their" video shows you doing your job the right way!

A.C. Rich - 07/01/12 - 09:54

It's pretty hard to beat the combination of transparency and civility. Or, if you prefer, transparency and professionalism. If greater awareness of a public employee's job performance is a problem, then that's a bigger problem than that problem! Make sense, or do you a have problem with the problem of the problem?

Legeros - 07/02/12 - 08:12

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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Yes

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Here Comes the Scorpion

06/30/12 27 W, 1 I - + 15 - 9

Here's an interesting video from HME, introducing their Scorpion aerial platform. Has twin steering axles, which is unique for American structural fire apparatus.



Yep, multiple steering axles seem to be normally reserved for cement trucks (Kenworth chassis) and cranes. Very odd to see it on a fire truck. I would think they'd make the rear tandem a reverse-steer to help with corners. Pretty neat.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 06/30/12 - 20:00

Japan has used twin steering axles for ladder trucks for decades. Now I think I understand why!

**Legeros** - 06/30/12 - 20:21

Raleigh's next platform !! ???

**lee** - 07/01/12 - 00:37

Cool design! I am always skeptical about any fly-by-wire pump. No manual controls=problems! ...but I suppose that's what they said about fighter jets too...

**A.C. Rich** - 07/01/12 - 08:45

The department I worked at in Oregon had a number of Pierce “all-steer” pumpers and one ladder. They worked good on twisty roads, as long as the operator was very familiar with their operation. There were a couple of “adventures” when someone forgot.....

**Skip K** - 07/01/12 - 09:08

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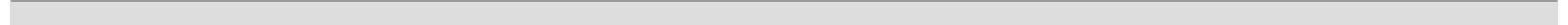
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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Sunny Point's New Fire Boat

06/30/12 123 W, 1 I - + 11 - 12

Check your mailbox! The July-August 2012 issue of *Fire Apparatus Journal* has a story about Sunny Point Ocean Terminal's new fire boat. That's the Army munitions terminal near Southport. The 75-foot craft comes from Gladding-Hearn Shipbuilding in Somerset, MA.

Delivered this spring, it's equipped with a 3,750 GPM/150 PSI pump, which is powered by a pair of 503 HP Caterpillar engines. Five monitors, including a remote-controlled deluge gun atop the wheelhouse. Jet propulsion. EMS-equipped cabin, designed to accommodate stretches and stokes litters.

[Here's a WorkBoat.com story](#) about the boat. Sunny Point's prior fire boat was the 1954 large tug Valley Forge. [Read this State Port Pilot article](#) about the craft, which was sold at auction in February.



WorkBoat.com photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
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Remember personal info?

☐ Yes  
☐ No

/ [Textile](#)



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *This Morning's* « Sunny Point's New Fir... » Wake County EMS Workh... *House Fire on Jasper Court*

### This Morning's House Fire on Jasper Court

07/01/12 209 W, 2 I - + 9 - 6

Durham Highway, Bay Leaf, Wake Forest, Stony Hill, and Bethesda firefighters fought a major house fire in north Raleigh this morning. Dispatched at 5:05 a.m. to 2620 Jasper Court. Two-story, wood-frame structure with 2,056 square-feet. Built 1997. Heavy fire in the back of the structure, from the deck to the roof. Durham Highway Pumper 1 first on scene.

Pulled a line to the rear, and another to the front door. Fire knocked in rear of structure, then crews entered structure to attack on first and second floors, then into attic. Crews evacuated after attic became fully involved. Deck gun used to knock down bulk of fire, then crews re-entered structure to finish extinguishment. ~~Aerial operations~~ Scene lighting with Bay Leaf Ladder 25.

Fire controlled in 45 minutes, [reports News & Observer](#). Durham Highway personnel were still performing salvage and overhaul at mid-morning, as Wake County and Raleigh fire investigators worked to determine the cause. Units on scene included Durham Highway P1, P4, P3, R5, Bay Leaf P366, P258, L25, Wake Forest E5, Stony Hill P261, Tanker 268, Bethesda 421; EMS 22, EMS 12, EMS 6, EMS 54, D4, T1. See stories from [WRAL](#) and [WTVD](#). Mid-morning aftermath photos from Legeros forthcoming.





Interesting to look at this. It seems to resemble the fire on Dagmar last summer in several ways. Any other thoughts on it?

**206** - 07/01/12 - 15:30

This was the fire on Dagmar in Wake Forest last summer: <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

**Legeros** - 07/01/12 - 15:34

I was at both and went inside on both. Dagmar seemed to have more interior damage but the spread seems the same

**206** - 07/01/12 - 15:35

Mike- Bethesda 421 was also on scene.

**DH** - 07/01/12 - 19:31

There are not a lot of hydrants in this neighborhood.....did that impact the ability to fight this fire?

**Neighbor** - 07/02/12 - 17:19

Neighbor, from what I have heard from those on scene, no. Each truck carries 1000 feet of our 5" supply line that connects to the hydrant and we can even go further than 1000' by utilizing additional trucks along the way to boost the pressure. Also the county departments like the ones that responded here train rigorously on water operations in areas without hydrants. What we will do is set up a "drop tank" which is basically a big folding 2100 gallon swimming pool and large tanker trucks will come and dump water into them. The truck that is pumping the fire will then suck the water out of the drop tank and send it down the line to the firefighters. Also most engines in Wake County (not the city of Raleigh) carry at least 1000 gallons of water on board at all times. So no fear your house is quite safe even if you are not near a hydrant!

The tricky part to this fire is that it had progressed so far before the fire department was even notified.

**Friendly FF** - 07/03/12 - 01:07

wow good catch 206 they look almost identical!

**ff** - 07/03/12 - 01:08

Incident description updated, and with a correction. No aerial stream, but deck gun used.

**Legeros** - 07/08/12 - 11:39

Does anyone know the cause of the fire? – Neighbor

**Nicole** - 07/08/12 - 16:49

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Wake County EMS Workhorses

07/01/12 30 W, 1 I - + 10 - 8

Paramedic ambulance, District Chief, and Advanced Practice Paramedic (APP). Posed in front of a location of historical significance to Wake County EMS. Click to enlarge:



The parking lot next to the old county home. Up the metal stairs on the exterior was the old home of EMS 2 until the current station was built. Tricky navigation down those stairs in the winter!

**Donnie** ([Email](#)) - 07/02/12 - 20:12

Wake EMS folks...I saw one of the old Garner trucks today, with a "simulation ambulance vehicle" sign on the side. What are these trucks used for?

**Bo Bo** - 07/03/12 - 01:38

It is a mobile training simulator. It has a sim man dummy in the back that mimics a patient and you are presented with a scenario. The sim man is controlled by a bunch of fancy electronics in the front of the ambulance and you are recorded and evaluated. It is a good way to get as close to a real world training scenario as possible by putting you in the back of a real truck. Everyone does it every other month.

**EMS** - 07/03/12 - 21:43

Here are some pictures of the simulator:

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2012-0..>

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2012-0..>

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2012-0..>

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2012-0..>

**Legeros** - 07/03/12 - 22:21

Budget Highlights Around Wake County

07/01/12 205 W - + 10 - 2

Here are some fire department budget highlights found on the web, via news stories and budget documents. Lots of varied highlights with regard to personnel, equipment, vehicles, or facilities. The source material varied greatly. Didn't find any budget information for Garner or Wendell fire departments, alas.

- Apex - Station 3 roof replacement, Assistant Chief, Training Captain, three new Firefighter positions, prime mover for foam tender. Source: [Budget document](#) (PDF).
- Cary - Add 15 firefighters for Station 8 in Spring 2013, one pumper replacement. Source: [Budget web page](#).
- Fuquay-Varina - Add one full-time position, two AEDs, laptop for engine. Source: [Budget message](#) (PDF).
- Holly Springs - New rescue truck, extrication equipment. Source: [Cary News](#).
- Knightdale - Opticam system. Source: [Budget summary](#) (PDF).
- Morrisville - Three new firefighters, new light rescue. Source: [Budget summary](#) (PDF), [Cary News](#).
- Raleigh - See below. Source: [Budget web page](#).
  - Three replacement engines, one replacement ladder
  - Full funding of recruit academies.
  - Fire station HVAC system replacements
  - Fire station construction projects, with incremental funding over three years:
    - Replacement of Station 12
    - Replacement of Station 14
    - Acquire land for replacement of Station 3
    - Acquire land for Station 30, location to be determined.
- Zebulon - Replace Engine 91's 500 gallon tank with a 1000 gallon tank. Source: [N&O](#).

What part of Raleigh is Station 30 to be located in?

**stretch** - 07/02/12 - 11:02

I heard it was going in the auburn knightdale/ rock quarry rd area of raleigh.

**charles** - 07/02/12 - 14:29

Name: (real name preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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Today's House Fire in Creedmoor

07/01/12 55 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

WTVD has posted this photo of this afternoon's hosue fire in Creedmoor. The 9,000 square-foot home on Sam Moss Hayes Road was a total loss. Fire departments on scene included Creedmoor, Oxford, Brassfield, Corithn, Providence, Stony Hill, and Redwood. Three counties worth! Readers are welcome to add details...



WTVD photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

## Derecho

07/02/12 70 W - + 6 - 7

[Defined by Wikipedia](#) as "a widespread and long-lived, violent convectively induced straight-line windstorm that is associated with a fast-moving band of severe thunderstorms in the form of a squall line usually taking the form of a bow echo." Here's a timelapse of the storm system that produced the "super derecho" that struck the DC area on Friday, and that still has millions without power.

Mike, in this storm the Derecho arrived about 15 minutes prior to the actual line of thunderstorms and presented itself suddenly as a wall of wind. it actually went from dead calm to 80 mph winds in about 2 seconds. ( the nearest official weather station is in Galax and regestered the initial wind wall @ 81mph) The destruction especially to the power grid in West Virginia and South West Virginia reminds me of what North Carolina experienced during Hurricanes Floyd,Fran or Hugo. Friday night shortly after the storms had passed it was reported that 70% of West Virginia was without power. There was 1 Line of Duty Firefighter death a couple of counties over in Franklin County Virginia. A Volunteer Firefighter was responding to a call when a tree fell on top of his vehicle. He died this morning.

**Galax,Va** - 07/02/12 - 23:28

Wait, I thought only 30% of West Virgina had power to begin with.

**Spanky** - 07/03/12 - 19:57

No, you're confused with teeth.

**Galax,Va** - 07/03/12 - 22:35

And your foreign-language lesson for today is:

In Spanish, "derecho" means "right".

There is nothing "right" about what happened from this storm. Oddly enough, though, they played the Congressional Tournament even without power in the buildings or a gallery. Hm.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 07/04/12 - 15:56

My limited understanding of the word's etymology is this, found on the web: As an adverb, derecho typically means "straight ahead" or "in a

straight line” as in anduvieron derecho, they walked straight ahead.

**Legeros** - 07/04/12 - 16:08

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preferred)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Found this this weekend, a collection of watercolor paintings of Philadelphia firehouses circa 1860. These are all volunteer companies, some of which would comprise the career department formed in 1871. These are probably the only representations of same readily available. Casual Google Maps Street View browsing finds a five that are still standing: Friendship Hose House - Sepviva and Norris Streets, Marian [Hose] House - 542 Queen Street, Shuylkill Hose and Truck - 1227 Locust Street, Southwark Hose House - 512 South 3rd Street (and still looks like it!), Tivoli [Hose House] - 2200 Brown Street. Pretty neat. [View the collection](#) or Google for other access points to the collection. Or read about my [PFD engine house research](#).



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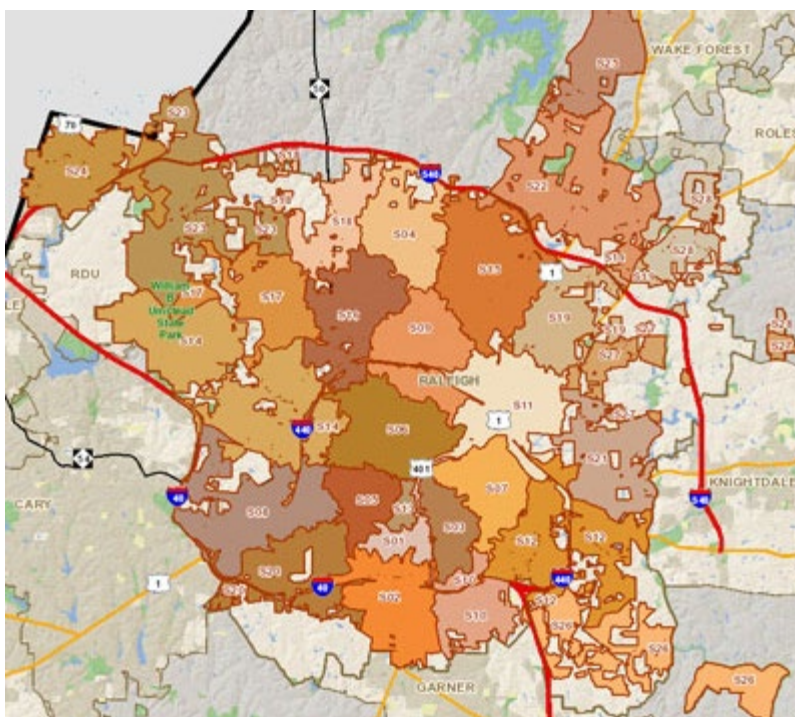
Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
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[/ Textile](#)

## IMAPS Application Adds Raleigh FD Response Districts

07/02/12 93 W, 1 I - + 5 - 8

The City of Raleigh and Wake County Geographic Information Services (GIS) organizations have launched Version 2.0 of IMAPS, which is the super-useful online mapping and property research tool. Among the enhancements are additional public safety map layers, which include Raleigh Fire Department response districts. That is, the first-due territory for each engine company. (Maybe ladder company layers in a future version? Or second-due territories? Or hydrant locations? We can hope...) Pretty neat. [Try IMAPS 2.0](#). Or [read this press release](#).



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No

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Second Annual Brotherhood Bash, Friday, August 10

07/03/12 75 W, 1 I - + 3 - 5

Mark your calendars for the Second Annual Brotherhood Bash on Friday, August 10. That's the weekend of the Raleigh Fire Expo. The location is again Napper Tandys at 126 N. West Street in downtown Raleigh. Starts at 7:00 p.m. The sponsors are the Capital Area FOOLS and the Wake County Firefighters Association. (Good groups, both.) Here's the [Facebook event page](#). More information later. Here are photo's from [last year's bash](#).



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Coming in August: Fire Photography Panel, Raleigh Fire History Talk

07/03/12 227 W - + 7 - 2

Speaking of the Raleigh Fire Expo in early August-- better known as the [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#), were the state's firefighters and state's fire chiefs and whole mess of exhibitors converge-- also mark your calendars for earlier on Friday, August 10. Yours Truly is participating in a pair of workshops:

[On Scene - Emergency Services Photography](#)

Friday, August 10

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Panel discussion moderated by Jeff Harkey (FireNews.net) and with panelists Mike Legeros (Raleigh/Wake County), Bob Bartosz (Rocky Mount/Nash County), Rob Brisley (Charlotte), and Mike Porowski (Charlotte/Mecklenburg County). Hopefully we'll have a hefty audience (in number, not mass) and thus a number of questions to answer or points to discuss. For a preview of what Legeros might talk about, [see these sides](#) (PDF) from a 2007 presentation on the subject.

[Centennial History of the Raleigh Fire Department](#)

Friday, August 10

3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Looking back at two centuries of fire protection in the Capitol City, from Raleigh's creation in 1792, to the formation of the volunteer fire department in 1852, and the career fire department in 1912. Will also review general fire service history, and provide a contextual history of firefighting in North Carolina. For a preview, [see any of the slides](#) from earlier North Carolina Firefighting History or Raleigh Fire Department History talks.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Happy Independence Day. Suggested activites are (a.) outdoor recreation, (b.) safety with regard to things that burn or explode, and (c.) reflections on the rewards (and the costs) of our freedom. Well, and maybe [watching 1942's Yankee Doodle Dandy](#) with James Cagney as George M. Cohen. That one's usually on cable today.



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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Remembering Andy

07/04/12 75 W - + 7 - 1

How about a pair of selections from his early recording career? Here's the great Andy Griffith, who passed away yesterday, singing a snappy rendition of *The Midnight Special*. Recorded in 1959. And one of his comic takes on a literature classic, *Romeo and Juliet*. It was part of his stand-up routine, and was also featured in an episode of the *Andy griffith Show*. It was also recorded in the late 1950s.

Sorry Mike. I know he did a lot to put NC on the map, so to speak. But I also heard several people that knew him personally say how mean and nasty he was, especially to his wife. I'm not sad that he's gone. I mourn in stead for the four men of the 145th Airlift Wing from NC ANG Charlotte, of which my good friend is a pilot, who perished when their C-130 went down in S. Dakota fighting the wildfire.



That seems a lot more relevant to me.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 07/04/12 - 15:51

Thank you for your opinion.

**Legeros** - 07/04/12 - 16:04

Thank you for posting, Mike. Andy Griffith was perhaps our state’s greatest ambassador and personifies the phrase “North Carolinian.” It is also of historical significance that he used our highway patrol in a few episodes. The earlier ones were actors with generic uniforms; however, in later episodes actual troopers were used with correct uniform/badge/patch of the time period.

**Jason** ([Email](#)) - 07/04/12 - 16:25

Duda, very true. When my sister was down at UNC-W she did an internship at Carolco Studios in Wilmington. Matlock was taped there; sis said he was a very nasty, mean old man. I know he was a voice in many folks homes around the area, so we’ll just leave the rest alone.

**Silver** - 07/04/12 - 21:00

Just goes to show that no matter the good you do, or what we think you did, everyone has that ‘other side’ and all of our faults. However, I agree with Duda in that it seems the loss of our 145th Airlift Wing personnel are being lost in the media frenzy. However, in the grand scheme of things, Andy Griffith, even with his faults, put North Carolina on the map in a way, and with the persona he put forth on TV, he did give many people something to feel good about. In my mind, that is what I will remember him for and forgive him whatever faults he had.

**DJ** - 07/04/12 - 23:19

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Comment: / <a href="#">Textile</a>	

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Whoa

07/04/12 127 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

And then the skies opened, and Raleigh's warmest Fourth on record became one of the busiest for fire calls in several months. Can't readily recall the last such "storm surge." Three working fires in the city, on ~~Cobble Creek Lane~~ Oakshyre Way (house), Gemini Drive (house), and Wake Forest Road (commercial garage). A number of vehicle accidents on I-540 and I-440. Numerous other incidents and incident types. Plus special units detailed to special events. Ask dusk approaches, sounds like things are getting back to normal. Companies returning to their regular areas. Below is Ladder 2 operating on ~~Cobble Creek~~ Oakshyre . We'll get cracking on the pictures later, or maybe tomorrow. Fireworks to see downtown, first. And some clothes to dry out. Click to enlarge:



Also, one firefighter was injured on Cobble Court (correct street name Oakshyre Way) and transported to WakeMed. Have heard he's okay, but we're inquiring for official word. Recalling radio traffic, believe it occurred as interior crews were exiting due to deteriorating conditions. More information as it's known.

Legeros - 07/05/12 - 00:24

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E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

**Close-Knit Town Salutes Fallen N.C. Air Crew**

07/05/12 185 W, 1 I - + 10 - 2

[Here's a story from today's \*Charlotte Observer\*](#), about the small South Dakota town of Edgemont and its reaction to Sunday's crash of a Charlotte-based Air National Guard C-130. Four crew members were killed and two injured while the aircraft was dumping retardant on a wildfire. Photographer John Minimum, of Edgemont, captured the craft on its next to last run over Craven Canyon, shown below.

[As this earlier \*FireNews.net\* story](#) reports (from [this \*Charlotte Observer\* story](#), and other sources), the crash killed Lt. Col. Paul Mikeal of Mooresville, Master Sgt. Robert Cannon of Charlotte, Joe McCormick of Belmont, and Captain Major Select Ryan Scott David of Boone. The two surviving crew members include Josh Marlowe of Shelby, who was seriously injured.

On Tuesday, flags on were flown at half-staff on all city property in Charlotte. On Wednesday, a moment of silence was observed before the city's fireworks show at Memorial Stadium. Governor Bev Perdue also ordered all North Carolina state flags to be lowered on Tuesday to honor the fallen Guardsmen.



*John Minium/Charlotte Observer photo*

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	Yes
	No

## What is a Fire Buff?

07/05/12 1631 W - + 5 - 5

[ This marvelous essay has been available for some time from [Mike's web site](#), and is from "Pictorial History of Firefighting" by Robert W. Masters, revised edition published in 1967 by Castle Books, New York, reprinted without permission. We posted this back in 2007. Let's revisit. ]

What is a Fire Buff?

By Robert W. Masters

Bufs have been variously defined as "sidewalk superintendents of fires," as "fire-engine chasers who think they're the guys for whom the bell tolls," as "frustrated firemen," and as "smoked hams who are never quite cured." Irreverent as these definitions are, buffs have been called still nastier names by some firemen and chiefs. Traditionally, most professional fire-fighters look down on buffs, without good reason. The best behaved spectators at fires are usually the buffs. It is a principle of good buff behavior never to interfere or offer unsolicited suggestions, but to stand ready to perform any task requested. As buffs watch fires they resemble baseball fans watching home games. They cheer the direct hits and scoring plays, they groan at mishaps, and sometimes they tell each other the trouble started back when the second alarm was turned in too late. They may even criticize the chief for not bringing up the water tower to pinch hit for the deck pipe, but they'll say it quietly. Buffs are great rooters for the home town fire team, and they only wish they could be in there pitching.

Those fire chiefs who look down on buffs as nuisances might find on looking deeper into the subject that these men formed the core of auxiliary fire departments during World War II, when regular departments suffered draft gaps. In New York City, various buff clubs furnished most of the auxiliary personnel to man the fire alarm telegraph bureau. Overseas, Army, Navy and Marine fire departments were run by buffs, and a good many were cited for excellent duty. Even in peacetime, the Kansas City (Mo.) department, for example, has been forced to send out SOS calls for buff assistance, when strained to the limit by multiple coincident alarms. In case of another war, conflagrations may spread regular departments so thin, the buff is likely to become "the man of the hour" for chiefs to depend on.

A buff is not trained, but born. He's the boy who's always playing fireman, looking at pictures of fire engines and getting his daddy to take him to the fire house. Later, his childhood curiosity about fires develops into a mature understanding of the art of firefighting. He learns by watching and trading information with other buffs. But the original excitement and intense interest never diminishes.

Nothing can bring blood to the eye of a buff more quickly than being confused with the arsonist of the species... the fire-bug. The socially destructive pyromaniac bears as little resemblance to the intelligent buff as a fly does to a fly swatter. The bug's attention (if he's foolish enough to hang around) is centered on seeing how much damage his "pretty" flames can create. The buff is interested in seeing how much damage can be avoided and how quickly the flames can be controlled. A buff's hobby impresses him with the destructiveness of fire and keeps him alert to the dangers in his own home and neighborhood, making him an extremely valuable asset to any community.

The name "buff" originated in the hose-and-wagon days when enthusiasts with smoke-beared eyes stood on icy street-corners for hours, huddled together tightly under buffalo robes. Firemen humorously named them "the buffaloes," which soon became "buff" for short. In some cities, they are known as "fire-fans" and in a few as "sparkies" but whatever they're called they're easily recognized. They're the boys who attend each major blaze with almost religious determination.

Buffing knows no social or class distinction. Doctors, lawyers, bakers, factory workers, grocery clerks and Wall Street financiers all answer the call of bell or siren. George Washington not only chased a goodly number of fires in his day, but also donated a hand-drawn hose cart to the volunteer department of Mount Vernon. Benjamin Franklin was a familiar figure in early Philadelphia firefighting. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes is remembered as a buff in Boston and Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia in New York City. The radio comedian Peter Donald is a buff. Not to be outdone, the female "engine chasers" are represented by no less than Mrs. [Harry] Truman.

It is impossible to say how many buffs there are in existence today, and almost as difficult to find a community without one. There is a little buff in everyone-- who doesn't rush to the windows to see the fire engines whistling past?-- and many buffs hide their lights in unorganized areas. In large cities, where firefighting is a danger-filled occupation completely restricted to professional highly-trained men, buffs have organized clubs.

Many buff clubs have permanent club rooms where members can gather in off hours to pool their knowledge, discuss fire reports, examine old documents, and enjoy photographs and relics. Some clubs are fortunate enough to have a bell installed in their headquarters with fire department sanction, even though buffs seldom receive official civic recognition. At the clubhouse, the buffs listen to the calls pouring in from all parts of the city. It's a sure bet that, seconds after a second alarm comes in from a potentially hazardous area, little will be left of a clubhouse gathering but jangling hangers on an empty coat rack.

Bufs can reel off the locations of alarm boxes from their alarm numbers, some even recalling an entire large city system strictly from memory. In many cities, buffs carry their "bible" (the list of alarm box locations) with them at all times. One buff in New York City, Morris Heitowit, has even gone to the extent of printing a "bible" with other information to make up a Firemen's Manual for buffs to buy and enjoy.

True buffs seldom leave their radios. When they depart from the side of their club radio, tuned in always to the station broadcasting fire news, the members will go home listening to the same station on their car radios, and then keep an all-night half-waking vigil next to their bedroom radios. You'd be surprised how many buffs manage to attend early morning fires. Lately, some of the boys have converted their wives into buffs-- the ladies join their husbands at club functions and chase the engines too, rather than be left home alone.

New York City houses a number of buff clubs: The Fire Bell Club (where it's harder to become a member than in millionaire lodges), The Third Alarmers, and The "77" Club. To name a few, Philadelphia has the 1776 Club and The Second Alarmers, it's the Box 12 Association in Detroit and Toronto, the Box 52 Association in Boston, the Friendship Fire Association in Washington (D.C.) and the Phoenix Society in San Francisco. Buff utopia was reached recently by the Box Thirteeners in Cincinnati who now actively assist their city's firemen.

Becoming a buff club member is generally by-invitation-only, but since the fraternity is so closely knit the steady engine-chaser has little difficulty striking up acquaintances while watching fires. If there is an opening in the club membership, and the prospect's interest is sufficiently backed up with some technical knowledge of firefighting, he will be invited to apply for membership. Firemen of paid departments are not eligible for club membership. Occasionally, when a club member goes to join a paid department his club places him in a special nonvoting class where he still can participate in social functions and clubroom comradeship.

The pinnacle of success for a buff was achieved by Dr. Harry M. Archer, when he was appointed 2nd deputy fire commissioner of New York City, but refused to accept his salary in order to maintain his amateur buff standing. Dr. Archer believes he has attended more than 200,000 fires in his 60 years of buffing. When he began his medical career as an intern in the 1890's at Bellevue Hospital, there were no emergency stations at fires to take care of the burned and injured. Dr. Archer, of his own accord and often at his own expense, set up facilities at the scene of many disasters. Nobody called him at first, but he was always there... sometimes ahead of the firemen, and usually ahead of any other doctors. Today, at the age of 83, Dr. Archer is still active.

Just as a medical career can lead to buffing, so can buffing lead directly to a career: in news photography, as a fire insurance agent, as a writer, or possibly as a salesman for an equipment manufacturer. Many of the photographs in this book were taken by buffs arriving with firemen at the scene of a blaze. One well-known writer-buff for the past twenty years has gathered most of the material for his articles and books from on-the-spot observations. Some of the finest fire equipment salesmen have reached the top because they know their products from watching them in actual operation for years.

If you're not a buff you can't really know what a buff is. Those not infected with the desire to "chase fires" can't understand the buffs' deep inner urge to be on the spot when a blaze is in progress. One prominent buff explained his attitude this way, and it corresponds so closely to the attitude of the fire chief, it's worth noting: "I don't want anybody's house to burn down. But if yours does, God forbid, I want to be there to see it."

---

"Buff utopia was reached recently by the Box Thirteeners in Cincinnati who now actively assist their city's firemen."

Buff organizations in the Baltimore area have been actively supporting our emergency services organizations for many years!!

Since 1958 The Anne Arundel County Alarmers have proudly served the Anne Arundel County Fire and Police Departments and will gladly assist any surrounding jurisdictions when called.

[http://www.freewebs.com/anne\\_arundel\\_ala..](http://www.freewebs.com/anne_arundel_ala..)

It's interesting in the Baltimore area there are multiple "buff" organizations that run rehab/canteen units in support of the local emergency services. Box 414 Association in Baltimore City, the Central Alarmers & Box 234 Association in Baltimore County. These organizations even have mutual aid agreements. The Anne Arundel Alarmers have responded to Washington DC when the Friendship Fire Association needed assistance with multiple multiple alarm fires.

I know there were many cold nights that I was really glad to see that big white beast show up.

**George Crosby** ([Email](#)) - 07/06/12 - 11:30

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preferred)  
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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Umbrella Cam

07/05/12 69 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

How to take pictures in very heavy rain. Step one, place umbrella in crook of arm. Step two, place both hands on camera. Step three, good luck! See photos from yesterday on [Oakshyre Way](#) (house), [Gemini Drive](#) (below, house), [New Bern Avenue](#) (commercial structure), [Dixie Trail](#) (parade), and [various](#) (elsewhere). Didn't get to Wake Forest Road. Was grilling steaks.



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☐ No

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## More Severe Weather, More Working Fires

07/07/12 122 W, 3 I - + 12 - 6

The hundred-plus heat wave has continued into the weekend. Thunderstorms have been passing through in the afternoons, and again sparked a string of fire calls on Friday. They included three working fires on Carterwood Court in Cary, Kings Castle Drive in Apex, and Legendary Lane in Morrisville. Believe all were started by lighting.

High winds brought down trees and power lines again, with a mess of damage around Apex. That included power lines across Highway 1 between Cary and Apex. Relief from this pattern is expected Monday or Tuesday.

Regarding the Morrisville fire, that's a two-story, wood-frame structure with 3,341 square-feet. Built 2011. Photos taken approximately 29 minutes, 47 minutes, and 65 minutes into the incident. [See more photos from Legeros.](#)





Run card for Morrisville included Morrisville P3, E1, L2, C3, C1, Durham Highway R5, R1, P4, Bay Leaf P258, P\_\_\_\_, Durham E13, EMS 4, EMS 34, D5, T1.

**Legeros** - 07/07/12 - 11:01

Bay Leaf P-121 responded to relieve the crew on P-258 for shift change.

**Bob Edmundson** - 07/07/12 - 11:11

Thank goodness they didn't close BLVFD #3!

**Vollie** - 07/07/12 - 15:38

Vollie....do i detect a negitive tone?

Maybe I read you wrong.

**Buckwheat** - 07/07/12 - 23:56

Name: (real name  
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morning Reading« More Severe Weather, ... » If You Can't Say Some... - July 7, 2012

### Morning Reading - July 7, 2012

07/07/12 469 W - + 7 - 6

Good morning Raleigh. Getting ready to go north in another week or so. The Baltimore Fire Expo beckons. The current travel plans are as follows: Monday night on the road, Tuesday and Wednesday nights in Philadelphia, Thursday and Friday nights in Baltimore, and Saturday and Sunday nights outside D.C. The adventure begins with explorations of former and historic Philly firehouses. [Read about that project](#) on the PhillyFireNews discussion board. Then seeing the gang at the Expo. Then conclude with a couple days of recreation, including one of my favorite place for two-stepping, Cancun Cantina in Hanover, MD.

- [Renovations cause recent fires in New Bern](#) - From a reader, here's a Sun-Journal story about a trio of house fires on June 29. One was the Charles Slover House, where Civil War general Ambrose Burnside and Pepsi Cola inventor Caleb Bradham lived. The house was built between 1848 and 1849. Thanks, Joel!
- [Woodland's new engine from Wake Forest](#) - Also from a reader, here's a Roanoke-Chowan News-Herald story about the fire engine purchased for one dollar that we [blogged about earlier](#). They wrote the better headline: Truck for a Buck.
- [New and improved Raleigh/Wake County RadioReference radio feed](#) - Jeff Harkey and Mike Legeros have joined forces to improve the reception of the live audio feed named Wake County and Raleigh Fire on RadioReference.com. The archives, however, require a subscription. But it's very reasonably priced.
- [ECFA fire department assistance named Elwood Inscoe Fire Department Asstance Grant](#) - Last month's news from the NC OSFM, about the new name for an Eastern Carolina Firefighters Association grant. It's named for H. Elwood Inscoe, a former Rocky Mount Fire Department captain who joined OSFM in 1958. He was honored with a lifetime membership in the ECFA in 2010. Thanks Ken!
- [As furniture burns quicker, firefighters reconsider tactics](#) - New York Times story from July 1, about experiments this month on Governor's Island in New York City. (The story's been covered on assorted fire sites and blogs as well.) The fire department will burn 20 vacant row houses and test some of their core theories about ventilation and cooling. All in the context of the department's culture of aggressive interior firefighting. The results should be education for everyone. Thanks for sending, Paul.
- [Philly firefighter makes rescue, readers discuss response by fire administration](#) - Firehouse.com story that's good reading for the reader discussion, and the passionate opinions about risk versus reward. Might inspire some role-based thinking. Firefighter versus training officer versus safety officer versus fire administrator. Same team, same mission, but with differences.
- [The most beloved member of the fire station](#) - Dave Statter surfaces a heartwarming CBS Evening News video segment about a special man whose been fixture for 60 years at a fire station in Lansing, MI.

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Hey Mike,

Can you clarify what is covered on the Wake county/Raleigh Fire feed?

**Eric** - 07/07/12 - 16:24

The Wake/Raleigh fire feed sounds clear.

Seems like the tac channels are garbeled and not very clear.

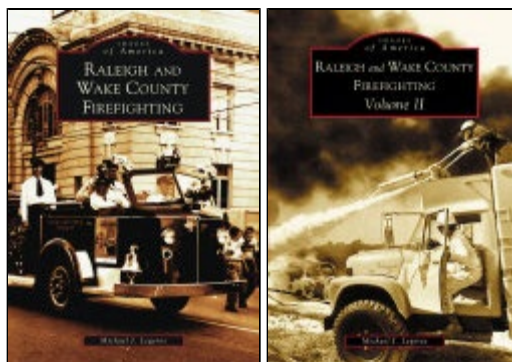
Maybe it's my computer but hey...it's great to even have the feed up and running anyways.

**Buckwheat** - 07/10/12 - 10:34

## If You Can't Say Something Nice

07/07/12 1043 W, 6 I - + 5 - 4

Several years ago I wrote a couple books about local fire departments. These were photo histories of Raleigh and Wake County firefighting. They were softcover volumes, about 220 pages each. (And bargain priced at \$19.95, list!) They contained relatively little writing-- a couple pages of introductory text, and captions for around 200 images. So maybe "authored" is a better word than "written" here.



Both books contained errors. Small, medium, and big mistakes. The whopper was probably the wrong picture of old Station 6 in the first chapter of the first book. Sure, it looked like a former firehouse. Had two stories and everything. But the right building is right next door. A single-story affair, half of which the fire station occupied. (Lists of these errors, by the way, is available at [www.legeros.com/books](http://www.legeros.com/books).)

The authoring process provided a valuable or perhaps invaluable lesson in limitations. Despite my best attempts at accuracy and clarity and artistic expression, the results were flawed. The books contained imperfection. There were things that I didn't like. They were typos, like Falls off Neuse instead of Falls of Neuse. There were boo boo's, like the aforementioned photo. Or, get this, the claim that Raleigh's first paid fire chief was the first one in America. Wrong!



(That howler came from a general history book about Raleigh. The correct statement might be that Fire Chief Sherwood Brockwell was the youngest full-time chief in the country at the time. Or maybe one of the youngest.)

There were also errors of omission. Things worthy of inclusion, but which weren't included. For example, there's no reference to the city's first line of duty death. Why not? During my period of research-- and when Yours Truly was just learning to walk as a historian-- only the sketchiest of facts presented themselves. Opting for safety over sorrow, the then-incomplete tale of Vernon Smith was left untold. (I didn't even have a photograph to write a caption about! That picture-- of the overturned engine-- was found on eBay a couple years later.)





And, obviously, there were a whole mess of facts and figures that were clarified or corrected or worthy of expansion, as discovered upon subsequent research for the second book. And which has continued from that point to present day. But that's the nature of timing and opportunity.

A couple years ago, a bunch of us local history authors appeared at Barnes & Noble at Crabtree. I asked this question of the most experienced author: "How can you write history books that don't contain mistakes?" Her answer: "Don't write books."

What she meant, of course, was that the process of researching history and writing about history (and the process to get them published) contains a margin of error that's always there.

Something else happened to me in the process of becoming Author Man. I developed a critical eye toward these types of books. I became increasingly discriminating with regard to, accuracy of historical information, aesthetics and quality of old photos, and the totality of this thing called a "fire history book."

I haven't written any more history books about firefighting-- not yet, at least-- but I have bought or read quite a few. Say, three or four dozen over the years. And guess what? That critical eye has been staring coldly and at times unsatisfactorily at those nifty new books.





Boy, oh, boy, the things that I've seen. Inconsistencies of writing or editing styles. Bad cropping or poor color correction of images. Lame layouts of pages. Poor quality reproductions of photographic or digital images. Factual mistakes. And so on.

In fact, some (just some?) of same things that you'll find in *Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting* and *Raleigh & Wake County Firefighting, Volume II*. (Should this physician heal thyself first? He hopes to, and will someday write-- er, author-- more fire history books and with fewer errors per chapter than the first go-around.)

But parenthetical asides aside...

So there he sits, man in his man cave, in that room over the garage with the fire engine-red walls (the former owners were State fans), and pouring over some new fire history/apparatus/buff book. And he's just shaking his head. Maybe it's just a few flaws. Maybe it's a whole book of them. Usually, it's somewhere in the middle.

And... so what?

"If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all," goes the familiar refrain. Is there really any good reason to rant about these things? (This is a rant about ranting, so it's justified!) Is there a tangible value in calling attention to quality issues in fire history books?

Honestly, I don't know.



Fire history books and fire apparatus books and fire buff books are such a relatively rarity that any new release is a reason to celebrate. Based on my brief period in the author's seat, there are going to be flaws. There's inherent imperfection in getting from here (idea of book) to there (copy of book).

Advances in digital photography and digital publishing aren't helping things, either. It's easier than ever for people to take digital photos. The results, however, don't always have the resolution of a photographic print. (And if that lower-resolution shot is the only shot you have, well...)

It's also increasingly easy to create book-like content using desktop computing applications. These can be created in shorter periods of time, and in greater quantity. This can also impact quality. (A six-month book project is a world of difference from a six-year book project.)

And, let's be honest, not every author has at their disposal the North Carolina State Archives, their collection of News & Observer and Raleigh Times negatives dating to the 1940s, and months and years of free time for photo (and caption) research. (Those were the conditions of creating the Raleigh and Wake County books.)

Is there a point to my points, then? Beyond just a plea from Yours Truly to "please make better books?"

Maybe that's it.

Dear authors, please strive for quality. Your discriminating readers will appreciate it.

Thank you.

Nice article Mike.

It is tough to be comprehensive, accurate and correct. It seems like some buff books are assembled from a collection of someone's photos, with the captions coming from someone else.

The same situation exists with technical and textbooks. I remember cringing when reading the first edition of Fire Officer when preparing to write the second edition. While the writing got better, there are things in the second edition that make me hang my head.

Maybe the third edition will be perfect (... who am I kidding!). Always appreciate your work and perspective.

**Mike Ward** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/07/12 - 13:55

Thanks for the thanks, Mike. And we must admit to our influences and sources. I have stood and continue to stand on many shoulders. With historical information, each core "fact" is going to "travel down the line." Hopefully accuracy is preserved, and through citation and paraphrasing and rewriting. But there's this pesky problem with the authors: they're human! Just, say, handwriting some notes in a library can introduce errors, or they can manifest when those notes are typed onto a computer, and then again when retyped in a manuscript, and then again at the hands of an editor. Etcetera. One day I shall enthusiastically shout "no more books! That's it!"

**Legeros** - 07/07/12 - 14:04

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preferred)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

This Afternoon's House Fire in Chapel Hill

07/07/12 94 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

WTVD has posted about 30 seconds of footage of this afternoon's major house fire at 6814 Mimosa Drive just outside Chapel Hill. The fire departments on scene included New Hope, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Eno, Efland, Hillsborough (Orange Rural), and Durham, as reports this News & Observer story. The 3,700 square-foot, 2 1/2-story structure was built in 1998. The structure was fully involved when the first engine arrived from the New Hope station about a half-mile away. One firefighter was transported for heat exhaustion. The temperature this afternoon was 100 degrees.



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Orange Blossom Special

07/08/12 113 W - + 8 - 2

For your Sunday morning entertainment, let's go off-topic with a musical (and comic) interlude. Here's Roy Clark and a number of other talented instrumentalists performing the fiddler's national anthem "Orange Blossom Special" in concert in 1987. The quality of the footage isn't the greatest, but the audio recording is aces. The train song was written by Ervin. T. Rouse in 1938, and the first recording made one year later. Notes the Wikipedia entry, for a long time you couldn't get hired in a bluegrass band as a fiddler unless you could play the song. It's also a great number for drummers, one of my favorites for playing along.

Great find Mike! This little tune is also featured on the soundtrack for Smokey and the Bandit, which is one of my favorites!

T. Loy (Email) - 07/08/12 - 23:26

And there's a bit of "Beer Barrel Polka" in there on the banjo, no less!

Legeros - 07/09/12 - 21:11

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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Here's a new poster created by the Raleigh Fire Museum, showing the career fire chiefs of the Raleigh Fire Department. From 1912 to 2012; from Brockwell to McGrath. The 16x20 poster will be displayed during the museum's regularly montly opening this Saturday, July 14. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month. It's located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center at 105 Keeter Center Drive. Learn more [about the museum](#), or learn more [about Raleigh's fire chiefs](#). Click **once or twice** to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Comment:

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Former Firehouses « Fire Chiefs of the Ra... » Raleigh Fire Departme... by Lee Wilson

### Former Firehouses by Lee Wilson

07/08/12 59 W, 8 I - + 5 - 6

Photographer Lee Wilson has photographed a number of former firehouses during his explorations of nearby counties this spring and summer. Left to right, top to bottom are Pine Level, Bunnlevel, Flat Branch, Wade, Angier-Black River, Salemburg, Roseboro, and Spencer. Click to see larger versions. [See more of his random photos.](#)




*Lee Wilson photos*

Anderson Creek's former station is in there too.

lee - 07/09/12 - 01:34



The summer 2012 edition of the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* has been posted to to the web site [raleighfirenews.org](http://raleighfirenews.org). This issue's includes information about the restoration of the old steamer, office space changes, a new foam trailer, a budget summary, and highlights of the centennial celebration. Plus the usual recap of recent promotions, appointments, and retirements. Edited by department historian Mike Legeros, the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. [Read the issue](#) , or click to access:



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Remember personal info?

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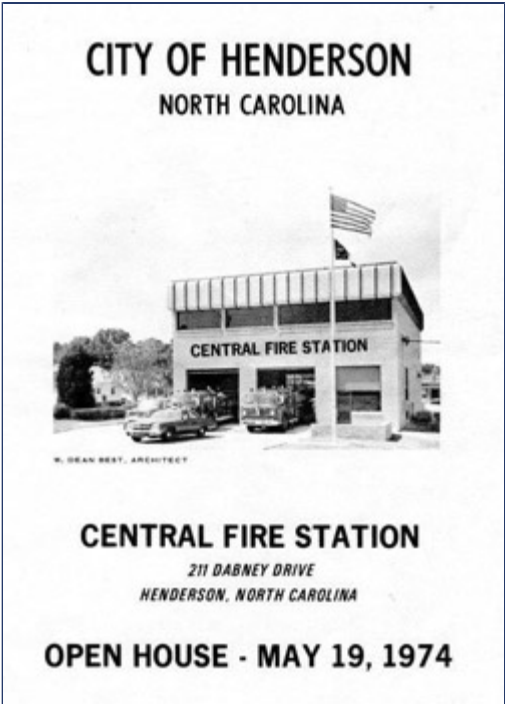
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Henderson Central Fire Station Open House, 1974

07/09/12 82 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Here's a nifty artifact from a reader as shared via Facebook, the program for the opening of Henderson's Central Fire Station on May 19, 1974. The engine house at 211 Dabney Drive replaced the old Central Fire Station at 205 N. Garnett Street. That building, built in 1908 and later shared by City Hall, remained open as Fire Station 2. It's presently the oldest active fire station in the state. [Click to view the program](#) as a PDF document. Thanks, Thomas!



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Remember personal info?

Yes  
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North Charleston's New Fire Boat

07/09/12 98 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

'Twas dedicated on July 4. Metal Craft Marine built the 32-foot craft that's powered by a pair of Cummins diesel engines. Top speed 43 knots, and can pump over 2,000 gallons per minute through four monitors. Named W. Frank New, in honor of the fire chief. Read [Post & Courier story](#), or see this [press release](#). News reports say it's the first fireboat for the Charleston area. Could that be right? Seems like CFD or even the Navy might've operated one way back in the day.



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## Fairview Announces New Fire Chief

07/09/12 119 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

The Fairview Rural Fire Department Board of Directors today announced the selection of David Price as Fire Chief. He begins his position on July 30, 2012. Price, a Captain at Bay Leaf Fire Department, is a 32-year veteran of the fire service in Wake County. He joined the Yrac Fire Department in 1980, was hired by Bay Leaf as a Firefighter/Engineer in 1985, and was promoted to Captain in 1991. He's served seven terms as Secretary and three terms as President of the Wake County Firefighters Association. He's also served three terms on the Wake County Fire Commission. He's presently the Chairman of the commission's compensation and equipment committees. Congratulations David!



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Congrats David! We look forward to working with you on the south side. From Fuquay.

**next door** - 07/09/12 - 22:25

Congrats to David Price and Fairview Fire Department

**Russell** - 07/10/12 - 11:38

Way to go David, good luck

**Rob Mitchell** - 07/10/12 - 15:42

Congratulations Chief Price!

**Mike Hart** - 07/11/12 - 10:20

Congratulations David! I just visited Bayleaf's site and saw that you retired...I wish I had known and I would have tried to make it! Congratulations on this new chapter, I know you gave alot of your blood, sweat and tears there.

**Bryan Bauman** - 09/06/12 - 17:32

## West Sanford Fire Department

07/11/12 138 W, 3 I - + 9 - 6

Photographer Lee Wilson took this photo yesterday of Orange Grove Fire Department's 1985 Ford/Grumman pumper-tanker. The truck originally served West Sanford Fire Department in Lee County. The department merged with Northview Fire Department on July 1, 2010. As this [Sanford Herald story reported](#), their district had shrunk to only 267 homes and 12 businesses. (The district included a small portion of southcentral Chatham County.) Memo to self, add WSFD to my [database of former fire departments](#).



*Lee Wilson photo*

After the merger, the station on Cumnock Road in northwestern Lee County became a substation for NFD. The West Sanford Fire Department was incorporated in 1956, say state records. Below are two more photos from Lee, showing the former NSFD station and the earlier (original?) NSFD station. They are across the street from each other.







Lee Wilson photos

McAdenville VFD and Cramerton FD in Gaston County have merged and is now Cramerton VFD with two stations.

**rocket33** - 07/11/12 - 16:25

Sharp Grumman in the pic. Reminds me of Yrac #3 (later #292). Call me crazy, I always liked the lime paint jobs.

**DJ** - 07/12/12 - 10:59

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preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Like This Blog on Facebook

07/11/12 116 W - + 7 - 4

With a whopping 117 "likes" on Facebook, let's see if we can raise that number a bit. [Visit this blog's Facebook page](#) and click LIKE. It's that simple. You'll see these blog postings in your Facebook stream. And you can comment and start discussions on those threads, as well here. (And with no approval required for comments on Facebook!) Also, while you're social media-ing, consider following the [blog on Twitter](#) as well. Real easy to find, it's simply @legeros. (And does Mr. Blogger get, with more people liking and more people following? More eyeballs. More reach. Ego expansion. That's about it. Still haven't wanted to make money on this thing...)

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Why Would I like this Blog, you want approve my Opinionated Comments, even if it is about Raleigh. You doosche.

**Upset** - 07/12/12 - 08:07

Point taken. Thanks for expressing yourself.

These days, my criteria for comment approval is along these lines: Signed comments get greater latitude than anonymous comments. Personal attacks aren't permitted across the board, however. Sh&t-stirring comments rarely make the cut, as well. Tactical criticism isn't a favorite of mine on this blog, either. That hasn't proven itself as a value-add on this site, with these users, and within this fire service community. (But Mike, you're always linking to places like Statter911, and they hold nothing back in those comments. What's with the double-standard?) What works in one place doesn't always work in other. For years, the QBs and KICs (Keyboard Incident Commanders) posed their questions and offered their advice on this blog. They've chewed over many a fire in Raleigh and Wake County. You can search the blog for those (in)famous threads. The problem is that they caused heartburn to the guy that runs this site. Blame him. Maybe he's just a softie. Or a doosche. Thanks for reading.

**Legeros** - 07/12/12 - 08:29

Maybe the comments don't get approved because of spelling and grammar?

**E14** - 07/12/12 - 08:34

One of my favorite quotes from an e-mail signature seen long ago: "Please don't attribute to bad spelling what is poor typing."

**Legeros** - 07/12/12 - 08:36

For myself, I'm happy with your criteria. If a person can't put their name or "handle" on a comment, then do they really mean what they wrote; do they not want to be identified with the comment? If not, you probably shouldn't have written it in the first place. I also praise you for not allowing pot-stirring or derisive criticism of management decisions – if they made a mistake, odds are they know it, and have to live with it. I think you offer criticism in the proper context when/where it is warranted. Reminds of an editor I know of, of a weekly sports journal for a sports team, was offered the job by the owner, and replied he would take it only if he could also be critical of the team when performance warranted it. He got the job, and the criticisms he hands out are always in good taste. Some folks just don't want to see or hear things/comments when those disagree with their own views. In my world, you do not fall into the mentioned category. Let's try finding someone else who would take on the tasks that you do around Ral/WC.

**Tim B** ([Email](#)) - 07/12/12 - 09:02

Thanks, Tim. A future version of this blog will use Facebook for comments. That will negate the need to approve incoming comments. Will heated discussions also return? Maybe. The thing about firefighters is that their conversational centers are calibrated to the Moderately Confrontational setting. Must be from years of day room conditioning...

**Legeros** - 07/12/12 - 09:16

KIC... that's good!

**DJ** - 07/12/12 - 10:56

Mike...what is a doosche ? I like your site, and keep up the good work..... Maybe Upset is a doosche-mag

**RIP Falls Fire** - 07/12/12 - 13:08

Thanks RIP. I think a doosche mag is the type of flashlight that I carry in my camera case.

**Legeros** - 07/12/12 - 13:51

Mike, we've never had this before in our area until you came along. You and Lee do a great job and put a lot of heart into what you do, so keep up the good work and a big "Thanks", from all of us that appreciate you.

As for "Upset", well, he's a DOUCHE (proper spelling).

**Silver** - 07/12/12 - 14:43

Great web site and a great service to fire fighters in Wake County. Mike has the right to post or not post comments. It is his site. This is from the point of view from a guy with 39 years of service as a volunteer.

**Bob Edmundson** - 07/12/12 - 16:16

Thanks Silver, Thanks Bob. Correct spellings of feminine hygiene products notwithstanding, I can understand his frustration. I follow another board, and don't always agree with the moderator(s). It can be quite annoying, but I accept their prerogative. If you run the show, you get to call the shots. You get to be the doosche. And those unhappy with the system can go elsewhere or build their own or simply endure. What would I change if I had to start all over again? Everything and nothing, including the evolution from wide-open to moderated comments. The fits and starts and upsets and apologies have all been entirely necessary. They've produced the learning that, to me, is as crucial as the entertainment. Have fun, but have growth. (Yes, this blog is educational. Tell your station captain that this counts as "school." Let me know what happens.)

**Legeros** - 07/12/12 - 16:55

Well Now that I have read the expectations for this blog, I can understand why. You sir may not be a Douche, however in the moment of Rage about not having comments, which actually had very valid points in them, I blurted out somethings. Kind of like KeyBoard Turrets. But hey, it got a lot of comments for proper spelling and grammar, which brings up a good point. Why don't incorporate spell check on here?

**Not as Upset** - 07/12/12 - 22:33

That little red line under most of your words indicates that they are not spelled correctly. Right click it and see the magic! But based on reading your most recent comment, you might want to just slow down and edit your work before you submit or sign up for English 110. It's pretty hard to take a blogger's "opinionated" statements seriously when they can not form a sentence at the eight grade reading level.

**To: Not as upset** - 07/13/12 - 07:29

Regarding spell-checking, some web browsers provide this feature. On my computer, the Firefox web browser does this. When I am typing into a "text box" on a web page, a little red line will appear underneath misspelled words. Right-clicking on that word will, as the last commenter notes, "show the magic."

Regarding grammar and forming sentences and such, there are some variables worth considering. Not everyone expresses themselves as well as they might want, when typing into a text box on a web page. (These days, they might even be posting a comment from a smart phone. Talk about a typing challenge!) Here's a tip that I posted some time ago, and one that I often use myself. Don't start typing your thoughts on the blog. Instead, open Microsoft Word or even a blank e-mail message. Write and re-write. Get your thoughts good. Save them, if you get interrupted. When ready to post, copy and paste into the text field on the web page. Works every time.

Regarding writing in general. Is this a skill that's undervalued in the fire service? Quite possibly. Why does a firefighter need to write well? (That's the age-old question! "Why does a firefighter need to...") Odds favor that you'll be engaged in job-related written communication at some point, and probably pretty early in your career. But, you ask, does it really matter if that writing is "good" versus "just okay?" I think so.

First, there's the problem of perception. Poor or weak writing can produce a perception of poor or weak intelligence. Around the fire station, or a small department, maybe not an issue. Everyone knows everyone, and they know the different "smarts" that a particular person has. Maybe that understanding or benefit of doubt is shared department- or industry-wide as well. But what about the general public? What about other city or county officials? What opinions and judgments might they be forming? Think on that one for a bit.

Second, there's the core issue of communication. Writing serves to communicate thoughts. The better the first person writes, the better the second person understands. Come on, admit it. Raise your hand (which I just typed as you're hand, then I caught myself ) if you've ever said

to someone else "I thought you meant something else by that e-mail message." Or, for that matter, "I didn't really understand what you were saying, so I just deleted the message." You get the idea.

My goodness, look at the length of this comment. Great example of a long comment that might benefit from editing. If I had more time, I'd copy and paste this puppy into Microsoft Word. Then I'd re-read the thing. Then I might edit a bit. Then I'd copy and paste back into this text field.

(Bonus tip. Here's the single best way to write better. Read what you wrote out loud. Not in a mumbling, under-the-breath voice. Read or say the words in the same volume that you'd talk to another person. Pretend someone is with you, and read it out loud. So effective it's scary.)

**Legeros** - 07/13/12 - 07:52

Writing is a basic skill that is fundamental in this career just as any other profession. This does not mean writing at the college level, but simply at the 10th grade level. We write EMS reports that can be used in court. Once promoted we will be writing evaluations and fire reports. Writing is a necessary skill of professional firefighting.

With regards to this blog;

If you can't express yourself at a 10th grade level, then you are not worth reading.

**e14** - 07/13/12 - 08:11

Thanks, e14.

Disagree, to a degree. I am wary (or maybe also weary) of exclusionary thinking. I see your point, but think there's value in the sharing of thoughts despite any weaker writing skills.

**Legeros** - 07/13/12 - 08:18

And, here's a short version of my thoughts above on writing:

Poor typing does not equal poor writing does not equal poor thinking.

But it's deceptively easy to think otherwise.

**Legeros** - 07/13/12 - 08:21

Something I heard from a very experienced Chief officer the other day... (not pertaining to this blog). Essentially (paraphrased): "If a person has something to offer that is negative, it is because they are inexperienced and unprofessional. The experienced professional will quickly identify they have been in those "shoes" before and if something is said, it will be positive or encouraging so the error is not repeated... only fools make the same mistake twice." Simple yet solid words. In my opinion, maybe we should "practice" brotherhood more rather than "just saying" it. BTW, Redneck spelling is: "doosh"

**A.C. Rich** - 07/13/12 - 09:06

To begin with, I don't mind putting my name and e-mail on my posts. This is not meant to be inflammatory or derogatory. And if this offends you, perhaps you're one of those of whom I speak.

(Its) (knot) about (pour) (righting)/typing skills as much as it is about spelling, grammar, punctuation, and usage. (Inn) this day and age of technology, it is inexcusable (four) anyone to misspell or misuse a word, leave out punctuation, or use improper grammar. Many people put (two) much emphasis on speed over quality. That hurts my eyes. Just because (your) using a keyboard instead of pencil and paper, (yew) shouldn't be excused from using proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage (their, they're, and there, for example). If you don't (no) (witch) is appropriate, perhaps you should ask instead of inserting (won) and hoping it's right. Considering the education level that many employers require (fore) employment and advancement within an organization, (eye) (cant) believe some of the atrocities I've (scene) over the last few years as the current generation comes into the workforce. Is it the fault of the schools for not teaching the basics, does fault lay at home with parents not checking behind their children's work, or is this generation just (to) lazy (too) care about sounding and looking poorly educated? Personally, I'm appalled at myself if I misspell or misuse a word, even in something simple like a text message (damned auto-correct!). Worse than that is that all these abbreviations and typing shortcuts from the digital world have leaved into every-day writing. EVERYBODY should be appalled by that. My father was a science teacher for 22 years, and was an English minor (which meant he could substitute as an English teacher). Both my sister and I had a good basis for grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage from the start. Perhaps

after almost 37 years, that’s why I cringe when I see the things (sum) people consider OK for the rest of the (whirled) to (sea) as an example of (they’re) educational level.

Duda (Email) - 07/13/12 - 09:23

Mike, While I like the thought of using Facebook for posts, it does present a problem for some of us who read and post to your blog at work. I do not know about Raleigh, but where I work, Facebook is blocked from our computers. Just a thought as you move forward. I have a quote from my first Fire Chief, Ray Thaxton from Holly Springs, that I share with my son on a regular basis. “You have two eyes, two ears, and one mouth. If you look and listen twice as much as you talk, you will be just fine.” I have not always lived by those words, but when I do, it has worked out very well.

Donaldson - 07/13/12 - 09:35

Where’s the “Like” button for Donaldson’s quote?

Duda (Email) - 07/14/12 - 14:56

We haven’t talked about listening in this thread. And that’s also part of the equation. Using your ears (and your brain) before speaking or, in this case, typing your response. Yeah, yeah, electronic communication makes it SO easy. That REPLY button with e-mail. That comment field for a blog posting.

Be honest, how good are you at counting to ten? On e-mail, there’s a magical RECALL feature. I’ve used that baby more times than I can count. What’s the equivalent of RECALL on the blog? Duh! Send a message to me. I am happy to remove something that you’ve thought about, and thought it better left unsaid. (Or at least, no longer read.)

You can also supplement yourself. As you think about it later, or watch others respond to your words, you can further explain yourself. “This is what I was trying to say…” is a powerful phrase. Or go whole hog with “I apologize for the miscommunication.” Tricky business, this thing called talking (and writing). Compounded by the annoying fact that the participants are human beings.

Legeros - 07/15/12 - 10:28

The worst part of text is that, without the unprofessional and goofy addition of “emoticons”, it’s difficult to convey the inflection of sarcasm, happiness, chagrin, etc. What one meant as a friendly jibe can be taken completely wrong and start a firestorm of bad feelings.

Duda (Email) - 07/17/12 - 09:49

The Upset guy could have meant it as a friendly name call. Which I mean Dousche, Dooshe, Douce, Douche, or however you spell it, can be taken any way you want. He could have meant it in a way such as “you dooshe”- I hate you and your blog sucks, or “you Dooshe”- unspecified meaning or joking manner, or “you Dooshe”- I just think you should approve the comments occasionally. Whatever this means, after 24 comments, I believe the subject has been looked at from all views, as some would say, “beaten like a dead horse”. All people have opinions and Blogs are mostly opinions when you have topics as this one. And my Final thought, as you state earlier in the post, KIC’s, this blog post looks almost like a Wake County Critique/ Wake County KIC covention , everybody sits around and runs someone, somebody, or some department in the ground. Where’s the Brotherhood, haven’t ya’ll ever joked around in the Fire Station/House before?

Who Cares? - 07/17/12 - 20:09

Thanks Who Cares? It’s worth noting that many of those 24 comments are from me! Not sure we’ve necessarily heard a collective perspective.

If there’s a single lesson that I have learned from running this blog, it’s that skins are a lot thinner when criticism or just chops-busting is done anonymously.

Legeros - 07/17/12 - 11:24

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

On Being a Doosche and Writing Well

07/13/12 107 W - + 7 - 2

Great conversation is happening on this [earlier blog thread](#), which started as a request for more "likes" on Facebook. We'll blame Mr. Blogger's ego for that one. Reader comments have taken the thread into a couple different places. Yesterday, we talked about moderating comments and the criteria for allowing or not allowing their posting. Today, the topic is spelling, grammar, and writing skills. Does a firefighter need to write well? What the heck's the value in that? (Wrong, the answer is not "so they can get better on blogs.") [See my answer and join the conversation](#).

Which Red is the Real Red?

07/14/12 82 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

As photographed at last night's recruit academy graduation, he's a fine example of sun versus shade with regard to the color of fire apparatus. These two trucks were painted with the same shade of red. When seen (or shot) in direct sunlight, it's a bright, vibrant shade of red. When shaded or under a cloudy sun, it's a deep, dark shade of red. See photos from last night by [Legeros](#) and [Lee](#). Click to enlarge:



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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.



**Fire Commission Meeting - July 19, 2012**

07/14/12 180 W - + 5 - 5

The next meeting of the [Wake County Fire Commission](#) is Thursday, July 19, at 7:00 p.m. The location is the Wake County EMS Training Facility, in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building, [4011 Cary Drive](#). See below agenda and related documents. (Blog Man will be in Baltimore, so send me some highlights!) See [this earlier posting](#), to learn more about this governing body.

Agenda

- Call meeting to order
  - Invocation
  - Roll of Members Present
  - Approval of Agenda
- Minutes
  - Adoption of Minutes for May 10, 2012, Regular Meeting
- Regular Agenda
  - FY 2013 Fire Tax Budget Update
  - Consider Recommended Amendment to Fire Compensation Administrative Guidelines
- Information Agenda
  - Fire Tax Financial Report
  - Post Incident Review Program Update
  - Fire Services Training Division Update
  - Chair Report
  - Fire and Emergency Management Director Report
- Other Business
- Public Comments
  - 30 minutes maximum time allotted, Maximum 3 minutes per person
- Adjournment - Next Meeting September 20, 2012

[Documents](#)

1. Agenda
2. Draft Minutes of the May 10, 2012 Regular Meeting
3. Regular Agenda - Consider Recommended Amendment to Fire Compensation Administrative Guidelines
4. Information Agenda - Post Incident Review Program Update
5. Fire Services Training Division Update

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## Twenty Three Years Ago

07/14/12 232 W, 2 I - + 7 - 5

Speaking of graduation ceremonies, last night's activities took me back a double decade to May 26, 1989. That's Raleigh Fire Department recruit M. J. Legeros presenting a plaque from his academy to the members of the training staff. (Those being Lane, Gattis, and Dunn.) Included on the plaque was a picture our class taken at the Governor's Mansion. Started a tradition there! (How did he get that gig? Drew straws. And with explicit instructions to "don't screw up, Lou.")<sup>1</sup> . Ours was a 14-week academy and we numbered nineteen. Among the positions being filled was the opening of Station 20, in January that year.

The members of what was later numbered Academy 13 (!) were Palmer L. Buck, Gregory R. Bridges, Donald L. Deyo, Tony Edmundson, Dennis A. Gaither, Daniel H. Haines, Charles A. Hodge, Robin R. Johnson, Todd E. Jones, J. Anthony Lane, Michael J. Legeros, Randall E. Mayo, Doug T. Melville, S. Alan Moody, R. Fred Noble, Robert M. Pearce, A.C. Rich, Barry D. Spain, and Jerry L. Ward. Talk about a cast of characters! And, indeed, friendships were formed that have lasted a lifetime. Click to enlarge:



<sup>1</sup>Was nicknamed "Lou" as a shortened formed of mispronounced "Lou-geros." Believe Tramp coined that one. Here's some of the crew in present day, at a reunion breakfast a couple years ago. Click to enlarge:



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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

**NCSU Fire Marshal's New Wheels**

07/14/12 48 W, 2 I - + 8 - 3

Seen on scene on Partners Way on the Centennial Campus this afternoon. Fire alarm with smoke found in building with fire found in trash can with sprinkler system found activated. Extensive overhaul, plus investigation for possible haz-mats. Photos later. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Changing Times

07/15/12 53 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Lee Wilson took this photo this week of Johnston EMS units at the Clayton EMS station. Effective July 1, they assumed emergency medical services duties in the town. Read [that prior posting](#). Or [see more photos](#). Those are some orange trucks! Need me some (more) shirts that color.



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.



## Making Entry

07/15/12 195 W, 3 I - + 6 - 2

Two members of Raleigh's Haz-Mat 1 (operated by Engine 2) make entry into an engineering building on the campus of North Carolina State University, in the top photo from yesterday. Reported as a fire alarm, with Engine 20 and Ladder 7 dispatched to 911 Partners Way. That's a three-story, brick and steel educational building with 128,768 square-feet. Built 2004. Engine 20 found smoke on the third floor, and the call was upgraded to a structure fire.

Fire found in a wastebasket in a lab on the third floor. Sprinkler system had also activated. Extended salvage and overhaul operations. Room also investigated for hazardous materials, which special called a haz-mat unit. None found. That's Engine 20 in the bottom photo, with a booster line deployed for a decon pool. What's the secret to that deep-focus? Auto-DEP setting on my Canon setting, plus a **lot** of light. Bright sun really helps.

Units on scene included E20, E8, E1, E5, L7, L4, R3, B4, B2, A1, C10, C20, EMS 8, D1, T1. See [entire series of photos](#) by Mike Legeros. Perfect conditions for photography at this one.







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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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## Fire Departments Celebrating Anniversaries This Year

07/15/12 211 W - + 8 - 1

The North Carolina State Fireman's Association is compiling a list of North Carolina fire departments celebrating anniversaries this year. [They've posted the below list](#) to the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo web site. Congratulations to all!

There are some apples to oranges, however. Some are the anniversaries of career departments, such as Raleigh and Charlotte. When was Raleigh's *volunteer* fire department formed? That was 160 years ago, when the "modern" volunteer department was established in December 1852.

You can get even more granular, citing the first fire companies. New Bern in/around 1773, Salem in 1785, Fayetteville and Washington in 1791, Raleigh in 1819, Charlotte in 1845, Wilmington in 1846, etc. [See these presentation slides](#) for some of that context. Those pesky historians, always adding more details!

- Benson Fire Department  
125 Years
- Charlotte Fire Department  
125 Years
- Franklin Fire Department  
100 Years
- Littleton Fire Department  
100 Years
- Raleigh Fire Department  
100 Years
- Faith Fire Department  
60 Years
- Garner Fire Rescue  
60 Years
- Long Creek Fire Department  
60 Years
- Pikeville-Pleasant Grove Volunteer Fire Department  
60 years
- Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire Department  
60 Years
- Woodleaf Fire Department  
60 Years
- Eno Fire Department  
50 Years
- Red Oak Community Rural Fire Department  
50 years
- Shine Fire and EMS  
50 Years
- Stedman Volunteer Fire Department  
40 Years
- Otway Fire and Rescue  
35 Years
- Duck Fire Department  
30 Years
- Southern Shores Volunteer Fire Department  
30 Years

---

The Red Oak Community Rural Fire Department, Inc.(Pitt County) is having their 50th anniversary celebration Saturday July 21st, 2012 at the fire station located at 925 West Star St. Greenville, NC 27834. This event is being held in conjunction with a blood drive and fundraiser to assist the family of FF Ray Brooks with expenses from his recent 2nd liver transplant.

**John Maynard** ([Email](#)) - 07/15/12 - 12:55

Durham Fire Department – 140 years

**WATSON** - 07/15/12 - 13:12

Durham was incorporated in 1869. The first fire company was formed in 1876. The town's unorganized fire companies came under a unified leadership in 1882, cites a written history that appeared in a DFD commemorative book. To my historical and sometimes hysterical mind, that's a milestone you can label as "volunteer fire department created."

**Legeros** - 07/15/12 - 17:48

90 years for the Cary Fire Department

**shevais** - 07/15/12 - 23:09

@ Alex: I visited durhamfire.net and read under the history section that the first fire companies were formed in 1872.

**WATSON** - 07/16/12 - 09:20

And thus exemplifies a good question with regard to fire department anniversaries. Is a fire department created when...

- The first fire equipment is purchased for citizen use?
- The first group of citizens organizes into a fire company, with said equipment?
- When the first fire companies are organized under a unified leadership or infrastructure?
- When the fire department in name is chartered?
- When the fire department in name is incorporated?
- When the fire department is organized with career members?
- Etcetera

**Legeros** - 07/16/12 - 09:25

I would say when a group of citizens organize into a fire company with a name ie Durham FD or whatever hose company.

**Mike** - 07/16/12 - 12:53

Knightdale Public Safety 10 years.

**Chris Miller** ([Web Site](#)) - 07/16/12 - 18:53

Clayton Area EMS (formerly Clayton Area Rescue) reached 50 years of service before being absorbed into Johnston County EMS. Smithfield EMS, which was formerly the Smithfield Rescue Squad, and before that Johnston County Civil Defense Rescue Service, reached 55 years of continuous service before being absorbed into Johnston County EMS, having started in 1957. Four Oaks EMS started as Four Oaks Rescue Squad in 1969 (43 years).

Next month will mark 36 years for Wake County EMS. Cary Area EMS started in 1971 (41 years) as the Cary Area Rescue Squad and Apex EMS also started in 1971 (41 years) as the Apex Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Raleigh-Durham Airport, although maintaining an emergency response capability since the late 40s-early 50s (not sure of the exact year), started their full time, around-the-clock fire station staffed CFR capability in 1979 (33 years). Prior to that the station was not staffed 24/7,

Two people were killed this morning on Interstate 40, victims of another wrong-way vehicle accident. We've seen a couple of these in the last month. How many, when and where? From Google, here's the most recent and most serious. Seems the wee hours on the weekend are the deadliest, at least anecdote-ally speaking. Maybe we have accident-researching readers who paint a more complete picture:

Date	Time	Location	Details
July 15, 2012 - Sunday	2:30 a.m.	I-40 at Jones Sausage Road	Sedan travelling in wrong direction collided with (light) truck head-on. Truck's driver and passenger killed. Sedan's passenger injured, critical.
June 29, 2012 - Friday	3:38 a.m.	Wade Avenue near I-40	Honda SUV travelling in wrong direction struck Pontiac head-on. Two subjects pinned. Both transported with non-life threatening injuries.
June 10, 2012 - Sunday	4:00 a.m.	I-440 near Western Boulevard	Car left roadway avoiding Acura travelling in wrong direction. One killed, on serious injury. Driver of Acura cited for DWI and other charges.
March 30, 2012 - Friday	2:45 a.m.	I-440 near Six Forks Road	Dodge SUV travelling in wrong direction struck VW Jetta head-on. Driver of second vehicle killed. Driver of first vehicle transported with non life-threatening injuries. Cited for DWI.

Mike,

I think there was a wrong way crash on 540 between Leesville and Creedmoor Rd in 2006 maybe 2007. DHFD has the news clips of the accident

Mike (Email) - 07/23/12 - 09:53

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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Comparative Analysis of Fire Department Milestones07/15/12 126 W - + 6 - 3

Pretty good title for a paper, isn't it? For your Sunday afternoon enjoyment. Reader input and corrections are welcome. Sources are a bunch of fire department yearbooks, a bunch of Wikipedia pages, and a couple other web sites.

	City Created	First Fire Company	Volunteer Department Created	Career Department Created	Notes
Asheville	1797 (incorporated)	1882	The decade of the 1880s (?)	1924	
Charlotte	1768 (incorporated)	1845, first mention of fire engine	1865 (?)	1887	Plus one volunteer company, Neptune, that continued until 1907.
Durham	1849 (railroad station) 1869 (incorporated)	1876	1882	1909	
Greensboro	1808	1849	1884-1886	1926	
New Bern	1710	1773, town authorized to create fire company	1867	1961, first career members?	NBFD is a combination department.
Raleigh	1792	1819	1852	1912	
Wilmington	1739-1740 (incorporated)	1846	The decade of the 1870s (?)	1897	
Winston-Salem	1753 (Salem) 1849 (Winston) 1913 (Winston-Salem)	1772 (Salem) 1876 (Winston)	? (Salem) ? (Winston) 1913 (Winston-Salem)	1923	

OK, I have to ask, If Salem was first in incorporation, and alphabetization, why is it Winston-Salem and not Salem-Winston? Was it based on size of the two cities at the time? Or was it because Winston was named the county seat? The US Postal Service combined the post offices, but does not explain why Winston came first when they did not... Does anybody know?

Donaldson - 07/15/12 - 21:30

My best guess is that Winston was a manufacturing center, and perhaps the better-known or more economically prominent of the two??

Legeros - 07/15/12 - 22:05

Or, duh, Winston was bigger than Salem. Looking at the 1907 Sanborn Insurance Map, the populations were 15,000 (Winston) versus 8,000 (Salem).

<http://www.lib.unc.edu/dc/ncmaps/sanborn..>

Legeros - 07/15/12 - 22:07

I think Fayetteville has a little age on them too, as far as fire departments go, don't they?

**FireDog12569** - 07/16/12 - 00:50

Yes, Fayetteville is an old department. My chart is incomplete in that regard. I probably omitted a couple departments worthy of inclusion.

**Legeros** - 07/16/12 - 07:38

Growing up in the Winston-Salem area, I was told that it dealt with size and the economic power of Winston.

**Curtis Teague** - 07/17/12 - 21:53

Jennifer, I don't have a definitive answer for you. In fact, I don't know that a single decision led to that point. Rather, the year 1912 has been the prominent milestone in the department's story. It's the milestone that members have cited, and identified with, for ages. Five years ago, for example, RFD published a commemorative book subtitled 95 Years of Tradition. Why has the career milestone been "the" milestone, versus the 1819 milestone, or the 1852 milestone? That's a more detailed answer, and with a couple possible or parallel explanations. I'll commence analysis and advise at a later time. Or let other readers tackle that.

**Legeros** - 07/18/12 - 09:51

Bling! The computation engine has produced this answer, regarding the second question above. The 1912 events and their narrative has been documented for decades, and passed down from generation to generation of firefighters. It was a tangible and easy-to-understand beginning to that phase of the Raleigh Fire Department's history. The earlier milestones didn't resurface until the research of local historian Elizabeth Reid Murray in the 1970s, and which was used by Capt. B. T. Fowler in his historical text in the 1984 commemorative book about the department. But those earlier milestones were sparsely documented, and certainly didn't have the photos (few as they are) from the 1912 period. Thus, the 1912 milestone has just had many more decades to percolate in the department's consciousness. And thus is the first (and perhaps only) anniversary date/year that was suggested, any time anniversaries were discussed.

**Legeros** - 07/18/12 - 10:00

Fayetteville Fire Dept was chartered in 1791. The first apparatus was acquired in 1832. In 1947, the first 24 hr personnel were assigned to station 1 and 2. More can be found on our department website.

**Frick** - 07/20/12 - 00:02

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preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

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## Building Decorations

07/18/12 55 W, 3 I - + 5 - 5

Reporting from the road, reporting from Philadelphia. Trying to photograph 50 or 60 former or historic firehouses over two days. Here are some of the decorations found on some of the older station buildings. More later.





Hi Mike,

Safe travels. You'll have fun in Philadelphia – awesome city with great firehouses. Don't forget to take photos of some of the current firehouses too! I recommend trying to catch Rescue 1 on Girard and Ladder 2 on N. 4th St (close to Old City). I look forward to seeing your photos.

Have fun!

-Trevor

**Trevor James** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/18/12 - 10:56

Hit Tony Luke's for an Italian roast pork sandwich with provolone and broccoli rabe (located at 39 East Oregon). See you in Balmo!!

**Silver** - 07/18/12 - 14:24

Have a great time Mike. This architectural detailing almost makes me cry for its beauty.

Keep `em coming!

**Chuk Gleason** - 07/19/12 - 10:27

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New Foam Trailer For Apex

07/19/12 88 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

Lee Wilson took this yesterday's of Apex's new foam trailer at Station 3. It was delivered about two month. The three-axle trailer carries 1,700 gallons (1,800 gallons max) of Class B ARAFFF foam, has a 1,200 GPM pump capacity (see reader details), and a 1,000 GPM monitor. Built by Plas-Tech Industries in Ocala, FL. It'll be pulled by a Ford F-550 pick-up truck. [See more photos](#). Or [see earlier post](#) about Raleigh's new foam trailer, also received recently.



Lee Wilson photo

And here are photos of Apex’s current/earlier foam trailer, in action at a “tar far” in New Hill a couple years ago, <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2010-0..>

**Legeros** - 07/19/12 - 09:41

Was the foam trailer used at the mulch/log fire yesterday?

**WATSON** - 07/19/12 - 13:52

No, was not used. Its only for chemicals.

**lee** - 07/20/12 - 13:35

1200 GPM PUMP?

**Rob Mitchell** - 07/21/12 - 18:23

No pump. It has 1200gpm eductors. I requires a pumper to flow to produce the foam. The unit can in turn supply foam to another engine or aerial and produce foam on all discharges. The facility that purchased it has an fdc and suppression system that this unit will supply.

**Apex Batt Chief** - 07/23/12 - 00:14

Name: (real name  
preferred)

Remember personal info?  
Yes

**Reporting From The Road**

07/20/12 63 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Getting ready for a day at the Baltimore Convention Center, starting with a social media session at 8:30 a.m. Maybe more severe weather downtown (and in town) as well. Heavy thunderstorms yesterday caused flooding in the adjoining Hilton hotel. (Didn't see it in Hanover, by my hotel, until some hours later.) More later.



Name: (real name preferred)  
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Scenes From The* « Reporting From The Ro... » Historic Firehouses o... *Show Floor*

### Scenes From The Show Floor

07/20/12 114 W, 5 I - + 9 - 2

Here's some of the colorful apparatus seen on the show floor at the Baltimore Fire Expo this week. They're all rescue or medical rigs, as it happens. Plus one other "colorful" photo. Not sure what to make of that guy. Doesn't have enough grey hair to be a 'geezer. Must be a squatter. Looks like the convention center has a pest problem. At least you can spot that joker guy coming a mile off.







mike i dont think At least you can spot that joker coming a mile off...is a wise choice of words after that shooting.where the guy said he was joker

**RFD FF** - 07/22/12 - 08:11

Good point. It will be interesting to see how usage and perception of that word is affected, as time passes.

**Legeros** - 07/22/12 - 09:13

Rescue Squad 741 (Bethesda-Chevy Chase) is a massive truck. I really am not sure how they plan on getting it down some of those streets, though the operator did a good job the one time I rode on it.

**Taylor** ([Email](#)) - 07/25/12 - 18:23

Tight lane = close eyes, push accelerator because the sides close in tighter, hope for the best, open eyes....hahahahaha, kidding of course. It was a beast though, plenty of compartmentation with it being a walk-in but no seating area in back that I saw.

**Silver** - 07/26/12 - 23:36

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preferred)  
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Historic Firehouses of Baltimore

07/20/12 74 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Hey Legeros, when are you going to post some pictures of old Baltimore houses? Relax, been there and done that. Was a couple years ago. For your viewing pleasure, [here's a Flickr gallery](#). And a [historical web page](#). Want to see explorations of some other cities, such as Detroit, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and St. Louis? [Visit this history page](#). Heck, there's even a mess of North Carolina stuff in there!



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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Howe, Howe, Howe

07/21/12 65 W, 2 I - + 8 - 1

Photographer [Lee Wilson](#) found this aging engine in Durham County the other day. That's Havelock's old Engine 1, a 1971 International/Howe that lives on Carpenter Pond Road near the Wake County line. Below that is Lee's photo from 1990, scanned from the film photo. Wonder if they make a special brand of GPS that targets such things!?



*Lee Wilson photos*

Yes, but it's organic; it's buried in the nose of photographers.

**Chuk Gleason** - 07/21/12 - 09:35

## Hey, Hey, Hey

07/21/12 75 W, 3 I - + 6 - 4

Here are a few more historic Philly fire stations, this time highlighting the hay lofts. Found a number of these, in stations dating to the early 1900s, when apparatus was horse-drawn. Some with wooden beams, some with metal. One old station had two lofts! That's old Engine 8, now Fireman's Hall Museum.









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## Carolina Brotherhood Bicycle Ride Starts Tomorrow

07/22/12 389 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

Inaugural Carolina Brotherhood Cycle Ride from Wilmington to Asheville begins July 23rd

30 Firefighters to Ride in Honor of Captain Jeff Bowen, Asheville Fire Department

Beginning Monday, July 23, firefighters from North Carolina and South Carolina will be joined by brothers from Florida, as they cycle over 400 miles in five days to pay tribute to Asheville Fire Department Capt. Jeff Bowen. He died on July 28, 2011, at a high-rise fire in a medical office building. Capt. Bowen, a member of Rescue 3, gave his life while searching for possible victims. Eight other firefighters were also injured. Firefighter Jay Bettencourt, one of the injured, will participate along with other Asheville firefighters in the demanding, cross-state bicycle ride.

This annual ride will be in tribute and support of the brothers and sisters from the Carolinas who have sacrificed their life for others. This year, the ride will make overnight stops in Elizabethtown, Rockingham, Charlotte, Forest City, and conclude at Asheville Fire Station 1. The cyclists will average 75 miles a day and end with a 6,000 foot elevation climb into downtown Asheville. Using GPS technology, the procession of each cyclist will be available in real-time on the website [www.carolinabrotherhood.com](http://www.carolinabrotherhood.com).



This rolling tribute from the coast to the mountains is relying on donations, support, and sponsorship as the sole means of reaching their goal. This year's proceeds will go to the widow and three children of Capt. Bowman. Help them raise \$40,000 by visiting the [Carolina Brotherhood web site](http://Carolina Brotherhood web site), to make a donation or buy t-shirts. You can also contact members about sponsorships. Follow them on Twitter @carolinablood or "like" them on [their Facebook page](http://their Facebook page).

Overnight layover with a next morning 8:00 am departure:

- 7/22 - Wilmington Elk Lodge - 5102 Oleander Dr., Wilmington, N.C. 28409
- 7/23 - Elizabethtown Baptist Church - 1800 West Broad St., Elizabethtown, N.C. 28337
- 7/24 - NCNG Armory - 1207 Rockingham Rd., Rockingham, N.C. 28739
- 7/25 - Palmer Fire Bldg. - 2601 East 7th St., Charlotte, N.C. 28204
- 7/26 - Callison Recreation Center - 217 Clay St., Forest City, N.C. 28403
- 7/27 - Asheville Fire Department Headquarters - 100 Court Plaza., Asheville, N.C. 28801

Riders and supporting participants:

- Asheville FD (10)
- Charlotte FD (13)
- Charleston FD, South Carolina (4)
- Raleigh FD (2)
- Columbia FD, South Carolina (2)
- Southwest FD, Florida (2)
- And firefighters from Dana, Salisbury, Wilmington, and Wilson fire departments in North Carolina.

**Shrimp Boat Burns Near Carolina Beach**

07/23/12 78 W, 1 I - + 7 - 8

Here's your morning hot shot, a shrimp boat that burned near Carolina Beach on Saturday night. New Hanover FD, Wilmington FD (with boat?), and the Coast Guard responded. A (fire?) boat from Military Terminal Ocean Sunny Point also assisted with lighting, [reports this WECT story](#). After extinguishing the flames, crews removed 3,000 gallons of water from the boat, to prevent the vessel from sinking.



*Darlene Strickland/WECT photo*

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Last Night's House* « **Shrimp Boat Burns Nea...** » **Saw You in Baltimore** *Fires in Apex and Holly Springs*

### Last Night's House Fires in Apex and Holly Springs

07/24/12 161 W, 2 I - + 9 - 7

Lightning started two serious house fires last night, during a period of heavy thunderstorm activity. This two-story home on Hoboken Court in Apex caught fire about 7:00 p.m. Arriving units found the attic fully-involved, reports [this WTVD story](#). The occupants escaped injury, and a cat was rescued from second-story windows. See [this NBC17 story](#) for some photos. Apex E3, E1, E2, L3, L4, B1, C1, Cary E5, B2, Morrisville P3 were among the units on scene.



*Steve Sbraccia/NBC17 photo*

This two-story home at 504 Gooseberry Drive in Holly Springs caught fires shortly before 8:00 p.m. The flames spread to a second house, which caught fire. The heat also damaged the siding on a third home, on the opposite side of 504 Gooseberry. Two additional engines were requested. Departments on scene included Holly Springs, Fuquay-Varina, Apex, and Cary. [See this WRAL story](#) for photos and video footage.



Thomas Babb/WRAL photo

Swift creek was there with Holly Springs also. Don't won't to leave anyone out.

**The real deal** - 07/24/12 - 08:24

Thanks Real Deal. I had just returned to town, and wasn't paying super-close attention to the scanner. Readers are welcome to add incident details and more departments/units that were on scene. More storms today!

**Legeros** - 07/24/12 - 08:40

Swift Creek E1 and Western Wake E191 were special called late for relief on Hoboken. Fairview was there early as well.

**Andrew** - 07/24/12 - 10:01

Fuquay engine 1 responded as well with a crew of 6

**joe** - 07/24/12 - 11:51

Fairview Engine 1 responded to the Hoboken fire. Fairview Engine 8 and Rescue 1 responded to the Gooseberry fire. Fairview Engine 8 was first in due to Holly Springs being tied up on other calls.

**79** - 07/24/12 - 15:05

Thank you to everyone that responded to Hoboken. We also had numerous EMS assistance including Truck 1. This was 3rdcall in 2 weeks that we have had Truck 1 on. They are a great asset.

**Apex Batt Chief** - 07/24/12 - 18:15

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Saw You in Baltimore

07/24/12 110 W, 2 I - + 8 - 3

[Photos have been posted](#) from last week's adventures in Baltimore and the Fire Expo therein. Some from the show floor, and some from the fire blogger booth. Okay, more than just "some." Left to right in this Saturday shot are Bill Schumm, one of the geezers from [Firegeezer](#), Firehouse columnist and book author Will Wyatt, and Dave Statter of [Statter911](#). Bill posted a number of updates, [including this one](#) and [this one](#). Also read [Dave's summary](#) for a run down of the various special guest stars that also appeared. Will play paparazzi for food.





View From The Console

07/24/12 110 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

There was a steady stream of Locution-dispatched fire and EMS calls in Raleigh and Wake County this afternoon, as a band of severe thunderstorms passed through about 4:00 p.m. How long did she go without taking a breath? Here's what the computer-aided dispatch (CAD) screen showed at about 4:14 p.m. That's showing 51 active incidents, with seven pending. Lots of trees down, wires downs, and smells of smoke. Kudos to the crews that have endured rain, wind, and other hazards these afternoons of late. (As well as the telecommunicators that face their own floods of phone calls and radio traffic.)



Is that an iPhone screen shot?

JJLBL - 07/25/12 - 08:52

Yeah, how'd you get this?

206 - 07/25/12 - 09:14

That's a screen capture, from a computer running the CAD interface software, as provided by a local chief officer.

Legeros - 07/25/12 - 09:15

Specifically, the PRINT SCREEN button with Windows XP (or later versions) captures a copy of your desktop to the clipboard. ALT + PRINT SCREEN copies the active window. The captured screen can be pasted into a document, e-mail message, etc.

Legeros - 07/25/12 - 09:17

Has anyone ever left work and just wanted to find the closest bar and drink a whole bottle of liquor? I did yesterday after this storm passed. We got it handed to us.



Challenging Extrication in Charlotte

07/25/12 83 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

This tractor-trailer turned over a guardrail in north Charlotte early this morning. The single-vehicle accident happened about 12:25 a.m. on the I-485 west ramp to I-77 north. Two people were extricated from the cab, and airlifted to Carolinas Medical Center. Huntersville FD, Long Creek FD, and North Mecklenburg Rescue were among the agencies on scene. Read more from [WSOC](#) and [WCNC](#). Truck was carrying rolls of paper that apparently shifted, causing the truck to turn over.



WCNC photo

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E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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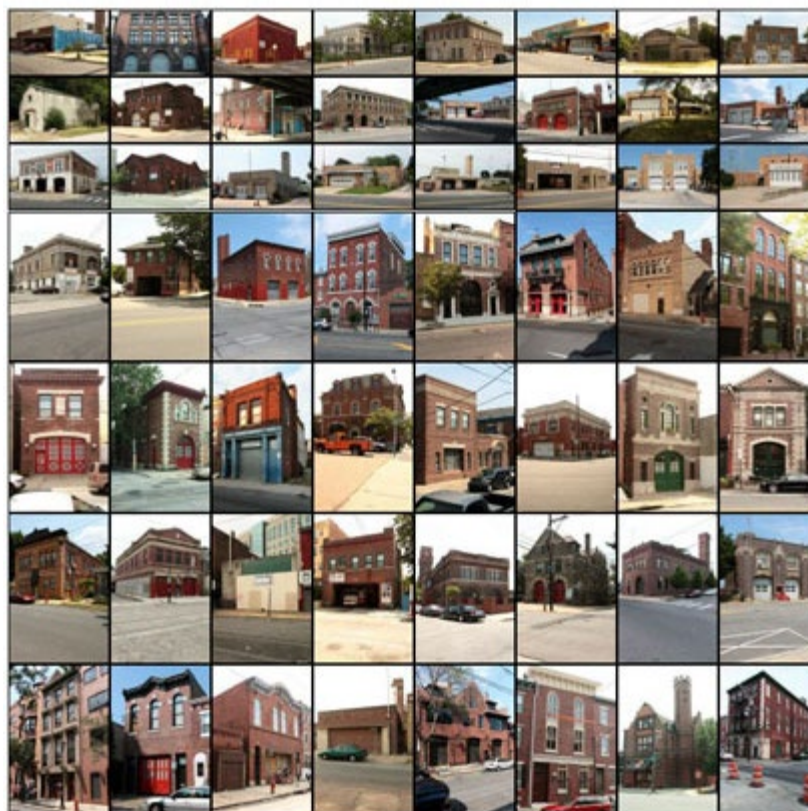
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Historic and Former Firehouses of Philadelphia

07/25/12 124 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

Presenting sixty-one structures that served the Philadelphia Fire Department, including a pair of high-pressure pumping stations, a pair of fire insurance patrol stations, and a trio of volunteer houses. The engine (and ladder) houses date from 1871, and with the oldest active station built in 1894. That's Engine 37 on Highland Avenue. Nearly all of these were photographed last week, during a two-day (!) blitz on the way to Baltimore. (Some 2,000 photos, of which 678 were posted. Yeah, a bit much.) [Read more about the firehouses](#), or view the [photo set on Flickr](#). Criteria for inclusion is (a.) active and older than 50 years of age or (b.) closed and of any age.



Great photos Mike. Thanks for posting them all. Did you by chance make it to Rescue 1 quarters on Girard St? I lived in Philly for 5 years back in the 90s and it's a fantastic city. Also, thanks for posting your photos from the Baltimore trip. Looks like you had a fun trip to the Firehouse convention, Baltimore and Philly.

-Trevor

**Trevor James** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/26/12 - 20:09

Negative, didn't get there. Believe that's Engine 29, which was built in 1972. Too new, wasn't on my list!

**Legeros** - 07/26/12 - 20:12

Yes correct. That station has some cool lettering (to match the style on the rigs) above each bay door (for example see: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/philadelphi..>). It's been photographed quite a bit to say the least.

-Trevor

**Trevor James** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/26/12 - 21:12

And here’s a fun PhillyFireNews discussion board thread about this, <http://pafirenews.net/messageboard/index..>

**Legeros** - 07/27/12 - 07:28

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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## Durham Police Officer Injured in I-85 Crash

07/26/12 146 W, 2 I - + 7 - 7

[WTVB yesterday posted photos](#) of the crash scene on Interstate 85 near Cole Mill Road, where a Durham police cruiser was rear-ended by a tractor-trailer truck, moments after it had pulled over another vehicle. The officer, who hasn't been identified, was transported to Duke Hospital and last listed in critical but stable condition. See also other news reports, [including this WRAL story](#). There's also a ground photo in [this story](#) from the *Herald-Sun*.



*Durham Herald photo*

It's perhaps worth mentioning that the state's "move over" law turned ten this year. It took effect in January 2002, and requires motorists to move one law away, if safely possible, from any law enforcement or other emergency vehicle that's on the side of the highway. Violations result in a mandatory fine of \$250 plus court costs. [More info](#).



*WTVB photo*

Please continue to keep Officer Gilliam in your thoughts and prayers. She is still in critical but stable condition. I was down at the city fleet building yesterday and had the chance to the squad car up close (<http://i.imgur.com/EAMfa.jpg>) and realized I had done radio & radar maintenance in this vehicle a couple of months ago. Officer Gilliam had all of her emergency lights activated and was as far over off the road as you can get. It has been noted elsewhere that the truck driver was reportedly under the influence and hopefully will be held accountable for this accident. To all of my LEO friends please always use extra caution and keep an eye on all surroundings on all vehicle stops no matter how routine so that you can make it home safely at the end of your tour of duty.

**Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 07/27/12 - 14:46

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

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**Stem's First Fire Engine vs. Cary's Second Tanker**

07/26/12 81 W, 2 I - + 9 - 1

[Look at this photo from Lee Wilson](#), showing the Stem Fire Department in Granville County's first fire engine, an ex-military tanker. Then look at this photo of Cary's second tanker, an ex-military tanker constructed in 1956. Closed cab versus open cab. Could Stem's still be a match, with a hard top later added? Or is that unlikely? Read more [Cary Fire Department history](#) (on a site that is, alas, outdated).



Lee Wilson photo



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes
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## Faces in Stone

07/27/12 116 W, 2 I - + 10 - 4

Here's an interesting feature of Engine 14's house in Philadelphia. Located on Foulkrod Street, the two-bay building was built in 1927. Adorning the bottom of a second-story balcony on the front are these four faces. Any architectural historians handy, who can explain their significance? Based on their expressions, perhaps they convey some sort of comedy or fool? And/or are they racial stereotypes? Doesn't look like that to me, but... (Apologies if we enter dangerous political territory, there. Equal apologies if these are dead-ringers from someone at your station.) See the [entire set of photos](#). See related thread [about building decorations](#).





Posed this question on the Philly Fire News board, and received this answer: "The sitting Mayor (or one of his staff) is usually the model for such statuary." Wild!

**Legeros** - 07/27/12 - 19:27

I worked in a lot of the old firehouse in New York City and I would take them over the newer ones. Plenty of room,especially if you were a student. One of the first things you learned as a Probie was how to stoke the coal burning furnace. Be prepared to be crucified by the senior man (AKA First Whip) if the fire died.

**John Rademacher (Captain FDNY retired)** ([Email](#)) - 07/30/12 - 20:45

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

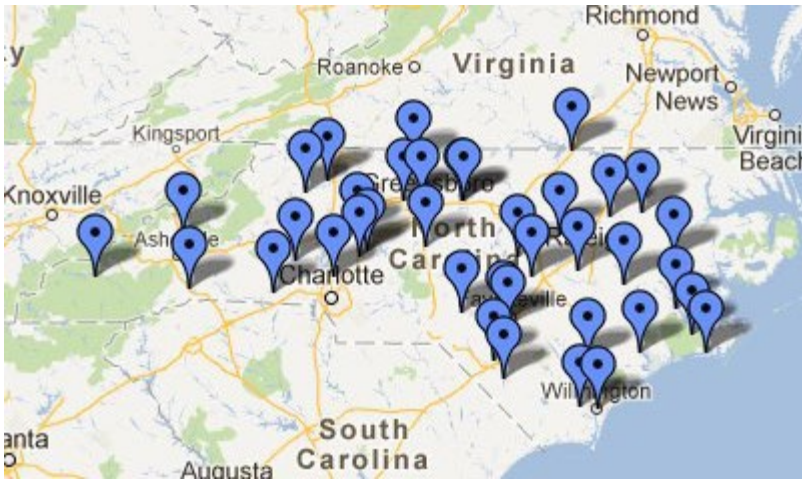
Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

North Carolina Fire Fatalities in 2012 via Google Maps

07/27/12 48 W, 1 I - + 9 - 8

Seen as posted on Facebook. Last updated four days ago. Interactive map showing this year's fire fatalities. Creator listed as "Frank." No contextual information provided, nor sources cited. [Access the map.](#)



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Super Pumper Appears at Michigan Muster

07/28/12 335 W, 7 I - + 13 - 10

The legendary Super Pumper appeared this week at the 2012 SPAAMFAA National Summer Conference in Frankenmuth, MI. Reader and Raleigh antique owner Tim Henshaw sent a couple camera photo photos. The tractor-drawn monster is owned by and resides at the Antique Toy and Fire House Museum in Bay City, MI. [Visit their web site](#). Click to slightly enlarge:



Tim Henshaw photos

Below is some historical information about the rig, plus pictures of Code 3 Collectibles excellent 1:64 scale models of same. Recommend also reading [John A. Calderone's book](#) about the Super Pumper System, published in 1985 and reprinted in recent years by *Fire Apparatus Journal*:





The Mack **Super Pumper System** was built in 1963 for the Fire Department of New York. Designed by Gibbs and Cox, a marine and naval architectural firm, the Super Pumper System consisted of five pieces of equipment: the tractor-drawn Pumper, a tractor-drawn Tender, and three smaller Satellite units. The Super Pumper System was designed for major fires and could deliver 8,800 gallons of water per minute through 4 1/2-inch hose for a distance of a quarter-mile or more.



The DeLaval 6-stage centrifugal pump was powered by a Napier-Deltic 18-cylinder engine of 2,400 horsepower, which roared so loudly that special ear protectors were required of the pump operators. The Pumper drew water from special, high-pressure hydrants or using a 12-inch suction hose which was lowered via rear-mounted winch into the river or harbor. The Tender carried over 2,000 feet of 4 1/2-inch supply hose and was equipped with a rear-mounted, rear-facing steering wheel, to assist with positioning the apparatus.

Mounted on the Tender's tractor was a giant deluge gun capable of flowing 4,000 gallons of water per minute from four 2 1/2-inch supply lines. The Super Pumper System Satellite units also had large deluge guns. Both the Super Pumper and the Super Tender were retired in 1982. The Super Pumper, which along with the tender required 15 people to operate, ran 2,200 calls during its time in service.

I was at a 5th.alarm in the South Bronx in the late sixties when the Super Pumper arrived. Five companies were taken off hydrants to supply it and in the interim, the fire almost got away again. The Satellites however were very useful in that they would place a large manifold in front of the fire building and then supply it with the 4 1/2" hose. I feel a better innovation in those days was the introduction of the Tower Ladder. With all the vacant building fires in the War years,it was the greatest tool to reduce exposure to the members.

**John Rademacher (Captain FDNY retired)** - 07/30/12 - 20:36

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

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Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Raffle Tickets Now Available For Second Annual Brotherhood Bash, Friday, August 10

07/28/12 167 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

Get your raffle tickets for the Second Annual Brotherhood Bash on Friday, August 10. The location is again Napper Tandy's at 126 N. West Street in downtown Raleigh. Tickets prices are \$5.00 for one, or \$20.00 for five. Top prizes include a Cairns N6A leather lid and a set of leather fire boots. Lots of other swag and door prizes will also be given given away throughout the night.

See any Capital Area FOOLS Board member and Wake County Firefighters Association member for tickets. You can also purchase tickets during the Fire Expo, on the show floor. Ticket sales will end at 8:45 p.m. on the day of the bash, Friday, August 10. Portions of the proceeds will be donated to the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

Here's the [Facebook event page](#). Here are photo's from [last year's bash](#). See YOU there for a fun filled night of fellowship and plenty of BROTHERHOOD!



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)



## Museum Celebrates History of Kinston Fire Department

07/29/12 73 W, 1 I - + 11 - 5

Here's a [neat video story from WRAL](#) about the [Caswell No. 1 Fire Museum](#) in Kinston. See also this [handful of photos](#) from inside the museum, plus exteriors. The shots are seven years old, alas. We'll work on shooting new ones. Read also [some Kinston Fire Department history](#), in the context of their former firehouses. Thanks for passing along, Adam!



I wonder if they have the old rosters from the Kinston Fire Department. 1920's era possibly?

**Curtis Teague** ([Email](#)) - 07/30/12 - 00:10

Another source for historical rosters is the North Carolina State Fireman's Association. Give their office a call, and they may have annual member rosters that you can copy.

**Legeros** - 07/30/12 - 21:54

Thanks. My Grandfather was a volunteer in Kinston for a while, it would be nice to find his record.

**Curtis Teague** ([Email](#)) - 08/01/12 - 00:09

Name: (real name  
preferred)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Morning Reading - July « Museum Celebrates His... » Fueling The Tiller 29, 2012

### Morning Reading - July 29, 2012

07/29/12 371 W - + 8 - 7

Good morning Raleigh. Just about back to normal, after a splendid week's vacation last week. Two nights in Philly (for [firehouses](#)), two nights in Baltimore (for the [expo](#)) and two nights outside D.C. (for recreation). Look through the prior blog postings for tales and photos. Now turning attention to next week's Fire Expo, as well as continued work on the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book. The cost of this limited edition, full-color, 260-page, hardcover volume is \$60.00 through December 1. What, you haven't [ordered your copy yet](#)? Watch this space for a fresh marketing push, and a preview of the production cover.

- [Vehicle slams into tree in Raleigh, killing three](#) - WRAL story. Bad times for bad accidents in our area. Last night's tragedy saw Engine 10 (and Eastern Wake?) dispatched about 8:30 p.m., with Ladder 8 and Garner Rescue 1 promptly special called. Among the other units at the extended extrication were EMS 62, Medic 91, and District 6.
- [Counting down to the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#) - Lots to be excited about. The show floor. The fire truck parade. The second annual Brotherhood Bash. And that renowned hysterical expert, He Who Wears the Hawaiian Shirts, appearing in two, count 'em two, conference sessions this year: a fire photography panel and a centennial history of the Raleigh Fire Department. See you there!
- [McClathy to end unlimited access to web sites](#) - *News & Observer* story about the *News & Observer* web site and others, which will be installing metered pay walls. Presumably includes *Cary News*, *Eastern Wake News*, and other local sites. No more unlimited free browsing. Bummer, but that's business. (Don't worry, this blog will always be free. Should probably pay *you* for the grand fun and great education that I have been having all these years.)
- [The 540 Outer Loop arrives in western Wake](#) - *News & Observer* story about the newest section of the Triangle Expressway toll road, which opens this week.
- [Atlanta helmet cam action](#) - Statter911 posting about posted footage from a recent apartment fire. We don't see a lot of fire videos in our state. Does that apply to the entire southeast, or, say, between Richmond and Atlanta?

The initial dispatch for the triple fatality was Garner Eng 4, Ral Eng 26, and Eastern Wake rescue 11. Eastern Wake responded with an engine which resulted in Ral L-8 and Garner R-1 being dispatched due to the pin ins. Garner Battalion 1 also responded.

**Mike** - 07/29/12 - 22:15

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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## Fueling The Tiller

07/29/12 111 W, 1 I - + 10 - 8

More than one driver likely did a double-take as they passed this service station today on Peace Street. That's Raleigh's 2010 Pierce Arrow XT tiller, better known as Ladder 4. And despite the camera's perspective, the rear cab clears the canopy with room to spare. Death, taxes, and diesel. Three constants of life. And long gone are the days of exclusive fueling using station tanks, or the old Dodge fuel truck that made the rounds on Saturdays. When was the retired, anyway? As for Raleigh fire stations with fuel tanks, they have included Station 1, Station 2 at Memorial Auditorium, Station 2 on Pecan Street, and Station 6. What others? Click to enlarge:



16's has a tank....right in your front yard Mikey.

**Silver** - 07/29/12 - 17:47

I knew that...

**Legeros** - 07/29/12 - 17:50

As to county stations, at Yrac we had our own as did Cary Area Rescue.

**DJ** - 07/29/12 - 22:11

Interesting fact about a department to the northeast. Wilson fire and rescue has a fuel truck that makes rounds several times a week. The chief stated this keeps his crews in district and in house with less out service time and more time to train. Interesting concept.

**Interesting concept** - 07/30/12 - 03:52

Cary has fuel tanks at every station for the apparatus and for the station generators that run on diesel. We also have fuel keys for the town pumps at the operations center.

**MSW** - 07/30/12 - 11:23

Morrisville also fuels its rigs at Cary station 7.

**Spanky** - 07/30/12 - 21:21

he Winston Salem Fire and Rescue Department has fuel tanks at all but one station. That is E-17/HM-1. It is because the land that the station sits on is near a large watershd. But there are three stations near-by that E-17 can use.

**Clay Simmons** - 07/31/12 - 11:37

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No	
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Comment:		/ <a href="#">Textile</a>

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Orange Grove Fire Company Opens Second Station

07/29/12 48 W, 2 I - + 12 - 3

Lee Wilson has posted photos of an open house at [Orange Grove Fire Company's](#) new Station 2 on Rocky Ridge Road in Orange County. The two-bay, metal building houses an engine and a tanker. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photos

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



## Laurinburg Ladder 1 (and More)

07/30/12 75 W, 2 I - + 8 - 6

Photographer Lee Wilson found himself in Scotland County this weekend, and snapped this well-posed photo of Laurinburg Ladder 1. That's a 1997 Sutphen aerial platform (1765/300'/100') from Brunswick, NY. It's served the [Laurinburg Fire Department](#) for about six years. (They have two stations, named Station 1 and Station 6.) [See more photos](#), including some apparatus from Hamlet in Richmond County. including their early 1920s American LaFrance pumper and 1949 Mack pumper.



*Lee Wilson photos*

That is probably the 1949 Mack that was featured in a Mack Fire Truck ad, as well as an early 60s edition of Compton's Encyclopedia.

**DJ** - 07/30/12 - 08:59



Wilmington Firefighters Memorial Volleyball Tournament, Saturday, August 4

07/30/12 165 W, 1 I - + 10 - 6

Our friends at the Wilmington Fire Department pass along this event notice. On Saturday, August 4, they're hosting a volleyball tournament at Capt'n Bill's Backyard Grill, 4240 Market Street, to help raise funds for the Wilmington Firefighters Foundation. Come and support the firefighters memorial that's being constructed at Station 2 at Empie Park. There will be raffle prizes, bounce houses for the kids, a corn hole tournament, and an exhibition game with Wilmington firefighters versus Wilmington police officers.

If you'd like to participate, early registration is \$100 for a four-person, co-ed team. All proceeds from the registration fees and raffle go towards the Memorial Fund. Registration for the tournament starts at 11:00 on Saturday, and the games will begin as soon as registration ends and the brackets are made. See [this tournament flyer](#) or visit the memorial web site at [wdfirefightersmemorial.org](http://wdfirefightersmemorial.org). For more information, contact Rodney Lester on Engine 1-B at Fire Headquarters.



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Who's Gonna Play This Old Piano?

07/30/12 105 W - + 11 - 5

Let's cruise off topic for an [interesting New York Times article](#) about the demise of used pianos. As their values have plummeted in recent years, owners are more likely to dump 'em than donate them. And many are also dying of old age, those that survived the golden age of American piano-making from 1900 to 1930. Interesting stories. And for a bit of appropriate musical accompaniment, here's Jerry Lee Lewis singing on the subject. Video clip from 1976, from the television series *Pop Goes The Country*. Song written by singer-songwriter Ray Griff, who had over 700 (!) songs turned into recordings.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Chasing Smoke in Salisbury

07/31/12 96 W - + 12 - 8

Found via random Google searching ("NC house fire"), [here's a YouTube video](#) of a house fire in Salisbury on Independence Day. User kenjr29mfl describes the clip(s): "As we were headed to the interstate to leave Salisbury we had to stop for an emergency signal. I saw that the Paramedics, two Fire Trucks, and the Fire Chief all left out on the call. So I decided to follow and see what was going on. Turns out it was a house fully involved in a fire."

I know it was the poster’s comments and not yours Mike, but that house is far from fully involved, at least in my part of the county anyways.  
**Mike** - 07/31/12 - 12:05

I agree Mike. Always cracks me up when you’re responding to a house fire, and sometimes the radio crackles with “PD on scene advising fully involved”; when you arrive you find fire coming out of one window. Gotta love the Brothers in Blue...  
**Silver** - 07/31/12 - 12:25

I stopped and took a few pic’s at their main station that same day! It was about 3pm. Missed the fire.  
**lee** - 08/01/12 - 02:42

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/ [Textile](#)

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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Driving By an Oak Island House Fire

08/01/12 84 W - + 8 - 3

Search YouTube for "house fire NC" and you'll find an assortment of interesting clips. Many are older or very older, and many are very short. Haven't found a "go to" place for local or statewide fire videos. Here's a 30-second clip of a house in Oak Island that's fully involved. No fire department yet, but a citizen with a garden hose. Listen to that wind. Footage is from five years ago.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *New Ladder For* « *Driving By an Oak Isl...* » *Keep Your Eye On The ...* *Columbia*

### New Ladder For Columbia

08/01/12 46 W, 1 I - + 7 - 7

Browsing the [Pierce new deliveries site on Flickr](#), here's an interesting rig recently received in Columbia, SC. Don't see a lot of mid-mount straight-sticks anymore. Are there any around here still operating, older or newer? Mid-mount towers, yes. [See more photos](#).



Doesn't Bethesda or Durham have a mid mount stick?

**Mike** - 08/01/12 - 09:29

Yes, you're right. Both of them.

**Legeros** - 08/01/12 - 09:48

Bethesda has a straight stick quint that they use as E411. Durham has E7, E16 and L1 that are straight sticks. and Durham also has a reserve ladder that is a straight stick

**charlie** - 08/01/12 - 10:35

Durham, WS Greensboro all have Mid-Mounts and all are Sutphens I believe.

**Clay Simmons** - 08/01/12 - 10:41

Wonder why Raleigh or Wake County Departments doesnt have mid mounts?

Just prefrance maybe?

**Buckwheat** - 08/01/12 - 12:58

Winston-Salem does have all mid-mount apparatus; it is a mix of sticks and platforms in both 100' and 75' and all Sutphens. The only other mid-mount in Forsyth county is Clemmons FD with their Pierce

**Joffre** ([Email](#)) - 08/01/12 - 14:15



Keep Your Eye On The Finger

08/02/12 47 W, 1 I - + 4 - 6

Poster campaign by the [Raleigh/Wake County Emergency Communications Center](#), to help curb the 911 misdialing that's been a pervasive problem since 10-digit dialing was implimented some months ago. This one was seen in the Dillon Building downtown. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Franklin Fire Apparatus Parade Video

08/03/12 50 W - + 10 - 9

Here's a Friday treat, from July 21, from the Ninth Annual Franklin Folk Festival, an apparatus parade to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the [Franklin Fire Department](#). Maybe a reader will share the roster of who participated, and even the makes/models of the rigs.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Durham Fire Department is Hiring

08/03/12 78 W, 1 I - + 11 - 6

Applications accepted starting August 6. [Learn more about the employment process.](#) Click to enlarge the below poster. Also curious what other department recruitment posters look like, around here or around the state. Share yours, via mail or posted link. Might get an interesting discussion out it as well. (Though we'll apologize in advance to any recruiters who might take same as a slam. Not intended. Your hard work is appreciated.) Click to enlarge:

LOOKING FOR A CAREER TO BE PROUD OF THAT ALLOWS YOU TO HELP PEOPLE AND HAS GREAT BENEFITS? THE CITY OF DURHAM NEEDS FIREFIGHTERS!


Qualifications

You must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Have a valid driver's license
- Be a permanent US resident
- Successfully complete firefighter and EMS courses provided during the paid Fire Academy
- Provide driver/criminal history for the past 7 years


You must NOT:

- Have any DWI convictions within the past 4 years
- Have any felony convictions
- Have been dishonorably discharged from Military




WHAT TO EXPECT

- Background Investigation
- Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Audio/Visual Testing
- Written Test (Aptitude Test-Not fire or medic related)
- Demanding Physical Fitness Evaluation including, but not limited to:
  - 1.5 mile run
  - Claustrophobia/confined space tolerance
  - Other physically demanding job related tasks



APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup> - AUGUST 24<sup>TH</sup>  
www.durhamnc.gov (Scroll down to Fire Dept.)  
919-560-4234  
City of Durham Human Resources  
301 City Hall Plaza - Durham, NC 27701



STARTING SALARY \$33,000

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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<https://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=5438>[10/15/2019 7:05:06 PM]

Charlotte Fire Department Turns 125

08/03/12 32 W, 1 I - + 12 - 6

Speaking of anniversaries, the Charlotte Fire Department has [posted this promotional video](#) to celebrate their 125th anniversary. The career fire department was placed in service on August 1, 1887.



Great Video! Capt. Brisley and Capt. Basnight do an awesome job marketing the fire department, especially on the web side of things.  
**Chris** - 08/03/12 - 09:45

Very nicely done.  
**Buckwheat** - 08/03/12 - 14:06

Happy birthday brothers and sisters! be safe!  
**Jason Lane** - 08/05/12 - 19:53

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

## Historical Activities at Next Week's Fire Expo

08/03/12 454 W - + 8 - 8

Several historical activities are planned for the [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#) in downtown Raleigh next week. Here's a summary of what's planned. See you there!

### Historical Displays in the Convention Center

Wednesday, August 8 - Saturday, August 11

Posters, display cases, and digital slideshows will be featured at the Raleigh Convention Center, celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the North Carolina State Fireman's Association. Look for artifacts displayed in both the lobby, and in display cases outside the conference rooms. Several giveaways are also planned to commemorate the anniversary. Ten pieces of antique fire apparatus will be also displayed within the Convention Center, including Raleigh's 1905 American LaFrance steamer (on the Mezzanine level) and Raleigh's 1926 American LaFrance pumper (on the exhibit floor).

*Please note that badges or day passes are required for attending both the Expo Floor, and the conference workshops.*

### North Carolina State Fireman's Association Historical Presentation

Friday, August 10

9:00 a.m.

Ballroom C

This 45-minute presentation will detail the development and progress of the North Carolina State Fireman's Association (NCSFA), and will also recognize fire departments throughout the state that are celebrating anniversaries this year.

### Centennial History of the Raleigh Fire Department

Friday, August 10

3:15 p.m.

Room 302A

Historian Mike Legeros will conduct a 90-minute presentation on the history of the Raleigh Fire Department, from the creation of the Capitol City in 1792 to present. He'll also talk about the history of firefighting in North Carolina, from the 18th Century to present.

### Fire Apparatus Parade

Saturday, August 11

9:00 a.m.

Outdoors

Classic and modern rigs from around North Carolina are participating in the Expo's annual fire apparatus parade. The parade route is Fayetteville Street to Davie Street to South Salisbury Street. After the parade, static displays of apparatus will be featured in the parking lots in front of the Progress Energy Center on South Street.

### Hand Pumping and Steam Pumping Demonstration

Saturday, August 11

11:30 a.m.

Outdoors

The Charlotte Fire Department will provide a demonstration of their 1866 Jeffers hand engine, which served the volunteer Neptune Fire Department. They will also provide a live steam and pumping demonstration of their 1902 American steam engine.

### Raleigh Fire Museum

Saturday, August 11

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Nearby

Free shuttle service will be provided to and from the museum, which is located nearby in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive. Please note that the Raleigh Fire Department's collection of antique apparatus is located at Fire Station 28 at 3500 Forestville Road, in northeast Raleigh.

*The Raleigh Fire Museum will also be selling centennial merchandise during the Expo. Visit the Raleigh Fire Department's booth to purchase t-shirts, stickers, challenge coins, and pre-orders for the Centennial History Book.*

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Matchbox Classic Seagrave

08/04/12 62 W, 1 I - + 7 - 8

Now appearing on store shelves near you. Bought mine at Target at Cary Crossroads. Scale not known. About three inches long. Ages three and above. Not bad for a buck! See a ton more images on [Google Images](#). Could make a heck of a promotional piece for departments that operated one.



Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

08/04/12 131 W, 1 I - + 9 - 8

What happened to Raleigh's 1924 ALF service truck chassis, 1936 ALF pumper, 1949 FWD pumper, 1951 ALF pumps (2), and 1957 FWD pumper? ([Read about those rigs.](#)) They were sold as surplus on December 20, 1976. The sale location was Fire Station 8, where some of the trucks had been sitting for a spell. The service truck chassis in particular had been collecting dust since 1963, when the ladder bed was removed and installed on a new Ford chassis. What became of these trucks? The 1936 pumper, if memory of conversations with the late Bob Biggs is correct, ended up wasting away in some woods in our area. (Or maybe it was down east?) The 1957 pumper was bought by a private owner in Knightdale, and later served the newly formed Hopkins Fire Department. Click to enlarge:

Form 340-10

# THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

## PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

### REQUEST FOR BIDS AND PROPOSALS ON

### SALE OF SURPLUS FIRE TRUCKS

Date, November 25, 1976

Presented to General Services of North Carolina, Section 143-20, to examine, record title and properties are listed and subject to the conditions on the reverse side hereof, will be received by The City of Raleigh, at the Office of the City Purchasing Agent at Room 307 Municipal Building, Raleigh, N. C. until 11 o'clock A. M. on Monday

day of week, the 24th day of December 19 76, at which time at a meeting at Room 307 Municipal Building in Raleigh, the sealed bids and proposals will be publicly opened for furnishing the apparatus, equipment, materials, equipment and/or repair work and services as described herein.

THE CITY OF RALEIGH

By

  
 Purchasing Agent

Name of Bidder

Address

Phone

NOTE: BIDDERS PLEASE FILL IN ABOVE

RFP Request No. 76-70

ITEM NO.	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1	1	1924 American LaFrance Service Truck Chassis only - SN 1941		\$
2	1	1949 PWD Truck - SN 115283		\$
3	1	1936 American LaFrance Pumper SN 7929		\$
4	1	1951 American LaFrance Pumper SN 14726		\$
5	1	1951 American LaFrance Pumper SN 14730		\$
6	1	1957 PWD Pumper SN DB0353		\$
<p>These units are unrepairable and have been stripped of all useable parts.</p> <p>Please contact Chief R. B. Keith at 755-6369 for additional information.</p> <p>Location: Fire Station #0 - Western Boulevard.</p> <p>Successful bidder must remove units within 10 days after award by City Council.</p> <p>DEPOSIT \$ <u>None Required</u></p> <p>URGENT! MUST HAVE RETURNED ON BID DUE ON CREDITORS CHECK OR CERTIFIED CHECK MUST ACCOMPANY PROPOSAL. SEE ITEM NO. 1 (CONDITIONS ON BACK OF THIS FORM.)</p> <p>(1976)</p>				

**POSITIVELY NO BIDS CONSIDERED UNLESS SUBMITTED ON THIS FORM**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS: All bids (sealed bids) may arrive in which you are bidding shall be shown at separate rooms and to be open without with price and. Bids to comply with time conditions will be considered grounds for rejection.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ Textile

## Raleigh's Cool New Police Cruisers

08/04/12 46 W, 2 I - + 14 - 8

Here's one of Raleigh's new police cruisers, one a couple Caprices that are being tested as possible replacements for the Crown Victorias that are no longer produced. The police department is also testing a couple other models. Click to enlarge:



---

there is another one out there with a way cooler Batman looking lightbar and cameras on it...

**Joe Brady** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 08/04/12 - 13:18

OK, so you are all saying what a wimpy car, right??? So... let's see, one of these "futuristic fuel savers" falls in behind you on I440 looking like the meek V6 "Impala-like" car of old; AND THEN you quickly find they are 6.0L V8, rear-wheel drive, Police only package monsters that are not available to civilians and capable of 154mph! Like Clint would say... "Go ahead...,make my day!" Details at:

<http://www.gmfleet.com/government/police..>

**A.C. Rich** - 08/04/12 - 16:58

Saw one today. Glad they are fast, they sure aren't good looking!

**gen3fire** - 08/04/12 - 18:39

I guess the big thing is that they get the job done....love the "go to hell" rims too.

**Silver** - 08/04/12 - 23:23

Fuquay pd has purchased a couple of the new ford taurus. The smoke the crown vics and handle like a subaru due to the all wheel drive. It has only a v6 too.

**fvpd** - 08/04/12 - 23:50

What other models are they testing?

**Will** - 08/05/12 - 00:08

Reminds me of RoboCop! I believe RPD is testing a couple of the Ford Taurus Interceptors too... I am fascinated at the power to weight in these cars. Here's a link to a side-by-side comparison for the Chevy, Ford, and the Dodge Charger.

[http://www.gmfleet.com/pdf/GM\\_Caprice.pdf](http://www.gmfleet.com/pdf/GM_Caprice.pdf).

**A.C. Rich** - 08/05/12 - 00:55

You will see marked chargers soon in cary. I was at the town shop just the other day and several 2012 chargers white in color were being sent off to have the graphics package added. I will snap a picture soon enough for Mike to add...

**Jay** - 08/05/12 - 01:52

I sure hope Cary PD updated their graphics and got out of the 1980s.

I am liking the newest WSO graphics the best out of anything in the county right now, except maybe Holly Springs and Apex PDs

**shevais** - 08/05/12 - 12:44

The black charger with gold stripes in Wake Forest looks good also.

**Rob Mitchell** - 08/05/12 - 15:31

"handle like a subaru".... don't think I've ever heard that before nor am I real interested in trying it out. Now... a "no charge option 6.0 v8" with 355hp and 384 ft. lbs torque now that is my kind of action.

**Car & Driver** - 08/06/12 - 15:36

Any chance of Chargers in Raleigh?

**Neil** - 08/06/12 - 22:38

@A.C. – Nice comparo. Not sure how having a longer car and only nine more HP in the V-6 over the Charger makes Chevy "Best-in-class", but heck, it's nice to see Chevy back in the V8, RWD police car market. But I'm a Dodge man, through and through, and would take a Charger (new or old) over all those others in a heartbeat.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 08/09/12 - 09:18

They did a side by side test of the Ford, Chevy and Dodge the other night on Top Gear. The Ford pretty much beat the others in every category. It was really surprising to me. They also featured a mock chase with a Corvette. Wake S.O. got a "shout out" for having the only Z06 Corvette being used as a LEO vehicle in the country.

**Russell** - 08/20/12 - 21:26

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Snakes Alive

08/05/12 54 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Rescued occupant from apartment fire on Timber Creek Lane this morning. Medic 95 arriving about two minutes after dispatch and reporting smoke showing from the rear of the building. Engine 17 first fire unit on scene. Stove alight, quickly extinguished. Most companies soon released. [See more photos by Mike Legeros](#). Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	
<a href="#">/ Textile</a>	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.



## Then & Now - Station 3

08/05/12 32 W, 2 I - + 6 - 4

What differences do you observe in these photos of Raleigh Fire Station 3 from 1954 and today? Other than the position of the camera, that is. Click to enlarge:



The only big difference I notice is the addition of a rack to hang mops.

**Rescue Ranger** - 08/05/12 - 20:34

The windows are different. There looks to be an a/c unit at the rear. Upper deck at the rear. Tree has grown up, along with the fence present and the landscaping out at the street. Plus there use to be an ALF 700 series pumper and what looks like the front of the ALF 400 series pumper in there. I remember during the late 60s when the last ALF 900 series was placed there for a while (even with the number '10' on it) and the 1950 FWD pumper was also kept there. My Cub Scout troop visited this station on a Saturday afternoon when the #10 ALF and the old FWD were there. They fed us lunch that day (Jesse Jones hot dogs on the grill), let us slide down the pole, and they hooked up a 'huge hoseline' and let us spray water into the street.



DJ - 08/06/12 - 10:36

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[Dave Statter posted a posting about this video](#) over the weekend, showing a car fire in a transport trailer and also captured some exasperated comments from the vehicle's owners. From outside Chicago, in Arlinton Heights, IL. Reading the 28 comments posted so far, there's a difference of opinion regarding the use of breathing air. Winds blowing away from the nozzle man. He's keeping a cautious distance as approaches. For some readers, that make senses. For others, that's crazy man. Discuss as desired. Good video work from the *Arlington Cardinal*, though!

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Wilmington Fire Station 2 Update

08/06/12 176 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

[FireNews has posted an update](#) and photos of Wilmington's new Fire Station 2, which reopened on July 31. The facility is located at 3403 Park Avenue at Empie Park. It replaced an older station at the same location that was demolished in August 2011 due to mold problems. The 9,000 square-foot building is 880 square-feet larger, and has three bays instead of two. An open house and ribbon-cutting is planned for Saturday August 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

A memorial garden is also planned for the location, including an artifact from the World Trade Center. It will be funded through private donations and sponsorships. Construction of the garden and monument is expected to begin next year. [Learn more about the memorial.](#)

The Wilmington Fire Department has lost six members in the line of duty: Asst. Chief Willie Monroe (1932, vehicle accident), Fire Chief Charles Schnibben (1933, vehicle accident), Lt. Raymond Core (1935, collapsed at fire), Lt. Emmett Williamson (1941, heart attack), Firefighter? Oscar Willis (1956, wall collapse), and Asst. Chief Harold Sandlin (1987, natural gas explosion). Source: [Legeros fallen firefighters database](#).



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

High Point Water Rescue Photo

08/06/12 162 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

High Point Enterprise photographer Don Davis snapped this dramatic photo on Saturday, of High Point firefighters preparing to rescue a motorist stranded by flash flooding on North Elm Street. Lots to like, from the depth of focus to the sense of movement captured in the image. [Read the story](#). The picture was transmitted on the AP wire services, so it's appeared in such other places as firehouse.com.

And speaking of incident photography, Yours Truly will be participating in a panel on the topic at the [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#) on Friday, August 10. From 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. FireNews Editor Jeff Harkey moderates, with Legeros, Bob Bartosz, and Rob Brisley discussing their work and the craft. We'll be answering questions on any and every related topic. Bring a question, or bring several questions. [Read workshop discussion](#). Autographs are free, of course. Or maybe we're supposed to pay you!?!



Don Davis/High Point Enterprise/AP photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Fire Expo: Big Banner Up Close

08/08/12 163 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

August 7

**Updated with super-large image!** File is just under 7 MB in size. Can also spy with my eye Apex, Bay Leaf, Beaufort, Cherryville, Fairgrounds, Gastonia, Graham, Hopkins, Knightdale, Mt. Airy, Raleigh-Durham Airport, Sanford, Shelby, Wake New Hope, Warrenton, Williamston, and Zebulon fire departments. Pretty cool!

August 6

Check out the Salisbury Street side of the Raleigh Convention Center, and the montage of historical photos promoting this week's [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#). Can see a number of familiar old photos in there, if not mistaken, from Albemarle, Asheville, Biltmore Forest, Carthage, Cary, Charlotte, Durham, Durham Highway, Garner, Greensboro, Goldsboro, Hickory, High Point, Nashville, Raleigh, Rolesville, Six Forks, Wendell, Western Boulevard, and Wilson fire departments. Need a closer look to confirm all of them, and the others. And one of these years, we'll resume working on a book of historical fire photos from across the state. That one needs to be done. Click **once or twice** to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

/ [Textile](#)

Airport Firefighters Cushion Helicopter Landing with Station Mattresses08/07/12 119 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

From a reader, here's an impressive story out of San Antonio. On Sunday, a medical helicopter struck a cellphone tower and lost a landing skid. Diverted to the airport, the pilot asked if firefighters had anything soft that could be placed under the craft. He suggested mattresses, so the quick-thinking firefighters headed to the station's dormitory. They grabbed three mattresses, plus weights from the weight room to hold the makeshift cushions in place. The helicopter landed safely, and with no injuries to the patient and three crew members. [Read the entire story](#) from the *San Antonio Express-News* and see a couple more pictures. Thanks James!



San Antonio Express-News photo

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Web Site: (optional)

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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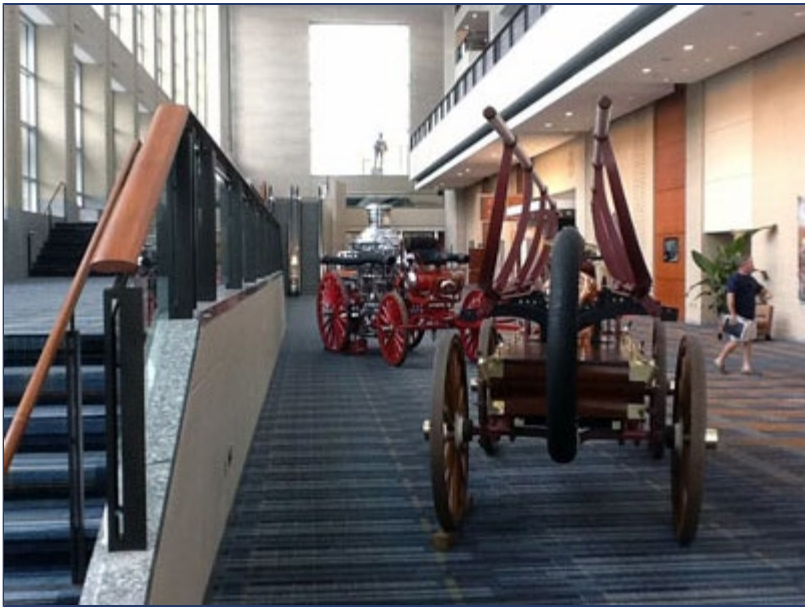
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question



**Fire Expo: Antique Sneak Peek**

08/08/12 56 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

FireNews.net posted this photo on [their Facebook page](#). That's Charlotte's 1902 steamer "Old Sue" and 1866 Jeffers hand pumper on display at the Raleigh Convention Center, at the [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#). Ten, count 'em ten, antiques will be displayed inside the center this week. Click to enlarge:



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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Fire Expo: Centennial Merchandise For Sale

08/08/12 61 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

The [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) is selling centennial merchandise this week at the [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#). Visit the Raleigh Fire Department booth on Friday and Saturday to purchase tee-shirts (gray and blue), challenge coins, and stickers. You can also pre-order your copy of the [Centennial History Book](#).



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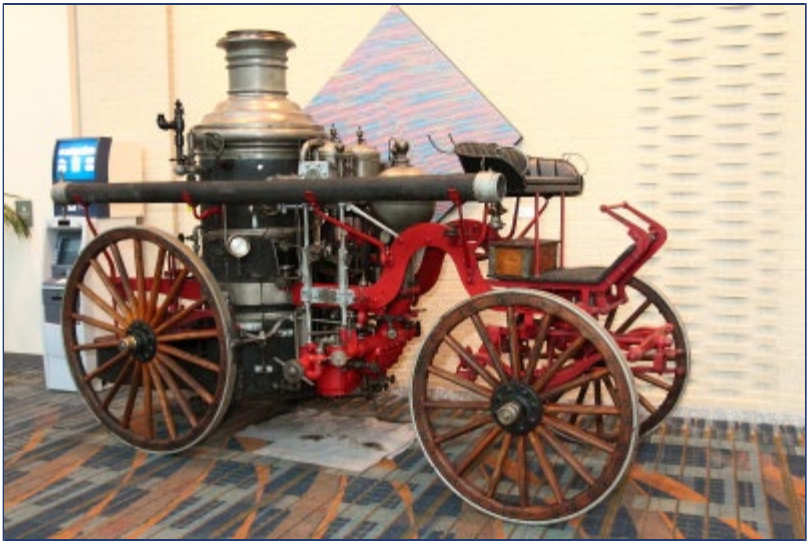
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Fire Expo: By Hand, By Horse

08/08/12 106 W, 3 I - + 5 - 7

These three beauties are displayed on the Lenoir Street side of the Raleigh Convention Center, for this week's [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#). Top to bottom is Charlotte's 1866 Jeffers hand-pulled, hand-powered engine, Charlotte's 1902 American Metropolitan steam engine "Old Sue", and Raleigh's 1905 American LaFrance Metropolitan steam engine. The steamers were horse-pulled, though that wasn't always the case in the Old North State. Some of our earliest steam engines were pulled by hand (!), including Raleigh's 1870 Gould steamer. [Learn more steamer history](#). All three of these will be demonstrated with live pumping on Saturday. Don't miss it! Click to enlarge:





Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

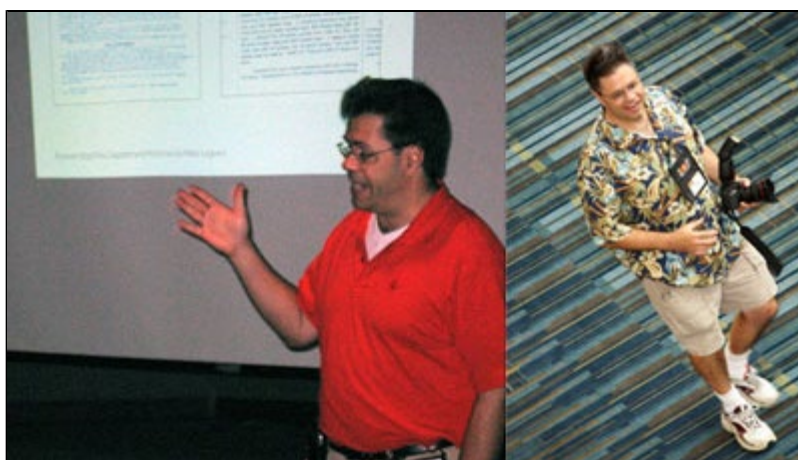
**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Fire Expo: Meet Mr. Blogger

08/09/12 295 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Author/historian/photographer/blogger Mike Legeros will be appearing at two workshops on Friday, August 10, at the [South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo](#). Jury's still out on what he'll be wearing. Probably a golf shirt, but maybe he'll take the tropical plunge this year.



*Both of these people will be appearing at the Fire Expo*

### **On Scene – Emergency Service Photography**

Jeff Harkey, Editor in Chief, FireNews.net, Moderator

Bob Bartosz, Camden City/County (New Jersey) Fire Photographer (retired)

Mike Legeros, Historian, Raleigh Fire Department

Other participants/special guest stars TBD, due to schedule changes

Friday, August 10, 2012

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Room 302A

This panel discussion will open with each panelist presenting an overview of their work. These ten-minute overviews will be followed with a panel discussion on such topics as night photography, fireground safety, what to do with your pictures, and protecting the interest of agencies and the fire service. Plus the panel will answer audience questions, such as "how often do you hear the phrase 'you'll break your camera if you take their picture'?" (Answer: Too often.)

### **Centennial History of the Raleigh Fire Department**

Mike Legeros, Raleigh Fire Department Historian

Friday, August 10, 2012

3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Room 302A

This year, the Raleigh Fire Department celebrates its 100th anniversary as a career fire department. Historian Mike Legeros looks back over the past two centuries, beginning with the city's creation in 1792, the formation of the first fire company in 1819, and the organization of the volunteer Raleigh Fire Department in 1852. He'll continue into the modern age with a decade-by-decade fire department history in the 20th Century. This workshop will also provide a contextual history of 300 years of firefighting history in North Carolina.

## Fire Expo: Be the Bash

08/10/12 188 W, 2 I - + 8 - 4

Reminder! Brotherhood Bash tonight. Napper Tandy's on West Street. Here's the last thing we posted, about raffle tickets. No time for all new-posting. Bust my chops tonight as desired...

July 28

Get your raffle tickets for the Second Annual Brotherhood Bash on Friday, August 10. The location is again Napper Tandy's at 126 N. West Street in downtown Raleigh. Tickets prices are \$5.00 for one, or \$20.00 for five. Top prizes include a Cairns N6A leather lid and a set of leather fire boots. Lots of other swag and door prizes will also be given away throughout the night.

See any Capital Area FOOLS Board member and Wake County Firefighters Association member for tickets. You can also purchase tickets during the Fire Expo, on the show floor. Ticket sales will end at 8:45 p.m. on the day of the bash, Friday, August 10. Portions of the proceeds will be donated to the North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

Here's the [Facebook event page](#). Here are photo's from [last year's bash](#). See YOU there for a fun filled night of fellowship and plenty of BROTHERHOOD!







Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
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## Fire Expo: Steamer Crews

08/12/12 118 W, 2 I - + 6 - 3

Pictured are the steamer crews from the Charlotte and Raleigh fire departments, who demonstrated on Saturday their 1902 American (CFD) and 1905 American LaFrance (RFD) steam engines, respectfully, as part of the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo.

Shown left to right are Capt. Robbie Myers (CFD) Capt. Michael Ezzell (RFD), Engineer Jeff Dixon (CFD), Lt. Patrick Murphy (RFD), Capt. Buddy Caldwell (CFD), and Battalion Chief Shane Nantz (CFD). Not pictured is Asst. Chief Bert Richards (RFD).

Photos and even a couple short videos from Mike Legeros are forthcoming. [Here's a story in today's News & Observer](#) about the antique apparatus demonstrations, which also included Charlotte's 1866 hand engine. Was an exciting, educational afternoon. Click to enlarge:



Charlotte's 1866 Jeffers hand engine and 1902 American steam engine, and Raleigh's 1905 American LaFrance steam engine in operation on Saturday, outside the Raleigh Convention Center and as part of the South Atlantic Fire-Rescue Expo. Mobile phone footage. Really short. What other videos from Saturday are worth noting? [Here's the parade](#) as shot by Fire Rescue TV. (And to watch a larger version of the below clip, click on the title at the top of the embedded video. That works with all embedded YouTube videos.)

Name: (real name preferred)

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Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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Yes, hide my email address.

Fire Expo: Workshop Slides

08/13/12 82 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

PDF versions of my workshop slides from Friday have been posted to [www.legeros.com/slides](http://www.legeros.com/slides). Available for viewing or download is the content from "A Centennial History of the Raleigh Fire Department" and the "Meet Mike Legeros" segment of an incident photography panel. See me in person for autographs. Also available for weddings and bar mitzvahs. Thanks to those who attended. Was very enjoyable as always.



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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Back to Work

08/13/12 99 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

The South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo was a blast. Time to get back to work and back to regular blogging. Watch this space for... everything else that we usually post about. Mr. Blogger is rested and ready to resume normal operations. That is, once he's finished posting and processing a few more photos. Those'll get done this week. That's Little Betsy from Roxboro, by the way, and winner of Best Specialty Apparatus in the Expo parade. It takes a real man to ride a wee truck. Happy Monday.



That’s Roxboro FD Chief Kenneth Torain driving.

Gary Clayton - 08/13/12 - 13:45

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**



Wake County Fire Academy Now Hiring

08/14/12 37 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Applications are now being accepted for Wake County Fire Academy Recruit Class 5. The class begins January 7, 2013, and graduates June 26, 2013. The application process closes November 19, 2012. See this flier for more information:



Wake County Fire Academy  
Recruit Class 5

Wake County Fire Services is now  
accepting applications for Recruit Class 5

Class 5 begins January 7, 2013 and  
graduates June 26, 2013.

**Requirements**

Complete an application and send to:  
Wally L. Dornay  
Wake County Fire Services  
331 South McDowell Street  
Raleigh, N.C. 27602

Must be 18 years of age on the start  
date of the academy

Must provide proof of H.S. Diploma or  
GED

Must be affiliated with a fire  
department


Must provide proof of a valid driver's  
license




Must provide documentation from a  
physician that you are physically capable  
of performing activities associated with  
the academy

Must acquire the supplies, materials,  
uniforms and equipment as required

Successful candidates will  
receive the following:

Firefighter I & II  
Hazardous Materials Responder  
EMT - Basic  
ICS 100 & 200  
Firefighter Rescue  
Firefighter Survival  
Technical Rescuer  
SCBA Fit Testing





For an application or more about this program contact:  
Joe Knurowski at 919/387-4338  
joseph.knurowski@wakegov.com

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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Published in today's *News & Observer*, in response to the [August 12 story](#) about the steamer demonstrations at the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo:

Old-time steamers

Allow me to add a historical footnote to the Aug. 12 article about antique engines at the South Atlantic Fire-Rescue Expo. A century earlier, steam fire engines (or steamers) were a regular feature of the annual convention of the N.C. State Fireman's Association. Each year's event, held in different cities, included an annual tournament. Fire companies and fire departments from the mountains to the coast participated. There were two steamer contests, with trophies awarded for quickest steam and longest distance of water stream.

At the 1894 convention in Winston, for example, the contest was entered by Greensboro, New Berne, Salem, Wilmington, Winston No. 1 and Winston No. 2. New Berne won the \$50 prize for quick-steaming, with a time of 3:19 2/5 .

Wilmington won the \$20 prize for long distance, "throwing 275 feet." A strong wind assisted their victory. The steam engine contests were discontinued in the 1910s. They were replaced by motor contests beginning in 1930. The last tournament was held at the 1940 conference in Salisbury.

Raleigh's 1905 American LaFrance steamer was restored to operational condition to help celebrate the department's 100th anniversary this year. It made its debut in downtown Raleigh at the Centennial Birthday Party, which was held on June 16, versus this weekend, as noted in the article.

Mike Legeros  
Raleigh Fire Department Historian  
President, Raleigh Fire Museum  
Raleigh

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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## Scenes From The Fire Expo, Part 1

08/14/12 133 W, 3 I - + 6 - 4

[Have posted half of my photos](#) from the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo: the parade and hand engine demonstration from Saturday, and the full series of Brotherhood Bash photos from Friday. More coming. [See also this video](#) of the hand engine and steam engines operating. See also Lee's pictures from the [Fire Expo](#) and [Brotherhood Bash](#), plus the [Haz-Mat Challenge](#). The hand engine demonstration was a particular treat, and particularly for those who've never seen one in operation (such as myself). It also provides a nice contextual introduction to hand engines of that era. Raleigh's last-delivered engine was likely the same size and style. More on that later.





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☐ Yes  
☐ No

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## Chapel Hill's Old Engine 36

08/14/12 94 W, 2 I - + 9 - 0

Reader and photographer (see his [Picsa site](#)) Andrew Messer found Chapel Hill's old Engine 36 in Campobello, SC. The 1980 Mack CF pumper is parked at Carolina Trailer Sales, just off Interstate 26. Click to enlarge. Thanks Andrew!



*Andrew Messer photo*

[Here's an earlier photo](#) of the truck by Lee Wilson, taken in ~~January 2011~~ several years ago. Interesting pre-connected hose on the rear driver's side, perhaps re-purposed from a hard suction hose rack? Maybe readers can tell about its history. Or about similar pre-connect experiments and innovations.



*Lee Wilson photo*

---

The attack line was used for like a jump line. It was used for like car fires and dumpster fire and such. It was 100 ft 1 3/4.



Knightdale's Loaner Ladder

08/16/12 45 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

This 2002 American LaFrance mid-mount aerial ladder (95-foot) is now serving Knightdale Public Safety as Ladder 135. Their 1997 Pierce aerial ladder (added in 2009) is headed to the shop for six months of repair work. [See more photos by Lee Wilson.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Who loaned them that one? What’s wrong with the other one that it needs 6 months of work?

**Steve** - 08/18/12 - 12:13

I believe it has a few things wrong, but the main issue is a cracked frame. The company that is fixing it is letting them use the loaner.

**George** - 08/18/12 - 21:33

Ouch! That sounds like a super expensive fix! Good thing they have a loaner for them though, that’s great

**Steve** - 08/19/12 - 15:23

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E-mail: (optional)  
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Yes  
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Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Morrisville's Old Engine Returns Home

08/16/12 90 W, 2 I - + 8 - 4

This old beauty was returned to the Morrisville Fire Department on Monday, after a period of storage at the town's maintenance facility. Believe the 1963 Chevrolet/Darley 500/500 pumper was Morrisville's first newly-delivered engine, after a military surplus, shop-built pumper that was placed in service when the department was organized in 1955. (During that first decade they also operated a brush truck converted from a military surplus Dodge Power Wagon.) [See more photos from Lee Wilson](#), including it's first washing in some years.



Lee Wilson photos

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?  
Yes



## Morrisville's First Fire Engines

08/16/12 76 W, 5 I - + 8 - 3

Found these in my files. The first photo is a *News & Observer* image. The others were scanned from the scrapbooks and files of the Morrisville Fire Department, when my *Raleigh and Wake County Firefighting* books were being researched. That was a decade ago. The color photos are dated 1971. That's either a 1969 or 1970 Chevrolet tanker, 1,200 gallons. Plus the apparatus mentioned in [the prior posting](#). Click to enlarge:



*News & Observer photo*





Parkwood Fire Department's Third Annual BBQ Cook-Off, October 12-13, 2012

08/18/12 53 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

The Parkwood Fire Department in Durham County is holding their annual Pork BBQ Cook-off and Fundraiser on October 12-13, 2012. They're looking for people or teams to compete, as well as sponsors. Deadline for entry is September 30. [See this flier](#) (PDF) for more information.



### Parkwood Fire Department

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual BBQ Cook-Off

### October 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> 2012

Parkwood Fire Department will hold their 33rd annual Pork BBQ and Brunswick Stew along with the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual BBQ Cook-Off at Parkwood Fire Department Station 1 at 1409 Seaton Rd. Durham NC. All contestants will come together to compete in Grand BBQ Cook-Off Style. We will be cooking Whole Hog. All meat will be provided, all you have to do is cook! Team entries will be served to the public during the BBQ fundraiser. Samples will be judged prior to the start of the BBQ fundraiser. The prizes have been increased this year!

Come enjoy the day-long camaraderie and show your support for Parkwood Fire Department

**Entry Fee:**  
There is a \$50.00 entry fee for each team. However, We strongly encourage you to get a sponsor for your team. If you provide your own sponsor, we will waive your entry fee. Sponsorship information is attached. We appreciate your help in securing sponsors.

**1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE \$1000**



**Friday Oct 12<sup>th</sup>**

2:00pm - 7:00pm	More in and Setup
5:00pm - 7:00pm	Chief Cooks Meeting
8:00pm	Meat distribution & Competition Starts
11:00pm	Quiet Hours begin

**Saturday Oct 13<sup>th</sup>**

8:00am - 10:00am	Prothonotary meet (sponsors check out)
10:00	and judging sample containers distributed.
10:00	Judging samples collected.
10:00-10:30	Single collection of BBQ (from individual) teams and also show up on a table.
11:00	Competition results table, and Sponsor Recognition

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Yes  
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## Tuesday's Tanker Incident in Warren County

08/18/12 198 W, 3 I - + 8 - 3

[FireNews.net has posted a story](#) and photos from photographer John Franks, who was on scene at Tuesday's tanker incident in Warren County. About 4:40 p.m., Warrenton Fire Department was dispatched to an overturned vehicle about three miles south of town on Highway 401 at Rifle Range Road. Arriving units found a tractor-drawn tanker on its side. The cargo was 9,500 gallons of LP gas. No leak was detected.

Mutual aid was requested from neighboring Afton-Elberon FD. The county Fire Marshal's office was requested, and North Carolina Emergency Management was contacted. North Carolina Haz-Mat Regional Response Team 4, operated by the Raleigh FD, also responded to provide air monitoring and technical expertise. (That's 47.5 miles from Station 27, where Haz-Mat 2 is housed. Google Maps says 57 minutes driving time.)

[Read the entire story](#) to learn how the incident was mitigated, which involved off-loading the product into a second tanker (half before, half after) and utilizing three, count 'em three large wreckers (also from Raleigh, from Ivey's towing) to right the thing. And all while thunderstorms were steadily approaching. There's your pucker factor. And see many more photos on [John's Flickr site](#). Good work!





John Franks photos

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

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How Important is Good Writing?

08/18/12 99 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Saw this this week in the *New York Times*, one of their "Room for Debate" features on the topic "Is Our Children Learning Enough Grammar to Get Hired?" Five columnists offer their opinions on writing skills and hire-ability. How does this impact people who work in emergency services? Probably or certainly as a sliding scale. Maybe minimal at the entry-level, but obviously important as you, um, climb the ladder. Discuss as desired. And here's a special stock photo, created just for this posting...



How well you write demonstrates your mastery of the English language. It is a measure of who you are and, when it gets right down to it, how smart you really are. Yes, there are people who do not write well who are very intelligent. The sad part is, that is not how they come across. Especially to potential employers. Additionally, in this day of a litigation-hungry society, always seeking the "quick pay-off", poor writers are easy prey for mediocre lawyers. And it is simple things, like your/you're, then/than, to/two/too, etc.

DJ - 08/19/12 - 11:56

Dale, there's an interesting irony here. The Internet age affords the opportunity for much more practice at writing (and typing) skills. E-mail and social media make excellent proving grounds. You just have to pay attention. Becoming even slightly self-aware of how you're expressing yourself (and how well the other person is comprehending you) results in reaped rewards.

Legeros - 08/19/12 - 12:24

ah can appreesheeate th' filosopy an' prackice of writin' fine. Yo' sh'd be reel car'ful when writin' whar th' publik can see ya!

A.C. Rich - 08/19/12 - 13:23

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



## Pierce Peeks

08/20/12 97 W, 3 I - + 5 - 11

Cursing around the [Pierce Flickr page](#) finds a couple interesting apparatus photos for your Monday morning. Here's Wilson's Mills' new Engine 2. Looks like an Arrow XT (?) pumper-tanker.



Check out these striking Velocity engines from Stafford, TX. Black tops, black wheels, curved striping, and bumper chevrons:



And anything from my hometown of Minneapolis and around the Twin Cities always catches my eye, like this shiny service truck and/or heavy rescue from Burnsville, MN. That's the land of really fully-enclosed apparatus, where even the pump panels get enclosed on some rigs:



Garner’s new Eng 1 should be in in a couple of weeks hopefully as the final takes place soon.

**Mike** - 08/20/12 - 10:32

Were you really cursing or cruising?

**Ryan** - 08/20/12 - 11:47

Ryan, somebody needs to point out to this blogger the importance of good writing and accurate typing!

**Legeros** - 08/21/12 - 08:36

I think Wilson’s Mills is a Saber, with the extended cab option.

**JoCo** - 08/22/12 - 09:01

It is a saber. Look for the pierce in the top of the grill. Arrows have the boxes built around the A/C units on the cab also.

**firerunner184521** - 08/22/12 - 22:29

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

# Wilmington Fire Chief Invents Pressure Gauge

08/21/12 169 W, 2 I - + 5 - 4

Did you know that Wilmington Fire Chief J. Luddie Croom invented a pressure gauge for fire apparatus? Created in the late 1930s, the gauge added additional markings to compute nozzle pressure and overcome friction loss. Croom was a member of the Wilmington Fire Department from 1907 to 1954, and Chief of Department beginning July 1, 1937. He was also a founding instructor of the North Carolina Fire College, created in 1928. Here's an article describing the gauge, which he invented during his tenure as Asst. Chief. Click to enlarge:



And here's a view of the actual gauge, as found and photographed other week at the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo. The picture and information is courtesy of Wilmington Fire Department Battalion Chief and Historian Chris Nelson. The gauge, the first one he's seen in person, was mounted on Wilson's 1929 American LaFrance pumper. Next question, who else has one of these mounted on an old truck? [See more photos](#), or click to enlarge this view:





Selma Fire Department has one on our 1937 lafrance.

Phillip McDaniel - 08/24/12 - 15:43

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

[FireNews.net](#) reported [yesterday](#) that the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) report has been released on the death of Asheville Fire Department Captain Jeff Bowen. He died on July 28, 2011, while fighting a high-rise fire. [Read the report](#) (PDF). See also this [Asheville Citizen-Times story](#) from yesterday, and this [City of Asheville press release](#).



**Death in the line of duty...****NIOSH**  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

A summary of a NIOSH fire fighter fatality investigationJune 25, 2012

**A Career Captain Dies and 9 Fire Fighters injured in a Multistory Medical Building Fire—North Carolina**

**Executive Summary**

On July 28, 2011, a 37-year-old career captain died and 9 fire fighters were injured in a 6-story medical building fire while searching for the seat of the fire. At 1228 hours, dispatch sent four companies (2 engines, 1 truck, and a squad company) to an automatic fire alarm at a multistory medical building. Engine 2 reported a working fire with heavy smoke and fire showing on the top floor rear of structure and requested a second alarm. Instead, the dispatch center sent a Division Chief, Battalion Chief, Safety Officer, Engine Company, Rescue company, and Fire Marshal as the complement for a working fire first alarm. Engine 2 fire fighters connected 100 feet of 2½-inch hose line to the standpipe in the stairwell on the top floor. Engine 2 flowed water for several seconds when their low-air alarms went off and they exited the structure. Engine 3 took the hose line but had issues getting water to flow. The top two floors and north stairwell were now heavy with smoke. Ladder 1 was setting up at the A/B corner to access a window on the 5<sup>th</sup> level (labeled 5<sup>th</sup> floor), side B. Two of Engine 3's members were getting low on air, and the crew moved to the stairwell to exit the building. Two of the members exited the stairwell, but the captain (the victim) went down the hallway and two fire fighters followed him. The low-air alarms of the victim and two fire fighters were sounding when they reached the hallway that was connected to the fire rooms. One of the fire fighters grabbed the victim, who was acting confused, and started back to the stairwell. The other fire fighter got separated in heavy smoke, went toward the fire rooms, and made it to a window where the platform of Ladder 1 was located just as he ran out of air. The victim ran out of air and told his partner they needed to buddy breath. The victim undipped his regulator so his partner connected the buddy breather and all the partner's air escaped through the victim's SCBA. The victim transmitted a Mayday and activated his PASS (personal alarm safety system). The fire fighter also attempted to activate his PASS, called several Maydays prior to removing his mask and began looking for an escape path. At some point, the victim vomited in his facepiece and removed it. The fire fighter crawled down a hallway trying to open several doors unsuccessfully until he found a door he could open to the south stairwell. The fire fighter placed his axe in the door and then returned to the victim. The fire fighter grabbed the victim and pulled him to the south stairwell where he collapsed and the pair fell down a flight of stairs. The victim and the fire fighter were eventually located in the south stairwell by another officer who had exited the north stairwell and heard the victim's PASS alarm sounding. Medic units transported the victim and the fire fighter to the hospital.



Area of fire origin - A/B corner  
(Courtesy of Fire Department)

Page i

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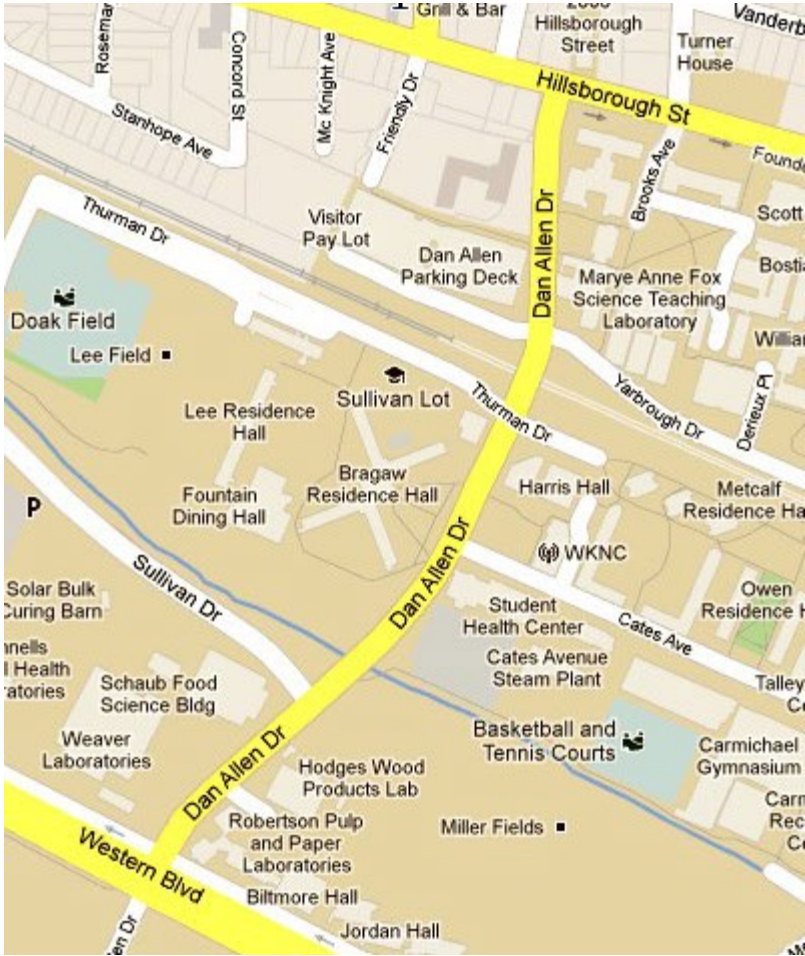
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<https://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=5472>[10/15/2019 7:07:25 PM]

Dan Allen Drive Traffic Restriction Starts in October

08/22/12 147 W, 1 I - + 7 - 6

[Yesterday's News & Observer reports](#) that Dan Allen Drive, a private road through the main campus of State College and popular cut-through between Hillsborough Street and Western Boulevard, will be restricted on weekdays started in October. Gates will be installed and will stay closed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. Only emergency vehicles, campus vehicles, and buses will be permitted. Notes the news story, Dan Allen Drive carries as many as 19,000 vehicles a day. That's mostly student, faculty, and employees. However, one in five of those travelers makes the trip from end to end. With so much traffic, the crowded Wolfline buses get caught and delayed. They're running on time only 60 percent of the time. The change will also improve safety for the masses of pedestrians and cyclists. Go State.



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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



## Monday's Silo Rescue in Sanford

08/22/12 114 W, 2 I - + 6 - 3

The Sanford Fire Department on Monday and others responded to an unusual incident for our area, a worker trapped in a grain elevator. A worker inspecting the elevator fell about 40 or 50 feet and became trapped up to his waist in dog foot. Responders brought a leaf vacuum truck to the scene, and removed most of the granules from the elevator. From there, they untangled his injured foot. He was removed after nearly four hours. He never lost consciousness. Read coverage from [WRAL](#) and [WTVB](#). Good use of an articulating aerial platform, is that Sanford's rig? Next question, are silo rescues indeed rare around here?



*WRAL photo*



*WTVB photo*

That would be Northview's tower 6.



([http://farm7.staticflickr.com/6119/6307737095\\_acf7046e42\\_z.jpg](http://farm7.staticflickr.com/6119/6307737095_acf7046e42_z.jpg))

**Michael Crabtree** ([Email](#)) - 08/22/12 - 09:09

There is a second aerial piece at the extreme bottom, middle of of the second picture. It doesn't appear to be a ladder, perhaps a Snorkel?  
**stretch** - 08/22/12 - 14:56

That sanford's ladder.



(<http://www.sanfordnc.net/fire/images/206.jpg>)

**Michael Crabtree** - 08/22/12 - 15:54

Hey Crabtree is Northviews ladder strictly a ladder truck or is there a pump and tank as well?

**PGTruckie** - 08/23/12 - 17:48

True truck PG. No pump nor water.

**JG** - 08/24/12 - 08:24

Northview's Tower 6 has no pump but is plumbed for Engine tie in and master stream on aerial. It provided better mobility in the situation than Sanford's Ladder 206. And yes they are very rare but are trained for.

**mike** - 09/09/12 - 01:07

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preferred)  
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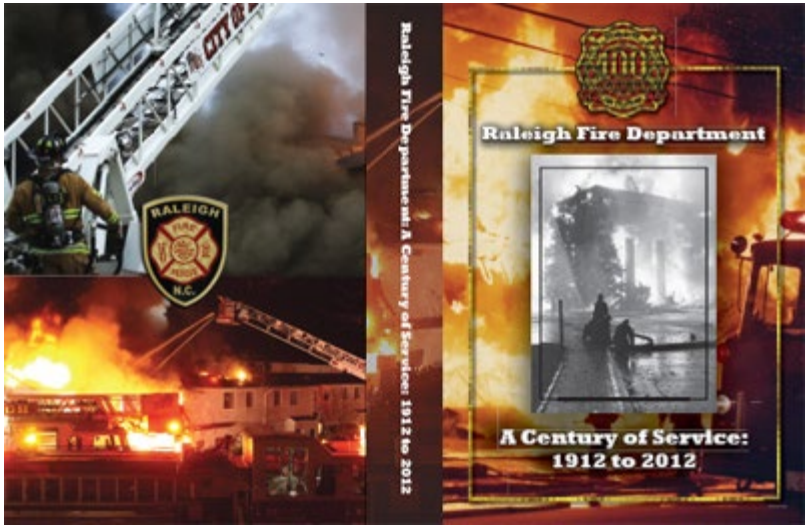
**Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book - Order Yours!**

08/23/12 174 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Have you heard about the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book that's in production? And more importantly, have you ordered your copy yet? This will be a coffee table-sized hardcover, measuring 9 x 12 inches, with full-color dust-jacket (the prototype preview is shown below), and 260 full-color pages. The price is \$60.00 through December 1, 2012. Delivery is planned in early 2012.

Published by Strawbridge Studios (right here in Durham!), the book will feature a text history of the Raleigh Fire Department, along with 100 years of historical photos, fire station histories, apparatus photos, personnel portraits, and more.

This is a limited edition volume, so get one if you want one. And if you're sitting on fence, **place that order**. This project requires a minimum order of books, and we still need sufficient pre-orders. How to order? Download (and mail) an order form, or place an order online from [RFD100.com](http://RFD100.com). Got questions, or problems using the order form? [Contact Mike Legeros](#) and he'll help you.



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## Small Vehicles

08/24/12 49 W, 3 I - + 9 - 4

Photographer Lee Wilson photographed these sharp-looking small vehicles recently. Top is Knightdale's chief's buggy at [Wendell's live burn](#) last week, middle is Wake Forest's Utility 1 at [Station 1](#), and bottom is Raleigh's Mini 3 at [Station 23](#). Note the new wheels on the latter.





Lee Wilson photos

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Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

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Old Military Fire Tanker

08/24/12 70 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

From the Department of Roadside Beauties, Lee Wilson found this [former military fire engine](#) on Highway 54 near Chapel Hill this week. Belongs to a construction company. Can't speak for the chassis, but the tank body looks slightly more modern. Maybe 1970s or 1980s? Perhaps a converted water of fuel hauler? Since the Chump is stumped, let's let the experts answer this one.



Lee Wilson photo

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.



Vintage Film: Fire and Police in Dearborn, MI

08/25/12 75 W - + 9 - 3

From a reader, here's a nifty short film from 1947 depicting fire and police services in Dearborn, Michigan. There's plenty to enjoy in this footage, from old-school artificial respiration to pompier ladder play. How 'bout those water tower nozzles getting polished in the station? And a pretty dramatic wall collapse caught on film. Can also be viewed on the [local A/V Geeks site](#). Thanks Chad!

Really enjoyed the old time news reel about the Dearborn, Michigan Fire Department. I was very surprised to see the news reel clip of the very big fire with collapsing walls and firemen running. That film was taken of a Camden, New Jersey fire at the famous R. M. Hollingshead Building. They were the maker of Whiz Chemical Products. This fire was on July 30, 1940. This was one of Camden’s largest fires of the era, bringing fire departments from Atlantic City and multiple alarm assignment from Philadelphia Pa.This fire spread to numerous nearby dwellings leaving over 400 people homeless. One Camden firefighter was killed during this fire.

I am enclosing two photographs of the fire from our History Book. No I didn’t take the photos, I was three years old at that time.

Bob Bartosz, Camden City NJ Fire Department Photographer, Retired

**Bob Bartosz** ([Email](#)) - 08/25/12 - 17:09

I found it interesting on the technology of the fire service now compared to 1940’s, from the comment of “there is very little book work in this school (probationary firefighters) the emphasis is leaning by doing”. Through hands-on still is a large part, book learning is a lot more than back then.

**2redline** - 08/25/12 - 22:20

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Henderson/Vance Snorkel For Sale

08/25/12 34 W, 1 I - + 11 - 5

Four days left on GovDeals. This 1978 Hendrickson/Pierce 85-foot articulating platform. Has a 1250 GPM pump. With 20,868 miles. Ground ladders included! [View the auction.](#)



What did they replace this with?

JG - 08/25/12 - 22:31

Here's some earlier history of the truck, <http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/we..>

It was replaced in 2004 by a 100-foot aerial platform. The snorkel became a city/county truck, then a county-only truck.

Legeros - 08/26/12 - 10:50

This truck was purchased 50/50 back in the 1970's by the City of Henderson and County of Vance. When Vance County hired it's own Fire Marshall a few years ago, this truck became 100 percent Vance County. When Vance County took over operation of Kerr-Lake Fire Dept, they had an 1987 Pierce-Arrow Telequirt, which they had, now the County needed to get rid of one of them, causing the need to sell the Snorkle.

rnln ([Email](#)) - 08/26/12 - 17:28

Name: (real name preferred)

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Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

## When The Training Center Was Young

08/26/12 137 W, 2 I - + 12 - 6

Some new old color slides of the Raleigh Fire Department have surfaced. They're dated October 1990 and are part of a series that was scanned and shown a couple years ago. They show stations and apparatus, plus a few surprises, such as this sparse lower-level of the Keeter Training Center. That facility was but eight years old at the time. Nice vintage shop pictures as well. Particularly good memories for myself and my academy-mates, who had graduated the summer of the year before. (Was assigned to Station 5 at this time, and rode the new Engine 5 shown in the set.) Alas, most of the shots are overexposed. They've been corrected to the best of this schlep's ability. [See the photos.](#)



---

Brings back some memories Mike. Emil Burris and Fred Noble are on the two poles at #1 (B-Shift). Burris was a new boy and Fred (as with us) were only "1 year old" new boys! I was at #1 on A-Shift during that time and was so relieved when the 1990 academy graduated – the "newboy stigma" was passed to another group (whew!).

**A.C. Rich** - 08/26/12 - 13:10

## Raleigh's 1875 Rumsey Hand Engine

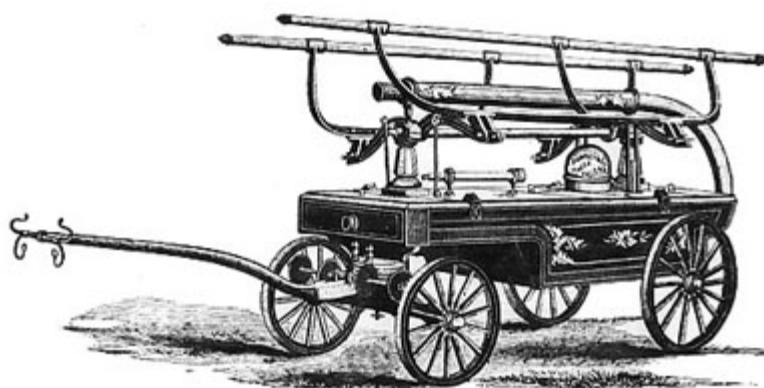
08/26/12 460 W, 4 I - + 11 - 10

Dozens of hand-pulled, hand-powered fire engines (called "hand engines" or "hand tubs") were used in North Carolina from the late 1700s to the early 1900s. The first in the state (correct?) were a pair of hand pumps delivered to Salem in 1785. The last might've been the 1906 Howe hand pump delivered to Smithfield. [See this database](#) by Legeros.

The Capitol City had five. They were delivered in 1819, 1843, 1853 (two), and 1875. All likely wheeled. The 1819 engine was purchased from Philadelphia. It's equipment included hose. The 1840 and 1853 engines are a mystery, with little or no surviving information. One was noted as having a five-inch chamber, an eight-inch stroke, and a "9 16" nozzle. The 1875 engine was made by Rumsey and Company.

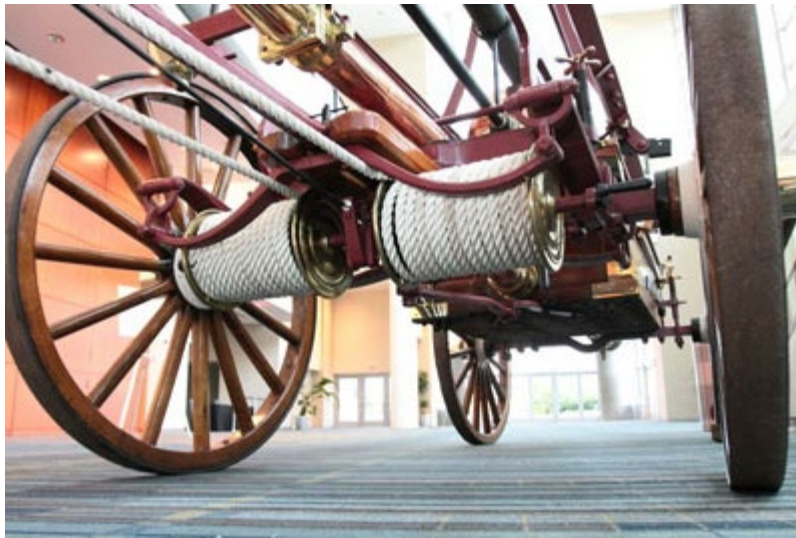
Below is a catalog drawing of a Rumsey engine from that period. The specs are 16-feet long, with 31-inch and 37-inch diameter wheels. No images have survived depicting Raleigh's Rumsey engine. The side-stroke engine was purchased for the volunteer Victory Company around June 1875. The cost was \$1,700. The pumping capacity was estimated at 250 GPM, as recorded in 1878. Hose was likely carried on a reel, pulled separately from the engine. The apparatus was modified to be horse-pulled in 1885, and replaced by a hose wagon around 1890.

On November 10, 1883, the *News & Observer* recorded the prior day's exhibition of the fire company and their engine: "The Victor with twelve men at the engine made a run of 470 yards, laid 300 feet of hose, and had a stream of water on the imaginary fire in five minutes. The engine started from the intersection of West Martin and South Salisbury Streets at 7.34 ½ o'clock p.m. At 7.36 ½ the hose reel reached the cistern at the intersection of West Lenoir and South Salisbury streets; at 7.37 [a total of] 300 feet of hose had been laid and the nozzle attached; at 7.38 the engine arrived, and at 7.39 ½ had a stream of water upon the fire. Who can beat that record?"



Earlier this month, the Charlotte Fire Department brought their 1866 Jeffers hand engine to town. It was exhibited and demonstrated at the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo. Functionally, Charlotte's 1866 engine was likely identical to Raleigh's 1873 engine. Fixed suction hose, laid across the top. Single outlet for hose line. Two sets of "brakes," which locked into position. Two reels of rope in front, and likely knotted at intervals to assist with pulling. 'Twas a treat to see the other week, and to put into perspective what Raleigh's comparable 1873 looked like in person. See more photos ([set 1](#) | [set 2](#) | [set 3](#)) or watch the below video.





## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Vintage Raleigh* « Raleigh's 1875 Rumsey... » Cary Fire Department ... *Badge, Belt Buckle*

### Vintage Raleigh Badge, Belt Buckle

08/26/12 63 W, 2 I - + 8 - 4

Came across these in my archives. They're courtesy of Matt White, who took them in the seventies, who was a fixture at Station 6 during his childhood. Note the initials on the badge, in the upper-right corner. Likely or certainly belonged to J. R. Foy.





Cary Fire Department is Hiring

08/27/12 118 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

The Cary Fire Department is hiring for certified firefighters. Minimum qualifications included North Carolina Firefighter I and II, North Carolina EMT, and North Carolina Technical Rescuer (times two) certifications. (If pursuing one of the certifications through a North Carolina community college, or accredited agency, the coursework must be satisfactorily completed by January 14, 2013.)

Starting salary is \$34,736. Hiring is expected in January, with successful candidates completing an eight-week academy. Open houses for interested applicants will be held at Fire Station 1 from 10:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 8, and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 9. Applications are being accepted through Monday, September 10. Good luck to all! [Read the job posting.](#)



As noted there will be an 8 week academy. This is not the first time they have asked for already certified firefighters. It cuts the amount of time needed for an academy, saving the department tens of thousands of dollars to host a full 6 month academy. It also puts the personnel on the trucks quicker instead of paying them to sit through 6 months worth of an academy.

recently - 08/28/12 - 04:35

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/ [Textile](#)

Garner's New Engine 1

08/28/12 23 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

Lee Wilson photographed this 2012 Pierce Saber, 1250/1000, delivered yesterday to the Garner Fire Department. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

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No

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

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That's a Lot of Utility Trucks

08/28/12 47 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

From the [Carolinas Fire Page mailing list](#) comes this uncredited (for now) photo of the Daytona International Speedway, where Florida Power & Light Company staged dozens (hundreds?) of utility trucks this weekend ahead of Tropical Storm Isaac. Click to enlarge:



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☐ Yes  
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## Charlotte Firefighters Prepare For DNC

08/28/12 99 W, 1 I - + 11 - 8

Here's a WBTV story about the Charlotte Fire Department's preparation for the Democratic National Convention next week. Among their plans including assigning about 40 firefighters (working 12-hour shifts) to Uptown to respond only to convention calls, activating a third haz-mat team for Center City, and fully-staffing all of the city's 61 fire companies. (All vacations scheduled for that week were cancelled, the story notes.) About 30 fire inspectors will also be out at night and late night, enforcing fire codes at bars and restaurants. Perhaps readers can share a bit more. [Read or watch the story.](#)



And this Indy story provides a neat peek into the security at the DNC:

<http://www.indyweek.com/indyweek/extraor..>

Date on which the Democratic National Convention begins in Charlotte: Sept. 3

Amount in federal funds the city will spend on security for the gathering, expected to draw 6,000 delegates and 30,000 visitors: \$50 million

Number of officers the money will be used to hire from outside departments: 3,400

Miles of 9-foot-tall "anti-scale" fencing the funds will be used to purchase: about 5

Miles of concrete barriers the Secret Service has requested for the event: 2

etc.

**Legeros** - 08/28/12 - 08:24

I heard RPD is sending 180 officers down, almost set up like an off duty job where you have to take vacation to go but you get paid well.

**PD** - 08/28/12 - 20:57





Vintage Film: Our Obligation

08/28/12 87 W - + 12 - 3

From a reader, here's another vintage short film. This one's about school building fire safety, and depicts a full-scale building fire in Los Angeles. Lots of great apparatus shots, and a surprising amount of real fire and smoke that's been staged. Presumably staged, that is. (Plus real victims and real bodies under sheets. No punches pulled in this one!) Running time is 24:27 minutes. Can also be viewed (and even a copy ordered) on the local [AV Geeks web site](#). Thanks Chad!

Amusing footnote to this. From the July 22, 1963, minutes of the Raleigh Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary: "The President turned the meeting over to Vivian Carter who introduced Captain Rufus Keith. He showed the group a movie called 'Our Obligation'."

Legeros - 09/03/12 - 16:08

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No

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Internal Report « Vintage Film: Our Obl... » UPDATED: Vintage Wilm... Released on Asheville LODD

### Internal Report Released on Asheville LODD

08/29/12 186 W, 1 I - + 8 - 11

The Asheville Fire Department yesterday released a 552-page internal report that took the life of Rescue 3 member Capt. Jeff Bowen at a commercial structure on Biltmore Avenue on July 28, 2011. A scanned version of the report in black-and-white has been made available in PDF format, and it's a monster in size. Here are tips and links for viewing.

Step 1 - Start with this [FireNews.net posting](#). They've created a helpful table of contents for the report. The document includes an Asheville FD overview, an executive summary, incident operations details, the post-incident analysis team findings, and the plans for improvements.

Step 2 - Choose your download link at the bottom of [that page](#). Full report (127 MB) or partial report (34 MB). Those are Dropbox links, versus direct file links. Click through to download.

Step 3 - Read the report.

Step 4 - Read related stories and postings as desired. Those include this [Asheville Citizen-Times story](#) and [Statter 911 posting](#). And here's [our prior posting](#) with the NIOSH report (full color, versus the version included in the above doc).



We could also have an engaging meta-discussion on the best or most appropriate or most respectful posting title, here or else. Variations could include:

Internal Report Released on Asheville LODD (Legeros fire blog)

Internal Report Released on Asheville Line of Duty Death

Asheville FD Releases Report on LODD

Asheville FD Releases Internal Report on LODD

Asheville FD Releases Report on Death of Capt. Jeff Bowen

Asheville FD Releases Internal Report on Death of Capt. Jeff Bowen

Etcetera, and compared with, say:

Asheville Fire Department Releases Internal Report on LODD Fire (FireNews.net)

Final Report: Asheville FD Investigation into the Death of Captain Jeff Bowen (Statter911)

**Legeros** - 08/29/12 - 07:50

I have just finished skimming all 500+ pages and reading selected parts. This assembly of information is a must read for fire service members. My hat's off to Asheville FD for demonstrating the leadership to be open with their findings and recommendations!

**A.C. Rich** - 08/29/12 - 16:24

The radio traffic analysis and recommendations are worth the price of admission alone, A.C. They amply demonstrate the challenges and potential perils of scalability (right word?), when an incident escalates both in size and scope. (Or so thinks this veteran fireground radio listener.)

**Legeros** - 08/30/12 - 07:53

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *UPDATED: Vintage* « Internal Report Relea... » North Carolina Fire S... Wilmington Rigs

### UPDATED: Vintage Wilmington Rigs

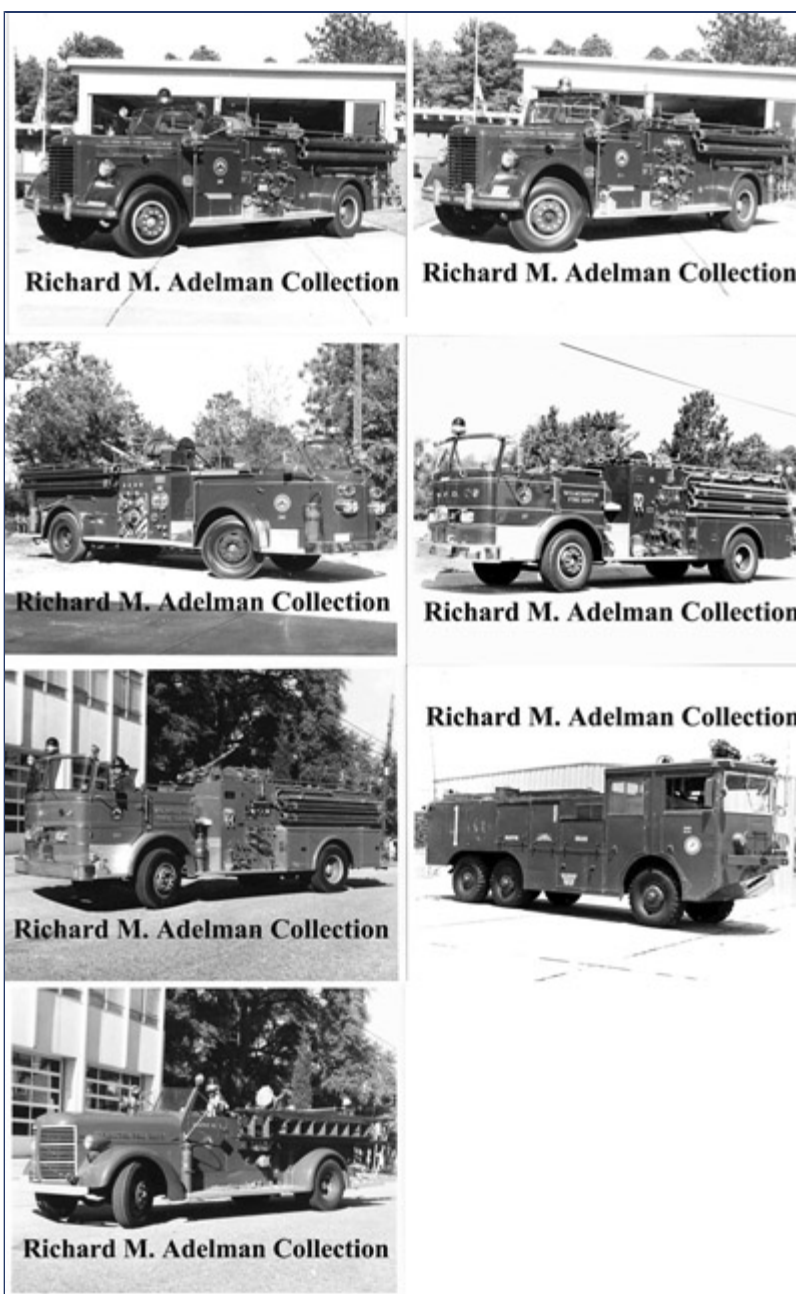
08/30/12 134 W, 1 I - + 7 - 13

Evening:

Missed one. Added to the bottom is a 1942 American LaFrance engine. Sharp-looking and probably built without any chrome, as was common to rigs constructed during World War II. Refresh this page/this post, if the updated montage doesn't display.

Morning:

The latest items for sale on eBay from the [Richard M. Adelman Collection](#) include these six beauties that served in Wilmington. Five are from the city fire department, and one from the airport. Left to right, top to bottom are two 1952 Oren engines, a 1952 American LaFrance engine, a 1965 Duplex/Howe engine, a 1967 Duplex/Howe engine, and a 1954 American LaFrance crash truck. They're all 8x10 images, hand printed from the original negatives. Get 'em while you can! [See prior posting](#) about the seller and the collection. Click to enlarge:



Back in 1978 I went to the NC Fire College that was held in Wilmington. Saw one of the Howe/Duplexes at the downtown station. The ALF pumper was used as the pumping source for the burn exercise. You don't see many early ALFs with the quad headlights. For a while the ALF 800 series had them, and I have seen one other 700 series with the same quad headlights and they had been retrofitted.

**DJ** - 08/30/12 - 21:54

Updated with one more image that I missed this morning. Refresh this page/the posting to see.

**Legeros** - 08/30/12 - 22:04

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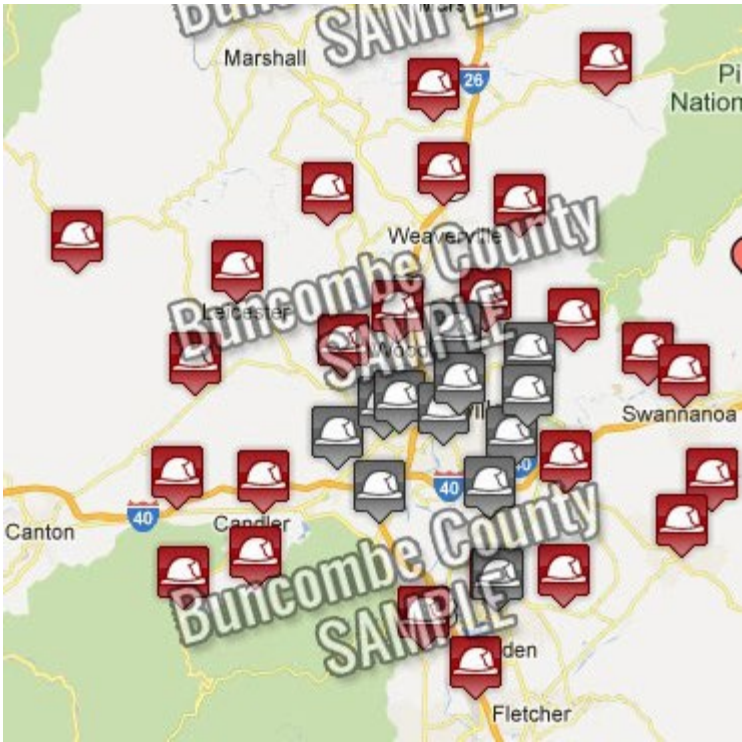
**North Carolina Fire Station Mapping Project**

08/30/12 157 W, 1 I - + 11 - 12

[Carolinas Fire Page](#) is again updating their exceptionally useful master list of North Carolina fire stations. The list is maintained in two locations: [on this site](#) and [on this site](#). They've recorded 1,940 fire stations in our state, representing about 1,400 fire departments. They have confirmed addresses for 88% of them. They need help with just 228 others. Can you assist?

Once that's done (or close), they'll start their next project: geo-coding all of North Carolina fire stations. These will appear on a new web site displaying each county and municipal fire department as its own interactive map. This'll take the current text-based list, and present the information in a new, graphical format. See sample image below. Exciting, no?

If you can help with fire station addresses and information for the above lists, contact Jeff Harkey at [cfp700@carolinasfirepage.com](mailto:cfp700@carolinasfirepage.com). You'll be glad you did.



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Camp Celebrate Fundraiser / Cornhole Tournament - September 8, 2012

08/31/12 112 W, 1 I - + 16 - 9

The NC12 chapter of the [North Carolina Red Knights](#) motorcycle club is conducting a cornhole tournament on Saturday, September 8, 2012, as a fundraiser for the NC Jaycee Burn Center's Camp Celebrate. The event time is 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The event location is Hill Ridge Farms, 703 Tarboro Road, Youngsville. The entry fee is \$30.00. The sign-up time is 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with the tournament starting at 12:00 p.m. [View this flyer](#) (PDF). The group is requesting that fire departments post this information, and consider sending one truck to the event, to be displayed at a 9/11 memorial. Contact Quarter Master Daryl Cash (919-868-3677).



You may ask... what is Camp Celebrate?? See this link: <http://www.med.unc.edu/burn/aftercare-pr>. Camp Celebrate occurs in May each year at Camp Kanata in northern Wake County. Join us in 2013!! Also, the Red Knights is a local motorcycle club consisting of of fire and other emergency responders.. a great group and they are always looking for members. If interested: <http://nc12redknights.com/>

A.C. Rich - 08/31/12 - 09:43

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

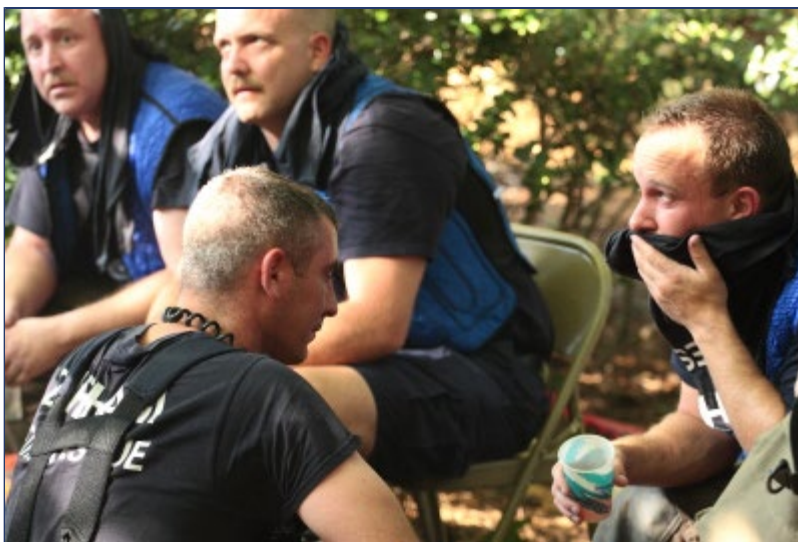
Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



## Two Alarms in Durham Today

08/31/12 109 W, 3 I - + 18 - 8

Took a drive to Durham after work, and shot the aftermath of today's two alarm fire at 4600 University Drive. Heavy fire through the roof of the three-story apartment building. Units on scene included E16, E6, E11, E5, E4, E12, L4, L2, L12, L11, R1, R\_, B1, B2, B3, MS1, Safety Officer, other chief officers, plus Durham EMS and Parkwood EMS. Readers can clarify. Alarm time about 3:30 p.m. Some 30 people displaced. Photos forthcoming, though largely from "behind the tape." Thank goodness for zoom lenses. See [WRAL](#) and [WTVB](#) stories, with photos and footage from earlier in the incident. Click to enlarge:





Pictures of the University Drive fire on Durham Fire Facebook page. <http://www.facebook.com/DurhamFireDept..>

**stretch** - 09/01/12 - 16:29

Here is the box assignment for that call:

1ST- BC3, BC1, E6, E5, E11, L6, L12, SQ1, MS1, SAF-1, Durham Co. EMS

2ND- BC2, E4, E16, E1, L2, L3, SQ4, SQ7, FD2, FD3

**Swiman** - 09/01/12 - 16:33

When did durham put ladder 3 and ladder 6 in service? I thought it was 4 ladders consisting of numbers 1,2,11,and12. And engines 7 and 16 being quints. Can someone answer that for me?

**jpg** - 09/01/12 - 16:40

Here are my pics: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2012-0..>

Observe the UPS truck trapped by the five-inch. That was probably a long afternoon for that driver!

**Legeros** - 09/01/12 - 16:56

According to the (Un)official Durham Fire Dept page <http://www.angelfire.com/nc3/dfd/home/ho..> under Reassignments Lad 1 became Lad 3 and Lad 11 became Lad 6. Eng 11 was assigned a Quint (Ladder not Aerial Tower). Station 1 is now Engine, Squad, Support and Battalion Chief.

**stretch** - 09/01/12 - 17:25

My question answered. Thanks

**jpg** - 09/02/12 - 13:27

in legeros photos of the durham fire, Engine 11 is operating a 1998 e- one that had been E4 until E4 received it's 2012 sutphen. so the unofficial site is not current or the 2006 sutphen quint is out of service.

**charlie** - 09/02/12 - 14:26

E11 is being serviced so they are riding the reserve. The aerial is now at station 6.. I do believe the website needs to be updated from all the apparatus relocations

**Swiman** - 09/02/12 - 22:38

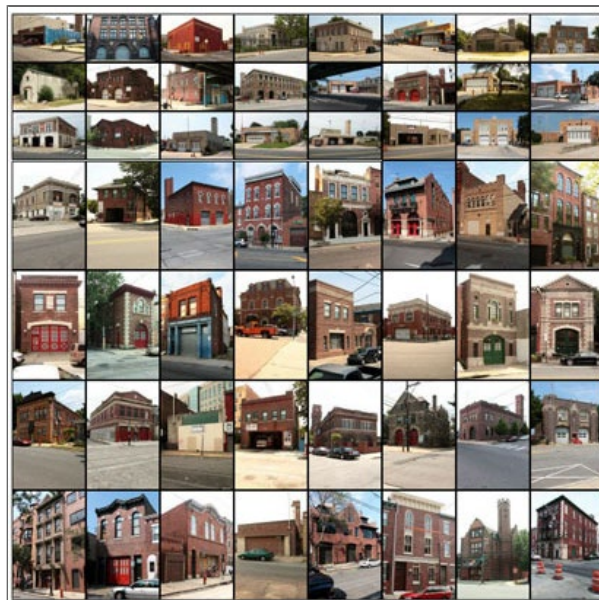
thanks for the clarification

**jpg** - 09/03/12 - 11:47

## Former Firehouses in New York City

09/01/12 499 W, 2 I - + 7 - 4

Ever wondered about former firehouses in New York City. Here's an [nycfire.net discussion board thread](#) about that topic, with pages of interesting information and photos. Don't expect a personal tour any time soon, however. [Toured Philly this summer](#), which was an adventure (both on the ground and beforehand with research) and a return visit is required for a couple more station buildings since identified. Sources for that started with acquiring a copy of the PFD history book *Hike Out!* Then scanning the company history in the appendix. Then converting to text. Then correcting. Then appending with information found via the 'net and Google Maps street view.



Toured Chicago in a prior year, and those were exclusively structures built before 1900. Both active and retired. [See those photos](#). Believe it was a comprehensive excursion, as but a handful of those had survived. They were found using the first of the four *History of Chicago Fire Houses* volumes, by Ken Little and John McNalis. That made the research super-easy. Just flipping pages and writing a list by hand. Then using Google Maps street view to confirm that the buildings were still standing. (Acquiring the four volumes, which are out of print, was the harder piece!)



But New York City?

That's a considerable larger and more complicated kettle of fish. First, there's finding the building information. That is, an easily accessed list of past and present stations and their current dispositions. Then there's the sheer physical challenge of (a.) getting to the Big Apple and (b.)

traversing all five boroughs to shoot said buildings. Probably won't be anytime this decade. But there's some easy arm chair explorations available. Google Maps street view coupled with this [list of fire company locations](#) (PDF) compiled by Mike Boucher BXCO. Start entering addresses and see what you find!

Looking for the volunteer houses of New York City? Try these listings, also by Boucher:

- [http://www.nyfd.com/history/bronx\\_vol.pdf](http://www.nyfd.com/history/bronx_vol.pdf)
- [http://www.nyfd.com/history/brooklyn\\_wd\\_vol.pdf](http://www.nyfd.com/history/brooklyn_wd_vol.pdf)
- [http://www.nyfd.com/history/queens\\_vol.pdf](http://www.nyfd.com/history/queens_vol.pdf)
- [http://www.nyfd.com/history/brooklyn\\_ed\\_vol.pdf](http://www.nyfd.com/history/brooklyn_ed_vol.pdf)
- [http://www.nyfd.com/history/si\\_vol.pdf](http://www.nyfd.com/history/si_vol.pdf)
- <http://www.nyfd.com/history/manvolfd.pdf>

For even easier armchair view (of active stations of an age), find a copy of Brian R. McCaffrey's full-color book *FHNY - Fire House New York - A Pictorial History of Firehouse Architecture in the City of New York*. There's a page for each active firehouses, and many that are historic or very historic. Good stuff. And wonder how many months that took, getting those photos? [Here's the Amazon page](#) on same. Maybe someone else has published a book of photos of the former firehouses.

As for Mikey? Such research and explorations are relaxing, so maybe that's a future vacation. Or series of vacations. Nothing so clears the mind and invigorates the soul as searching for fire stations...

[See more](#) and [read more](#).

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Great post Mike! Too many fire stations, too little time is my motto. Thanks for mentioning the McCaffrey FHNY book – I haven't heard of that one and it looks to be quite good. Added to the wish-list. I agree that New York is a bit daunting when it comes to fire-buffing and fire station visiting. I recently spent about 8+ hours in Philadelphia and visited 8 stations, and like you had quite the adventure. Having lived in Philly in the 90s I knew my way around and had a good memory/recall of where most of the stations on my list reside ... but I did do some google maps research before (street views are so helpful) and brought a long a short list of the stations I wanted to photograph. Weather cooperated as well and that helped.

I've posted a selection of the 400+ photos I shot to my Picasa account from my day trip. These include: Squirt 43/Ladder 9; Engine 1/Ladder 5; Haz-Mat 1/Foam 60 (with appearance by Squad 47); Snorkel 2; Engine 20/Ladder 23; and Rescue 1/Engine 29. I also visited 2 stations in Roxborough/Manayunk. So getting about 8 stations in day is doable leaving about 15+ min at each station for conversation, meeting the crew, etc. Philly has an awesome department and the crews were all super nice and welcoming. The city is amazingly compact and easy to get around from Center City to South Philly, back up to North Philly, and a quick jaunt over to the west. These are all current and active stations. Here's my photo set over at Picasa:

<https://plus.google.com/photos/106037500289871076898/albums/5783654712243985537>

Thanks again for your inspiring and interesting post – I agree that Google Maps street view is a must tool (for historic and current stations) ... and those New York City volunteer PDFs are pretty amazing. Good stuff. Keep up the firehouse photography and research!

Best-

Trevor

**Trevor James** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 09/02/12 - 16:37

Name: (real name

Remember personal info?



Raleigh Fire Department is Hiring

09/02/12 213 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Hiring has started for Raleigh Fire Department Recruit Academy 38. The application period closes October 5. The 26-week academy starts on January 31. Here's the [job posting](#) on the city's employment site, and the fire department [recruitment web site](#). Position number 200-12, starting salary \$32,673. Minimum requirements include age 21 by beginning of academy.

Applications will be accepted at the Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Training Drive, Raleigh, from September 4 to October 5. They can be submitted in person or by mail. The application period closes on October 5. You can [download the employment application](#), or get one at locations including any [Raleigh fire station](#), the Keeter Training Center, or the city personnel office (222 W. Hargett Street).

Fire station open houses will be held on Saturday, September 16, and Saturday, September 23, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on both dates. Applicants are encouraged to visit the stations to learn more about the job, and pick up applications.

Recruitment is being conducted using a variety of channels, including a trio of billboards that should be appearing this weekend. That's Hammell Drive, three alarms on September 21, 2008, as shot by Mike Legeros. Locations for same will Highway 64 at the Neuse River, Interstate 440 westbound at Wilmington Street, and Highway 70 at Yeorgan Road in Garner. Good luck to all applicants!



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

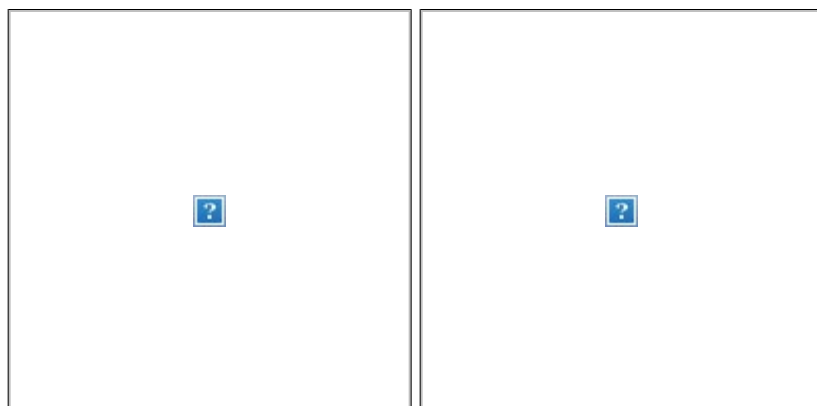
## Morning Reading - September 2, 2012

09/02/12 438 W, 2 I - + 7 - 3

Behind on blog postings. Raleigh Fire Department is hiring, as prior posting notes. Cary and Rocky Mount also. Durham just closed their application period. Good luck to everyone. Follow the instructions to the letter. Practice, prepare, and get everywhere early. Nothing eases the mind like being within walking distance of your destination 15 or 30 minutes early. (Just circle the block. Or park up the street. Get your mind straight and nerves calm.) And it's now September, which means the season for fireman's days and public safety days has started. We'll see a bunch for the next six or seven weeks. Want yours listed on the blog? We'll compile and post an events schedule. Just [mail me](#)!

### Local

- [Wendell fire code inspections costs \\$15,000](#) - *Eastern Wake News* story this week, with some interesting inside baseball about fire inspections, contracted billing, and bills due.
- [Knightdale FD sets record for calls in one month](#) - *Eastern Wake News* story from mid-month, about the summer storms that made July their busiest ever.
- [New Holly Springs fire chief takes oath](#) - *Cary News* story about Thursday's ceremony for LeRoy Smith IV. He's been on the job for two months, and was sworn in this week.



*Cary News photos*

### National

- [Firefighter vanity plates](#) - The Fire Critic is compiling photos as submitted from firefighters and others. There's one poser on there with the tag FIREFOTO. Wonder who the hell he is?
- Fire videos as training tools - Dave Statter's posted a pair of videos good for talking about do's and don't's. [Gasoline tanker](#) in Tioga County, PA, and [ambulance fire](#) in Newark, NJ.
- [Boots filled water and opinions therein](#) - That's my title for this week's Statter911 posting about an incident in Richmond, Maine. Firefighter finds boots filled with water. Outcome included a town investigation. Readers react. Legeros analyzes. Here's what he (me) posted:

So the lessons learned from a couple days of reader comments here are, I guess...

1. Messing with PPE isn't cool (or worse).
2. Water in boots is no big deal (though directly contradicts #1).
3. Complaining up the chain about #2 is a bigger issue, and a symptom of someone maybe not part of the team (which #2 was actually



intended to promote).

4. Bringing the matter to the attention of people outside the department is an even bigger deal, particularly because “unwanted physical play” is regarded as a form of harassment through the eyes of, say, Human Resources officers.

**Legeros Fire Photos**

- August 31 - [Aftermath of apartment fire in Durham](#).
- August 21 - [Motor-vehicle accident in Cary](#)
- August 20 - [Gas leak in Raleigh](#)

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

New Buggy for Raleigh Battalion 1

09/02/12 35 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Seen today at a reported structure fire on Six Forks Road. That's, what, a 2012 Chevy Tahoe? Replaces a 2005 Ford Expedition. Battalion 1 is housed at Station 15. Click to enlarge:



They are 4WD this time too!

A.C. Rich - 09/02/12 - 22:38

@A.C. what are you driving now?

JJL - 09/08/12 - 13:26

I saw a fly try to land on the hood and he slid all the way across and fell off. lol

Rob Mitchell - 09/08/12 - 18:52

I am driving a new Hemi-powered Charger! ...no, actually a Crown Vic. that was the Chief of Training's car! (who is JJL?)

A.C. Rich - 09/08/12 - 23:15

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

...and a Picture of District 9

09/02/12 89 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

While we're sporting our utility vehicles, here's a picture of District 9. That's the unit that's been discussed in [this older thread](#). District 9 is the Advanced Practice Paramedic supervisor of the Wake County EMS System. They work 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily, and their office is at the Crisis & Assessment Services (CAS) center on the WakeBrook campus on Sunnybrook Road. They don't have a geographic district, and are currently not recommended for dispatch on any call types. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	
<div>/ <a href="#">Textile</a></div>	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Charlotte Fire Prevention Bureau Guidelines for DNC

09/03/12 131 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Google finds some interesting things related to fire prevention guidelines from the Charlotte Fire Department, for occupancies and outdoor events during the Democratic National Convention. Probably nothing new for the inspectors and fire marshals reading here, but it's a nice contrast to all the apparatus and operations stuff that we usually feature here. (The fire that isn't started is one less that requires a response.)

Here's a [page of fire department guidelines](#), with four documents in PDF format. And [Here's a city/county planning guide](#) (PDF) format. Start reading on page 8 for EMS, fire and life safety, and public safety planning requirements. Interesting chart on page 10, showing the tiers of requirements for expected numbers of participants:

Expected # of Participants (largest # at any one time)	49 - 299	300 - 999	1,000 – 9,999	10,000 – 19,999
Provisions and responsibility for accessing 911	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
First Aid Station(s) # To Be Determined by CFD	Yes, Staffed by Lay persons providing Basic First Aid	Yes, Staffed by EMTs or Paramedics	Yes, Staffed by EMTs or Paramedics	Yes, Staffed by EMT or Paramedics
EMS Bike Team(s)/Foot Patrol(s), (# To Be Determined on a case-by-case basis)	At discretion of CFD	At discretion of CFD	Yes (2 or more teams)	Yes (2 or more teams)
Ambulance(s) / Advanced Life Support	At discretion	At discretion	Identify Access locations for	Identify Access location

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

**And Sometimes The Cat Door is Closed**

09/03/12 65 W - + 6 - 4

Off-topic amusement for your holiday enjoyment. People's Choice Award winner of the first [Cat Video Film Festival](#) held this week at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, the old home town. Starring [Henri the Existential Cat](#). He suffers the world and, like the rest of us, is surrounded by morons. Thanks to Mrs. Blogger for this one.

Awesome!  
**Spanky** - 09/03/12 - 22:55

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**  
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

09/04/12 165 W, 2 I - + 6 - 5

**Monday**

TEMPORARY TRANSIT CENTER

7th St.

11th St.

9th St.

5th St.

Trade St.

TIME WARNER CABLE ARENA

5th St.

4th St.

3rd St.

2nd St.

1st St.

MLK Jr. Blvd.

N. Church St.

S. Tryon St.

Stonewall St.

Graham St.

Mint St.

BANK OF AMERICA STADIUM

W. Carson Blvd.

S. Mint St.

S. Church St.

Charlotte Convention Center

South Blvd.

Light rail line

W. Summit Ave.

Speakers platform

FINISH

START

PEARL STREET PARK

Protest route

Street closures

- All day
- .... Beginning at 8 p.m.





More than 1,000 police officers-- from around the state, and including Chicago-- are patrolling on foot, horseback, and motorcycles. [As this article notes](#), more than 50 groups have teamed to provide security, both local and national, such as the U.S. Secret Service, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Chemical Biological Incident Response Force, the White House Military Office, the U.S. Capitol Police, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Marshals Service and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. Wonder what the full list looks like? Maybe we'll do some Googling later.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No	
E-mail: (optional)		
Web Site: (optional)		
Comment:		/ <a href="#">Textile</a>

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Histories of IAFF Locals in North Carolina

09/04/12 246 W - + 6 - 7

[The Professional Fire Firefighters and Paramedics of North Carolina](#) (PFFPNC) has a nifty collection of historical resources on their web site, many taken from *Hose and Nozzle* and *The North Carolina Federationist* articles. They note their research was conducted at Wilson Library at UNC, which we can personally recommend as a great place for research. (Love those bound volumes of *Hose* back issues.) Browse their history pages and you'll learn such things as:

- 1918 - Wilmington Local 129 chartered. First IAFF local formed in North Carolina.
- 1932 - Asheville Local 332 chartered. They're reformed in 1946 as Asheville Local 865.
- 1938 - Raleigh Local 548 chartered.
- 1940 - Charlotte Local 660 chartered.
- 1940 - High Point Local 673 chartered.
- 1940 - North Carolina Fire Fighters Association created.
  - Five locals are charter members, Raleigh, Wilmington, Charlotte, Durham, High Point.
  - Group is later renamed North Carolina Professional Fire Fighters.
  - Group is later renamed Professional Fire Firefighters and Paramedics of North Carolina.
- 1941 - Winston-Salem Local 682 chartered.
- 1947 - Greensboro Local 947 chartered.
- 1959 - General Assembly outlaws the right of firefighters and police officers to belong to unions, part of larger bill about public employees and unions.
- 1968 - The statute is ruled unconstitutional by a federal court, as challenged by IAFF and Charlotte local.
  - However, collective bargaining remains prohibited.
  - IAFF locals re-activate or re-charter. Other new locals are organized.
- 1969 - Greenville Local 1867 chartered.
- 1970 - Burlington Local 1915 chartered.
- 1970 - Goldsboro Local 1871 chartered.
- 1970 - Kinston Local 1847 chartered.
- 1970 - Wilson Local 1932 chartered.
- 1975 - Gastonia Local 2469 chartered.
- 1978 - Hickory Local 2653 chartered.

Chapel Hill firefirghters assc. Local 2580

**CHFD** ([Web Site](#)) - 09/10/12 - 10:46

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

## Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book Facebook Page

09/04/12 118 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

A Facebook page has been created for the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book project. The purpose of the site is two-fold. First, to generate more sales. We need 600 pre-orders for the project to complete. [Order yours today](#). Second, we need your help. Those requests are being posted to the site, such as a search for retiree portraits. The book will feature some 330 retirees, but we're missing a couple dozen more. See if you can. Watch the site for more requests, as well as more postings. As station crew photos are submitted, for example, we'll post them. Visit [www.facebook.com/rfd100book](http://www.facebook.com/rfd100book).



**Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book**

12 likes · 1 talking about this

Community

Available for pre-order, \$60 through December 1. Content deadline is January 15. Place your order at <http://rfd100.com/centennial-history-book>. Click PHOTOS to see more >>>

Album Photos Likes

**Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book**

Wednesday

These are some of the documents and small artifacts we're collecting, and which we'll use to enhance the many history photos in the book.



Like Comment Share

**Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book**

Saturday

**Stations - Building Photos** (3 photos)



Like Comment Share

**Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book**

Here's a sample of what's been shot for the station building photos. Thanks to Lee Wilson for the big assist! Saturday at 12:50pm · Edited · Like

Write a comment...

**Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book**

Saturday

**Portraits - Retired** (3 photos)



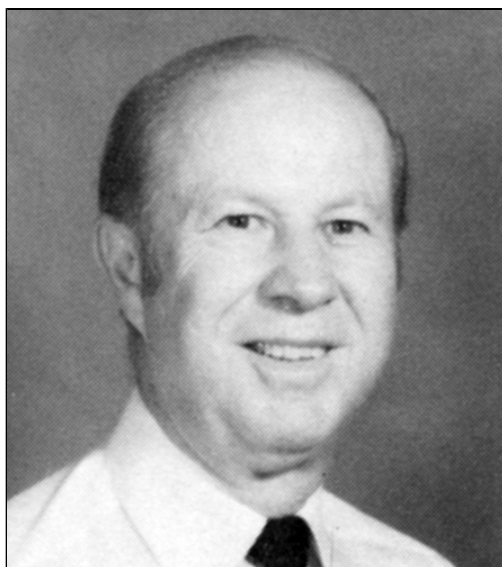
Like Comment Share

## Raleigh Firefighter Loses Leg, 1958

09/04/12 370 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

On February 18, 1958, Raleigh firefighter Claude W. Johnson broke his leg on duty. As that day's *Raleigh Times* article reported, he fell on ice at the scene of a house fire at 407 Folk Street. Fire Chief Jack Keeter said "he jumped a fence and fell on the ice." He added that Johnson "was in satisfactory condition, but would be in the hospital for some time." Johnson was admitted to Rex Hospital, records a notation in a Ladies Auxiliary scrapbook. Five fire companies responded to the 6:45 a.m. blaze, which was reported by fire department switchboard operator Roy High, while he was returning home from night shift at Station 1. The structure was severely damaged.

An undated newspaper account subsequently reported that doctors had amputated the left leg of the 31-year-old fireman. (The above *Raleigh Times* story said Johnson was 33 years of age.) The date of his injury was reported as March 1, which may be the date of the amputation. He lost about four inches of his leg below the knee. Surgery was required as blood had stopped circulating to the injured limb. Johnson had been a member of the department for three years, the article reported, and was a Rolesville native.<sup>1</sup> Officials were quoted as saying he'd be transferred to the fire department's switchboard.<sup>2</sup> Johnson retired on March 30, 1976. That's four years after the Raleigh and Wake County Emergency Communications Center assumed call-taking and dispatching duties.<sup>3</sup> This portrait was taken in 1984.



<sup>1</sup>Legeros records the hire date of Claude Johnson as September 16, 1956. The above news article isn't dated. The amputation may have happened in 1959, several months after the injury.

<sup>2</sup>[Driver Vernon J. Smith](#) also lost his leg, in an apparatus accident on November 14, 1952. He worked in light-duty roles as his health permitted, including as dispatcher. He died of his injuries on March 10, 1956.

<sup>3</sup>Roy High, mention in the first paragraph, was a former firefighter. He was injured in an accident involving the auxiliary truck and a Greyhound bus on September 11, 1947. High and Firefighter H. S. Stephenson were both thrown from the vehicle, and sustained injuries. As the story goes, High never returned to line duty, and remained a dispatcher the rest of his career.


Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, September 8

09/05/12 192 W, 2 I - + 6 - 4


Looking for a weekend activity? The [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) is open this Saturday, September 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tour the 100-year history of the city's career fire department, and learn about the volunteer fire companies that also protected the Capitol City. Hundreds of artifacts and photographs are displayed.

The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month, and is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free. Learn more about the museum, and the group that operates it, at [www.raleighfiremuseum.org](http://www.raleighfiremuseum.org).

IMG\_3519



2011-06-14-rfd-museum-29-mjl



Please note that the Raleigh Fire Museum's [1961 American LaFrance pumper](#) is located at Fire Station 9 at [4465 Six Forks Road](#). The engine was recently returned to Raleigh after decades of private ownership. Also note that the Raleigh Fire Department's [collection of antique fire apparatus](#) is housed at a separate location, at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#) in northeast Raleigh. The collection includes a 1905 steamer, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome at both locations.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

https://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=5507[10/15/2019 7:10:49 PM]

Harnett County Emergency Services Monument

09/05/12 84 W, 1 I - + 8 - 7

Asst. Chief Justin Riewestahl at Buies Creek Fire Department share this photo of the newly completed Harnett County Emergency Services Monument. The location is the 300 block W. Cornelius Harnett Boulevard, between the Court House and the social services building. Money for the memorial was raised through a number of fundraisers, including gun raffles and helmet raffles. Readers are welcome to add additional information. We'll get and post a better photo. Plan to pay a visit. Click to enlarge:



Sadly, even on a monument as new as this one, with such a short list of names, there is in fact, a friend of mine already on the wall. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this memorial a reality.

Lloyd J - 09/07/12 - 21:19

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

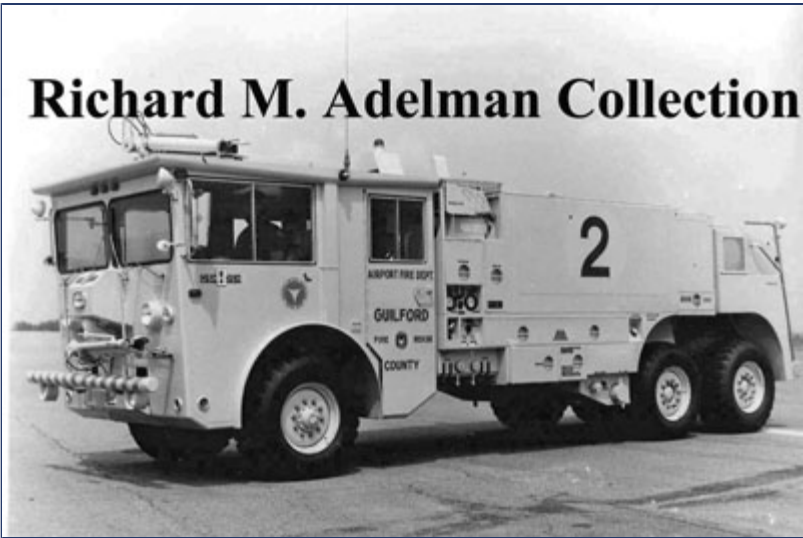
Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.



**Vintage Guilford County Crash Truck**

09/05/12 72 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Found for sale on eBay, here's Crash 2 of the Guilford County Fire Department, a 1975 Oshkosh M1500. From the collection of the late Richard M. Adelman of Memphis, TN. See prior postings about him (use the search box to your right), and his son's sales on eBay. [And see this posting](#), about one of these trucks that itself was recently for sale on eBay. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Click Like, Get Suspended

09/05/12 220 W - + 7 - 6

Here's a cautionary tale out of Columbus, Miss. Two firefighters and a police officer have received 30-day suspensions for clicking "like" on a controversial Facebook posting, which had already resulted in the resignation of the original posting firefighter. Sounds crazy, you say? [Check out this tale](#) from Hampton, VA. That's a posting from fire lawyer and blogger Curt Varone.

What exactly are the rights for public employees regarding protected public speech, and using such mechanisms as a Facebook like button? Sounds like the courts are still working that out, at least from what I read on [Curt Varone's Fire Law blog](#). (Don't believe the Supreme Court has yet ruled on this aspect of social media...) Readers more knowledgeable than myself (meaning everyone) are welcome to comment. As for the story out of Columbus, Miss., see this [Fire Law posting](#) and this [Statter911 posting](#).

Next question, how can Joe Q. Responder use social media and in a manner that doesn't threaten their job? Based on the above example, it includes watching both what you say (posted words) and what you do (clicking Like). What are particular examples of do's and don't's? Maybe we'll readers tackle that one, to start. (And for heaven's sake, leave the blogging to experienced nut cases like the Hawaiian Shirt Guy!)

---

Fine line... Nah. The best way too use social media (specifically FB) so it does not threaten you job is to NOT POST job related items that are even slightly questionable. Highlight your profession and demonstrate the goodness emergency responders exemplify. Say: "Good job" and "atta-boy" a little more. Don't post photos and comments that detract from your professionalism. Simply "Think before you click" – it's just that easy!

Regardless of one's interpretation of "rights" to speech, and the offense you may impart to another; the perception of another person does not truly consider "your" individual rights, only their own. On the other hand, in addition to SM being entertainment for many where we have fun with friends and family, it remains as a very powerful medium for communicating useful information to a lot of people; especially if used wisely (key word: "wisely"). "LIKE"

**A.C. Rich** - 09/05/12 - 22:46

Agencies are conscious of how they are portrayed in the public eye, including social media. Individual comments may be perceived as a bad reflection on the employer.

Good rule of thumb- If it feels good saying it, it is probably not the thing to say.

**DJ** - 09/05/12 - 23:06

Politicians are scum. Thins is just another example. With the recent trends of politicization of the judiciary, things appear to be headed for the "gets worse before it gets better" realm. That's a pessimistic way to look at it but in the context of current hyper-partisanship, everything seems able to be weaponized, even opinions. I think of "Brave New World" and "1984." The 'thought police' are no longer a thing of dystopian fiction.

**Bob** - 09/05/12 - 23:38

Earlier this year, I started drafting some tips for using social media (and electronic communication). Here's my list so far, with a few additions:

**FIRST AND FOREMOST** – Don't transmit anything you wouldn't want the rest of the world to see. Meaning, your boss, your future boss, your spouse, your parents, your kids, your peers, your students, your local officials, your local law enforcement agency, etc.

**POSTING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE** – Never say something about a second person that you wouldn't say to their face.

**EXPECT SYSTEM FAILURES** – Things will fail from time to time. You'll send an e-mail to a distribution list that was intended for a single person.

Your message marked "confidential" will be forwarded beyond the intended recipients. Your Facebook posting that's private will be screen-captured and shown elsewhere. Your video clip that you intended to delete will be found and viewed. Your file that you thought saved in a private directory will get saved in a public folder.

**APOLOGIES AND EXPLANATIONS** – Be prepared to apologize, to provide context, or offer an explanation, regarding both the content of what you transmitted and the actions of your transmitting. Even face-to-face verbal communication can be challenging. Sending messages using text or images can add to the complexity. Expect such situations as humor that you intended to be funny, but isn't perceived as funny. As well as confusion or misunderstanding.

**SHOWING VERSUS TELLING** – Chances are you have a camera within reach, and perhaps on your person at this moment. Need to communicate something quickly and accurate? Consider taking a picture. You'll spend less time showing than telling.

**NAMED VERSUS ANONYMOUS** – Expect a different reaction to your online actions based on the use of your real name, versus an veiled or anonymous nickname, versus an purely anonymous name. Notably in conversations, such as blogs and discussion boards.

**DEGREES OF PARALYSIS** – All of the above concerns can be negated by avoiding any social media use. Meaning, don't use it and don't have to worry about using it. (You can still be affected by it, however. See below.) Or, you might use social media, but find yourself increasingly anxious as you read such cautionary advice above. Be prepared for such feelings!

Tips for living in a world with social media

**CAMERAS ARE EVERYWHERE** – Expect that your actions will, at some point, be observed by someone that you didn't expect was watching. Don't want to seen doing something you shouldn't? Allow me to quote John Madden, once asked something like "how do you keep from swearing around people?" He answered "I don't swear when I am by myself."

**YOU CAN BE TALKED ABOUT** – Google your name and you might be surprised that there's stuff about you "out there." There might be even be people talking about, citing your actions, or quoting your words. Might be accurate representations, might not. Use that information to learn about yourself and the effects you are having on others. Maybe it'll be useful.

**LEARN TO TYPE, WRITE BETTER** – Here's an easy start. Read what you write out loud. Not mumbling and under your breath. But with your speaking voice. Stand up. Read it right there. Pretend a person is listening. You'll very quickly learn how your words sound, and how you can improve them as needed.

Tips for using Facebook, or at least how Mike operates

**PERIODIC PURGING** – Every few months, I'll find my oldest wall postings, and commence deleting. Work backwards for a few months.

**FOLDERS FOR PHOTOS** – Every few months as well, I'll create a new folder for wall and mobile photos. Then I'll delete the prior folder, which will cause both the pictures AND all associated comments to be deleted.

**DELETING OR EATING MY WORDS** – More than a few times, I'll have second thoughts about something I've posted to my wall or to someone else's wall. I'll delete. And maybe send a private message with an explanation, or even apology.

Tips for dealing with human beings, using social media or just in person:

**ACTIONS AND FEELINGS** – What you do (actions) are noticed and remembered by others. How people felt (feelings) during and after your actions are remembered, and maybe long after your actions. Be kind.

**Legeros** - 09/06/12 - 07:22

The above comment by "Bob" is in fact NOT Bob Pascucci. For purposes of career retention at my municipal place of employment, I would like to point out that this "Bob" is not me.

On the topic of social media, I refrain from saying or doing anything that I couldn't sit in front of the Chief, the Town Manager, or the HR Director and explain in a positive manner. It is not worth my career to post an off-color comment or derogatory post on Facebook, this blog, or

anywhere for that matter. People like to argue that they have “rights,” and you do in fact have the right to free speech in this country. You employer also has the right in this state to fire you for exercising that right in a manner that they deem as defaming the organization or municipality. Whether on or off duty, you are the face of your department. Just because you sit behind a keyboard and rattle off some opinion does not make it any different than if you proclaimed it over the PA system on your fire apparatus. Computers do not offer anonymity or immunity.

**Bob P.** - 09/06/12 - 13:59

My above post should have the word “try” in front of refrain! Nobody is perfect, you just have to hope that nobody notices when your filter is off.

**Bob P.** - 09/06/12 - 17:22

Let’s extend our thinking on this puppy and get really crazy. Say someone posts a fire photo. Someone off-duty, or even a citizen photog, like myself. Say a house fire, with a big mess of flames.

The shot is posted to Facebook, maybe by me, maybe by someone else. Then the Likes start happening. If you’re a responder, does your “Like” become an inappropriate form of expression? Does it have the potential, if a headline appears somewhere “firefighters ‘approve’ of photo showing destroyed home.”

Add an injury or fatality to the incident, and... you see where that can go. What do you think, truly crazy thinking now? Or logical (if perhaps far-fetched) extension of this issue?

**Legeros** - 09/07/12 - 08:15

One’s perception = their reality. I find stuff on the internet amusing all of the time. However, people may find that offensive, because of the content. You may find a site like “The People of WalMart” amusing, but hit “like” and you are now a racist in many’s minds. I think Bob P says it best. If you said something on Facebook or your blog that you cannot sit and explain to the county manager or mayor, then you are probably better off not saying it. Writing a blog myself has driven this home. There have been many times I have had something to say, but never published it. People get offended easily, and unless you can make a living at it, then it’s better not to.

**DJ** - 09/07/12 - 09:20

Based on the linked story, there was no opinion of any substance other than “liking” something. Maybe Mr. Carter knew the sheriff’s opponent personally and is a really nice guy. Regardless of the myriad inferences that could (and apparently were) be drawn, nothing objectionable was said (again, based on the article). The only reasonable scenario I see is the sheriff’s ego could not handle the bruising that the “implied” criticism inflicted. The news is bloated with examples of politicians who are despicable human beings. Corruption, infidelity, graft, etc. Which is why I feel politicians are scum. Not all are, you say? Well, we don’t hear much about from them. Maybe the honorable ones should speak out more and not let the scum steal the limelight. I’d like to see the glass as half full but that seems harder and harder to do lately. They sought public office, hence they better be able to handle criticism from the body politic. Remember ye politicians, you work for us. Is public office a tough job? I’m sure it is. Is there more to it than I realize since I’ve never held office? I’m confident of that, but that doesn’t obviate the responsibility to maintain the public trust.

I always treat others with the respect their words and actions deserve. I try never to jump to any conclusions and realize that I probably don’t know the whole story. At some point, however, poor performance and conduct becomes all too evident; then, criticism needs to be levied. If a shady politician disrespects their office and the public they serve by philandering or taking kickbacks (etc.), they should not expect respect in return. Basically, that sheriff should have the integrity to stand behind his performance and meet legitimate criticism with a defensible counterpoint. Anything other than that is hiding behind the position/office and abusing their power. I feel I’m going to start rambling, so I better quit before I jump off the deep end. If I offended anyone, oh well, they are only words. I can handle it if you don’t agree with me.

**Bob (without the P.)** - 09/11/12 - 23:00

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Firefighters Crossing The Street

09/06/12 78 W, 1 I - + 11 - 4

In his "tips for living in a world with social media" (see comments in [yesterday's posting](#)), fire blooger-turned-communication guru (self-proclaimed) Mike Legeros offered the observation "cameras are everywhere." Here are personnel from Engine 2 crossing South Saunders Street. Observe good technique in bag-carrying, and correct use of safety vests. Maybe also observe that the photographer might need to get a life. FIREFOTO not WALKFOTO.



Is that the newest Raleigh SOP for Safety First. Turn Out gear, Vest and Radio, I notice one is looking left,and two looking right, You can never be to careful

Just a guy - 09/06/12 - 08:58

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

## UPDATE #3: Upcoming Events

10/03/12 308 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Drop a line, or add a comment to expand this list.

Saturday, October 6

- [Garner Fireman's Day](#)  
Garner Fire Station 1  
9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Knightdale Fire Department Open House  
Knightdale Fire Station  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- [Morrisville Fire Safety Day](#)  
Park West Village Target  
Bristol Creek Drive  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- [Pilot Fire Department BBQ](#) (Franklin County)  
Pilot Fire Station  
8028 NC 39 Highway South, Zebulon  
6:00 a.m. (eek!) to 2:00 p.m. (or so)



Sunday, October 7

- Raleigh Fire Department Open House  
All fire stations  
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 9

- Raleigh Fire Department Event at Chick-Fil-A  
Capital Crossing Shopping Center  
4621 Capital Boulevard, Raleigh  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 12

- Raleigh Fire Department display at Crabtree Valley Mall

Saturday, October 13

- Fuquay-Varina Fire Department Open House
- Creedmoor Fireman's Day
- Raleigh Fire Department display at Crabtree Valley Mall
- Raleigh Fire Museum Open  
Includes history program at 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 14

- Raleigh Fire Department display at Crabtree Valley Mall



Past events are below the fold.

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#### Saturday - September 8

- [Wake Forest Tunnel to Towers 5K Run/Community Walk](#)  
Wake Forest Fire Department Station 1  
420 East Elm Street, Wake Forest, NC 27587  
8:00 a.m.
- [Jaycee Burn Center Benefit / Cornhole Tournament](#)  
Hill Ridge Farms  
703 Tarboro Road, Youngsville, North Carolina 27525  
11:00 a.m. sign-up  
12:00 p.m. tournament start
- [Raleigh Fire Museum](#)  
105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh  
Regular second Saturday monthly opening  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- [50-210 Fire Department Fireman's Day](#)  
50 Greenleaf Road, Angier  
10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

#### Saturday, September 15

- [Durham Highway Public Safety Day](#)  
Leesville Road High School  
8409 Leesville Road, Raleigh  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

#### Saturday, September 22

- [Warren County Firemen's Day](#)  
Warrenton Fire Station / Fairgrounds  
All Day

#### Saturday, September 29

- [Hopkins Fire Department 35th Anniversary](#)  
Hopkins Fire Station  
8933 Fowler Road, Zebulon  
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, September 30

- [Stony Hill Open House](#)  
Stony Hill Station 1  
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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Fuquays open house is Oct. 13

**911** - 09/20/12 - 11:49

Antioch FD in Johnson County is having their BBQ chicken Friday (today) from 11 to 7.

**Angry Pigs** - 09/21/12 - 10:11

Mike: Thanks, as always for helping to promote the great things fire departments around Wake County and our region are doing for Fire Prevention Week. We know a lot of people read your blog and this form of marketing is invaluable! Your service is always appreciated! Since Bay Leaf is constructing a new headquarters station, we will not be holding our Open House this year. However, we will be holding our first annual Bay Leaf Community Flu Clinic, as we partner with CVS to help our citizens ward off the flu. The event will be held at the Bay Leaf Volunteer Fire Department Station Two at 13116 Norwood Road, from 10:00am to 2:00pm. All are welcome to help keep the flu away!

**Jonny** ([Web Site](#)) - 09/21/12 - 15:51

The Creedmoor Fireman’s Day parade is Saturday, October 13th, 2012 at 3:30 pm on Main Street. Immediately following the parade at South Granville High School on Hwy 56 is a Brunswick Stew and BBQ supper from 4pm to 7pm.

**Legeros** - 09/22/12 - 07:29

Hopkins event added for this Saturday.

**Legeros** - 09/25/12 - 19:44

**Friday is the 12th, sat 13th, sunday 14th**

**BW** - 10/05/12 - 16:15

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Bay Leaf's Big Fire

09/06/12 207 W, 3 I - + 6 - 6

Major house fire in north Raleigh tonight. Bay Leaf Fire Department arriving at 1601 Kirkby Lane, at a three-story, brick, single-family dwelling with 4,916 square-feet. Built 2004. Located at end of dead-end street, no hydrants in subdivision. Heavy fire on second and third floors, and in attic, with defensive operations soon starting. Crews withdrawn from rear of structure, due to collapse hazard. Aerial operations started, after water supply established.

Water shuttle used, with drop tank and relay pumping from Kirkby Lane and Caistor Lane. That's about 1,000 feet, says Google. One water point at Mt. Vernon Church Road and Norwood Road. That's about 1.1 miles, says Google. Dispatched about 5:20 p.m. First photo (top) taken about 5:55 p.m. Operations ongoing as of 9:55 p.m.

Units on scene included Bay Leaf P252, P366, P251, P122, P258, P121, L25, A12, C1 and others; Durham Highway P1, P4, Wake Forest E5, Stony Hill P395, tanker 268; Rolesville tankers 157, 158; Creedmoor engine and two tankers; Wake County EMS 22, ~~EMS 12~~, EMS 34, EMS 15, EMS 7, EMS 6, D3, M93, M95, T1. [See preliminary photos by Legeros](#), who tried his best while also holding an umbrella. More later. Bed time.





Holy Cow....Looks like the North side boys had all anyone could handle.

Mike's right, that's a bunch of 5".

Talk about a long overhaul!

**Buckwheat** - 09/07/12 - 12:54

Thats one heck of a load of fire.... It either went un-noticed for a period of time or an arson job, glad no brothers were hurt during this incident...

**Jim** - 09/07/12 - 15:22

It was a lightning strike, and unfortunately the family is out of the country. Gotta be a terrible phone call to get especially being so far away trying to enjoy a nice vacation.

EMS 12 was reassigned to a wreck immediately after dispatch and was not there.

**Weenie Roast** - 09/07/12 - 17:14

This fire is an excellent example where the presence of residential sprinklers may have provided a totally different outcome. At a minimum, if no sprinkler system is installed, at least have a fire alarm system for early detection capability! This fire had a big head-start due to no detection or existing automatic protection.

**A.C. Rich** - 09/08/12 - 23:20

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Mini Pumper Gets Makeover

09/08/12 172 W, 3 I - + 8 - 5

Photographer Lee Wilson spent some time at the Raleigh Fire Department shop yesterday, where Mini 1 is getting a makeover. The [1986 Chevrolet Silverado brush truck](#) (with 13,000 miles!) had one of two booster reels removed and the remaining reel relocated to the rear, for starters. That's lowered the profile of the truck. They've raised it a hair, and added new wheels and rims. Plus some other changes. Below is the before and after. [See more photos.](#)

Mini 1 is stored at Station 16. It's has a [former twin at Station 23](#). The city's three mini-pumpers (the third is at Station 3, a 2005 Ford F-550/Reading/Slagle) are used for brush and woods fires, along with parking deck fire responses. They're used for EMS responses in remote areas, such as Umstead Park. They're also enlisted during storms and snow as special response vehicles, and can be used for other purposes, such as towing the [recently delivered foam trailer](#) that's stored at the Keeter Training center.



*Mike Legeros photo*







*Lee Wilson photos*

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Save the Date: « Mini Pumper Gets Make... » Is Clicking Like Real...  
Stony Hill Inaugural Junior Firefighter Challenge, March 16, 2013

Save the Date: Stony Hill Inaugural Junior Firefighter Challenge, March 16, 201309/09/12 206 W - + 5 - 3

Here's extended advance notice on junior firefighter challenge that the Stony Hill Fire Department is starting:

Stony Hill Inaugural "March Into Spring" Junior Firefighter Challenge

Saturday March 16, 2013  
Stony Hill Fire Department Station 1  
7045 Stony Hill Road  
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Put winter behind you and warm up to spring by joining us as Junior Firefighters and Fire Explorers compete in the Stony Hill Inaugural "March Into Spring" Junior Firefighter Challenge in Wake Forest North Carolina! We will start the day with written and hands on knowledge tests then move into the field for the events of the day. The Stony Hill Auxiliary and members will have refreshments available throughout the day. Lunch options will be available for a nominal charge.

Registration deadline February 15, 2013!

Meet & Greet  
All participating teams are invited to join us on Friday night March 15th from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM for fellowship, food, drinks, games and fun! The food and drinks will be provided and we are planning on having a DJ to spin some tunes for everyone.

Contacts  
Dave Martin (919) 795-5883  
Brian Rimmer (919) 455-8120  
Jeb Bailey (919) 761-3189  
E-Mail: [juniors@stonyhillfire.org](mailto:juniors@stonyhillfire.org)  
Web Site: <http://juniors.stonyhillfire.org>

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

## Is Clicking Like Really Saying Anything, Asks The Lawyer

09/09/12 89 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

That's lawyer and fire blogger Curt Varone's headline to this [informative posting from his Fire Law blog](#). He teases a number of answers from this reader question: Is clicking "Like" to a Facebook post making a public statement sufficient to get someone in trouble? Read the reader comments as well, as the discussion has continued. See our previous posting related to this, titled [Click Like, Get Suspended](#). The below graphic has nothing to do with this posting.



That graphic makes me very, very angry...

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 09/10/12 - 09:06

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

State Fire Fighters Association of North Carolina Convention, 195409/09/12 78 W, 1 I - + 4 - 6

On June 16, 1954, the State Fire Fighters Association of North Carolina opened their 15th annual convention at the Hotel Sir Walter in Raleigh. This was the state organization affiliated with the International Association of Fire Fighters created in 1940. See [related prior posting](#). They were hosted by Local 548 that represented Raleigh firefighters. Here's the convention program, as found in a scrapbook of the Raleigh Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. [Read program](#) (PDF).



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an

September 11, 2012

09/11/12 9 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

Today is a day to remember.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Durham Highway's New Dalmatian

09/12/12 98 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Photographer Lee Wilson spent some time this week with the newest member of Durham Highway Fire Department. [See his photos](#). Maybe you'll be able to meet him as well, this Saturday, at Leesville Road High School, for Durham Highway's annual Public Safety Day. Time is 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Read more on the department's [Puppy Page](#), which includes some historical information about dalmatians in firehouses. Short version that I've always heard: dogs were common companions to horses, back in the day. And this breed proved the most companionable. Woof.



Lee Wilson photo

The puppy's also due to be named. Wonder if anyone suggested Barn?

**Legeros** - 09/12/12 - 07:04

or Pierce?

**Bucky** - 09/12/12 - 11:35

How about "Hugh" or "Hal" after Chief Hugh Halligan....

**Silver** - 09/12/12 - 16:26

There are a list of names already suggested on DHFDs puppy page that you can use to vote for the name or submit your own idea

**Name me!** - 09/12/12 - 16:52

I know a fireman frm southern wake county who named his dalmation Pierce last year.

**911** - 09/12/12 - 20:18

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Zebulon Seeks Fire Chief

09/12/12 257 W - + 8 - 2

[This posting has appeared](#) on the town Zebulon's web site in eastern Wake County. Applications must be received by October 24. And this posting can mean only one thing, that longtime Fire Chief Sidney Perry is retiring. Congratulations, my friend. [Read a profile of Chief Perry](#) that we posted in February, when he was named Career Fire Chief of the Year at the NCAFC Mid-Winter Conference.

Fire Chief – Town of Zebulon, pop. 4,464. Performs highly responsible managerial, administrative and supervisory work in directing the activities and personnel of the town’s fire department. ISO Class 3/9. Responsibilities include management of 14 f/t positions and 16 volunteers with an annual budget of \$1.1M. Department has medical responder responsibilities. Position requires ability to prepare budget projections, possession of strong oral and written communication skills, ability to deal tactfully with the public, and ability to develop positive working relationships with staff, other town employees, elected officials, and related local, county, state and federal agency representatives. Requires a degree in fire science or related field and/or completion of advanced courses and seminars in fire administration and fire science. Requires a standard level III Fire inspection and Firefighter Level II certification as well as 10 years fire service experience with a paid department and five of those years serving in an officer or supervisory role. Extensive experience of an increasingly responsible nature in all phases of municipal fire suppression and fire prevention, including; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. [...] Salary Range \$58,697-\$88,043. [...] Applications must be received by October 24, 2012.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Trooper Gene DeMuth Laid to Rest in Rocky Mount

09/13/12 151 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

The *News & Observer* has posted this striking photo by Takaaki Iwabu of a horse-drawn caisson carrying the casket of North Carolina Highway Patrol Trooper Bobby Gene DeMuth Jr. to his funeral yesterday at Englewood Baptist Church in Rocky Mount. He was killed in Nash County on Saturday while attempting to stop a fleeing suspect in a vehicle chase that originated in Raleigh. Hundreds of law officers attended the funeral, reports the story, with highway patrol units attending from as far as Alaska, Idaho, and Texas. Two Marines attended the ceremony to play taps, and the Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums played *Amazing Grace*. During the graveside ceremony, the patrol's aviation wing participated to also honor DeMuth. [Read the entire story](#). See additional coverage from the [Rocky Mount Telegram](#), [WRAL](#), and [WTVD](#).



Takaaki Iwabu/News & Observer photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Holly Springs Station 2 Opening Soon

09/13/12 81 W, 3 I - + 7 - 7

Here's a tour from photographer Lee Wilson, who visited the soon-to-open fire station at 1140 Avent Ferry Road in Holly Springs. The earlier building at that location-- the first fire station that protected the town, built in 1972-- was damaged by the tornado last year. The department has been operating a temporary station on the site. [See more photos from Lee](#). Search the blog for prior postings. And watch those porticos!





Lee Wilson photos

Nice station guys. Whens the grand opening????

**MikeRFD** - 09/14/12 - 14:42

Oct 24 or 25th, or sometime right around there.

**lee** - 09/16/12 - 00:43

Great looking station. Well deserved. Ready to start station 3 next???

**JasonCFD** - 09/17/12 - 16:59

Open House will be on Saturday, November 10th from 10a-2p.

**LeBeau** - 11/03/12 - 20:24

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Moncure's New Ladder

09/14/12 36 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

The Moncure Fire Department in Chatham County recently placed this 2012 Ferrara/HME/Smeal 1750/500/77-foot ladder truck in service. The truck is designated Ladder 8. [See more photos from Lee Wilson.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.



**Fire Commission Meeting Cancelled - September 20, 2012**

09/14/12 88 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Next week's regular scheduled meeting of the Wake County Fire Commission on Thursday, September 20, has been cancelled. There were no action items for consideration of the Fire Commission. The next scheduled regular meeting is November 15. See you in the fall, unless you're really jonesing for a fire service meeting. For a nominal fee, Mr. Blogger will sit at the head of a large room and read aloud minutes from prior meetings. You supply the room.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

**UPDATED: Wrightsville Beach Former Fire Stations**

09/15/12 358 W, 3 I - + 8 - 3

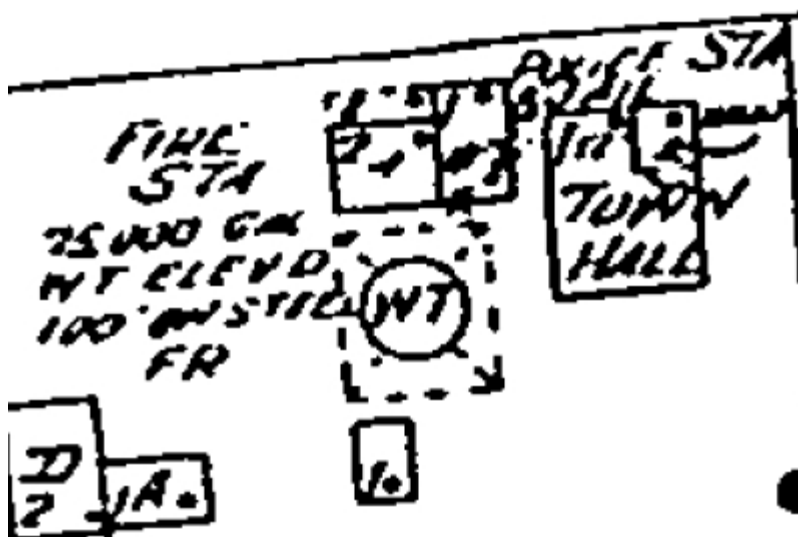
September 15

Updated with Sanborn Map information from 1955.

September 14

Here's a bit of cobbled-together history on Wrightsville Beach's former fire stations. The town's fire department was established around 1915. By the time of the [Great Fire of 1934](#), they had a few water mains used for hose stations. No hydrants, no fire truck. For big fires, they called Wilmington.

By 1955, the fire station was located in the 400 block of Waynick Boulevard, beside the town hall and police station. The town was equipped with fire hydrants by that time. A water tower stood behind the fire station, and one still stands at the site today. No other department information is listed on the map sheet that's in my files.



By the early 1970s, the fire station was still located in the 400 block of Waynick Boulevard. After the Causeway Bridge was completed, the town built a second fire station on Harbor Island, to house a fire engine for the island. Built in 1972, that one-bay building is located at 5 Live Oak Drive.





Station 2 was closed in 1984, and presumably at the time that Station 1 was relocated into a warehouse building at the junction of Highway 74 and Highway 76. The present address is 10 Seawater Lane. Old Station 1 doesn't appear to be still standing, based on Google Maps Street View. Both of the town's fire stations were presumably consolidated into a single facility. That fire station operated until 2010, when a [monster of a new station](#) was completed just a few hundred yards west.



Now for a general New Hanover County fire department question. What's the story on the Figure Eight Island Fire Department, which incorporated in 1983 and dissolved in 1988? Were they based on the private island, or on the mainland? Did they merge with Ogden FD, which today has a station just a stone's throw from the bridge. Read more about former [New Hanover County fire departments](#) and [former fire stations](#) (and a page that's a bit outdated, alas).

---

Name: (real name

Remember personal info?

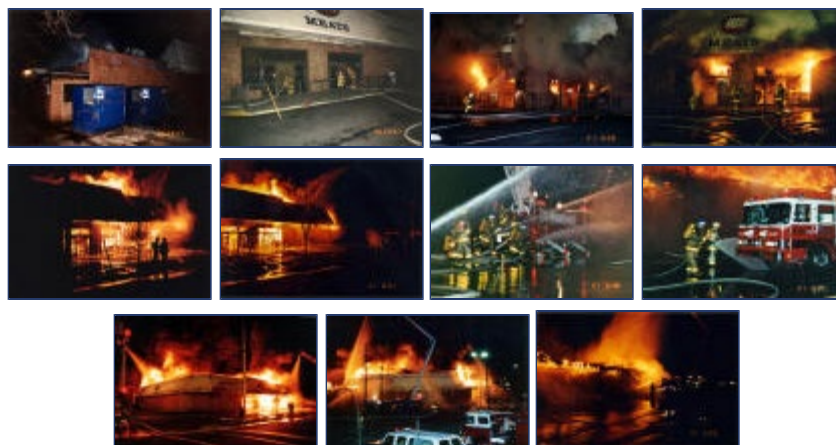
## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - UPDATE #2: IGA « Raleigh Fire Apparatu... » Fully Involved on Oak... Grocery Store Fire - December 20, 1992

### UPDATE #2: IGA Grocery Store Fire - December 20, 1992

09/17/12 797 W, 12 I - + 9 - 8

September 18

How about some pictures from Jeff Harkey, then a member of the fire department's photo unit. Have attempted to display these in chronological order, kinda sorta. Click to enlarge:



September 16

Extensive update to the incident description below, include correcting the times. Added narrative details, and included log book entries from most of the responding companies and units.

September 2

Doing some work this morning on our Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book. (Have you [ordered yours?](#)) This stunning image is one of two that'll appear on the front of the dust-cover. That's the IGA Grocery Store at 718 N. Person Street. Three alarms for that one. *News & Observer* photographer John Rottet took the photo. Click to enlarge:



*John Rottet/News & Observer photo*

### What Happened

Here's an incident description. (Memo to self, also update my [historical timelines](#)) Sectors are 1 (front), 2 (inside), 3 (rear), 4 (left), 5 (right), 6 (roof), 7 (staging). Corrections and expansions welcome.

#### First Alarm

- IGA Grocery Store at 718 N. Person Street.
- E3, E7, T1, R7, C52 dispatched at 11:34 p.m.
- Engine 3 arriving.
- Smoke showing from rear of store around room-mounted air-condition units upon arrival.
- C52 records heavy smoke conditions throughout and all around building.
- Engine 3 declares Code 3, results in automatic dispatch of second alarm, and other operational steps.

#### Second Alarm

- E4, E11, T11, R6, C51 dispatched at 11:39 p.m.
- Crews attempt to force door in rear of building.
- Two crews (with two hand lines) enter front of store at approximately 11:55 p.m.
- Engine 3 supplies hand lines to front door.
- Engine 11 supplies hand lines to Sector 5 (right of building).
- Attack crew notices ceiling tiles on floor indicating fire overheard.
- Volume of fire grows and moves to front of store.
- Two crews inside unable to extinguish fire.
- Command changes to aerial operations using three aerials.
- Fire begins showing [outside of building?] at approximately 11:53 p.m.
- Truck 1 (snorkel) positions to Sector 4 (left of building), supplied by Engine 7, and operates master stream onto roof.

#### Third Alarm

- E16, E6, T16 dispatched at 12:07 a.m.
- Crews ordered to withdraw from building at approximately 12:10 a.m.
- Additional truck companies establish master streams at front and right side of building.
- Engine 6 supplies Truck 16 for about two hours, from hydrant at corner of Franklin and Blount streets.
- Hand lines required to cool apparatus from radiant heat.
- Mansard-style canopy on three sides of building becomes fully involved and collapses into parking lot.

#### Rescue

- Rescue 7 arrives on first alarm, helps with fire suppression. Notes Rescue 6 set up rehab.
- Rescue 6 arrives on second alarm. Assists with entry, suppression, overhaul, rehab.

*Continued at bottom of post*

#### Other Photos

There have been others that we've seen, such as [this one by Jeff Harkey](#), then a member of the department's photo unit. Believe that photo appeared in Firehouse magazine. And here are [three more News & Observer images](#). Scroll down the page. Don't have photo credits for those.

#### Other Fires

This was the last (or one of the last) grocery store fires (fully-involved) in the city. There have been earlier ones. Piggly Wiggly on Fairview Road in 1988 (three alarms), for starters. [Read more](#) about Raleigh's bigger fires.

What other grocery stores fires are remembered around here?

—

#### What Happened, Continued

Leaving the Scene

- T1 in service, 2:08 a.m.
- E4 in service, 2:15 a.m.
- E16, T16 in service at 3:17 a.m.
- R6 in service, 3:36 a.m.
- E11 in service, 3:54 a.m.
- E6 in service at 3:57 a.m.
- T11 in service, 4:28 a.m.
- R7 in service, 5:11 a.m.
- E7 in service, 8:51 a.m.

#### Relief Companies

- C53 fills in at Station 1, 11:45 p.m.
- E13 reports to Station 11, 11:52 p.m.
- E14 reports to scene for overhaul, 3:01 a.m.
- E1 arrives on scene for relief, 3:08 a.m.
- E1 fills in for Engine 3 at Station 3, 3:25 a.m.
- E14 fills in for Engine 7 at Station 7, 3:45 a.m.
- E13 back at Station 1, 3:54 a.m.
- C53 takes command on scene, 5:55 a.m.
- E14 back at Station 14, 8:00 a.m.

#### Day After

- E3, T1, R7, C52 return to fire scene.
- Other companies to training center (E7, E11), for hose washing.
- Crews do not re-enter until following day.
- Store and contents are total loss.
- Five sections of five-inch hose and a pick-head axe from Engine 3 are lost.
- Two two-inch nozzles from Engine 3 are damaged.
- Fire units released from fire scene at 5:30 p.m. Police provide security.

#### Causalities, Units

- Three firefighters are injured and treated on the scene for smoke inhalation.
- E3, E7, T1, R7, C52, E4, E11, T11, R6, C51, E6, E16, T16, E1 relief, E14 relief, C1, C2, C3, C10.

#### Investigation

- Investigation continues on second day after fire, December 22.
- Engine 13 and Z. Overton from Station 1 assist Car 198, that morning and early afternoon.
- Area of origin narrowed to ceiling space in rear of store.
- Due to extensive damage, source not identified.
- Arson ruled out.

---

Millers IGA in Nashville,NC burnt in the early to mid 1980s. Fire was intentionally set .during a break in. A second fire at the same location ignited several days later when the produce which had been piled up at the back door during cleanup went through a "heat" and ignited. ( spontaneous combustion ? )

**Galax,v** - 09/18/12 - 11:23

Mike,  
I noticed in the pictures several firefighters are wearing blue helmets, what rank did this identify?

**WATSON** - 09/18/12 - 16:31

Blue at the time was worn by Rescue guys.

**Silver** - 09/18/12 - 16:57

Check out the white helmet with a line. You don't see that anymore!

**RescueRanger** - 09/18/12 - 22:13

The white helmet is Cmdr. Tommy Gattis (retired) – he was the Chief of Training/Safety Officer (Car 10 at that time). Yes, RFD at one time had the rank of Commander and Lt. Commander (at KTC)!

**A.C. Rich** - 09/18/12 - 23:39

Hey Chief Rich, is the ol' word 'round the firehouse kitchen table true, that those positions were sort of "made-up"?

**Silver** - 09/19/12 - 01:32

If I recall at the time it was Cmdr. Gattis and Lt. Cmdr. Dunn at KTC?

**Chris** - 09/19/12 - 09:36

Man that Gattis could run all day

**Rob Mitchell** - 09/19/12 - 11:54

This is a timely discussion, as the centennial history book committee is reviewing ranks for the retiree portrait pages. (This very limited edition will feature the rather remarkable inclusion of every retiree since the beginning, minus a dozen or two "not pictured." About 350 or 360 portraits!)

Commander was both a title, and an official position in the Raleigh Fire Department. The position was created in FY74 as Fire Rescue Services Commander. It existed until FY85. (But is missing in the FY78 budget, either not approved that fiscal year, or perhaps inadvertently omitted from the budget docs.)

Harold D. Jones (1952-1982) held that position, and was called Commander during his last years. Who held the position after Jones retired, until the position ceased to exist in June 1985? Don't know.

How did the Commander position come to be created?

In FY74, two other positions were also added: Fire Rescue [Services] Officer (six) and Fire Rescue Services Officer II (seven). These probably or certainly corresponded to the personnel that staffed the two rescue trucks, plus perhaps a training officer. The position of Commander was probably the program head, or chief training officer for the rescue units/program.

This is a couple years before to the first EMT classes, but perhaps was created with an eye toward those.

In FY73 and earlier, only the Fire Rescue [Services] Officer position existed. Two were funded. There was only one rescue unit, though three shifts. (The third platoon was created in September 1970.)

The Fire Rescue [Services] Officer position was created in either FY61 or FY62. The fire department's rescue squad started operating in 1953.

The Fire Rescue Services Officer II position last existed in FY77. The Fire Rescue [Services] Officer position last existed in FY79. The Fire Rescue Services Commander position, as noted above, last existed in FY85.

What about J. Thomas Gattis (1969-1999)? In his later years, he was called Commander. The position didn't exist in the budget, but the title was used. His final position was Fire Services Manager. His role was Training Chief. But he was called Commander until the time of his retirement, if memory serves.

Clear as mud?

**Legeros** - 09/19/12 - 21:24

Great rundown, thanks. So I guess Commander Gattis retired at the rank of District (now Battalion) Chief but was called "Commander"?

**Silver** - 09/20/12 - 01:29

Not quite. He retired as Fire Services Manager. It was a on-off title/position.

**Legeros** - 09/20/12 - 08:24

Mike is correct. It was a situation where RFD management placed who they felt were the most appropriate persons into the positions; however they were not at the position’s rank. Hence the titles Commander for a District Chief’s position and Lt. Commander for the EMS Coordinator/Training Capt’s position. Tramp later promoted to Captain while at KTC. (I believe) Commander was used as a title because: (1) it had been used before, and (2) the existing Class A uniform used three stripes for a Dist. Chief (and also three crossed bugles); therefore the equivalency in Navy rank would be Commander(?)

**A.C. Rich** - 09/20/12 - 16:52

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Found an interesting *News & Observer* story dated January 21, 1942. The Local Government Commission the day before approved the city's issuance of a \$500,000 bond, contingent on approval by voters. The bond issue included items related to the fire department, though most (or maybe all) were not implemented for years or even a decade. (Need to read further, to find out if the bond issue didn't happen, or if war-time restrictions prevented station construction and vehicle acquisition.) They included:

- Construction of new Station 1, on Dawson Street lot already purchased. Current station was housed in Old Station 2, built in 1914. The new Station 1 was completed in 1953.
- Construction of Station 6, later determined as Budleigh area. Opened in rented building in 1943. The new Station 6 was completed in 1949.
- Purchase of aerial ladder. This didn't happen until 1958, when a 1958 American LaFrance tiller replaced the 1939/1916 American LaFrance tiller.
- Purchase of a pumper. A used 1919 pumper was purchased in 1943. The next new pumper was purchased in November 1949, a 1950 FWD that Yours Truly often cites as a 1949 model. This was followed quickly by a 1950 Mack, purchased in January 1950.
- Purchase of a service truck. This took nearly two decades to complete, when the body of the 1922 American LaFrance service truck was added to a 1963 Ford truck chassis.
- Expansion of the fire alarm system. These were presumably additional fire alarm boxes for some newly annexed areas.
- Total for above items, \$162,000.

Name: (real name preferred)

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Notify:

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Yes, hide my email address.

New Chapel Hill Fire Department Facebook Page

09/16/12 81 W, 1 I - + 7 - 7

The Chapel Hill Fire Department has a [new Facebook page](#). The page contains current department information, as well as a number of photo albums with current and historical images. The site's a work in progress and the site operator plans to post working fire information, similiar in style to the Durham Fire Department Facebook page. There's nothing wrong with a blue fire truck, says this State grad.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Raleigh Fire Apparatus, 1992

09/17/12 117 W, 13 I - + 9 - 8

We're in the thick of history book research these days. Let's hope in our time machine and travel back two decades, when later FireNews Editor Jeff Harkey took these posed photos in April 1992. If memory serves, the occasion was a feature in *Fire Apparatus Journal*. These images are scanned from prints. Enhanced to improve shadows, but not much color correcting. No time today for negative scans. Maybe later. Top to bottom, left to right: 1979 Mack/1958 American LaFrance, 1981 Mack, 1985 Pirsch, 1986 EEI/Pemfab, 1986 E-One, 1986 Seagrave, 1988 GMC/Union City, 1988 Pierce engine, 1988 Pierce snorkel, 1990 Pierce/1986 EEI, 1990 Pierce, 1990 Spartan, and one of two crazy-huge 1991 Chevy/FrontLine rescue trucks. Who else operated rescue rigs like those? [Read apparatus histories](#).



Mike, looking at the apparatus histories page, are the decimal points correct on the prices of the apparatus? Looks like ladder 4 only cost \$98 thousand .

**Galax,va** - 09/18/12 - 11:00

Thanks, some of those trucks were obviously bought cheap-cheap!

**Legeros** - 09/18/12 - 19:14

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *UPDATED: Benson's Fire Wagon and Some History From Walt McCall* « Caring For Caelon » The Science of Shame

### UPDATED: Benson's Fire Wagon and Some History From Walt McCall

02/23/13 366 W, 3 I - + 8 - 2

February 23

Lee Wilson paid a visit this week to the Benson fire station, and took a couple photos of the old engine. [Visit his Flickr site](#) to see more, or enlarge the photo and zoom in good and close. Looks like restoration is finished. What a beauty.



*Lee Wilson photo*

September 18, 2012

Our friends in the Benson Fire Department share a photo of their first fire engine, which has been undergoing restoration since being returned to the department last September. ([Read about](#) that effort.) The horse-drawn, gas-powered pumping engine dates to 1907. They've been slowly restoring the thing. ([See a photo](#) from May.)

Here's a photo, click once or twice to greatly enlarge:





They've also been researching the engine's history, and came upon a clue. Their question is below. Let's begin a lightning round of Stump the Chump.

Last week, while greasing one of the axels, one of our firemen made the biggest discovery yet, he found a make name. 'Concord Express' was stamped on the axel. We did a little research and found that Concord Express was made by Abbott and Downing Company, which was out of Concord, New Hampshire. All we know is they specialized in Stage Coaches. Do you have any knowledge of this company in the fire service or any knowledge in general of this company? We seemed to have hit a dead end.

Responds Mr. Blogger AKA Captain History AKA The Hawaiian Shirt Guy:

Consulting Walt McCall's insanely helpful *Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Fire Engine Manufacturers*, published in 2007, the author lists Abbott & Downing Truck & Body Co. as producing fire apparatus from 1916 to around 1930. The Concord, NH, company was famed for its stagecoaches-- named Concord-- of the mid 1800s. They were a wagon and carriage maker known to have also constructed bodies for some horse-drawn and motor fire apparatus during the aforementioned period. In 1916, they began building assembled fire apparatus on their Concord commercial truck chassis. They built a triple combination pumper for Hardwick, MA, in 1929. The company ceased to operate during the Depression. Man, McCall sure makes it easy for folks to access the past.

---

Thanks for the info, Mike. The life story of this wagon is gradually starting to fall into place and the retransformation of it through restoration efforts have come a long way in a short time, thanks to many dedicated individuals.

**Jerry (BFD)** - 09/19/12 - 10:32

What a BEAUTIFUL restoration job!!! Jerry, you and the other members who have been working to restore this old beauty should be proud. In my opinion it is one of the sharpest if not THE sharpest horse drawn fire antiques I have ever seen. Who ever decided to remove the paint from the wood and return it to a natural finish is a genius. I hope one day to be able to see this masterpiece in person.

**Galax, Va** - 09/19/12 - 16:03

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Fully Involved on Oak Island

09/19/12 70 W, 1 I - + 6 - 6

[FireNews.net](#) has [posted some dramatic photos](#) from Mike Boswell via WECT, from a house fire on Oak Island on Tuesday. The vacation home was well-involved on arrival. There was nobody home. One firefighter was transported for smoke inhalation. [See additional photos](#) in the WECT story. The photog did a good 360 walk around. Looks like it was a windy one.



Mike Boswell/WECT photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.



Raleigh Fire Explorers in Action, 1991-1993

09/21/12 80 W, 6 I - + 5 - 8

Here are some vintage shots of the [Raleigh Fire Department Explorer Post 108](#) in action, from 1991 to 1993. They're some of the content being collected for the [Centennial History Book](#) that's in production. That's a limited edition thing, folks. Won't be in bookstores. Don't snooze and lose if you want one. Photos by Jeff Harkey. Numerous Explorers have pursued successful careers in Raleigh since the post's formation in 1985. See anyone you recognize? Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)

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Stony Hill Fire Department Open House, Sunday, Sept. 30

09/21/12 26 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Good times planned at Stony Hill Fire Station 1 on Sunday, September 30. Click to enlarge the below flier.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?  

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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Knightsdale Fire Department Open House, Saturday, Oct. 6

09/21/12 49 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

Here's another thing happening during the increasingly crammed Fire Prevention Week weekends. Knightsdale Public Safety is celebrating their 10 year anniversary with a fire department open house on Saturday, October 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Click to read this PDF flier:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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The question is often encountered during historical research. Such as a *Raleigh Times* story on Wednesday, May 28, 1986: "The law went into effect Sunday, but Capt. Bryant Woodall of the Raleigh Fire Department said hazardous chemical reports have been coming in for the past six weeks." Which date was Sunday? You can count backwards, of course. But what if you don't know the day of the week that May 28 fell upon. Visit the web site [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com) for their calendar generator. Works like a charm.

◀ 198519861987 ▶2012

Calendar for year 1986 (United States)

January

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
3:00	10:00	17:00	25:00			

February

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	
1:00	8:00	16:00	24:00			

March

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
3:00	10:00	18:00	25:00			

April

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
1:00	9:00	17:00	24:00	30:00		

May

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:00	16:00	23:00	30:00			

June

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
7:00	15:00	21:00	28:00			

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

<https://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=5535>[10/15/2019 7:13:31 PM]

Water Supply Then and Now

09/22/12 42 W, 2 I - + 7 - 5

Raleigh Fire Department hydrant connections then and now. Top photo is undated, probably early or mid 1990s. Bottom photo is Illeagnes Street on December 8, 2011. You've come a long way, baby. Click to enlarge:



Lee Wilson photos

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Residential Sprinkler « Water Supply Then and... » Caption This Photo

System Demonstration in Wake Forest, Friday, Sep. 28

Residential Sprinkler System Demonstration in Wake Forest, Friday, Sep. 28

09/23/12 238 W - + 6 - 6

Press release. A demonstration of residential sprinkler systems will be conducted on Friday, September 28, at 9:00 a.m., at 6305 Mountain Oaks Way, Wake Forest, NC. This Raleigh Fire Department and the Stony Hill Fire Department have partnered to conduct this media event. This is a private dwelling with a sprinkler system installed. The purpose of the event is to the educate the public on the benefits of residential sprinkler systems.

Residential sprinkler systems have been proven to reduce fire damage and save lives. Prince Georges County, Maryland conducted a 15 year study on residential sprinkler systems. In the report the total fire damage in sprinklered buildings was \$9,983 per incident compared to \$49,503 per incident in non-sprinklered buildings. It is also worth noting that 101 fire deaths occurred during the 15 year study, none of which occurred in sprinklered buildings. [Read their report.](#)

The United States Fire Administration also endorses residential fire sprinklers. Their statistical analysis shows that dying in a fire is reduced by 69% when sprinklers are installed and when used in conjunction with smoke detectors that reduction increases to 82%. To learn about additional benefits including a reduction in homeowner's insurance premium for sprinkler systems, [visit this web site.](#)

District Chief Tony Bailey(Stony Hill) and Asst. Chief and Fire Marshal Peter Brock (Raleigh) will be available for media interviews at this event. [See this document](#) for contact information for Chief Brock.

There are two newer residential houses in Fuquay- Varina that have sprinkler systems. Seeing more and more now.

911 - 09/23/12 - 19:52

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.



Caption This Photo

09/23/12 42 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

This curious character was captured in action in June 2006, while Lee Wilson was photographing fire department activity downtown. (Members of NC USAR Task Force 8 repelling down the side of the Wachovia building.)



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

## Old Beauties in Sampson, Johnston Counties

09/24/12 72 W, 3 I - + 9 - 4

Photographer Lee Wilson captured these old beauties last week, while riding around Sampson and Johnston counties. Top to bottom is a former Knightdale engine, a 1979 Ford/Grumman serving the Garland Fire Department in Sampson County; former Angier-Black River engine, a 1974 Chevrolet/Howe serving Blackman's Crossroads in Johnston County; a 1965 Chevrolet/Howe, the first new engine purchased by Blackman's Crossroads. [See more photos.](#)





*Lee Wilson photos*

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Forest Fire Tower For Sale

09/24/12 129 W, 1 I - + 8 - 8

From a reader as found on eBay. Get your very own 100-foot MC-39 Aeromotor Forest Service Fire Observation Tower from the early 1950s. Merely \$28,000 via Buy It Now. Currently disassembled and stored in northern New York State. Ready to load and ship on or around end of January. Made of heavily galvanized and nearly rust free steel. Observation cabin at top measures seven by seven feet, and is made from galvanized sheet metal. Think of the possibilities! Airborne man cave! Sky-high deer stand! Neighborhood zip line! Just ignore that little voice inside your head that says "my wife would kill me." She'll be thrilled. [Here's the listing](#). Go for it. Thanks for passing along, Bob.



---

Just don't put it up near the airport without telling the FAA...  
And I think NCFS's firetowers are one the surplus list.

**Duda** ([Email](#)) - 09/24/12 - 10:37

I'm very sure Duda is right; the pix look a lot like the ones I took once at Green Cross Fire Tower, in Bertie County.

So why are they talking about it being in New York State? Sooo confused!

?Que es?

**Chuk** ([Email](#)) - 09/24/12 - 16:57

According to the listing:

SHIPPING AND HANDLING – The disassembled Fire Tower structure may be shipped partially assembled in that the Observers Cabin may be whole but the 90 foot section of Fire Tower below the Observers Cabin will be totally dismantled. Total weight for trucking estimates is 24,000 pounds(twenty four thousand pounds) Within 1000 miles of its current location in North Carolina you can expect shipping to cost to be \$2,500 to \$3,000.00 or more. I have a trucker I use exclusively that I can connect you up with for his price. He is very reliable and takes care of each load. WE WILL SHIP AND ASSEMBLE INTERNATIONALLY.

So it's here in NC. I wonder which county? We have taken all but one or two (that I'm aware) of our repeaters off NCFS towers because we

were told that they were being sold. Matter of fact, whoever disassembled the old tower (sans cabin) from Mt. Jefferson did a great job making the land look as if it had never been there.

@Chuk – It seems like the company that has this listing is in NY.

Duda ([Email](#)) - 10/01/12 - 11:48

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info?
E-mail: (optional)	Yes
Web Site: (optional)	No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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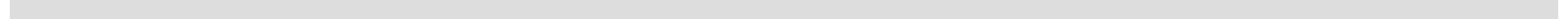
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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

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## Yesterday's Apartment Fire in Clayton

09/25/12 82 W, 2 I - + 7 - 3

The *Clayton News Star* has [posted a pair of photos](#) from yesterday's apartment fire at 500 West Main Street. Four families were displaced by the 1:45 p.m. blaze. Clayton, Garner, and Archer Lodge fire departments responded. That looks like Garner's ladder in the bottom photo. They're located at 503 West Main Street, just in another county. Run time says Google is 13 minutes, with 9.8 miles between the addresses. See also [WTVD](#) and [News 14](#) stories.



*Rebecca Putterman/Clayton News-Star photos*



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Close Hose and « Yesterday's Apartment... » Everybody Loves a Par... Sparkling Water

### Close Hose and Sparkling Water

09/25/12 139 W, 2 I - + 6 - 8

In the absence of flames or smoke, there are still many other interesting things to photograph on the fireground. This is a very close view of Engine 11 at a reported apartment fire on Sunbow Falls Lane last night. Working fire assignment dispatched due to multiple callers, including reported flames from one unit and people possibly still inside. Arriving unit found smoke showing, and burning material on a balcony. Quickly extinguished. Most units returned to service. [See more photos](#) by Mike Legeros. Was very dark, so external flash was paramount. Resulted in some interesting images, including the sparkling water in the second shot. Top photo gets me thinking about macro photography. Wonder what some of this stuff would like like *really* close?



---

While looking through the pictures I saw a computer in the back of one of the trucks, why is this? Also is there one up front for the officer?

**Watson** - 09/25/12 - 13:26

I believe a monitor sits in the front, while a monitor with keyboard sits in the back (mirror each other). Cramped quarters in the front allow for

ease of use by a member in the back with the full keyboard.

**Silver** - 09/25/12 - 19:59

There is actually a keyboard in the front and the back. Larger screen in the back though.

**A.C. Rich** - 09/25/12 - 23:21

Thanks for correcting Chief, couldn't remember if there was one up front or not!

**Silver** - 09/26/12 - 00:18

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Everybody Loves* « Close Hose and Sparkl... » Traffic Cam Captures ... a Parade, October 5, 1954

### Everybody Loves a Parade, October 5, 1954

09/25/12 61 W, 4 I - + 5 - 2

Photo research continues for the [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#). Here are some *News & Observer* images of Fire Prevention Week parade on Fayetteville Street in downtown Raleigh on October 5, 1954, with a 1950 Mack (Raleigh), 1936 American LaFrance (Raleigh), 1939/1916 American LaFrance (Raleigh), and 1954 International with shop-built trailer (Cary). Click to slightly enlarge:





News & Observer photos

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)

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Traffic Cam Captures Car Fire on 40

09/25/12 53 W, 1 I - + 4 - 4

Department of Transportation traffic cameras (or camea, singular) captured this vehicle fire this afternoon on Interstate 40 just east of Interstate 540. Durham Fire Department arriving, with Morrisville Fire Department blocking. There's probably a solid six minutes between first and last frame. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Fatal Ambulance Accident in Monroe

09/26/12 146 W, 3 I - + 9 - 8

Sandhills Ambulance Service Emergency Medical Technician Belinda Gale Rivers, 43, was killed Tuesday morning, when her ambulance was struck by a tractor-trailer truck in front of Carolinas Medical Center-Union on U.S. 74 in Monroe. The truck was traveling westbound on the highway when it collided with the ambulance, which had pulled into the roadway. The medical unit was based in Cheraw, South Carolina.

Rivers was riding in the passenger seat of the ambulance. She was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the ambulance, Jonathan Brown, was injured and was listed in stable condition at Carolinas Medical Center-Charlotte. No patient was being transported. The truck driver was not injured. See these [FireNews](#) and [Firegeezee](#) stories, which include other media links such as [WBTV](#) and [WCNC](#). There are numerous ground and aerial images from the scene.



*WCNC-TV photo*







WIST-TV photos

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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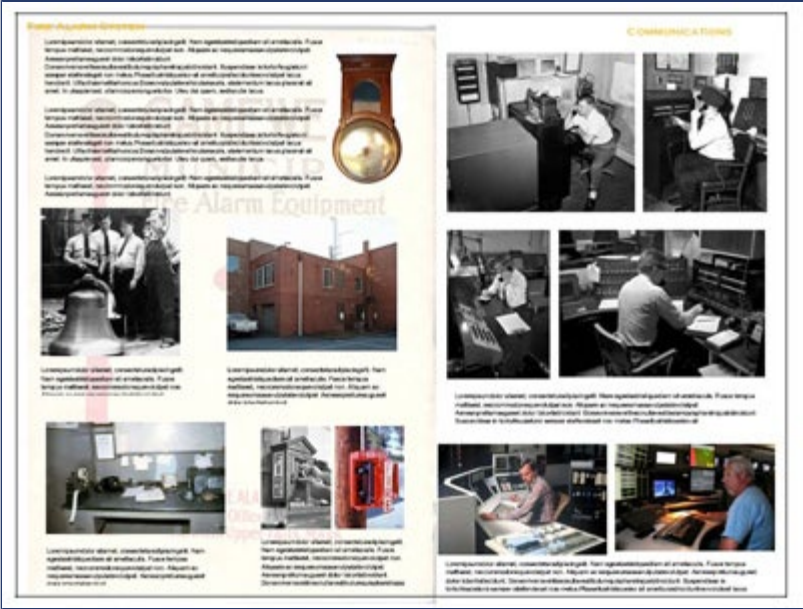
**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

History Book - Specialty Pages

09/26/12 172 W, 1 I - + 10 - 4

Mr. Blogger's big project is presently the [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#). We have monthly deadlines through the end of the year, at which point which we'll submit the remaining content for publishing. This month, the station personnel are finishing crew photos of themselves. Those'll appear on the station pages. While at History Central, the specialty pages are being built. Picking photos, obtaining high-res versions, writing captions for the photos, and writing introductory text for the page. Plus designing a conceptual layout that the designer can take and run with.

What are specialty pages, you ask? Those are both the disciplines-- USAR, haz-mat, EMT, rescue, etc.-- and the groups, such as Local 548, the Explorers, the old Ladies Auxiliary, etc. Even, cough cough, the Photo Unit. Plus a couple one-off histories, such as the fire alarm system and early communications. Here's a preview of what we'll send to the designer. Final product may be different. Your mileage may vary. Void where prohibited. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Comment:

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

/ [Textile](#)

More about this project (see [prior posting](#)). One of the neater features of [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#) are the retiree portrait pages. For the first time ever, we're including portraits of every retiree-- living or deceased-- since the beginning of the city retirement system in 1949. That's about 350 portraits, plus a few more as we find them. (Plus those not pictured, maybe 15 or 20.)

Couple things have made this possible. Digital publishing tools, for starters. We're able to scan the older commemorative books and produce reasonable quality images, where photographic original don't exist. Ditto for other lower-quality sources. Next is the extensive digging by Yours Truly-- conducted both during this project and in prior years-- that has yielded both pictures and picture data.

(The latter is the [Centennial Roll Call](#), which Historian Mike Legeros has been building for years. Official records were incomplete, so he constructed his own master list. Didn't happen in a vacuum, mind you. Lots of data verification from paper sources. Lots of interviews and oral histories as secondary sources, to check and double-check and triple-check the data. Was such an effort that he's left sometimes talking in third person...)

We're still working on these pages and the portraits. Active and retired personnel are reviewing the captions, to ensure the right person is pictured and the right data is displayed. We're still trying to find a few more photos, and trying to get portraits or head shots if at all possible. Versus cropped snapshots, which don't look nearly as good. We'll also have separate pages for those who died off-duty (Gone to Soon) and on-duty (Fallen Firefighters). Click to enlarge this sample:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Q&A: Glenwood Towers

09/26/12 490 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

Question from a reader, regarding 509 Glenwood Avenue. That's Glenwood Towers, the city housing authority's high-rise for seniors. Built in 1971, the 12-story (?) building has 297 units. Or say tax records.

Q: I live downtown, off of Glenwood Avenue. After not having a scanner since my teens, I recently started listening to the Raleigh FD feed on the Radio Reference site. Listening has brought back one childhood memory: hearing the fire department dispatched to Glenwood Towers multiple times a day. Just in the last two hours I've heard three runs dispatched, and I'm sure that 509 Glenwood is the reason that I hear so many sirens when I'm at home.

My questions are: 1) Has there ever been a significant fire there? and 2) Has anyone ever looked to see how many times RFD is dispatched there every year? It seems like this has to be the most responded to address in the city, and Engine 13 might as well just move into an apartment.

A: You are correct, the fire department does respond to 509 Glenwood Avenue on a very frequent basis. (Though with less frequency as I recall when I rode Engine 5 in the early 1990s, when they were first due. During my few years as a firefighter.) And there other popular addresses that you'll hear, for calls ranging from EMS to fire alarms. Near my house, Engine 16 responds with regularity to a couple nursing homes. That is, they respond frequently. I cannot advise if the crew consumes a lot of fiber.

Regarding call counts, I am not in the loop with regard to "most responded" addresses in the current or a given calendar year. Maybe our friends at the ECC can cite some data. (And the percentage of fire versus EMS.)

Has there been a significant fire at Glenwood Towers? There was a two-alarm fire on December 27, 1990. Heater/air-conditioner on fire in a room on the seventh floor. One resident transported to the hospital. The second alarm companies were not utilized, and returned to service. As memory serves, that's happened a number of times over the years and decades. The response starts big or bigger, but is reduced as the severity of the situation drops.

Two alarms were struck on May 18, 1992. Engine 5 arrived, and Car 52 upgraded the call. Heavy smoke on the second floor, with fire found in an air-conditioning unit. I don't have any notes if the second-alarm companies were returned to service. They very likely assisted with smoke removal, other overhaul, and evacuation/re-entry of residents.

If memory (but nothing handy to cite) serves, there has been at least one fatal apartment fire at Glenwood Towers. But neither multi-fatality, nor multi-unit fires. If memory serves. Nothing like, say, the Wilmington high-rise fire on February 15, 1983. That one killed three elderly residents and displaced more than 160. [Read about that in a prior posting.](#)

Anyway, here's a photo from May 18, 1992. Click to slightly enlarge:



*News & Observer photo*

---

There have been 302 incidents at 509 Glenwood since Jan 1, 2012.

**RFD** - 09/27/12 - 09:45

I am surprised given the location, poor layout for an old persons home, and PRIME real estate of 509 Glenwood that Raleigh hasn't just sold that property/building for the exorbitant amount of money it would bring in and built something/acquired something more feasible/responsible for its purpose. I'm sure it is not fun for the residents either having to live 20 stories up knowing how far they have to go to go anywhere or for help to reach them.

**Rob** - 09/27/12 - 10:57

Thanks for answering my posting my question Mike, and for the stat, RFD.

**Eric** - 09/27/12 - 15:38

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.



## Junker

09/28/12 28 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

Lee Wilson photographed this old International pumper this week, located on Highway 421 near the town of Harrells in Sampson County. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

## Bay Leaf's New Temporary Fire Station

09/28/12 128 W, 2 I - + 9 - 5

This temporary fire station is under construction behind Bay Leaf Fire Station 1 at 11713 Six Forks Road. Two bays for two engines, and a trailer for living quarters. The current station building, opened in 1983, is being replaced.

The temporary quarters should be completed and occupied by mid-October. Two engines will stay there. The station's other apparatus has been moved to Station 2 and Station 3. And their boats were moved to Durham Highway's fire station, believe they said.

The replacement facility has been planned for years. Designed by Stewart-Cooper-Newell, it'll be a two-story fire station with four bays, six sleeping rooms, and an outdoor deck that doubles as a training platform. [Read this earlier posting](#) from October 2011.

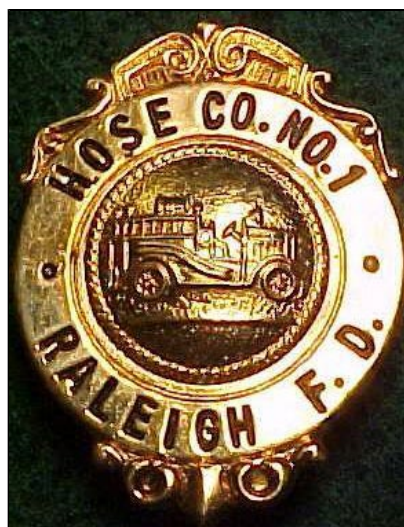


## Raleigh Fire Department Hose Company Badge

09/28/12 157 W, 1 I - + 8 - 9

Bought this on eBay last week. Gold cap badge about two inches high. Reads "Hose Co. No. 1" and "Raleigh F.D." Should date to between 1913 and 1926. The former's the year the first motor apparatus was delivered. By the latter year, the city's hose companies were called engine companies. Who would've worn such a badge? Good question. Given the gold color, presumably a company officer?

Now for a harder question. Is it authentic? That one's a good question. Haven't seen on of these before, though this being a cap badge, it would've been harder to notice in photos. Could be a one-off, maybe a badge that an individual member had made for themselves? Or maybe it's from a different Raleigh Fire Department? The seller was located in PA. How many other towns or cities are named Raleigh? Maybe readers know. Meanwhile, it makes for a good mystery.



Looks like we are the winner! Our friend Mr.Google finds no other cities or towns in the entire U.S. named "Raleigh". Makes one wonder how many other city/town names are "one of ... "

**Tim B** ([Email](#)) - 10/01/12 - 12:26

There is a Raleigh County West Virginia, a Raleigh Georgia, a Raleigh Illinois, a Raleigh Indiana, a Raleigh Iowa, a Raleigh Kentucky, a Raleigh Mississippi, a Raleigh North Dakota, and a Raleigh Texas according to Microsoft Map Point.

**Russell** - 10/01/12 - 15:23

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

September Episode of FireWatch

09/28/12 114 W, 1 I - + 9 - 9

The September episode of FireWatch is [available for viewing online](#). This month's episode celebrates the tenth anniversary of the show. Original host, retired Fire Educator Jan Parker, returns to talk about her time on the show. They take a trip back to September 2002 for a few highlights, watch an old segment with Bonnie Woodruff, and talk about the future of the show. FireWatch airs on the RTN-11 cable television channel on Monday (12:30 p.m.) Friday (11:00 a.m.), Saturday (11:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.) and Sunday (2:30 p.m., 8:30 a.m.). [Or view archived episodes of FireWatch](#). (Also [check this page](#), and scroll down about halfway, for links to all past episodes.)



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**



## Responders, Photographers (!) Honored at Appreciation Breakfast

09/28/12 667 W, 2 I - + 13 - 5

At the Angus Barn this morning, Raleigh and Wake County first responders were honored at the fifth annual [First Responder Appreciation Breakfast](#). Hosted by the Greater Raleigh Chamber and sponsored by a number of businesses, the event recognized and honored the efforts of fire, law enforcement, emergency medical, and emergency communication agencies, including Wake County EMS, the Wake County Sheriff's Office, the Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center, the Raleigh Fire Department, the Raleigh Police Department, and Troop C, District III of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol. Click to enlarge:



Raleigh/Wake County Emergency Communications Center Director Barry Furey (shown above) provided the keynote speech, and spoke eloquently (and humorously) about the men and women who do the work of emergency services. Hero of the Year nominees were introduced from the above agencies, and moving stories were told of their dedicated work. Such as the State Trooper who stopped a wrong-way vehicle on the Beltline, and who subsequently named Hero of the Year. (An earlier version of this posting incorrectly identified the winner as Raleigh/Wake ECC nominee was Call Taker Heather Corbett. She was a nominee, and the state's 911 employee of the year, as [this WRAL story noted](#).)

Also receiving an award, were citizen photographers (and more) Mike Legeros and Lee Wilson. (And with Yours Truly seated at a VIP table down front. Yikes.) They received this year's Friends of First Responder award, as presented by Marty Clayton of Progress Energy. He read a short statement about the pair, which is included below. [ Read that, then come back here. ] Thank you as always, my friends, for the pleasure and privilege of serving those who serve. You're a good family to be part of. Click to enlarge:





Here are Mr. Clayton's remarks:

Lee Wilson and Mike Legeros are local fixtures of emergency services in Raleigh and Wake County. They are citizen enthusiasts who have official roles in recording and documenting the activities of fire, police, and emergency medical services. They're official roles include Raleigh Fire Department incident and event photographers, and exclusive members of the Wake County EMS photo unit.

With over 2,000 first responders in Wake County and a growing population near a million, emergency services stay busy, and Mike and Lee stay busy as they tell the stories of firefighters, law officers, and paramedics. Their photos are made available to responders, and can be viewed online by the general public. They serve as valuable training tools, provide shared experiences for the responder community, and help educate the public about responders and what they do.

Mike Legeros is a lifelong fire buff, and has been a scene photographer for over ten years. Much of his work captures firefighters and paramedics in Raleigh, as he chases calls at night or on weekends. (By day, he works at a software company in Cary, on a web team.)

In addition to his photography, Mike is the official historian of the Raleigh Fire Department, and president of the Raleigh Fire Museum, a relatively new charitable organization. (He's also a former Raleigh firefighter, and worked for the department for a few years out of college, twenty years ago.)

Mike has a popular web site and also a blog that's a source for news and information about local emergency services. He's also the author of two photo histories of Raleigh and Wake County fire departments, and has researched and documented fire history statewide.

Lee Wilson has been taking pictures as emergency scenes for nearly twenty years. He's attended nearly every major fire in the Capital City, and is well-known around Wake County. On any given week or weekend, Lee might be at a live burn with Stony Hill, an open house in Garner, or taking pictures of fire apparatus in Fuquay-Varina.

Lee is also a friend to firefighters throughout the Triangle, and is known in many fire departments throughout North Carolina.

---

Mike

Are you going to post the pictures from this event?

Thanks

**ncnjems** - 09/30/12 - 09:29

And I will say once again — Well deserved for you both!

**Tim B** - 10/01/12 - 12:20

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

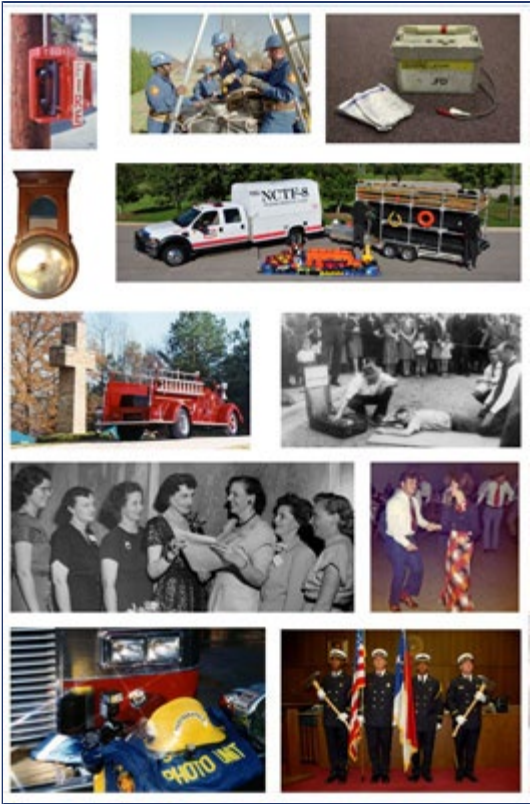
**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

History Book - Some Photos

09/29/12 149 W, 1 I - + 11 - 4

For your Saturday morning enjoyment, here are some historical photos lately compiled for the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book, currently in production. There are part of the specialty pages [we've previously posted about](#). Exciting stuff, and great fun for Yours Truly. This is my fourth book project, and they become pretty fun after the initial heavy lifting. (And in curious five-year cycles. The Arcadia books starting in 2002, the 95th anniversary book in 2007, and now now.) Learn more at [www.facebook.com/rfd100book](http://www.facebook.com/rfd100book).

Left to right, top to bottom: call box, circa 1977; CSR team trains, 1993; original SAED from 1993; station gong, circa 1925; USAR 801 at Station 25; RPFPA's 1948 Mack at Ted Calvert's funeral, 1990; auxiliary firefighters demonstration, 1942; Ladies Auxiliary gets chartered, 1957; cutting the rug at the Fireman's Club, circa 1979; Photo Unit's annual report cover, 1992; Honor Guard at naturalization ceremony, 2009. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Wake & District « History Book - Some P... » Crashes and Car Fires... Fall Fling - Saturday, November 3

### Wake & District Fall Fling - Saturday, November 3

10/01/12 135 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Celebrate the seventh anniversary of [Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums](#) in November at their annual fundraiser slash party. Their Fall Fling is Saturday, November 3, from 7:00 p.m. to midnight at the Downtown Raleigh Sheraton Hotel, 421 South Salisbury Street, Raleigh. The evening will feature the skirl of the pipes and drums along with the Inis Cairde Irish Dancers. (Google is your friend with regard to "skirl". Hint, it isn't a varmint.) Tickets are only \$10.00, plus \$0.50 postage. Pint glasses will be sold at the event for \$20 and will include free refills. Food items will be limited, however. Take your date to dinner before the party! (Will recommend restaurants for food.) [Buy your tickets](#). See you there.



Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

## Crashes and Car Fires on Interstate 40 Yesterday

10/02/12 155 W, 3 I - + 11 - 2

There was a big ol' mess on the interstate yesterday in Durham, when a chain-reaction crash started two vehicle fires in the eastbound lanes of Interstate 40 near Barbee Road. The five-vehicle collision occurred shortly after 11:30 a.m. Two of the five vehicles caught fire. Other motorists stopped to assist, including a guy in a van transporting... fire extinguishers. That was Mike Stewart, [notes this WRAL story](#). He services the things, and started handing out extinguishers to others! He and others battled the flames until fire units arrived. Nobody was trapped in the vehicles, and several were transported to Duke with non-life threatening injuries. (Presumably the vehicle occupants versus the crowd-sourced firefighters...) See also [this WTVD story](#), that posted traffic cam and aerial shots. Readers can post a run card and other details, if they have them. One is confirmed, FE1 (Fire Extinguisher 1).



*WRAL photo*







WTVD/DOT photos

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

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Another Accident on I-40

10/02/12 81 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Then there's this photo as posted by News 14. That's a vehicle accident on Interstate 40 in Garner, or maybe that's Raleigh, at Jones Sausage Road. Guessing that's Engine 26 and Garner Rescue 1? Or maybe it's Garner all the way. Guessing our readers will correct this lazy blogger in two shakes of a lambs tail. Two people were transported. That said, driving on a highway is still statistically safer than, say, walking outdoors in a lightning storm.



News 14 photo

That stretch of I-40 is "in the county", even though it's just by mere feet. Jones Sausage on one side of the interstate is Garner, the other side is Raleigh.

**rfburns** - 10/02/12 - 09:03

That's Garner Eng 1&R-1. Garner has all the way to I40&440. 99% of the time if a call is dispatched between Jones Sausage and I40 Garner will call for a Raleigh eng most often eng 10 to come from the other way incase the direction of travel is wrong.

**Mike** - 10/02/12 - 22:55

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

## Be a Firefighter - Raleigh Fire Department Hiring Ends Friday

10/02/12 299 W, 1 I - + 10 - 9

The City of Raleigh Fire Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Firefighter **through Friday, October 5**. Click to enlarge this striking recruitment poster:



### Minimum Qualifications:

- Minimum age 21 by the first day of the Fire Academy
- High school graduate or equivalent
- Must pass aptitude test
- Vision corrected to 20/30 each eye
- Must be physically fit
- Must pass Physical Agility Test
- Must have valid driver's license

Entry level firefighters work as first responders, which require technical knowledge of firefighting and emergency medical services including use of rescue and emergency medical equipment and procedures.

Employees are expected to act quickly and proficiently in potentially life-threatening emergencies and under extreme adverse conditions such as heat, smoke, fire, toxic fumes, exposure to contagious diseases, cramped surroundings, and strenuous physical exertion.

### Benefits:

- Advancement Opportunities
- Competitive Salary
- Medical and Dental Coverage
- Generous Retirement and supplemental retirement plans
- Vacation / Petty / Sick Leave

- Tuition Assistance
- Starting Salary of \$32,673 annually
- Rewarding career opportunity to qualified persons seeking employment in public service

If you are interested in a rewarding career, employment applications are available at the following locations:

- Online - RFD Employee Application: [www.raleighnc.gov/fire](http://www.raleighnc.gov/fire)
- Personnel Department - 222 West Hargett Street, Raleigh, NC, 27602
- Any Raleigh Fire Station
- Keeter Training Center - 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh, NC 27601

Employment applications must be postmarked by the closing date. Incomplete applications, and applications postmarked after the closing date will not be considered. *Closing date for applications is Friday October 5, 2012.*

Employment applications must be submitted in person or by mail (no faxes or e-mails) to:

Keeter Training Center  
Application Process  
105 Keeter Center Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27601  
(919) 831-6395

For more information check our website at: [www.raleighnc.gov/fire](http://www.raleighnc.gov/fire)">[www.raleighnc.gov/fire](http://www.raleighnc.gov/fire)

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

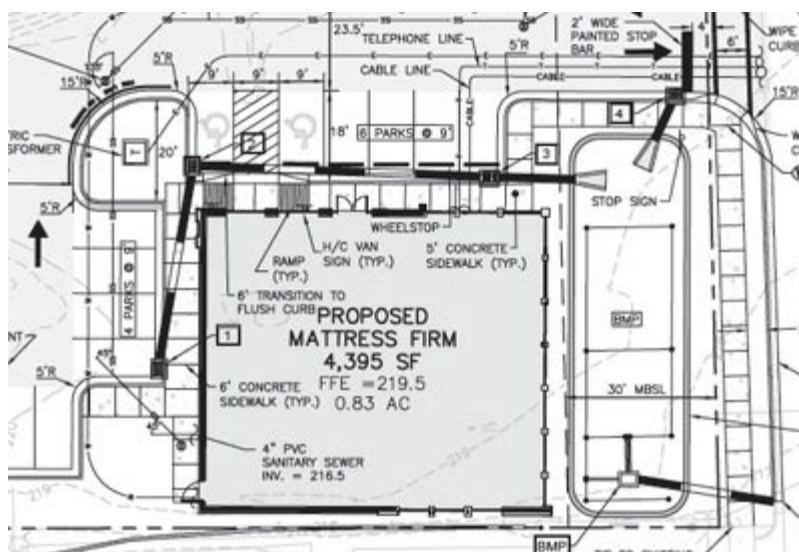
Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Old Station 4 > New Mattress Firm

10/02/12 140 W, 2 I - + 8 - 8

Looks like Old Station 4 on Wake Forest Road is destined for demolition. A reader passes along this [city planning development document](#) (PDF), which shows a mattress firm planned for the location. Based on the site plan, it appears that a new, 4,395 square-foot building is planned. (Can't be a rebuild, can it?) The existing structure was occupied on April 12, 1963. The two-bay fire station cost \$63,000 to build. Engine 4 was relocated from 505 Jefferson Street. The station also housed a tanker and a Battalion Chief (then called District Chief) during its years. It was relocated to 121 Northway Court in 1993. The building served as office space for the city, and was sold after closing on April 1, 1997. [Read more history](#). Or see [photos of the building](#). Thanks John!

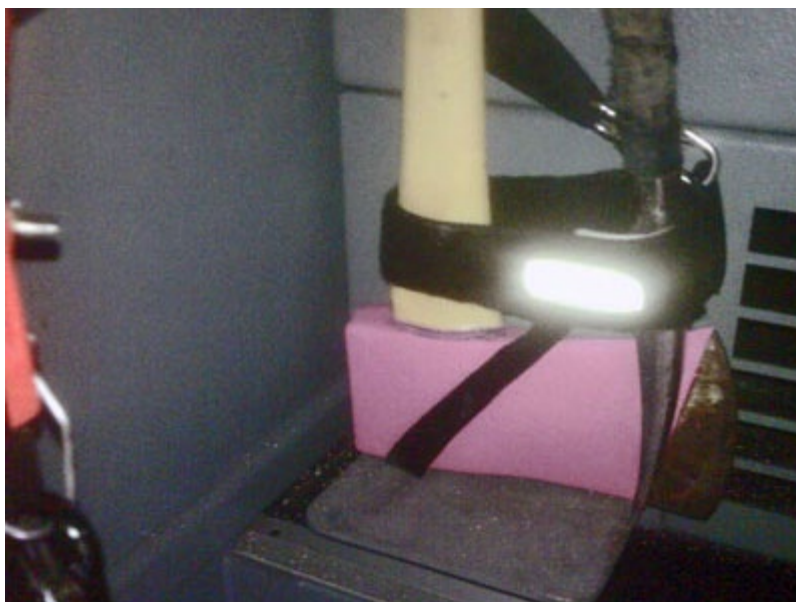




## Pink Tools

10/02/12 75 W, 3 I - + 8 - 3

Our friends at Wake New Hope Fire Department Station 1 on "C" shift share these photos of tools they painted pink, showing their support this month for cancer awareness. Neato. They didn't specify if their accompanying outer, inner, or under wear is also colored as such. We'll leave such ponderings to reader imagination...





I can bet the Engine 1 drivers under wear, socks, and probably contacts are pink knowing him.

**911** - 10/02/12 - 22:53

I dont wear contacts 911,, but if it brings awareness,, you bet i would!!!

**300C** - 10/02/12 - 23:26

Thats right 300c save the Kahunas. And Legeros fyi im wearing black socks and just so happens im wearing pink plad boxers! By the way I like the tools and are you all going to keep them like that or repaint come November?

**911** - 10/03/12 - 00:54

My department assigns each station/company a color, and pink is one of the assigned colors (in this case, our fleet/logistics personnel).

**Doug** ([Email](#)) - 10/03/12 - 08:16

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

How to Become a Firefighter (in New York) - Then and Now

10/03/12 240 W - + 10 - 3

From a reader, [here's an amusing posting](#) from a credit union foundation out of New York City, comparing the requirements for becoming a firefighter in 1887 and in 2001. Excerpts are below. Thanks, David!

**1887** - To become a fireman a person must be twenty-one years of age and of good moral character. He goes first to the secretary, and procures from him a blank, which he fills out, and get four reliable men to sign, certifying that they have known him never to have been indicted or convicted of any crime; that they have known him for a certain number of years. The candidate then returns it to the secretary. He is then sent before the Medical Board and examined as to his physical condition. He is measured, weighed, and the circumference of his chest taken.

**2001** - All applicants must pass written, physical fitness, medical, and psychological examinations. A thorough character, employment, and background investigation will be conducted including fingerprinting. [They must] be a resident of the City of New York or of Nassau, Westchester, Suffolk, Orange, Rockland or Putnam Counties. Candidates must be able to understand and be understood in English. [They] must be able to prove your identity and your right to obtain employment in the United States prior to employment with the City of New York. United States citizenship is required at the time of appointment.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## How to Become a Raleigh Firefighter - Then and Now

10/03/12 1085 W - + 4 - 3

From myself, here's a comparison of the requirements to become a firefighter in Raleigh in 1912 and 2012. Transcription of [newspaper article](#) (then) and posted text from web site (below). Salary was \$55.00 per month in 1912, and is \$2,722 per month in 2012. Age requirement was 20 to 35 year old in 1912, and 21 or older in 2012.

Raleigh Fire Department Recruitment in 1912

### Regulations Regarding Applications For Membership of Raleigh Fire Department

Each applicant must be between the age of twenty and thirty-five years, and must not be less than five feet seven and one-half inches tall, and must weigh not less than 146 pounds.

Each application must be signed by three well known citizens of Raleigh, who must state their opinion of applicant, and also state the length of time each has personally known applicant. Each application must bear the signature of a reputable physician stating that the physician is of the opinion that applicant is in sound, healthy condition. The physician must also state that the applicant is absolutely free from any tubercular or kindred diseases, or heart disease.

All applications must be in the hand-writing of the applicant, and must state name, in full, place of birth, age, weight, height, previous occupation and address, address of residence, and whether married or single.

All applications must be mailed to the chief of department.

Applicants upon being appointed would report in person to chief of department and will then be examined as to physical condition regarding health. Applicant will then be given mental examination, consisting of ordinary questions which every citizen should know and elementary arithmetic. Applicant will then report for examination to determine strength and fitness and will, if successful in foregoing examinations, be appointed a probationary fireman.

The probationary fireman will be put through drills, fire department work and be quartered in fire houses, and attend fires and do route work of a fireman, and will draw three-fourths pay from the day he becomes a probationary fireman until he has gone through the trial period, which is sixty days.

At the end of the sixty days, if accepted, he will become a regular fireman and will draw the one-fourth pay for the preceding sixty days, and then will go on at full pay. The applicant will release the city of Raleigh from liability for any accident or injury he is liable to receive during the trial period.

Fireman will have one day (24 hours) off each 8th day and one hour for each meal each day.

Scale of pay:

Fireman 1st year \$55.00 per month.

Firemen 2nd year \$60.00 per month.

Firemen 3rd year \$65.00 per month.

Lieutenants \$70.00 per month.

Captains \$75.00 per month.

Application shall be in hands of chief of department not later than noon, December 10th, 1912.

Address all communications to

SHERWOOD BROCKWELL

Chief of Fire Department,  
Raleigh, N.C.

Source: Newspaper Advertisement in December 1912

Raleigh Fire Department Recruitment in 2012 - From city of Raleigh web pages

### **Minimum Requirements**

HS graduate (or GED). Age 21 by the beginning of the academy. Vision corrected to 20/30 in each eye and cannot be colorblind. A Valid NC Class "C" Driver's License.

### **Salary**

The salary for Firefighter I is \$32,673 or \$2,722.75 per month.

### **Fire Recruitment Process**

#### **Step 1 of 7 - Complete a Firefighter Employment Application (Position Number 200-12) – Closing date: October 5, 2012**

Make sure all sections of the employment application are complete. If a section does not apply to you, answer "not applicable." Remember to sign and date the application.

- Make sure to include a full 10 years of previous addresses (no post office boxes) on the Supplement Form. You may attach a resume to the application, but it is not required.
- Employment applications are available at the following locations:
  - Online - RFD Employee Application
  - Personnel Department - 222 West Hargett Street, Raleigh, NC, 27602
  - Any Raleigh Fire Station
  - Keeter Training Center - 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh, NC 27601
- Employment applications must be postmarked by the closing date. Incomplete applications, and applications postmarked after the closing date will not be considered.
- Employment applications must be submitted in person or by mail (**no faxes or e-mails**) to:
  - Keeter Training Center  
Application Process  
105 Keeter Center Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27601

#### **Step 2 of 7 - Attend Orientation Days (Optional) – October 10-13th, 2012**

To prepare for the process, we recommend attending an orientation to the Aptitude Test and Physical Agility Test. The Aptitude Test and Agility Test orientation sessions will be held at the Keeter Training Center. Arrive early for the Aptitude Test practice session. Please contact the Keeter Training Center at 919-831-6395 with any questions

#### **Step 3 of 7 - Register for Written Aptitude and Physical Agility Testing – October 18-20 and 25-27, 2012**

Successful applicants will have to sign up for the Written Aptitude Test and Physical Agility Test. If you submit your application in person, you will sign up at that time. If you mail your application in, you must call 919-831-6395 to schedule a time for your Aptitude and Physical Agility Testing.

#### **Step 4 of 7 - Complete Written Aptitude Testing and Physical Agility Testing**

Candidates must report to the testing site at Keeter Training Center at least 15 minutes before the time that you registered for online.

- Candidates will complete a Written Aptitude Test and compete in the Physical Agility Test (PAT).

#### **Step 5 of 7 - Background and Reference Checks**

- Candidates who successfully complete the Aptitude Test and PAT may undergo background and reference checks including strong>criminal and civil background, social security number verification, personal and professional reference, and driving records for up to 7 years, depending on the state.



- If you lived **outside** of North Carolina anytime during the past 7 years, you will be required to provide a certified copy of your Motor Vehicle Report from every state where you lived and had a driver's license. Out-of-state driving records are **your** responsibility to provide.
- North Carolina driving records will be provided by the City of Raleigh.
- **All military personnel must provide a copy of their DD214.**

**Step 6 of 7 - Oral Interview**

**Applicants will be notified if they are selected for an interview by phone and/or mail.**

Candidates who successfully complete the Written Aptitude Test and PAT may be invited for an oral interview at the Keeter Training Center.

**Step 7 of 7 - Offer of Employment**

Offers of employment will be made to the final candidates. Employment is contingent on a physical examination, which is based on the physical requirements of the position, and a controlled substance test.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Keep Back or Drown

10/03/12 86 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

From a reader, funny statement seen on the back of a fire department tanker. From a "funny signs seen around the country" feature on a local news web site. Don't know the department. There's a McDonald's in their town, which should help narrow the choices. Might have to call the thing a tender, if they're more NIMS oriented in their apparatus phraseology. Nice big water level lights on the back. Thanks David!



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Police Dispatcher, Not « Keep Back or Drown » Fire Engine Explodes,... Fire Dispatcher, 1960

### Police Dispatcher, Not Fire Dispatcher, 1960

10/03/12 157 W, 1 I - + 12 - 6

Here's a historical image that will be *excluded* from the [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#), that's currently in production. Thought this pictured a fire department dispatcher in the watch room of Station 1. Instead, it's Officer Charles Schweikert at the police department switchboard. (And which explained why the consoles weren't matching other images of fire department dispatchers. Now need to check and see if it appears anywhere as fire department historical image.)

The picture is dated March 30, 1960, and appeared in a *Raleigh Times* story of the same date. Some 14,000 residents were about to be annexed into the city, and the article featured a few tips. Such as dialing Temple 3-1611 for service. That was the number of the city's central switchboard. For police, call TE 4-5261. In case of fire, dial TE-2-7733. And to reach the fire department for general information, call TE-2-7735. Click to enlarge:



*Raleigh Times photo*

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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## **Fire Engine Explodes, Burns Beaufort City Hall, 1966**

10/03/12 322 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Here's a story we hadn't heard before. On August 5, 1966, the Beaufort town hall and fire station was gutted after a ~~1928~~ 1927 American LaFrance pumper exploded. The fire started at 8:30 a.m. when Fireman Elmund Rhue, one of the department's two full-time drivers, was starting the trucks for their morning warmup. He reached for the throttle of the LaFrance and "it went off like a dynamite explosion" reported the *News & Observer*.

"Fire was all over" and he grabbed a CO2 fire extinguisher. He thought he had it controlled, then "everything went black and the next thing I knew I was outside." He was pulled from by the blaze by Tom Bennett, who also tried to control the fire. Rhue, burned on his feet, ran back into the burning station to sound the station alarm-- signal 34-- and start removing the other trucks.

Beaufort firefighter responded, along with Morehead City, Newport, and Fort Macon Coast Guard fire departments. They battled the blaze until about 11:00 a.m. The 90-year-old building was gutted, with damage estimated at about \$250,000. Two fire trucks were also scorched. It was the second fire in the history of the 1870 building. The town hall was originally a public school and located on the court house square.

It burned in 1927, heavily damaged by a fire that killed a prisoner in the jail. Since that time, the police department had been located in separate quarters. Town officials said most of their records were intact, if soggy. Morehead City loaned Beaufort the use of a similar fire engine, until theirs could be replaced. The town's fire alarm system was also destroyed. The lack of strong coastal winds, noted the news story, prevented worse damage. (And this explains why there's no historic fire station building in Beaufort in present day!)

[See subsequent posting](#) about Beaufort fire station locations. Click to enlarge:



American LaFrance truck that caught fire was a 1927.

My father was Assistant Fire Chief and was the first ff on the scene with Mr. Rhue. He assisted in removing the other trucks.

A line was layed to the hydrant on the corner by the #5 dodge truck and firefighting began.

In the picture on the right the fire station was the right half of the building. Town hall was to the left. In the center of the picture (behind the sign) was the area of the old jail. That area had be made into a small bay for the rural tanker.

**Jesse** - 12/04/15 - 08:16

Thanks Jesse! From the John Peckham database:

6262 BEAUFORT NC – 145 TRIP. – 25483 – 1/24/1928 – 7533

<http://www.spaamfaa.org/alfresources2.ht..>

**Legeros** - 12/04/15 - 08:19

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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**Reader Mail - October 2012**

10/03/12 824 W - + 9 - 5

The gas bag opens the mail bag. These have come through the mails and via Facebook. All answer and advice dispensed free of charge. No warranty, however!

Q: Someone the other day asked me why Dalmatians are used in fire stations. Can you answer this question?

A: Here's a web page with an answer: <http://www. Kearneyfire.org/History-of-the-Dalmation-in-the-Fire-Service.asp>. The short version I've always heard is: (a.) horses used to pull fire engines, (b.) dogs lived at the fire stations (c.) and were helpful with the horses and (d.) Dalmatians ended being the best breed for being around horses. Let me know if it matches what's written on that web page.

--

Q: Mike, have you heard that Mt. Airy has a museum displaying the history of their city fire department? I just heard of it today, and hear they have their first engine, a 1916 American LaFrance, a 1926 American LaFrance, and a 1946 American LaFrance. And a bunch of vintage firefighting equipment.

A: I have heard of the Mt. Airy museum, but haven't (yet) visited. I blogged about it a few years ago, [in this posting](#). Couple readers sent a couple pics.

--

Q: I am in the market for my first DLSR camera, and need some help. I'm currently looking at some Nikon bodies, but the choices are overwhelming. The main thing that I am looking to photograph are fires, like yourself. I'm also interested in cameras with HD video capabilities. Do you have any tips or recommendations?

A: Yes, no, and maybe. Here's standard response to camera questions, [an earlier blog posting](#). Alas, the posting's outdated, and my equipment's since upgraded. Still Canon, but newer bodies. Nothing equipped with video... yet. Any current DLSR should be fine for fire photography, at least from Canon and Nikon (which Lee uses). Even shooting at night should be okay, with the higher ISO sensitivities these days. How's that for a concise non-answer?

--

Q: I am an amateur photographer, but am expected to be a professional photographer when documenting fire scenes. I'm challenged at scenes with low light. Not those scenes that are full dark, but neither are during daylight. Such as first thing in the morning, or right after sunset. My choice of camera and flash settings-- mostly Auto, Auto, and more Auto-- result in an image that's overlit with flash, but still very dark. I've learned to leave the flash turned off, but then the camera switches modes and takes another picture with a longer shutter time. Those look a bit better, but that can't be the best way to take a picture, can it?

A: Try this for starters.

1. Turn your camera's program mode to P.
2. You are now in manual control of your ISO, or exposure sensitivity.
3. For late-day light, raise the ISO to 800, 1250, 1600, 3200, etc. Try progressively higher settings.
4. Keep flash off.
5. Hold camera VERY steady. Press it against your face, with arm cocked. That will help with any longer shutter times.
6. That's lesson #1.
7. See also [these slides with some tips](#).

Lesson #2 involves playing with your flash exposure compensation. You can raise or lower the power of your flash, to over- or

under-saturate a shot with lighting.

Lesson #3 involves buying or trying an external flash, repeating the exposure compensation, but also trying to "bounce" the light, but rotating or angling the flash in the direction of a wall, or ceiling. Adding a diffuser to the flash is a good thing to try, as well.

Lesson #4, the final lesson for today. Experiment with existing light. There are seriously powerful lights on those big red trucks. Deploy scene lights or portable lights. You'll be amazed at how much better the shots will be.

Lesson #5, bonus. Take five or ten times as many photos as you normally do. Just shoot like crazy. You'll get better, faster.

--

Q: Do you have a copy of any guidelines or standard operating procedures for fire photography?

A: Here's the closest thing that I have at present, [slides with some tips for firefighters](#) from a few years ago. Plus [my slides from this summer](#), which don't even answer your question. How's that for minimally helpful?

--

Q: Do you do weddings, and how much do you charge?

A: Negative, I am not a wedding photographer. But thanks for thinking of me.

--

Q: Can you send me a print of a picture that you took of me, and how much do you charge?

A: Negative, I don't do prints. But I will happily send you a high-resolution version, and you can have the thing printed for yourself. Never any charge.

--

Q: Can we use your photo(s) on our fire department or rescue squad or EMS web site?

A: Yes, yes, of course.

--

Q: Bet you make some good money taking all these photos!

A: You wouldn't believe the number of zeros in my salary...

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)

**Category I Ambulance Inspection Checklist, 1991**

10/04/12 104 W, 1 I - + 12 - 16

Here's a blast from rescue's past, a state inspection sheet for a Category I ambulance from September 25, 1991. (Guess that's EMT-capable category?) Raleigh's Rescue 6 was inspected by NC OEMS. Obviously, these were just the state-mandated items aboard, and not a complete inventory of the unit's equipment. (That would be a neat document to add, if I can find a copy of a vintage checklist.) Rescue 6 was still operating a 1974 Chevy/Murphy ambulance at the time, and would be replaced in a few months by a 1991 Chevy/Frontline ambulance-body rescue truck. [Read those histories](#). Click to view the PDF document:

CATEGORY I AMBULANCE INSPECTION CHECKLIST	
PROVIDER NAME <i>Public Rescue</i>	PROVIDER # <i>0625351</i>
SERIAL #	YEAR
VEHICLE # <i>06</i>	INSPECTION DATE <i>09/25/91</i>
<b>1001 (A) MEDICAL AND RELATED EQUIPMENT</b> 1 PORTABLE RESPIRATOR, LUNGING SCISSOR 2 3 EACH 4000 PSI OXYGEN CYLINDER 3 BAG-MASK-ADULT & CHILD SIZES, OXYGEN MONITOR 4 2 EACH SUPPLY TUBES 5 6 EACH 1/2" BORE TUBES FROM 55mm to 115mm 6 SITE STICK 7 2 EACH OXYGEN CYLINDERS (5 SIZE OR LARGER) 8 WITH FLOW & CONTENT GAUGE, 3 EACH 9 ADULT & CHILD, DISPOSABLE, TRANSPARENT 10 OXYGEN MASKS WITH DELIVERY TUBES AND HEADBANDS 11 ONE SMALL, ONE MEDIUM, ONE LARGE ADULT 12 AND ONE PEDIATRIC SIZE EXTRACTOR COLLAR 13 ONE RIGID SHORT BACKBOARD OR STABILIZATION 14 DEVICE WITH TWO STRAPS AND OTHER ACCESSORIES 15 ONE RIGID LONG BACKBOARD WITH TWO STRAPS 16 AND ACCESSORIES 17 TWO SETS OF RIGID PACKED BOARD CYLINDERS 18 (3" x 15", 36" x 54") OTHER SETS OF 19 INFLATABLE LAMINATE, OR RIGID DENSITY 20 POLYURETHANE FOAM WITH AT LEAST TWO FULL LEG 21 AND TWO FULL ARM CUSHIONS 22 ONE CHILD AND ONE ADULT SIZE LUMEN EXTRACTOR 23 TRACTION SPIDER WITH APPROPRIATE ATTACHMENTS 24 TWO BANDAGES (2" x 4" x 12") OR 25 HEAD IMMOBILIZER 26 12 EACH 4" x 4" INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED 27 STERILE GAZE PADS 28 6 STERILE 5" x 9" INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED 29 ABSORBENT DRESSINGS 30 12 ROLLS OF ROLLER GAUZE 31 4 ROLLS OF ADHESIVE TAPE 32 4 EACH STERILE NONADHERING, NONPOREOUS 33 DRESSINGS, 3" x 8" MINIMUM	34 6 TRIANGULAR BANDAGES 35 2 PADS OF 5 1/2" BANDAGE 36 GLOVES 37 2 STERILE BURN SHEETS 38 40" x 22" MINIMUM 39 2000cc TONAL STERILE 40 IRRIGATION SOLUTION 41 STERILE BASIN 42 OR KIT WITH APPROPRIATE 43 GLOVES 44 POISON ANTIDOTE KIT 45 ONE EACH SMALL, REGULAR 46 AND LARGE SIZE AMBULID 47 BY CHILD AND ADULT AND 48 PEDIATRIC STETHOSCOPE - 49 COMBINATION ADULT/ 50 PEDIATRIC STETHOSCOPE IS 51 ACCEPTABLE 52 RUBBER OR HEAVY PLASTIC 53 SHEET (36" x 72") OR 54 BULKY BAG 55 FOUR HANDELS, ELEVATING 56 GUT WITH PAD, STRAPS, AND 57 CRASH STABLE FASTENERS 58 ADDITIONAL STRETCHER WITH 59 STRAPS 60 TWO SETS ONE LUMEN 61 TWO NONPOREOUS FILLING 62 TWO NONPOREOUS ELASTIC 63 CHILD RESTRAINT DEVICE 64 TO SAFELY TRANSPORT 65 PEDIATRIC PATIENT IN 66 PATIENT COMPARTMENT
<b>1002 EXTRACTOR AND ACCESS EQUIPMENT</b> 1 10 INCH ADJUSTABLE OPEN END WRENCH 2 SCREWDRIVER WITH FLAT HEAD 3 SCREWDRIVER WITH PHILLIPS HEAD 4 BACKSABIN WITH MINIMUM OF SIX BLADES 5 4 POUND HAMMER WITH 15" HANDLE 6 10" VISE GRIP PLIERS 7 24" JACKING BAR	8 60" CROWBAR WITH PINCH 9 TWO PAIR HEAVY DUTY WORK 10 GLOVES 11 TWO PAIR OSHA APPROVED 12 SAFETY GLASSES 13 TWO OSHA APPROVED 14 SAFETY BELTS
<b>1003 OTHER EQUIPMENT</b> 1 OPERATIONAL FLASHLIGHT 2 2 1/2 POUND FIRE EXTINGUISHER 3 IN QUICK RELEASE BRACKET	4 "NO SMOKING" SIGNS IN CAB 5 AND PATIENT COMPARTMENT 6 ELECTRIC LIGHTS FOR 7 PATIENT COMPARTMENT
COMMENTS PROVIDER SIGNATURE <i>Jason Thompson</i> DATE <i>09/25/91</i> OFFICE OF THE <i>Medical Director</i> DATE <i>09/25/91</i>	

One of the big changes from then to now is that the "tool box" has been removed. Now ambulances don't have to carry basic tools. Those really used to come in handy. I've used that 48" pry bar on many calls, as well as the screwdriver, wrench, etc. when we had a kid stuck in something and needed to get them out (bannister, fence, etc.). Now EMS relies on FD to do that type of thing. Note that Tom Collie with OEMS performed the inspection. He was a great guy, very personable and if you took him to lunch somewhere good, you generally passed!

**Jason Thompson** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 10/04/12 - 10:59

If you look at the list provided by the state, that was everything you had to have to pass as an emergency ambulance. All of the 'soft' goods could be placed in a single case (gauze, tape, scissors, BVM, etc.) in a single carrier. There was a large plastic one available back then that was available in blue, orange, and green (from Dyna-Med or Physio Systems (later Southeastern Emergency)) with a detachable bottom compartment that was popular. Although not officially the reason, there were still a lot of hearse/ambulance combination cars and home-made vans in service as ambulances when this list was devised. Many of these vehicles did not have much in the way of cabinet space, so having it all in a box or bag or two helped out. TV tube caddies were immensely popular for this.

Even when this list was used, many c-collars were 're-usable' foam collars made of a stockinette material over foam rubber (you just simply put some more stockinette over the blood stains). The same applied to the padded board splints, only they were just pieces of 1/4" or 3/8" plywood cut into 3"-3 1/3" wide pieces, wrapped in bandage roll material. Also, only one strap was required for the stretcher, as opposed to many stretchers that have the four-point shoulder harness plus two more straps.

DJ - 10/05/12 - 12:10

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Volunteers Wanted for NCFFF at State Fair

10/04/12 92 W - + 7 - 7

The [North Carolina Fallen Firefighters Foundation](#) is looking for volunteers to assist with their booth at the [North Carolina State Fair](#). This is a big fundraiser for the foundation, and helps them with their budget through the year. The booth is also a great way to meet and greet other firefighters from around the state, as they visit the State Fair. The dates for the fair is October 11 through October 21. To offer your assistance, [please visit this sign-up site](#). Thanks for your help and support.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - National Fallen « Volunteers Wanted for... » Two Alarms Today on C... Firefighters Memorial Weekend

### National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend

10/05/12 308 W, 6 I - + 9 - 3

This weekend is the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, which will culminate on Sunday, October 7, with the 31st National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. Eighty firefighters who died in 2011 and five who died in prior years will be honored. ([See this year's Roll of Honor](#) in PDF format.)

Bronze plaques bearing their names will be added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial located on the academy's campus. More than 3,600 firefighters are listed on the plaques, which surround the memorial, which was established in 1981. (For firefighters before 1981, an expansion is planned in conjunction with their [Project Roll Call](#). See below for a recap of Wake County.)

For more information about the memorial and the weekend, [start with this news release](#). It'll get you oriented. For live viewing of the weekend's events, [visit this web site](#). For social media sharing resources, notably icons and wall paper, [see this web page](#). For the big blast of memorial weekend information, visit the [weekend.firehero.org](http://weekend.firehero.org).



Remembering those who gave their lives in Wake County, eight firefighters from five departments from five departments have died in the line of duty since 1956. They ranged in ranks from Firefighter to Asst. Chief, and from causes ranging from motor-vehicle accidents to heart attacks. They were young and old, they were volunteer and career. [Learn more about them](#).

**Herman S. Jones**

Raleigh Fire Department  
January 22, 2008



**Larry W. Fanning**

Garner Fire Department  
August 2, 2006



**Todd A. Blanchard**

Eastern Wake Fire Department  
July 14, 2005



**Norwood C. Massengill**

Fairgrounds Fire Department  
February 10, 1971

**Paul. A. Mimms**

Raleigh Fire Department  
April 20, 1965



**Vernon L. Thompson**

Cary Fire Department  
June 16, 1960

**Patrick J. Daughtery**  
Garner Fire Department  
April 7, 1993



**Vernon J. Smith**  
Raleigh Fire Department  
March 10, 1956



Name: (real name  
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E-mail: (optional)  
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**Fire Prevention Week in Raleigh**

10/05/12 364 W - + 6 - 5

In preparation for Fire Prevention Week, which starts on Sunday, October 7, the Raleigh Fire Department today announced the following public events. This year's theme is "Have Two Ways Out" and focuses on educating the public on always having two ways to exit a building in case of emergency, and regardless if it's a house, apartment, office, store, or other type of building.

Fire Prevention Week is celebrated across the country during the week of October 9. That's the date of the Great Chicago Fire on October 9, 1871, that killed 300 people, left 100,000 homeless, and destroyed 17,000 structures. In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first national Fire Prevention Day proclamation. In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the first national Fire Prevention Week.

The Raleigh Fire Department's flagship event for the week is the public fire education display at Crabtree Valley Mall on October 11, 12, and 13. The complete list of events is below:

Sunday, October 7

Fire station open house and tours from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.. All Raleigh fire stations will be open to the public. Residents are encouraged to stop by their neighborhood fire station and speak with firefighters about fire safety.

Tuesday, October 9

- Public fire education event at Chick-Fil-A at Capital Crossing Shopping Center, 4621 Capital Boulevard, Raleigh, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. A smoke detector battery exchange will be offered.

Thursday, October 11

- Public Fire Education Display at Crabtree Valley Mall, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m..

Friday, October 12:

- Public Fire Education Display at Crabtree Valley Mall, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m..

Saturday, October 13

- Public Fire Education Display at Crabtree Valley Mall, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m..
- History of the Raleigh Fire Department presentation at the Raleigh Fire Museum, 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- The Raleigh Fire Museum will also be open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The museum is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh, off Wilmington Street just south of downtown. Please note that the department's collection of antique fire apparatus is located at Fire Station 28, at 3500 Forestville Road, in northeast Raleigh. For more information about the museum, [visit this web site](#).

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Sunday Open Houses at Raleigh Fire Stations

10/06/12 638 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

[As noted yesterday](#), all city fire stations will be open for open houses on Sunday. They're planning for public visits and tours from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. [Here's a web page](#) with station photos and addresses. Here's my [unofficial station page](#), with equipment listed. But which station(s) should you visit? Here's Mike's suggested itinerary...

### Begin - Station 9

Let's start just outside the Beltline, at 4465 Six Forks Road. Right beside North Hills shopping center. Easy to find, though parking's a bit limited. See Engine 9, one of the city's newer engines. And see Old Engine 1, an open-cab 1961 American LaFrance pumper that was recently returned to the city by the Raleigh Fire Museum. It won't be there long, however, as a Battalion Chief's being added to the station in January or so. (More on that news later.)

### Next - Station 1

Head downtown to the big house at 220 S. Dawson Street. There are two engines and ladder there, plus the fire investigation unit. Big, ol', early 1950s central fire station. Has a pole. Has the tiller truck, a 2010 Pierce tractor-drawn aerial ladder. They don't have a large apron, however, the ladder truck will probably stay parked inside. It's still fun to see, even if it's indoors. Station 1 is the third-oldest active station in the city, after Station 6 and Station 3. The old alarm house out back is even older, erected in 1942.

### Next - Station 3

Speaking of same, cruise about a mile east to 13 S. East Street. That's another two-story station, and also with fire poles. They've got a mini-pumper there, the only newer one on the roster. It's a 2005 Ford/Reading/Slagle that's pretty neat. Really low profile. Great for parking decks, or generally cruising in style. The station itself is also a compact affair.

### Next - Station 27

Now let's head north, far north and east. Take Raleigh Boulevard out of town. Headed to Station 27, one of the city's newest at 5916 Buffalo Road. Nifty contrast in station design, space, and such, compared to Station 3 and even Station 1. See one of the city's two haz-mat units. (Station 2 houses the other.) The apron's nice and long, and the bay's are big and airy. Good viewing and even if the haz-mat truck's kept inside during your visit.

### Next - Station 19

Continue from "rural eastern Raleigh" to "suburban Mini City," to 4209 Spring Forest Road. See Rescue 1, one of the three rescue units, and the truck itself, one of the newer ones. The 2007 Pierce is chock full of interesting stuff, including chocks. There's a boat trailer (with boats) there, so you can learn about the department's water rescue capabilities. They'll also tell about the rescue changes planned for early next year. (Again, more on that later.)

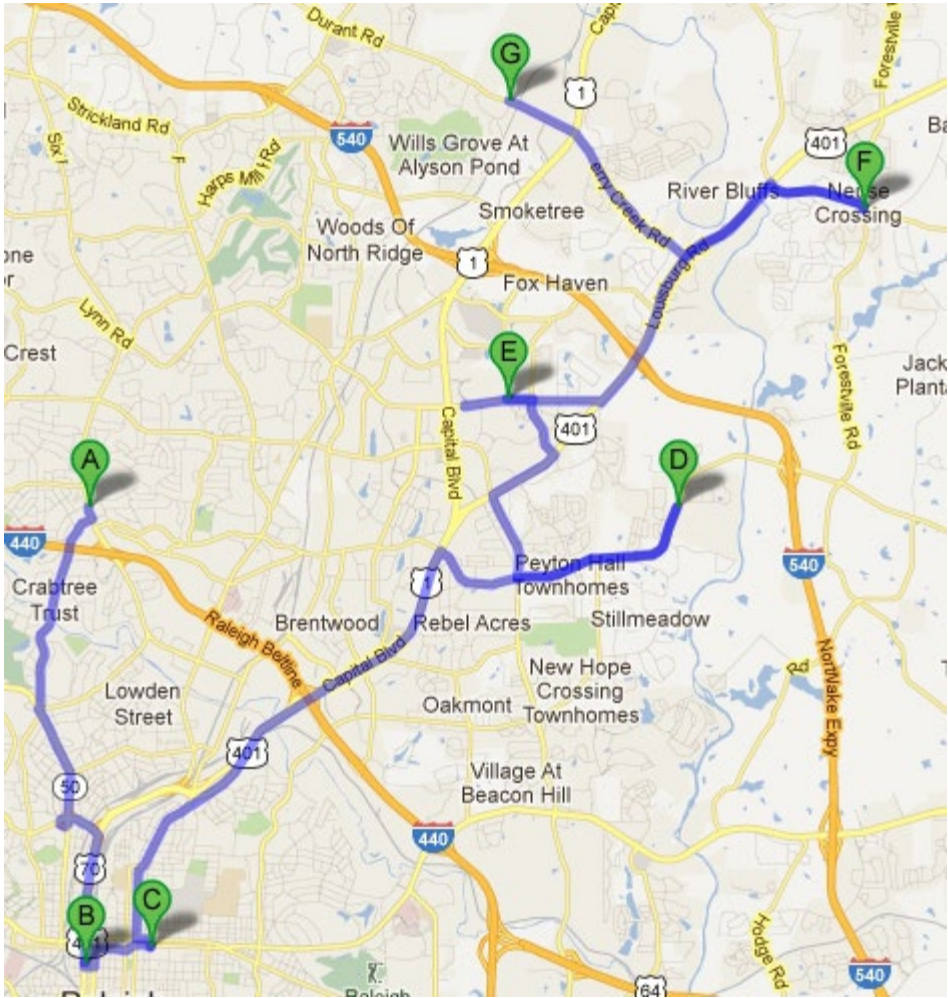
### Next - Station 28

Let's go see the antiques. Drive way out to the northeastern edge of the city, to 3500 Forestville Road. That's where the department's antique apparatus is stored: 1905 steamer, 1926 pumper, 1950 pumper, 1982 pumper, and 1953 rescue boats and trailer. (Plus the 2004 American LaFrance engine.) Doesn't get much cooler than that. It's a bit of a haul, however. Plan accordingly, if you're actually attempting this itinerary. It's easy to lose track of time, when communing with Big Red Trucks.

### End - Station 22

Our final destination is 9350 Durant Road. Newer fire station, with a giant apron, and plenty of room to park the trucks and enjoy them outside. There's a 2009 Pierce aerial platform at the station, a monster of a ladder truck. Plus an engine. Plus a haz-mat decontamination trailer and towing unit. So you'll get some special unit action. And it's close a mall and other things on the north side, so you can continue your Sunday fun elsewhere.

Here's the map. Let's hear what variations or alternate destinations that readers suggest...



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Bail Bonds Response Unit

10/06/12 54 W, 1 I - + 8 - 9

Seen in south Raleigh this afternoon, and apparently out of service, here's a mobile service to rival Raleigh's food trucks, mobile locksmiths, and windshield repairmen. Do you suppose it cruises certain neighborhoods and/or plays music when looking for business?! Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Bright Blue Hearse For Sale

10/08/12 69 W, 3 I - + 11 - 5

Saw this 1983 Cadillac turning into Crabtree on Saturday. Found the thing parked near the food court. Looks like a sweet ride, though some may object to the choice of window curtains. Good luck on your purchase, and just advise the amount of my finder's fee.





Nice! Though I already have a '68 and I doubt the significant other would let me have 2 :-(

Paul - 10/08/12 - 08:49

Just worked on this thing the other day at part time job in Angier. It's got a bench seat inside behind the curtains & is not set up to carry the deceased. Would make a great party wagon!!!

HC\_truck8 ([Email](#)) - 10/08/12 - 12:49

But it sounds suitable for transporting the dead tired b

Legeros - 10/08/12 - 12:57

I really want that hearse

elizabeth singletary ([Web Site](#)) - 03/13/15 - 22:05

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

## Smithfield Opens Second Fire Station

10/08/12 78 W, 3 I - + 9 - 7

That is, a temporary Station 2. The Market Street bridge at the Neuse River on the west side side of downtown, so the Smithfield Fire Department has relocated Engine 2 and Engine 3 to a temporary location on Highway 70 Business West to cover that side of town. Don't know (yet) the exact street address. And how about that industrial-looking apparatus building! Former tobacco warehouse? [See more photos from Lee Wilson.](#)







Lee Wilson photos

The tobacco warehouses are on the east side of town and they are much bigger buildings. There are several along US301 in town. This was an industrial/commercial site, but I can't remember what it was exactly. JoCo EMS also relocated an ambulance to the west side of the river, but it is located at Wilson's Mills VFD #2, on Cleveland Road, call sign EMS12. EMS91 and EMS92 remain in downtown Smithfield.

**DJ** - 10/08/12 - 10:20

Definitely not a tobacco warehouse. Mike you need a return visit to Wilson for some BBQ and a quick tour of downtown (yes a couple are a few blocks off main) and the 301 corridor for tobacco warehouses. They have torn several down in Wilson with much of the heavy timber being reclaimed (detectable by the remaining concrete pads often the size of a small city block). Many are in a poor state of decay but often undetectable from the exterior due to sizes. A few have had partial roof collapses. As for BBQ you know you can't go wrong at Parker's but Bill Ellis' buffet is tough to beat with both chopped and pull your own from the pig.

**D.Cates** - 10/08/12 - 12:14

Its at the old Wallace Welding company.

**lee** - 10/08/12 - 14:02

This was the former shop for Wallace Welders (no kin to myself). There were several welding stations located throughout the building that is housing our engines. The welding shop in front is still in operation, just at a very low capacity.

**BW** - 10/08/12 - 14:11

The address is 403 W Market St. (the link to the pic's doesn't link to the pic's)

**lee** - 10/08/12 - 14:46

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)



Raleigh Fire Department College Fair, October 10-11

10/09/12 97 W - + 8 - 2

The Raleigh Fire Department is hosting a college fair on Wednesday, October 11, and Thursday, October 12, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh. Representatives from several schools will have information available about their schools and various certificate and degree programs. For city employees, a representative from the tuition reimbursement program will be present. The colleges attending are:

- Coastal Carolina Community College
- Columbia Southern University
- Durham Technical Community College
- Fayetteville State University
- Nash Technical Community College
- Wake Technical Community College
- Wilson Technical Community College

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
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Raleigh Fire Museum Open, Plus History Talk, Saturday, October 13

10/09/12 191 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

The Raleigh Fire Museum is open this Saturday, October 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Historian Mike Legeros will also give an an hour-long presentation at noon on the history of the Raleigh Fire Department. He'll talk about the history of firefighting in the Capitol City, from before the volunteer era through the modern career department.

The museum is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free. The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month, and is Learn more about the museum, and the group that operates it, at [www.raleighfiremuseum.org](http://www.raleighfiremuseum.org).



Please note antique Raleigh fire apparatus are stored elsewhere. The museum's [1961 American LaFrance pumper](#) is located at Fire Station 9 at [4465 Six Forks Road](#). The city's [collection of antique fire apparatus](#) is housed at at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#). The collection includes a 1905 steamer, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome at both locations.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

House Fire in Cary on Christmas Morning - View From The Neighbor's Yard

10/10/12 64 W - + 8 - 5

Found via random Google searching, here's a four-minute video of a house fire on Castalia Drive in Cary, on December 25, 2011. Shows second-due and later units arriving, supply and hose lines being stretched, and such. Plus one inflatable Santa that occasionally obscures the view. There are 75 days until Christmas 2012.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

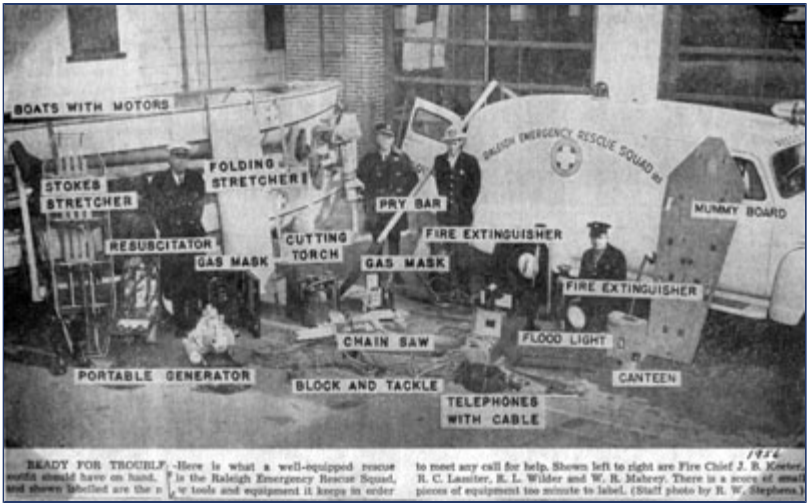
Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

Equipment of the Raleigh Rescue Squad, 1956

10/11/12 158 W, 1 I - + 10 - 5

Here's a neat newspaper clipping showing and labeling the equipment of the Raleigh Rescue Squad as displayed behind Station 1 in 1956. Did they really carry everything in that little [1954 GMC panel van](#)? Probably not, as the squad also had a [1954 Reo Civil Defense heavy rescue truck](#). Both were stored at Station 1. There was a single rescue officer assigned to Rescue 1. They drove the desired unit, and pulled an additional person from the Station 1 personnel as needed.

The wooden boats-- fourteen feet long-- took four to six people to deploy. And if they were needed in a remote area, as many as ten people to carry. The boats were used primarily for body recovery, and both in the city and county. (And even outside the county, for mutual aid.) The squad added diving equipment by 1962. There's at least one photo of squad members diving to help recover a submerged vehicle. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

World's Fastest Pram

10/11/12 37 W - + 6 - 8

What the hell is a pram? Appears to be a baby stroller with a different name as spoken in a different accent. Kids, don't try this at home. Found at [Weird Universe](#).

Hey, it's not that much of a different accent! At least we don't muck around with words for no good reason (colour, honour, aluminium etc) :-)  
Anyway, getting back to the subject, 'pram' is a shortened version of 'perambulator' which is what the Victorians called the thing you wheeled your baby around in when you went perambulating (aka walking).  
I had one like this when I was a kid in the 70's -> [http://classicalbabyprams.weebly.com/lon\\_](http://classicalbabyprams.weebly.com/lon_).  
Since there were no supercenters back then and you typically walked to the grocery store the general consensus (as I understand it) was that the pram should be big enough to hold the baby and a weeks worth of groceries.

Paul - 10/11/12 - 10:07

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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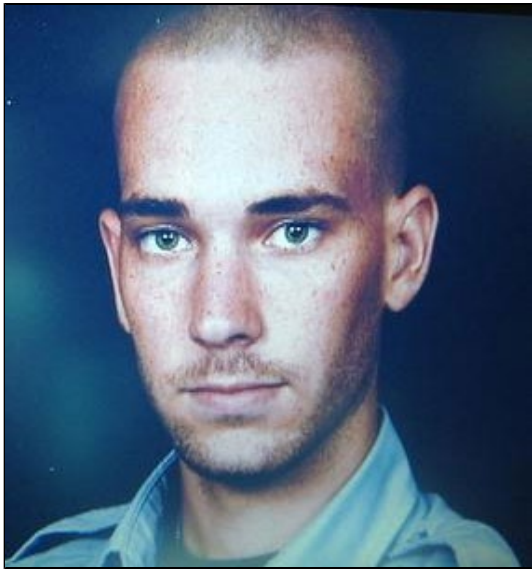
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**



Alexander County Firefighter Killed in Vehicle Accident

10/11/12 148 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Bethlehem Community Fire Rescue Firefighter Caleb Benfield, 18, died Wednesday evening from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident earlier in the day. He was returning to the fire station from home, where had lunch after a morning performing fire prevention activities. He was driving his motorcycle on Highway 127 when he lost control of his vehicle about 150 yards from the fire station. The accident occurred just after 1:00 p.m. He was transported to Frye Regional Medical Center, and airlifted to Carolinas Medical Center. He died that night, following surgery. A visitation is planned at Tri-City Baptist Church in Conovor on Sunday. Firefighters will led a procession to the burial in Wilkes County. Benfield joined the department in 2001 as a junior member. He had participated in his first fire just a few weeks ago. More details: [FireNews.net](#), [Hickory Daily Record](#), [WCNC-TV](#), [WSCO-TV](#).



Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Ambulance Crashes Into Gas Tanker, but NOT While Transporting Meth Lab Explosion Patient10/12/12 112 W - + 6 - 6

Afternoon:  
[NBC17 reports](#) that they incorrectly reported that the ambulance in the patient was burned in a math leb explosion. Indeed, the headline was too strange to be true.

Morning:  
That stranger-than-fiction headline comes from Selma yesterday afternoon, where an ambulance collided with an empty gas tanker at Buffalo Road and ~~White~~-Oak Street. The medical unit was transporting a burn patient to a waiting medical helicopter. Presumably the patient was transported via secondary unit. News reports are a little scarce. [WTVB reports](#) that six people suffered minor injuries. No other incident information or any images located via Google.

The meth lab part was incorrectly reported. NBC17 has put a correction on their website.  
**Chris** - 10/12/12 - 17:07

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**  
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Rocky Mount and Nash County Firefighters - Hometown Heroes10/12/12 110 W, 1 I - + 5 - 7

From a reader, the *Rocky Mount Telegram* has posted a gallery of a couple hundred photos of Rocky Mount and Nash County firefighters to commemorate Fire Prevention Week. The photos by Bob Bartosz, the legendary Camden, NJ, fire photographer who relocated to eastern North Carolina in 2010. He was an official photographer for both Camden city and Camden County fire departments for six (!) decades. That man has shot some fires, including plenty over the river in Philly as well. He's currently the official photog for the Rocky Mount Fire Department. [View the gallery](#). Thanks, Scott!

Rocky Mount  
TELEGRAM

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Weather provided by: 5 Day Forecast  
43°

Check Out  
40% OFF  
HOBBY LOBBY  
Crafts, Home Decor And More!

hometown Heroes

VIEWING PHOTO 1 - 104



BUY THIS PHOTO

The Telegram is proud to feature these photos of firefighters from the Rocky Mount and various Nash County fire departments to commemorate Fire Prevention Week.

PHOTO BY BOB BARTOSZ

Every Wednesday beginning September 26th...  
See advance to win up to \$500  
Playing Younger Football Game!  
Look for the game each Wednesday in the Telegram through the Super Bowl at this online by clicking HERE  
Rocky Mount TELEGRAM

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Web Site: (optional)

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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https://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=5586[10/15/2019 7:16:51 PM]

## Glib Comments on Facebook

10/12/12 542 W - + 8 - 6

Pop-quiz about social media. What should you think—and what action might you perform—if you saw comments such as these posted to Facebook? Either directly as a Facebook friend, or via forwarded text or screen capture?

Wear a couple different hats while you're answering. React as (a.) yourself, regular responder, (b.) your supervisor or chief officer, (c.) member of a body of elected officials who govern your organization, (d.) news reporter or news editor, and (e.) local citizen.

### JOE SMITH

*I could've slapped that patient we had today.*

### JANE J. JOHNS

*Another day protecting the idiots.*

### B. B. JONES

*The patient is lucky I was in a good mood today.*

### M. SMITH

*Another crack house, should've let it burn.*

(Fake entries above, duh.)

This quiz too easy? Guilty of leading the witnesses, your honor? Perhaps. The inspiration for this topic—and possible discussion—is [this Fire Law posting](#) about the termination of a Texas flight medic that was upheld. Let's thus ponder the possible consequences of glib comments on Facebook.

Recall the original rules of e-mail etiquette. Don't send anything you wouldn't want broadcast on the evening news, written on a sign in your front yard, or shown or told to friends, family, priest, magistrate, etc. Those were and remain sound rules.

But then came social media and texting and Facebook. And remarks sent as text messages, or posted as Facebook comments, have invariably involved less formality and less forethought.

We toss them off, and easily because the audience is usually limited. It's just one other person who's texting with you, or it's a restricted group of Facebook friends. (Perhaps many hundreds of such friends, mind you.) But here's the problem. Whatever you wrote thus appears on a screen, and that screen can be captured and shown to other people that you weren't thinking about.

Commence paranoia? Maybe, or just a measure of healthy caution. The long tradition of blunt speaking (and black humor) at fire/EMS station doesn't necessarily translate to the virtual day room. (Just as such verbal comments are kept out of view of, say, visiting citizens. Friends and family get a stronger ear full.)

Facebook in particular is problematic on a couple fronts. First, your identity is not concealed. This is a good thing in keeping conversations out of the toxic zone, but a liability for acute cases of "foot in mouth" diseases. (Been there, apologized for that and too many times to count.) Second, your Facebook identity is probably a combination of peers, friends, and family. You might be the rare person who is only talking to absolutely like-minded souls. Betting otherwise, however.

What's the solution? Maybe that's one self-evident. Be aware of your conversational surroundings and adjust your behaviors accordingly.

What say you?

Postscript #1: Public versus private employees. The aforementioned [FireLaw posting](#) is about a private employer. What about public employees and protected speech therein? Good question, but consider this: the person might keep their job, but at the cost of how much undue attention for all parties involved?

Postscript #2: Glib comments on blogs. Who wants to tackle that one?!

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

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History Talk at Raleigh Fire Museum Tomorrow

10/12/12 156 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Don't miss Mike's magnificent words 'n' pictures history of the Raleigh Fire Department, starting at noon on Saturday, October 13. The location for the hour-long talk is the Raleigh Fire Museum, 105 Keeter Center Drive, Raleigh. The museum is also open that day, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Come and learn about the history of firefighting in the Capitol City, from before the volunteer era through the modern career department.

Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free. The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month, and is Learn more about the museum, and the group that operates it, at [www.raleighfiremuseum.org](http://www.raleighfiremuseum.org). Please note antique Raleigh fire apparatus are stored elsewhere. Read this prior posting for those details. See you tomorrow.

PS, want a preview of the presentation slides? [Here you go](#) (PDF), read ahead as desired



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Vintage images of* « History Talk at Raleigh... » Rockingham County Fire... *Atlanta airport fire department*

### Vintage images of Atlanta airport fire department

10/14/12 142 W, 4 I - + 11 - 3

Found for sale on eBay, for your Sunday enjoyment, here are four vintage images of the Atlanta airport fire department. The apparatus looks as shot in the 1960s or 1970s, or maybe even early 1980s? The station photo looks like the 1980s. (How big was the airport fire department at that time? Two stations? Three?) That's a lot of Oshkosh, with four of the civilian version of the Air Force's great P-16 P-15. Once listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's most powerful fire engine. (Previously held by the FDNY super pumper, when it was operational.) Photographer unknown, search eBay for "Atlanta airport fire." Would *love* to see more images and learn more of their history. Any resources out there? Commemorative books ever produced? Click to enlarge:





From a reader, here are the differences between the military P-15 and the civilian M4000. Thanks Pete!

P15 vs M4000

P15: Two roof turrets, front and rear, M4000 one in the front

P15: 6100 gallons water, M4000, 4000 gallons

No P15 was ever authorized for civilian use.

**Legeros** - 10/15/12 - 13:25

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Rockingham County Firefighter Stabbed to Death Saturday

10/16/12 104 W - + 11 - 5

FireNews.net via [their Facebook page](#) shares this [WGHP-TV story](#) out of Rockingham County, where Stoneville Fire Department firefighter Mark Chandler, 23, was stabbed to death early Saturday morning. He and a friend were stabbed at about 3:30 a.m., after a fight started at a birthday party hosted by Chandler for his fiance. He was transported to Morehead Hospital, and pronounced dead. His friend Cody Collins, also stabbed, was transported and treated for non-life threatening injuries. The incident remains under investigaiton, with one person behind bars and charged with assault with a deadly weapon and voluntary manslaughter.

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify:

Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email:

Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Another Vintage Crash Truck... From Dallas

10/16/12 103 W, 2 I - + 14 - 6

Our local (and soon to be retiring) airport fire chief, Jimmy Thompson, shares these images of a monster crash truck he photographed at Love Field in Dallas in 1998. Since Mr. Blogger's on vacation, it'll be a couple days before we can cite some make and model information. That information is sitting inside some books. Unless, of course, our interpid readers add the backstory ahead of time. Meanwhile, big hand for Chief Thompson, who retires October 31 after thirty-five years leading the Raleigh-Durham International Airport fire department Click to enlarge



*Jimmy Thompson photos*

That looks like a Caterpillar Model 631 (1970's era) scraper matched w a Klein mfg water wagon. I saw a similer one in a book, I believe at an airport in NY.

**Clay Simmons** - 10/16/12 - 10:53

Guess that truck serves as your big daddy foam supply. Can't be a rapid response truck, unless it moves a lot faster than you would think. Arrives a minute or two or three after the first rigs. Probably great for off road.

**Legeros** - 10/16/12 - 12:01



**Apparatus Seen in Western North Carolina** 10/16/12 49 W, 3 I - + 10 - 8

Reporting from the road. Here are a few trucks seen on the western side of the state. Top to bottom: Morganton Public Safety's Sutphen aerial platform, Saluda's new E-One pumper/tanker, and a nice-looking Seagrave pumper-tanker in downtown Brevard. Click to enlarge:



That Brevard engine is one good looking truck.  
Wonder what the specs are for it....

**Buckwheat** - 10/17/12 - 10:26

Ask and ye shall receive, <http://my.seagrave.com/ContentManager/Do..>

Marauder II  
Cummins ISM 500 HP  
Triton 1750 GPM  
Allison 4000 EVS  
**Legeros** - 10/17/12 - 10:56

Be nice to see more seagraves around in this area.

**pgtruckie** - 10/18/12 - 08:31

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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**UPDATED: Salisbury Fire Department Parade - Then and Now**

11/04/12 254 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

November 4

Photographer Paul A. Brown graciously provided a couple dozen photos from the October 13 parade of fire apparatus in Salisbury. Here's a video slideshow, showing many of the trucks as staged before the event. Plus a couple through-the-town shots. Nice looking trucks, both those antiques and the modern Rowan County rigs.

October 17

On Saturday, October 13, the Salisbury Fire Department hosted a Fire Prevention Week parade in downtown Salisbury. The parade featured (or at least was planned to feature) three-dozen rigs, from Salisbury and neighbor departments including East Spencer, Gold Hill, Granite Quarry, South Salisbury, and Spencer. Four privately owned antiques were also scheduled to appear. See this Salisbury Post article, [which listed the line-up](#).

The parade was an annual event in Salisbury from the mid-1950s through the early 1980s. The parade was held this year in conjunction with the "Where's the Fire" exhibit currently on display at the Rowan Museum. (Watch this space for a museum report, as we're planning a visit on our return trip from the mountains today.) Still searching for photos from last week's parade. Readers, can you assist?

Meanwhile, here's a vintage parade photo that Salisbury Fire Chief Bob Parnell passed along. Probably from the 1920s. The parade appears organized in chronological order of apparatus, with the reel company preceding the steamer company preceding the motor companies. Learn more Salisbury FD history [on their web site](#). Thanks, Bob! Click once or twice to enlarge:



Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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This nifty little museum is located in Black Mountain, just outside Asheville. It occupies the last bay of the fire station at 106 Montreat Road. These photos are from October 2007, and have been added to my [Flickr collection of fire museum photos](#). (They were gathering dust in a digital folder.) We peeked through the windows this week and the museum appears about the same as depicted below. [See more photos](#).



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



**UPDATED: Raleigh's Civil Defense Rescue Truck Found... and Lost**

10/20/12 236 W, 6 I - + 13 - 10

October 20

We have learned to our regret that this truck was indeed headed to TT&E scrap metal on Garner Road. The old rescue rig sat for a spell on site, and was then recycled. Thanks to the readers who inquired and investigated. On the up side, these trucks were utilized nationally. There's an opportunity, perhaps, for someone to find one and relocate the thing to Raleigh. (Now *there's* a project!) Don't believe any others were used in North Carolina. For that matter, don't know how many were produced period. Might've been a modest number. Below are a couple more photos that Robby found. They're certainly good additions to our Raleigh Fire Department historical archives.

October 18

Reader Robby Delius caught on camera last year what looks like Raleigh's original heavy rescue, a 1954 Reo Civil Defense rescue truck ([see posting from two years ago](#)) that's shown below in a vintage photo. He snapped these shots on October 8, 2011, on Wilmington Street between the Beltline and Tryon Road. [Here's more information and photos](#) about the rig. Sure looks like a match. Would there be another such truck stored locally? And, more importantly, where the heck is this thing now!?! Surely someone knows someone who knows something. Even if they're name isn't Shirley... Thanks Robby! Click **the color photos** to enlarge:



*News & Observer photo*



*Robby Delius photos*

I think the truck went to TT&E scrap metal based on the direction it was heading on Trion. There are other things that direction such as the Hwy Patrol .

**r delius** ([Email](#)) - 10/18/12 - 20:39

One of Raleigh's old firetrucks is/was at the scrap metal yard on Garner Rd last week. It's probably been squashed or demolished at this point. My blackberry was DOA and didn't have enough life left to snap the pic I was trying to get. It was a very sad site to see as it was one of the really really early historical models. It would have required a whole lot of \$ to restore it tho as it was only rusty panels. Only way I knew it was Raleigh's was because it still very clearly read "Raleigh Fire Dept" on it's doors.

**Brandi** - 10/20/12 - 09:22

Thanks Brandi! Sounds like we need to post a watch at local scrap yards!

**Ledger is (Legeros, ha)** - 10/20/12 - 09:36

Greenville Fire-Rescue had one, don't know if it was on a Chevrolet or REO chassis. Don't know where it is now, heard it might be in a junkyard near Gardnerville NC.

**Steven** ([Email](#)) - 10/22/12 - 18:11

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a..>

Ok, Greenville F/R was obviously a GMC. Pretty sure it was a CD truck. I remember it being painted all white in the 1980s.

**Steven** ([Email](#)) - 10/22/12 - 18:20

Vance County Rescue Squad had a Civil Defense, 1965 GMC Panel truck that sounds like it was equipped very similar to what the REO that Raleigh had, they got rid of theirs in the 1980's and not sure where it ended up, and it had been painted solid white prior to them getting rid of it.

**rnln** ([Email](#)) - 10/22/12 - 19:16

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info?
E-mail: (optional)	Yes
Web Site: (optional)	No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

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## Fire Horns of Rowan County

10/18/12 250 W, 4 I - + 7 - 4

As photographed this week at the [Rowan Museum](#) in Salisbury, as part of their newly opened exhibit "Where's the Fire?", here are three vintage fire alarm horns. Top is a horn from the Faith Fire Department. Middle is a horn from the Salisbury Fire Department. Bottom is a horn-as-amplifier from the Bostian Heights Fire Department. There were four on the top of their fire station, amplifying an air raid siren in four directions. [See more photos](#) from the museum. Or [read a recent FireNews.net story](#) about the exhibit.



[illegible]



Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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Smokin' Steak House in Gastonia

10/19/12 88 W, 1 I - + 10 - 3

Here's your morning hot shot, one of four posted in the Firehouse.com posting of a *Charlotte Observer* story about a Tuesday morning restaurant fire in Gastonia. The Longhorn Steakhouse on Cox Road was reported afire after 4:30 a.m. Flames and smoke were showing on arrival. One firefighter suffered a minor injury. [Read and see more](#). See also this story [from the Gaston Gazette](#) and the story [from the Charlotte Observer](#). Both have short slideshows of images.



Gaston FD/Firehouse.com photo

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

**A Most Colorful Patch**

10/19/12 60 W, 1 I - + 9 - 0

Speaking of Gastonia, check out the fire department's current (?) patch, as seen for sale on eBay. Now that's a colorful emblem, and with numerous nifty elements. (Found for sale because Mr. Blogger checks eBay every day or two for the keywords "NC fire".) What are some of your favorite "cornucopia" patches?




Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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The fall 2012 edition of the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* has been posted to to the web site [raleighfirenews.org](http://raleighfirenews.org). This issue's includes information about special operations changes, the history book, a fire investigation task force, new respiratory protection and atmospheric monitoring policies, and three upcoming events. Plus the usual recap of recent promotions, appointments, and retirements. Edited by department historian Mike Legeros, the *Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter* is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. [Read the issue](#) , or click to access:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Tin Helmets - Iron* « **UPDATED: Raleigh's Ci...** » **Inside Station 6, 194...** *Men by Bob Bartosz*

### Tin Helmets - Iron Men by Bob Bartosz

10/20/12 204 W, 1 I - + 8 - 7

Holiday gift alert. How about *Tin Helmts - Iron Men* by Bob Bartosz for your favorite firefighter or fire buff? The limited-edition hardcover is a treasure trove of Philadelphia fireground photos from the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. The page count is 216, the photos are black and white. Those were days of the multi-hour, multi-alarm fires, and Bartosz with a film camera and a few rolls of film. Nothing like the all-color, shoot-as-many-as-you-like digital days of today.



You'll also see vintage and unusual Philly rigs, such as their 125-foot articulating platform and the famous giant deluge SS 99. Plus plenty of marine units. Now what's the connection to North Carolina, you ask? That one's easy. After fifty years of fire photography-- including as official city and county fire photog in Camden, New Jersey-- Bartosz and wife relocated to our neck of the woods. They live in Nash County.

Bob's still has copies of available of his book. They're only \$28.95, including shipping. [Here's more information about the book](#), including contact information. Above is a video, showing a quick page-through of the thing. Grab a copy. You'll love it.



I bought a copy from Bob a few months ago and have thoroughly enjoyed it. It is an excellent read with some of the best photography I’ve ever seen. I highly recommend it!

**Jason Thompson** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 10/21/12 - 20:17

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Inside Station 6, 1949

10/21/12 38 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

For your Sunday morning enjoyment, here's a look inside Station 6 in the year it opened, 1949. What are some of the things that you notice? Click once or twice to enlarge:



North Carolina State Archives photo

2 sections of hard suction on the engine.

**Rob Mitchell** - 10/21/12 - 20:41

Notice the foam powder hopper. We have one of the old accompanying powder mixers in the fire museum. ALF-Foamite brand.

**Legeros** - 10/21/12 - 20:46

I notice a pull chain for the automatic door closer. A lot of Raleigh's stations still have the mechanism mounted on the bay ceiling next to the end of the door tracks but the chains have been removed.

**RescueRanger** - 10/21/12 - 21:28

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

## Cary's Civil Defense Rescue Truck

10/21/12 117 W, 3 I - + 10 - 6

How many other blue and white Civil Defense rescue rigs were operated around Raleigh and Wake County and surrounding counties? The volunteer Cary Fire Department operated this rescue truck beginning in the mid-1950s, which they built from a military mobile machine shop in 1955. It carried \$8,000 worth of equipment including 5,000-watt portable generator, 2,500-watt generator, two-way radio, \$600 resuscitator, block and tackle, ropes, a portable oxygen acetylene cutting torch, in all "196 different pieces of equipment, all new." At the time, it was purportedly the only Civil Defense rescue truck operated by a volunteer fire department in the state. Photos from the archives of the Cary Fire Department. Click to enlarge:





Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Old Station 8 - Five Years Later

10/22/12 56 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

Photographed this weekend for the [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#), and compared with the same shot of five years ago. That was for the 95th anniversary commemorative book. Located at 1008 Method Road, the former residence served as a fire station from 1960 to 1963.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



## More Civil Defense Rescue Units

10/23/12 98 W, 6 I - + 8 - 9

Being in photo-research mode this week for the centennial history book makes these kinds of posting *really* easy to knock out. Let's look around and see what other blue-and-white (or just white) emergency equipment we can find in our state's past. And for those interested in North Carolina Civil Defense history, visit [this great blog](#) by Frank Blazich. See also prior postings about [Raleigh](#) and [Cary](#) rigs.



*Garner Fire Department*



*Greenville Fire Department, originally/earlier painted all white ([more](#), see comments)*



*Clayton Rescue Squad ([more](#))*



*Johnston County ([more](#))*



*Lee County ([more](#))*

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Centennial History Book Pricing, Ordering Deadlines

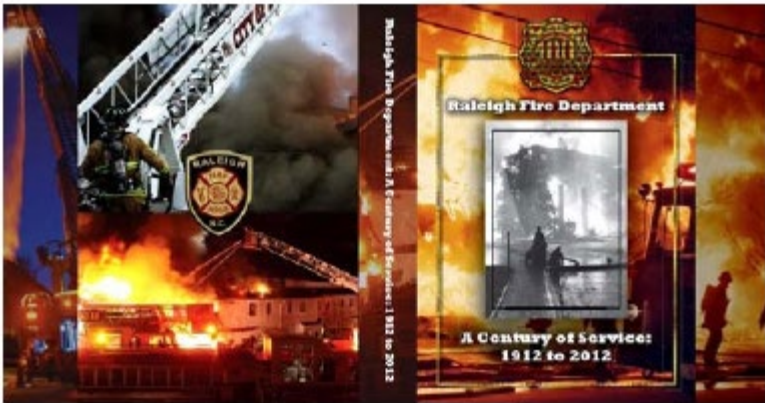
10/23/12 167 W, 1 I - + 9 - 6

In the latest issue of the Raleigh Fire Department newsletter ([see prior posting](#)), pricing and ordering deadlines were announced for the Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book. Here's the skinny:

- Price is \$60.00 until December 1.
- Price is \$70.00 starting December 2.
- Ordering closes on January 15, 2013.

This is a limited edition, folks. There won't be any copies available in bookstores. The thing is available exclusively through pre-ordering. Here's where to order your copy, if you haven't already. (Orders have been taken for months now.) Visit <http://rfd100.com/centennial-history-book>. You'll see both a PDF flyer, and a link to online ordering.

What's the book about, what's inside? Visit <http://www.facebook.com/rfd100book> for some of that. Sample photos, sneak peeks at content. Updates on the project's progress. Hardcover book and a big one, 9 by 12 inches. Two-hundred and sixty pages. Text and photos and personnel and portraits of every retiree since the beginning (!). Don't miss out.



Name: (real name

Remember personal info?



**UPDATED: Old Raleigh Engine at Scrap Yard**

11/03/12 147 W, 4 I - + 12 - 4

October 27

The apparatus is [old Engine 3](#), a 1951 American LaFrance 700 Series, serial number L-4433. It was saved from the scrapyard in 2007 by Tim Henshaw, a member of the department and a local apparatus owner. (He and his rig were profiled in the [2008 issue of the RFD newsletter](#).) The rig had been stored for years, but was not destined for restoration. It was "parted out" a few weeks ago before being put to pasture. Click to enlarge these photos from November 2007:







October 23

As reported by a reader in a comment on [this prior posting](#), another Raleigh rig was awaiting recycling at TT&E on Garner Road two weeks ago. It was photographed by another reader. This one's an American LaFrance 700 Series. One of four that the city had. Looks largely stripped. Thanks Patrick! Click to slightly enlarge:



Is this a mate to the one at Stn. 9?

**Chuck Gleason** - 10/25/12 - 08:55

Negative. Old Engine 1 is a 1961 ALF 900, one of two delivered that year.

The four ALF 700s were of model years 1951 (2) and 1953 (2).

**Legeros** - 10/25/12 - 09:04

Name: (real name  
preferred)

Remember personal info?  
Yes

Wednesday Morning

10/24/12 24 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

All readers be advised, we have nothing to report at this time. You can clear from this posting. That includes EMS.



Wow...already got your tree up, or is that a historical photo?

**Pete** - 10/24/12 - 13:32

It isn't even Halloween why is the Christmas tree up already?? lol

**stretch** - 10/24/12 - 13:38

Thank you for including EMS. lol

**Joffre** ([Email](#)) - 10/24/12 - 19:39

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Two Times Two Plus One « Wednesday Morning » Caption This Photo

### School Bus Accidents Today

#### Two Times Two Plus One School Bus Accidents Today

10/24/12 217 W, 2 I - + 11 - 6

Five (!) school buses collided today in two separate accidents in western and central North Carolina. The first collision occurred at 9:55 a.m. in Marshall in Madison County. A chain-reaction accident involving three county activity buses and a pick-up truck happened on U.S. 25-70 near the Madison campus of Asheville-Buncombe Technical College.

One of the buses left the roadway, traveled down a hill (!), and crashed into the side of the school building (!!). Forty-eight middle-school students and one adult were injured. They were transported to two hospitals. [Read the Citizen Times story](#). Anyone have a run down on the run card for that one!?

The second accident occurred in Youngsville just after 3:00 p.m. Two buses transporting elementary school students crashed at the intersection of Bert Winston and Hicks roads. The head-on collision injured both drivers and ten (or more) students. [Read the WRAL story](#). Or [the WTVD story](#), which cites fifteen patients transported to Franklin Regional Hospital and WakeMed North.

(Brings to mind the activity bus accident in Cary on Highway 64 on December 10, 2010. Three buses with about 133 occupants. Thirty-six patients transported with minor injuries. Four fire companies, fifteen ambulances, four EMS supervisors, and more. [See photos from that incident](#) by Mike Legeros.)



WLOS photo



WRAL photo

There was a bad accident involving a school bus and a motorcycle yesterday in Johnston County as well. It was in the 50-210 area, but didn't see it anywhere on the news.

Scannerman - 10/25/12 - 08:13

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

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## Caption This Photo

10/24/12 42 W, 1 I - + 9 - 5

Here's one from the archives. Bonus question, when and where was the picture taken? First correct answer gets a free subscription to this blog. Offer not valid in all states of mind.



I ain't got no clue as to when or where this was taken but it appears he is cutting down the Christmas tree that's in the previous picture of your house.

**Galax, Va** - 10/24/12 - 22:23

I think this was a haz mat call on Second Street in Raleigh E15's district. Started out as a FA and was upgraded to a haz mat alarm. Telephone building that had a large amount of batteries that were required to be kept at a certain temperature. The batteries overheated and began to off gas. I say this because I'm pretty sure that's me. Note spare accountability tags on velcro of coat near neck, between radio and flashlight. I've never seen anyone else do that. Also, that is Globe turnout gear, which is what was issued at the time, not the Morning Pride we have now. I remember having to cut a bush away from the hydrant that day. Probably circa 2007 or 8, right? (Yes, I realize I am not wearing my gloves or eye pro. My bad.)

**PBM** - 10/25/12 - 01:51

Saturday, April 5, 2008

**Pearce** - 10/25/12 - 15:31



## Honkin' on Bobo

10/25/12 40 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

Funny fire department name as seen on eBay, in a photo of a women's auxiliary cookbook. ([Recalls this posting](#) from 2010.) Funny posting title, taken from the [Aerosmith album of the same name](#). Collection of blues covers.



Bobo is in Madison County, Alabama, north of Huntsville. They were one of our mutual aid companies when I was Deputy Chief of Harvest VFD.

**Furey** - 10/25/12 - 21:47

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

## Unusual New Deliveries From Pierce

10/25/12 47 W, 4 I - + 11 - 7

Found these while clicking through the [Pierce Flickr site](#). Monster pumper-tanker for BP Exploration Operation in Iraq. Scary snozzle on a rescue pumper for Eagan, MN. And a pair of FBI vehicles, one black, one blue. Wonder what they're used for?





Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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High Point's New Ladder

10/25/12 14 W, 1 I - + 11 - 6

Found on the Pierce Flickr site. [See larger versions.](#)



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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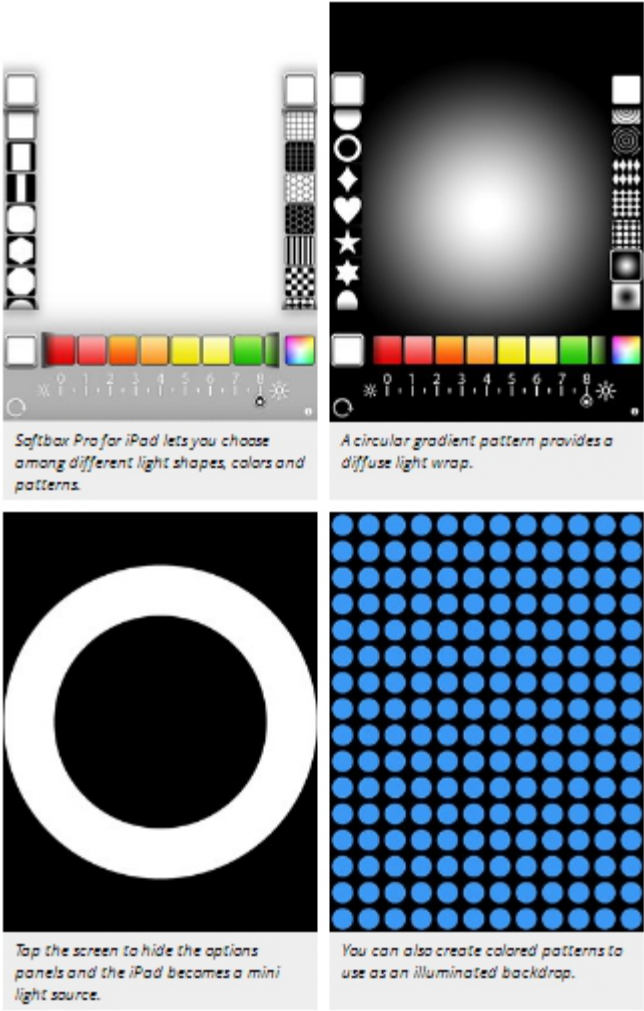
[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Using Your Tablet as a Photo Light Source

10/25/12 44 W, 1 I - + 9 - 8

[Neat article from Digital Photography Review](#) (itself a great go-to site) about usinig your tablet computer as a photo light source. Notably featured is the iPad app Softbox Pro.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No



Seasonal Decorations

10/26/12 42 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Engine 14 and Rescue 3 have decorated their station on Lake Boone Trail. Who else has seasonal displays around here? Send photos and maybe we'll post. And raise your hand if you get trick or treaters on Halloween. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	
<div>/ <a href="#">Textile</a></div>	

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

Video of Second Annual Charlotte Memorial Stair Climb10/26/12 109 W - + 8 - 6

Found in [this FireCritic posting](#), here's a recently posted video of the second annual Charlotte Memorial Stair Climb on Saturday, October 13. It was held at the Duke Energy Center Building in Uptown Charlotte. The event honored the 418 firefighters, police officers, and medics that died on September 11, 2001. Planned were a total of 700 climbers, including 343 firefighters, 60 law officers, and 10 EMS personnel. They climbed a total of 110 floors, equal to the number of the height of each Twin Tower. Here's a [News 14 story](#) and a [photo gallery](#) from the *Charlotte Observer*. Here's the event's [Facebook page](#) and their [official photos](#) on Flickr.

This was an excellent, respectful, and well-organized event. The Tunnel to Towers Run was a great addition. Everyone in NC should check it out next year, or perhaps Raleigh/Wake County could organize their own event for those on the eastern side of the state.

Lt. Lemon ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 10/26/12 - 09:58

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Dash Cam: House Fire in Durham

10/27/12 49 W - + 6 - 6

As [featured on Statter911](#), here's a three-minute clip of Thursday's house fire at 1217 Lincoln Street as shot by Squad 1. Arriving companies quickly knocked the fire down. The "C" shift companies: E1, E4, E3, L3, L2, S1, B1, B3, MS1, SO1.

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Found on their [Facebook page](#), here's a neat photo of medical emergency buses staged somewhere in New Jersey. They're part of the state's EMS Task Force. They'll be available to assist EMS agencies and healthcare facilities with evacuations and transportation needs as needed. (See other news sites about this storm thing.) Each can carry 30 patients on legs, 20 on wheels, or a hybrid of both. (We have one of these in Wake County, operated by EMS. And several in the state, in various cities/counties. And they're used both locally and collectively, if/when a "big one" comes along. [See this prior posting.](#))



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Charlotte Assistant Chief Dies of Heart Attack, 1955

10/27/12 45 W, 1 I - + 8 - 5

Found in my files, while researching the histories of Raleigh fire chiefs. Charlotte Fire Department Assistant Chief James M. "Mack" Munday, who died March 8, 1955. From the April 1955 issue of *Hose & Nozzle*. Click to enlarge:

**Chief Mack Munday Dies of Heart Attack**

Assistant Chief James McGee (Mack) Munday, a member of the Charlotte Fire Department for 30 years, died Tuesday night, March 8, apparently of a heart attack. He was 50 years old.

Chief Munday's body was found at 11:37 p.m. in his department car in the 800 block of E. Trade Street.

The account of the tragedy, as given by Charlotte firemen, was that Chief Munday drove his departmental car home to supper at his usual time, and with constant radio communication available it was not unusual for him to attend to departmental duties that would prolong his absence. He left his home to return to department headquarters about 8:30 p.m., but no radio contact was had until some two hours later, when it was recognized that his prolonged absence, without contact, was unusual.



Assistant Chief J. M. Munday

It was thought by some members of the department that perhaps the absence might be explained by the work Chief Munday was doing on the Fire Department Pension Plan, on which he had spent many harrowing hours of effort. When it became apparent that something was definitely wrong, a search was made and a Charlotte Police unit found Chief Munday's body slumped on the seat of his car, brake-up, lights and radio on.

The conclusion was that the attack came so suddenly that Munday had time only to pull to the curb and stop the car.

Surviving are his wife, the former Margaret Crayton; a daughter, Mrs. George M. McMartin of Cayce, S. C.; two grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. C. W. Burke of Charlotte.

\* \* \*

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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## Oxygen Masks For Pets?

10/28/12 99 W - + 5 - 10

Question from a reader, who recently read about firefighters in Arlington, TX, reviving a dog at a structure fire. He learned that AFD carries three sizes of pet oxygen masks on each Battalion Chief vehicle and ladder truck. This provides the masks at each working fire in the city. Question, are such masks carried by fire departments in Raleigh and Wake County? How about in the general Triangle and Central Piedmont area? Readers, please respond and regardless if you are cat or dog people. Share stories as desired as well. Thanks for your question, James.

Raleigh has them on every engine, ladder, and rescue.

**PBM** - 10/28/12 - 10:27

We carry them in Archer Lodge on our engines.

**DAM** - 10/28/12 - 10:44

We had them in Garner

**Mike** - 10/28/12 - 11:32

We also carry them in Wake Forest

**Ben** - 10/28/12 - 11:49

Durham Highway has them as well... Chris Young from the Bayleaf FD was donating a mask to Emergency Services...

[Cyoung@sleepingdogsale.com](mailto:Cyoung@sleepingdogsale.com)

**DHFD** - 10/28/12 - 11:51

All of the Squad companies in Durham carry the masks.

**WATSON** - 10/28/12 - 14:02

We have them in Zebulon.

**ZFD** - 10/28/12 - 15:22

I put them on the rig at work. The other driver took them off and tossed them; "We don't need that stupid crap on the truck. That's not our job." We previously had them on all rigs, but it wasn't a required item, so they have disappeared on many companies. Sad.

**Pet Friendly** - 10/28/12 - 15:26

I resuscitated a white mix breed that had been dropped in the bay when their owner tripped in sand while self extricating from a Cessna crash. The humans were all fine presenting with a minor case of exposure and one lacerated finger The canine on the other hand had just been crushed by their owner and dunked in salt water. I am no vet, but my essential EMT training of air-goes-in-and-out guided me to suction and get some oxygen into him. We transported the human victims to the hospital, I am convinced they would have beaten me senseless if I gave up on their dog to take vital signs and fill out a report. The local K9 officer knew the number for a 24hour emergency vet clinic who intercepted us at the hospital and carted that dog off. There was an outpouring of positive press and some donations following that incident.

A pet mask would have been nice, but a human supplies and copious amounts of medical tape can work wonders... it also helped that it was a lap dog and not a Great Dane.

**PW** - 10/28/12 - 16:57

Morrisville has them on all first out trucks.

**Spanky** - 10/28/12 - 17:14

A big Thank you to My Brothers at Durham Highway. If any one wants more info, like how use them or wants a set, just e-mail me

**Chris** ([Email](#)) - 10/29/12 - 11:53

We got them on the engines in Fuquay.

HH - 10/29/12 - 15:19

Just an quick update. The day after the fire the dog passed away.  
Good to hear the positives here and Mike’s right about the general public.  
Can’t let one persons opinion change the tide though.

Pet Friendly, guess some people will never change...how sad!

James - 10/29/12 - 16:34

HH why do you have them on the Engines? You guys still run the squads right? Seems kinda pointless

Silver [Not Silver, see below comment] - 10/30/12 - 00:50

We put these in place on our rides in Fuquay a couple of years back. We have used these on a couple of fires already and have shown families of these pets just how much we care about preserving life and saving property. When we put these in place, I made phone calls to vet offices at each corner of our district and asked if they would be willing to be on an “on call” emergency list if their business was not operating on a 24 hour schedule. Every one i spoke with was amazed at what we were doing for our citizens and agreed 100 %. NBC 17 had gotten wind of what was going on and came down to FVFD station 1 to do a story.

Tyson - 10/30/12 - 11:22

Silver, to answer that question...our squads which are now Car 10,20,30 are stationed at each one of our stations and are the primary unit responsible for running EMS calls. The cars do not run fire responses unless the guys are already on a call and clear to respond either back to the station or to the scene. Our staffing at station 2 and 3 is only 3 people each day and the cars respond with 2 of the 3 which i already can hear the argument coming from that but, it has worked well for the past several years and that comes from hire powers than myself. We placed these on the engines because we knew that an engine or 3 would be at every working job we have.

Hope that cleared it up for ya

Tyson - 10/30/12 - 11:36

Hey Mike, wasn’t me on 10/30/12 at 00:50.

Sorry Fuquay guys, was an imposter stirring the pot. Typical of a coward/punk...

The One and Only Silver - 10/30/12 - 13:21

How come my post didnt make it. What was wrong. Im not mad

hh - 10/30/12 - 17:29

Tyson explained perfect, great clarification.

hh - 10/30/12 - 22:36

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

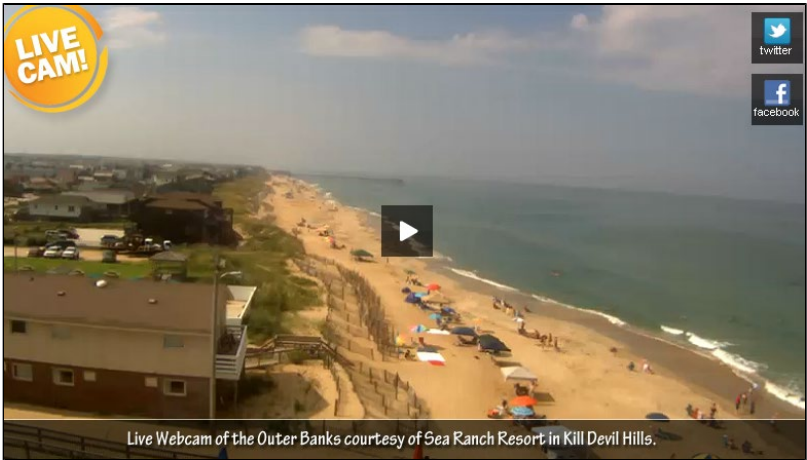
Comment: / [Textile](#)

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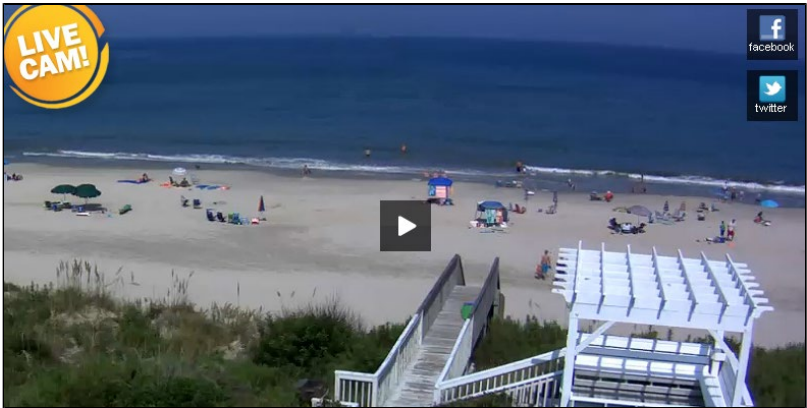
Live Web Cams From Outer Banks

10/28/12 73 W, 4 I - + 12 - 6

Here's a [web cam from Kill Devil Hills](#), showing current conditions from Hurricane Sandy, which is however many of hundreds of miles offshore. There are probably a bunch of these web cams. Google for others. What's neat is this one is that it includes a still shot taken during normal weather. Click **Next Webcam** to continue to Virginia.



And here's a [web cam from Corolla](#):





Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Mystery Road

10/28/12 23 W, 1 I - + 10 - 8

Or is it an alley? Or is it a driveway? Hint: it's paved.



Its right there at Crabtree Valley Mall

**Rob Mitchell** - 10/28/12 - 13:52

Didn't we already do this one?

(<http://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=4472>)

**rfburns** - 10/28/12 - 20:13

One way street from Arrow Dr to Crabtree View Pl (granted it's fun to go up it too)

**RPD** - 10/28/12 - 20:15

It, ah... looks different with leaves. :)

**rfburns** - 10/28/12 - 21:51

Name: (real name  
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E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)



# Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *UPDATED Before* « Two Firefighters Inju... » Three Sticks on the H... The Days of Civil Service Protection

## UPDATED Before The Days of Civil Service Protection

01/01/13 835 W, 1 I - + 8 - 9

January 1, 2012

[Here's the state law](#) (PDF) enacted on March 1, 1935. The passage of the bill ended the practice of patronage hiring for city firemen and policemen. The bill was titled "An Act to Create a Civil Service Commission for the Fire Department and Police Department of the City of Raleigh and to Provide the Necessary Machinery and Rules for the Organization and Operation of Said Civil Service Commission and [Fire and Police] Departments." Among the provisions were:

- Creation of a five-member Civil Service Commission.
- Commission granted full charge of hiring and dismissing members of the fire department.
- Competitive examinations were now required for employment.
- Promotions would be made by the Fire Chief, with approval of the commission.
- Appointments to Fire Chief would be made by the Public Safety Commissioner, also with approval of the commission.
- Dismissals required cause, and included the opportunity for an open hearing to defend the charges.
- Political activity other than exercising the right to vote was prohibited.

October 29, 2012

On Saturday, one of my history book activities was researching the biographies of Raleigh's fire chiefs. A couple newspaper articles about Jack Keeter, chief from 1955 to 1973, provide a peek into the hiring and firing practices before the days of civil service protection. ('Tis a timely topic, as the Raleigh Fire Department has been conducting testing of firefighter applicants in recent days and weeks.) Said protection was implemented in 1935, after a bill was introduced into State Senate on April 6, 1933, by Wake County Senator John W. Hinsdale.

Upon ratification of the legislation, Raleigh firefighters would be hired or fired not on the basis of political patronage, but instead by a (proposed) three-member Civil Service Board. For hiring, competitive exams would be open to all eligible people. (That is, all white persons. The exact language: "all white persons possessing the rights of suffrage and meeting requirements prescribed by the board.) Notices of examinations would be posted two weeks prior. And on the other side, firefighters "liable to dismissal" had the opportunity of a public hearing before the board at least ten days after notice of such charges.

No longer were firefighters subject to being hired or fired, based on the outcomes of elections. Keeter's biography provides some examples. He was worked for auto dealer Carl L. Williamson, after moving to Raleigh in 1928. (Keeter came from Rutherford County to see the State Fair and never left.) When Williamson ran for Public Safety Commissioner (in 1931?), Keeter worked for the campaign. (The Commissioner was one of three who ran the city.) When Williams was elected, he rewarded Keeter with a job in the fire department.

But such political patronage cut both ways. Retired Captain Jack Crabtree-- speaking at the time of Keeter's death in 1978-- recalled in 1933, when Jim Brown defeated former police chief Wynder Bryan for Public Safety Commissioner, eighteen firemen lost their jobs because they supported Bryan. Two of the "lucky ones" were Crabtree and Keeter. The latter was rewarded with a promotion to Lieutenant. (Did every firefighter have to support someone in these races? Was it optional, and you rolled the dice? If your guy one, you'd maybe get favors??)

Two years later, state legislators gave firemen across the state civil service protection. [ Correct year? Did state protection come in a later year? ] Keeter was one of the people instrumental in helping the legislation pass. Raleigh firefighters (and police officers) were hired and fired by the Raleigh Civil Service Commission, a group of five citizens. (Versus the three-person board cited in the original legislation noted above. Need to find a copy of that legislation. Maybe it's available online.)

John Boswell "Jack" Keeter was a member of the department for 41.9 (!) years. That's not the record, mind you. Believe that one goes to Asst. Chief James Burnette with 43.3 years, followed Captain James White with 42.2 years. (There are under dozen members who retired with forty or more years.) He was Fire Chief for eighteen years. That's the longest tenure for any chief of department here. His retirement was mandatory at age 65. [ Insert paragraph(s) about his accomplishments as Fire Chief. We'll cover that another time. Could also have an interesting discussion about the development of testing and promotional processes. ]

He became Mayor Pro Tem and a councilman at large. He served two and a half terms. He died of cancer on December 2, 1978. He was 71. For a month during his hospital stay, firefighters volunteered their time to stay at the hospital overnight, in twelve-hour shifts. His memorial service at Mitchell Funeral Home was standing room only, attended by friends, relatives, current and former city officials, Masons, and a

hundred uniformed firefighters from Raleigh and other cities. Doors to the municipal were closed from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and flags at the city's fourteen fire stations flew at half mast. He was buried at Montlawn. Four years later, the new training center building was named in his honor. The Keeter Training Center.



Forgot to include a couple other details. During the days of political patronage, firefighters would campaign for candidates. It would participate in duties related to the campaign. Perhaps/probably on-duty? Don't know if this was mandatory or not. Maybe it was highly recommended. If you involve yourself politically, you stood to reap rewards, if your candidate was elected. The civil-service legislation proposed in 1933 Included language about firemen no longer permitted to be engaged in political activities. Beyond voting. Presumably referring to active campaigning, or active campaigning while on duty.

**Legeros** - 10/29/12 - 09:16

And another detail. This is the reason that a number of firemen from the 20s and 30s have gaps in their employment. They were employed for a couple years, then rehired a couple years later, then retired a couple years after that.

Thinking more about patronage, that probably was the only route to get promoted. If the Public Safety Commissioner was the one who promoted people, you were in good shape if you had supported their campaign.

**Legeros** - 10/29/12 - 09:20

Mike, do we see this in some respects in Sheriff's departments? Capt. This supports the incumbent Sheriff while Lt. That supports a challenger. Election results may improve or hurt their individual chances of future promotion (or continued employment). Was is similar in FD then?

**Deputy Dawg** - 01/01/13 - 10:50

News & Observer story today about county sheriff's and their ability to fire deputies based on political patronage:  
[http://www.newsobserver.com/latest-news/..](http://www.newsobserver.com/latest-news/)

**Legeros** - 12/07/15 - 08:17

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Video: Task Force 8 Departs « Mystery Road » External Flash + Flas...  
For Maryland

Video: Task Force 8 Departs For Maryland

10/29/12 94 W - + 8 - 7

North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force 8 members departed early this evening from the Keeter Training Center, deployed to Frederick, Maryland, to assist with water rescue operations. They're one of the many areas being impacted by Hurricane Sandy. The eight members represent Raleigh, Durham, Cary, and Chapel Hill fire departments, and Wake County EMS. Here's a short video showing the team heading out. That's Car 72 and USAR 801. The footage is, okay, a little tame, but dig that crane shot at the end!

Mike is there any updates on Task Force 8’s status?

JGrimes - 10/30/12 - 22:42

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

External Flash + Flash Exposure Compensation

10/31/12 148 W, 2 I - + 15 - 6

Question heard from time to time: how to take better fire scene photos in low light or no light? Here's an example using (a.) DSLR with high ISO setting (2500), (b.) external flash versus the lower-powered internal flash, and (c.) flash exposure compensation used. What's that last one? On your camera, you can raise or lower the power of the flash. Both internal and external. Dial it up or dial it down. The first photo shows a mere -1/3 compensation. The second shows a +2. Observe the drastic difference. For documentation or investigation, be careful with too much flash. You might saturate and thus obscure burn patterns or other evidence of evidence. Both shots are from last night's apartment (or were they townhomes?) fire on Forest Lawn Court. [See more photos](#). Readers, what tips would you offer in these areas? Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

# Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Lives and Times of Raleigh's* « External Flash + Flas... » Meanwhile... Fire Chiefs








## Lives and Times of Raleigh's Fire Chiefs

10/31/12 650 W, 16 I - + 14 - 9

For your mid-week enjoyment, some bits and pieces and places and dates about those who served as chiefs of the Raleigh Fire Department.  
From recent research for the [Centennial History Book](#).

#	Name	Served	Notes	Photograph
1	Sherwood Battle Brockwell	1912-1914	<p>Born October 12, 1885, in Raleigh.</p> <p>Joined first volunteer fire company as special member at age 16 in 1902.</p> <p>Appointed June 7, 1912.</p> <p>First chief of fully-paid fire department.</p> <p>Resigned by August 1, 1914, to become deputy insurance commissioner and first state Fire Marshal.</p> <p>Died June 2, 1953, in Raleigh, age 67.</p> <p>Buried June 3, 1953, in Raleigh.</p>	
2	Charles David Farmer	1914-1919	<p>Born November 13, 1883, in Raleigh.</p> <p>Joined first volunteer fire company in 1904.</p> <p>Hired by December 31, 1912.</p> <p>First Assistant Chief of career fire department.</p> <p>Appointed August 1, 1914.</p> <p>Resigned July 31, 1919, to organize equipment division of state highway division.</p> <p>Portrait from later career as first Major of North Carolina Highway Patrol.</p> <p>Died April 1, 1949, in Raleigh, age 65.</p> <p>Buried April 2, 1949, in Raleigh.</p>	
3	Hubert H. Horton	1919-1923	<p>Born 1895.</p> <p>Hired by December 31, 1912.</p> <p>Original member of career fire department.</p> <p>Appointed Acting Chief August 1, 1919.</p> <p>Appointed Chief October 1, 1921.</p> <p>Succeeded June 1, 1923.</p> <p>Died July 18, 1950, in Raleigh, age 55.</p>	
4	Lewis Fleming Hicks	1923-1926	<p>Born May 29, 1888, in Granville County.</p> <p>Hired June 16, 1913.</p> <p>Military leave from 1917 to 1922.</p> <p>Worked for state Highway Commission from 1922 to 1923.</p> <p>Appointed June 1, 1923.</p> <p>Died August 21, 1926, in Raleigh, age 38. Died off-duty of heart ailment.</p> <p>Buried August 22, 1926, in Raleigh.</p>	
5	William Ernest "Ernest" Holland	1926-1939	<p>Born June 13, 1890, in Wake County.</p> <p>Hired February 14, 1913.</p> <p>Appointed September 1, 1926.</p> <p>Succeeded May 4 or May 11, 1939.</p> <p>Also President of North Carolina Fireman's Association in 1936.</p>	



			<p>Died May 17, 1963, in Raleigh, age 72. Buried May 20, 1963, in Raleigh.</p>	
6	Ellis D. King	1939-1941	<p>Born March 27, 1890, in Wake County. Hired November 1, 1921. Appointed May 4 or May 11, 1939. Succeeded July 14, 1941. Died June 18, 1948, in Raleigh, age 58. Buried June 20, 1948, in Raleigh.</p>	
7	William Ralph "Ralph" Butts	1941-1947	<p>Born May 5, 1906, in Wake County. Hired December 20, 1926. Appointed July 14, 1941. Resigned June 20, 1947. Was partner in Apex Funeral Home for forty years. Also founder and first president of Apex Shrine Club. Died August 4, 1966, in Apex, age 60. Buried August 6, 1966, in Raleigh.</p>	
8	Alvin Brown Lloyd	1947-1955	<p>Born 1892 in Granville County. Hired July 16, 1919. Appointed Acting Chief after June 20, 1947. Appointed Chief April 1, 1950. Died February 25, 1955, in Raleigh, age 63. Died off-duty of heart ailment. Buried February 27, 1955, in Raleigh.</p>	
9	John Boswell "Jack" Keeter	1955-1973	<p>Born February 17, 1907, in Rutherford County. Hired July 1, 1931. Appointed February 25, 1955. Retired June 1, 1973. Also President of North Carolina Firefighters Association in 1944 and 1945 (and other years?). President of North Carolina State Fireman's Association in 1958. Also Mayor Pro Tem and City Councilman after retirement. Died December 2, 1978, in Raleigh, age 71. Buried December 4, 1978.</p>	
10	Clarence Rudolph Puryear	1973-1974	<p>Born February 9, 1919, in Virginia. Hired February 15, 1941. Military leave, 1942 to 1946. Appointed June 1, 1973. Died November 10, 1974, in Raleigh, age 55. Died off-duty of heart attack. Buried November 12, 1974, in Raleigh.</p>	
11	Rufus Edwin Keith	1974-1982	<p>Born April 5, 1930, in Franklin County. Hired July 16, 1951. Appointed December 12, 1974. Retired November 30, 1982. Died August 2, 1990, in Wake Forest, age 60.</p>	
			Born October 30, 1936.	

12	Thomas T. Kuster	1983-1986	Appointed February 1, 1983. Resigned January 2, 1986. First Fire Chief hired outside of department (Fire Protection Administrator, Jefferson County, NY). Retired Fire Chief of Louisville, KY - Served 20 years in department. Resigned to become Public Health and Safety Director in Louisville . Died September 6, 2006, age 70.	
13	Sherman A. Pickard	1986-1995	Appointed March 3, 1986. Retired July 1, 1995. Second Fire Chief hired outside of department (Director of Service, League of Municipalities). Started career in Burlington Fire Department, left as Director of Training Director of fire and rescue service training for NCDOT, for eleven years. Director of Service, LoM, nineteen years.	
14	Jonny B. Sandy	1995-1999	Hired December 28, 1964 . Military leave from 1966 to 1968. Asst. Chief of Operations from 1991 to 1995. Appointed July 1, 1995. Retired July 1, 1999.	
15	Earl F. Fowler	1999-2005	Hired December 8, 1971. Asst. Chief and Fire Marshal from 1990 to 1999. Appointed August 2, 1999. Retired December 31, 2005.	
16	John T. McGrath	2006-present	Appointed February 1, 2006. Third Fire Chief hired outside of department (Deputy Commissioner, Philadelphia Fire Department). Thirty-two year veteran of Philadelphia FD.	

Photo Credits: Brockwell, Keeter - Courtesy North Carolina State Archives; King, Butts, Hicks, Keith- *News & Observer* photograph; Lloyd, Kuster - Courtesy Raleigh Fire Department; Fowler, McGrath - Lee Wilson Photograph

This information has been belatedly updated to my web site, <http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/histo...> (File was queued for uploading months ago, but slipped through the cracks.)

**Legeros** - 07/26/13 - 08:20

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info?
E-mail: (optional)	Yes
	No

## Meanwhile...

11/01/12 494 W - + 5 - 4

With a calamity of catastrophic proportions to the north affecting the nation and its responders, we don't have much to add to the national conversation or local reactions. Here are a few sites and stories that we've been reading. (We being me.) There's a world of better reporting and perspectives about Hurricane Sandy than you'll find here...

- [The Daily Times](#) - Newspaper in Salisbury, MD, and covering the town of Crisfield, which was severely damaged by flooding. That's also where eight members from Task Force 8 were deployed. (Didn't find any references or images of them in stories on the site, however.) The water rescue team left Raleigh on Monday, [see prior posting](#). They returned to town last night.
- [FDNY Incidents](#) - Facebook page that provides notifications and information about incidents in New York City. They provided numerous postings with textual information-- and some photos-- about the intense activity and extreme conditions encountered by the fire department on storm night. (Mr. Blogger didn't follow Twitter. Just kept an eye on this site, and my own Facebook wall, to see re-postings from other people.) Also saw some interesting reader discussions, such as the meaning of clicking LIKE. As many noted, the Facebook feature allows users to "subscribe" to comments about particular postings and photos.
- [Sandy, social media, and the fire service](#) - That's my title for a Statter911 posting, where Dave Statter offers some perspectives and opinions about social media and its use during Hurricane Sandy. He cites some of the Twitter sources he followed in the Washington, DC, area. He also talks about the FDNY feed, and a Yahoo! News story about the department's social media manager Emily Rahimi. She's the one-woman response team of the FDNY, and who worked through the night transmitting over 100 tweets. Bonus: See the comments for a bit of tangential sarcasm by Yours Truly.
- [Sandy again shows the best and worst of social media](#) - Gerald Bacon's Crisis Comm blog, which is linked from the above Statter911 posting. He opens with the statement "The emergency management world is quite divided over social media." And continues that Hurricane Sandy has helped and hurt the issue, by providing plenty of ammunition on both sides of the camp. For example, he talks about the many phony photos that were spread. (Some were more insidious, like the soldiers standing over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. That shot was from September. [See this story](#).) He also addresses the intentionally phony tweets and blogs that fooled or alarmed folks.

Just a handful of sites and stories to mention. Maybe readers have additional input. What were some of the sites or stories that you found useful, compelling, or moving? Or, if you prefer, discuss your online experience during the storm. What did you observe or conclude, about the Internet and social media and channels of information about both (a.) the storm and (b.) responder activities therein?

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Emergency Distractions

11/01/12 35 W - + 7 - 2

NBC17 story from last night, about distracted drivers not noticing emergency vehicles in Raleigh and Wake County. The news crew takes a ride with District Chief Jeff Hammerstein of Wake County EMS.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

## Garner's Old Engine 2

11/02/12 134 W, 1 I - + 7 - 1

Lee Wilson this week photographed Garner's old Engine 2. The 1958 Ford F-600/American LaFrance pumper is parked at Ken's Corn Maze on Highway 50, south of town. Don't get lost trying to find it!

Equipped with a 500 GPM pump and a 300 gallon tank, the truck was purchased by the town for \$10,627.32. It was one of the many "town trucks" that local private fire departments operated. Such trucks were typically first-out (or even restricted) to town-only calls.

In the case of Garner Fire Department, for years they had two departments within the department. One for calls in town, and the other for calls outside of town. (Readers can share memories and other examples of town versus rural arrangements, from "back in the day.") [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

Many departments in my area that were in towns had a town pumper and a rural pumper. The town pumper usually had less miles on it because we didn't have a lot of calls in town, so when it was sold it only had about 17,000 miles on it and the rural pumper had about 30,000.

**car3550** - 11/02/12 - 23:50

I think years ago, the town had to "own" a fire truck by law. At least that is what the older guys told me when I joined a VFD a while back. The truck was the town's property, but they allowed the VFD to use it. I was told it was "against the law" for the truck to respond to an emergency or even training outside of town. Also, men listed on the "town" roster were the only ones who were able to pay into the retirement pension. I don't know how much of these stories are for real, only relying on what the older firefighters told me when I joined. Maybe someone else will be able to elaborate....

**PBM** - 11/03/12 - 00:05

I remember when this one was in service. The red was a lot deeper, then. It had the inscription "MUNICIPALLY OWNED" on the door just under the department name. Knightdale also had dual trucks. There was one that said "TOWN TRUCK 1" on the door (believe this was a mid 60s Chevy/Darley) and another that said "RURAL TRUCK 1" on it (late 50s Ford/LaFrance).

**DJ** - 11/04/12 - 10:14



Shoes

11/02/12 21 W, 1 I - + 5 - 9

From tonight's two-alarm fire on Lake Hill Drive. [See more photos](#). More later.



Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

## Old Raleigh, Cary Engines Found in Shelby

11/03/12 210 W, 2 I - + 6 - 2

Western North Carolina reader and photographer Benjy Grice ([see his Picasa site](#) including a [page of relics](#)) found a pair of familiar engines in Shelby this week. Here's one of Raleigh's old 1973 Mack CF pumpers, model number CF685F10, serial number 1594. That's old Engine 5, later old Engine 10. One of four 1973 Mack CF pumpers delivered that year. (Another four 1975 Mack CF pumpers were delivered two years later.) Delivered October 1973. Placed in service as Engine 5 on July 22, 1974. Served as Engine 10 from 1986 to 1997. Cost \$43,033. [Here's the truck's page](#) on Mike's apparatus registry site. Click to enlarge:



*Benjy Grice photo*

Here's one of Cary's old engines, a 1970 (?) American LaFrance 1000 Series, serial number 12-1-2263. Looking at my outdated [Cary Fire Department timeline](#), it was delivered in 1971. Capacity 1000 GPM. At the same time, the department refurbished one of its older engines. Probably the 1965 American LaFrance 900 series. Looking at my page of historical [CFD apparatus photos](#), my citation is a model year of 1971. Looks like it was the first Cary engine with a roof as well. See Lee Wilson's site for two more photos: [as reserve at Station 3](#) and as [reserve at Station 2](#). He also cites a model year of 1971. Click to enlarge:



*Benjy Grice photo*

## Foam Truck at Station 12

11/04/12 217 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

Here's one of the last foam carriers operated by the Raleigh Fire Department. This 1973 Mack CF pumper, formerly originally Engine 4, served as Foam 12 from around 2002 until January 10, 2004, when it was moved to Station 26. It replaced a 1968 American LaFrance 900 series pumper. (Were other former engines also used?) Foam 12 was placed in service on September 1, 1988. Station 12 was chosen for its proximity to the Beltline, if memory serves. All engine companies also carried four five-gallon buckets of foam and application equipment. This was one of the first actions of the department's haz-mat response team, when they were organized earlier in that decade.

Foam 26 was removed from service on June 8, 2005. At that time, if memory serves, the foam was moved to Station 2, to be transported as needed on the haz-mat units. The fire department also operated a pair of high-expansion foam units, from 1965 to 1990. Those were stored at Station 1 and Station 5. See this [company/unit history document](#) (PDF) for dates. See this [Special Apparatus](#) page of Mike's apparatus registry for more information including pics. [See this posting](#) from June, about Raleigh's foam trailer and class B foam supply, placed in service this summer.

What other foam apparatus have departments and cities operated in our state? Click to enlarge this scanned photographic print from the early 2000s:



In Cumberland County, Vander FD had/has a foam trailer. Greensboro runs a foam task force (trailers and trucks located around the city)

**Swiman** - 11/04/12 - 08:33

Here in Cumberland county the foam trailer that was at Vander was owned by the Cumberland County Fire Chiefs Association. We have 3 stationed around the county. At one time there was one at Vander, Cumberland Rd and Spring Lake. The last I remember though they were all at Lake Upchurch for refurbishing and replacement of AFFF foam to AR-AFFF foam. I think they have been redistributed and are now at Vander, Spring Lake and Fayetteville Station 12.

**2407** - 11/04/12 - 14:07

Charlotte operates Foam-1 out of station 25 with a nearby tank farm and terminal. I believe it gets dispatched for alarms at the terminal.



**Andrew** - 11/07/12 - 08:16

Holly Springs Station 2 Open House, Saturday, Nov. 10

11/04/12 99 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

The public is invited to visit the recently completed Fire Station 2 at 1140 Aventy Ferry Road in Holly Springs, on Saturday, November 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tours, refereshments, and a bounce house for children will be provided. Search the blog for prior postings about the new building, which replaced an older station on the same location that was damaged by the 2011 tornado. [See more photos from Lee Wilson](#), who toured the facility a few weeks before it opened last month. Search the blog for prior postings.



Lee Wilson photos

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)



Town Trucks

11/05/12 130 W, 2 I - + 8 - 3

As discussed [in this thread](#) from the other day. Top is Garner's 1958 Ford/American LaFrance pumper. Note "municipally owned" on the door. This was Garner's "town truck" at the time. Bottom is Knightdale's 1963 (?) Chevy/Darley pumper. Says "Town Truck 1" on the door. Cropped from a larger photo and thus the blur. Looking through my archives, didn't see such labels on trucks from Apex, Fuquay-Varina, Wake Forest, Wendell, or Zebulon. Probably because each had a municipal fire department that pre-dated the rural department. (Those trucks just read, say, "Town of Apex" or "Apex Fire Department" instead of "Apex Rural Fire Department.") Versus Garner and Knightdale, which were private corporations that provided municipal fire protection. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



## Ladder Pipe Liability

11/06/12 75 W, 1 I - + 4 - 6

[Firehouse.com](#) columnist [John J. Salka Jr.](#) calls the practice of putting a person on a tip "stupid and extremely dangerous" and with "little if any positive results." We haven't a hearty tactical discussion in a while. Readers, what's your take on this age-old practice? Second question, isn't technology ready to replace this practice, either with video or thermal imaging cameras?



Like a hot dog on the end of a stick; too many risks for a building that's been written off (thermal column shift, fall, ladder failure, operator error). If the fire isn't darkening down, move the stream. The technology is here, it's a remote nozzle. Just my opinion.....

**Silver** - 11/06/12 - 14:09

Having been assigned to a stick I have to disagree (not attacking, simply disagreeing). While I agree that the practice is dumb when it's a "surround and drown" situation not all aerial stream attacks are "defensive". I have been on the tip at several fires which I would consider an "offensive" attack. (I used quotations around defensive and offensive because I believe the terms to be misnomers but they are familiar in the fire service.) I also have been on the turntable operating the nozzle from the pedestal and found I simply couldn't be as aggressive due to lack of line of sight as I could if I had a man on the tip. The times I was on the tip I was able to be aggressive outside next to the gable end and roof to really knock down the fire so the inside crews could reenter to finish the job. It takes coordination with the pump operator and focused training of the ladder crew to be effective and not absolutely destroy the house by flowing 20,000 gallons inside it which would also prevent any further interior fire attack due to collapse potential. In fact, two of the fires of which I was on the tip were town homes and both were able to be repaired instead of bulldozed and rebuilt.

Besides, there are controls at the tip. If you're burning up like a hot dog on a stick move the ladder. If there is that much fire you are correct that there really shouldn't be anyone on the tip since the building will most likely be a total loss. Also, isn't the phrase "hot dog on a stick" pushing it a bit? LOL. I've been part of an interior crew when we were the marshmallow that fell off the stick! What's next? Not go in at all? I believe that to be in our near future. It's not our house and we didn't start the fire, right? Life for a life. Let's just go back to the mid 1800's and use fire bombs. Knock out a window and throw it in. Aren't our brothers in Japan resorting back to these tactics? I mean, if the homeowner says everyone's out why should we go in? Because the ONLY structure of which we know is vacant is one that has been searched.

Sorry, end of rant.

Rescue Ranger - 11/06/12 - 18:15

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the **FIRST TWO LETTERS** of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Day in the Life of a* « Ladder Pipe Liability... » Bladen County Firefig... *Fire Lookout*

### Day in the Life of a Fire Lookout

11/06/12 75 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

America the beautiful. From a friend on Facebook, exceptional video by Marin County Fire Department volunteer Gary Yost, who has been a lookout on Mount Tamalpias in Oregon for about two years. Next and obvious questions, are any towers still manned on our side of this great country? Guess I need to consult [this prior posting](#) on the topic.



Mike, I sent this story to a old time friend Bob Shapleigh (now in his late 80's) who was a Fire Chief back in the 1950-60s era in the Haddonfield Fire Co in NJ. When he retired, he moved up to Maine, and came back to NJ in the late 90's, where he now lives. He sent me this story I would like to pass it onto you. Bob Bartosz

\*\*\*\*\*

A Day in the Life of a Fire Lookout.

Bob, Geez, this brought back many pleasant memories. When in Maine there was a chain of towers stretched from the NH borders all the way North. The one by us was the "Sanford Tower" on a mountain range behind the town of Sanford (which was adjacent to the Shapleigh Village).

The tower was manned by a lady who lived in a cottage about 100 yards from the tower. She wasn't a youngster and I don't know how she made that climb every day.

I used to climb up once in a while and visit with her. She was happy with company (she was employed by a State forestry section). Once in a while, if my wife made some homemade veggie soup or a casserole, I would take some along.

A couple times she spotted a wisp of smoke and would triangulate with the Waterboro Tower. She explained so much and taught me many things.

Then one day she was notified that they were unmanning all the towers in an effort to save money. The State Police would fly a light plane on patrol. Fortunately Mrs. Griffen was pension eligible.

Now, the various fire companies along the route raised hell. The state wouldn't budge, so the various firemen manned the towers on a volunteer basis.

When I moved I lost all contact, I do not know what the situation is now.

Bob Shapleigh

**Bob Bartosz** - 11/06/12 - 18:11

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

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## Bladen County Firefighter Dies After Vehicle Fire

11/07/12 83 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

[FireNews.net](#) [reputed on Monday](#) about the death of White Oak Fire Department ~~Captain~~ Lt. David Mitchell Tatum, 55, who died at a hospital on November 5, after collapsing at home, after feeling ill at a vehicle fire on November 4 and returning home. No additional information about his passing, or arrangements, has been made available. Goggle neither finds news stories nor obituaries, as of this morning. Watch this space. We'll update as needed.



Mike here are the arrangements for White Oak Captain and Tar Heel Rescue Squad Member David Tatum as they are posted on Tar Heel Rescue Squads Facebook Page.

<http://www.facebook.com/tarheelrescue.sq..>

Funeral arrangements for David Tatum Sr. of White Oak Fire Department and Tar Heel Rescue Squad are as followed.....

Visitation will be Friday Nov. 9th from 6:00 til 8:00

Service will be Saturday Nov. 10th at 1:00

The visitation and service will both be held at White Oak Baptist Church located at 9724, NC 53 Hwy west, White Oak NC

**2407** - 11/07/12 - 16:24

sad day for White oak. my thoughts go out to the family.

**charlie** - 11/07/12 - 18:54

To all readers there has been a change in visitation for David Tatum Sr due to size of venue. they are as follws:

\*\*\*\*Change in visitation for David Tatum Sr.\*\*\*\*

Funeral arrangements for David Tatum Sr. of White Oak Fire Department and Tar Heel Rescue Squad are as follows.....

Visitation will be Friday Nov. 9th from 6:00 til 8:00

at Bladen Gaskins Funeral Home in Elizabethtown



**2407** - 11/07/12 - 22:18

Here’s a WECT story about Capt. Tatum’s passing, <http://www.wect.com/story/20029391/frien..>

**Legeros** - 11/08/12 - 16:11

Mike, there is another story attached to the link you posted regarding a Bladen County Deputy Fire Marshall that has also passed away. He became Sick responding to a house fire over the weekend died yesterday.

**Galax,Va** - 11/08/12 - 21:52

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:	Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Yesterday's Fatal Fire at Durham Regional Hospital

11/07/12 168 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

One patient was killed and three staff members were injured at Durham Regional Hospital early Tuesday morning, by a fire that was initially reported as an explosion about 2:15 a.m. [This WRAL story](#) reports one 911 caller reported a "fire oxygen explosion." Investigators have said it may have started during a "defibrillation procedure." The sprinkler system activated, and it sounds like the fire in the sixth-floor, acute-care room was promptly extinguished. Thus the run card only looks like a single alarm response: 3643 North Roxboro Road, BC2, BC1, E7, E2, E9, E3, E13, L2, L3, SQ7, HM13, SO1, MS1, FD1, FD3, FD6, FD38. That's from the [Durham FD Facebook page](#). More media links: [WTVD](#), [News 14](#), [Herald-Sun](#), [News & Observer](#). Plus any number of national transmissions of the story. Just Google. Firegeezzer also [blogged about it](#). (What's the historical context here? Can't readily recall any fatal hospital fires in Raleigh, and darn few notable fires period.)



WRAL photo

there was a fatal fire at DDH, in the hospital, in the 1990's (mid to late maybe ?). Patient burnt to death in his room. Maybe in the McBride building – ??

lee - 11/09/12 - 13:40

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## Memorial Auditorium as Drill Tower?

11/07/12 120 W, 2 I - + 9 - 3

Did you know that Memorial Auditorium was designed as a drill tower? The performing arts center, which opened in 1932, was constructed with a two-bay fire station beneath the stage in the rear of the building. The exterior of the building above the fire station was designed as a drill tower. The fire department's existing drill tower at Station 1 on West Morgan Street might have been unusable by that time. It was condemned in the 1930s and demolished in 1938. The dedicated training tower on South Wilmington Street wasn't built until 1954. Here are a couple photos from 1954, showing training at Memorial Auditorium. These were scanned from prints in the files of Public Affairs. Click to slightly enlarge:





Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.

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**Speaking of the Old Drill Tower...**

11/07/12 37 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Here's a great view of the 1954 drill tower and the 1958 American LaFrance tiller parked beside. Photo is dated early 1970s. Both are long gone. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: ☐ Yes, hide my email address.



Bladen County Deputy Fire Marshal Dies

11/08/12 127 W, 1 I - + 7 - 1

[FireNews.net has reported](#) on the death of Bladen County Emergency Services Deputy Fire Marshal John McClelland Hall, 48, who died last night from heart complications. He became ill on Saturday, while responding to a house fire in the Carvers Creek Community. He'd been on bed rest since Saturday, and was taken to the hospital on Wednesday. Hall was also Deputy Fire Chief of the Clarkton Fire Department, and a firefighter with the Bladenboro Fire Department. This is the second firefighter death in Bladen County, since White Oak Fire Department Lt. David Tatum died on Tuesday after feeling ill at a vehicle fire the day before. [See prior posting](#). See also this [WECT-TV story](#).



Services are as follows:

Visitation will be Monday, November 12, 2012, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Galeed Baptist Church, 571 Galeed Church Road Bladenboro, NC 28320.

Funeral Service will follow at the church.

Any apparatus or personnel planning to attend, or anyone with questions may call Ronnie Hayes with NCFFF at 910-367-2388.

**Legeros** - 11/09/12 - 17:20

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

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**Kernersville Fire Chief Dies**

11/08/12 166 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

[FireNews.net is also reporting](#) on the death of Kernersville Fire Chief Walter M. Summerville III, 55, who died on Wednesday evening. He suffered a heart attack at home, shortly after leaving work. The twenty-five year veteran entered the department on January 13, 1987. He served as Battalion Chief for fifteen years, before becoming Assistant Chief and finally Fire Chief on February 18, 2008.

Chief Summerville had responded to a reported triple shooting late in the afternoon on Tuesday, and didnt feel well afterward. On Wednesday afternoon, he was not feeling well and left early from a town-wide charity event. He was found at home in cardiac arrest.

Funreral service will be held at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, at First Christian Church at 1130 N. Main Street in Kernersville. The visitation will be held immediately after the service. Read Chief Summerville's obituary in the [Watagua Democrat](#). He is survived by a wife and two daughters. See also [this WXII story](#).



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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## Speaking of Ladder Pipes...

11/09/12 100 W, 2 I - + 6 - 7

And speaking of the old tiller, here are a couple historical photos of ladder pipe training in Raleigh, circa 1971 to 1974. These were scanned from 35mm negatives in a collection at Public Affairs. Here's a [ground-level picture](#) of the tiller, from a prior posting. Here's a [recent blog discussion](#) about ladder pipes. Believe that's either Henry Gosnell or Jerome Powell on the tip. That's an old-school ladder pipe, requiring mounting and a hose line before deploying. [See more old photos](#). (What was Raleigh's first aerial with a mounted pipe and water supply, anyway?) Click to enlarge:



The 1977 Aerialscope was the as the first aerial device with a "piped" waterway: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/appar...> The first aerial ladder that had a mounted pipe and pump was the 1990 LTI: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/appar..> The first one with aerial device, pump, and "booster" tank ("quint") was the 1999 ALF: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/appar..>

**A.C. Rich** - 11/10/12 - 10:32

Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, Nov. 10

11/09/12 80 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

The Raleigh Fire Museum is open this Saturday, November 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The museum is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free. The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month, and is Learn more about the museum, and the group that operates it, at [www.raleighfiremuseum.org](http://www.raleighfiremuseum.org).



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**



Chapel Hill Receives First Pierce

11/09/12 102 W, 2 I - + 5 - 5

The Chapel Hill Fire Department on Thursday took delivery of their first Pierce, a 2012 Pierce Arrow XT, 1500/500. ([Here's a nice presentation](#) of Chapel Hill's apparatus to date. American LaFrance, Ford/Howe, Mack, E-One, etc.) Lee Wilson was promptly on scene to photograph the future Engine 3. Lettering and graphics are pending. [See more photos](#). Crazy color for a fire truck, you say? 'Taint the first light blue truck seen in our state. Soul City FD has them, as have a couple others. Heck, we've probably blogged about the subject at some point.



Lee Wilson photos

Name: (real name preferred)

Remember personal info?  
Yes



Greenight 1:18 Scale 1974 Ford Grand Torino, Red/White

11/10/12 87 W, 2 I - + 11 - 6

As seen in the television series *Starsky & Hutch*. You know you want one. Google to find retailers. Recently released by Greenlight Collectibles. Television and movie vehicles in this scale are popular. There's an *A-Team* van that's been produced by Hot Wheels. They also recently released a *Ghostbusters* car. Not to mention any number of 1:18 scale Batman movie vehicles... Why grow up?



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Morning Mystery* « **Greenight 1:18 Scale ...** » **Another Morning Myste...** *Fire Photo*

### Morning Mystery Fire Photo

11/11/12 22 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

What's happening here!? Photo by Lee Wilson. Recount incident as desired. Click to enlarge:



*Lee Wilson photo*

---

Roofing material during construction at Triangle Town Mall

**Marcus** - 11/11/12 - 11:44

Too easy... now for another one. Which two "aerial" trucks are set up (there "then" titles)? ...and which Engine is depicted in the lower left of the frame? (another easy one probably!).

**A.C. Rich** - 11/11/12 - 12:29

AC the Trucks are 1988 Pierce Snorkel Truck 22, 1990 Spartan Monarch / Simon-LTI Truck 11 and the Engine is Engine 22 1985 Pirsch.

**stretch** - 11/11/12 - 13:11

Judging by the effect T-11 is having on the fire explains why someone needs to be on the tip.

**Rescue Ranger** - 11/11/12 - 20:02

Now boys...Man up.... due to water problems at this fire... What COUNTY tankers responded.....

**The Man** - 11/11/12 - 20:07

Ha!! ...I smell some CHEATERS!! I figured some would read Mike's historical incident data and apparatus bios as only a few would remember which trucks they are (were)! As for tankers... I will cheat too: Let's see... Cut-n-pasted: E15, E19, E22, T22, R19, C51, E11, E9, E21, T11, R7,

C53, C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C10, C71, SR5, T16, SR20, special call E18 relief, Six Forks 126, Wake Forest E63, Falls E211, Rolesville tanker 157, 158, New Hope E1, tanker 10, tanker 11, tanker 12, Hopkins tanker 227. ..or look at: <http://legeros.com/ralwake/raleigh/histo..> Also, RFD Car-72 was there too (me).

**A.C. Rich** - 11/11/12 - 21:50

AC "cheaters"? I knew the Snorkel had been at 1, 15 and 22. Truck 11 stood out like a sore thumb! The engine at the left was difficult but it wasn't a Pierce and it was a two door cab with jump seats. That narrowed it down to a Mack. Pemfab or the Peter Pirsch. It doesn't look like a Mack or a Pemfab so Pirsch was all that was left. The biggest question I had was Truck 15 or Truck 22! I did use Mike's Raleigh Apparatus guide for the exact names of trucks. But that was all! So I made the right guesses.

**Stretch** - 11/12/12 - 00:54

Ha, ha!... yeah... good game guys! (Butt pats all around!)

**A.C. Rich** - 11/12/12 - 09:10

If I'm not mistaken, this took place in 1998 because we were listening to it while I was in the Academy. So the trucks were Truck 1 and Truck 11. Truck 15 at the time was the Seagrave, and it had a gray ladder. As for the Rescue, I think it was Rescue 7, prior to their move to 21.

**Pearce** - 11/13/12 - 16:59

Cuz its always good to put water on smoke right RR?

**Smokey** - 11/13/12 - 22:50

I stand corrected. I see the white Expedition that Car 51 had and the Frieghtliner Rescues. So it was sometime after 2000?

**Pearce** - 11/14/12 - 07:54

@Smokey – It's called hydraulic ventilation!

**Rescue Ranger** - 11/14/12 - 10:07

I knew I was listening to it while I was at KTC. I was in First Class School at the time, not the Academy.

**Pearce** - 11/14/12 - 17:45

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

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Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Another Morning Mystery Fire Photo

11/11/12 26 W, 1 I - + 4 - 3

Okay smart guys, let's try a tougher one. When, where, what is this? Hint, it's a building. Click to enlarge:



Oh! It is a building, huh? lol My guess is North Carolina.

**stretch** - 11/11/12 - 14:15

Bloodworth & Edenton – August? '01

**Rescue Ranger** - 11/11/12 - 19:59

Hard to forget that one. It was 98 degrees at 2pm when this boarding house was set ablaze. I was backup on the first line in the door.

**RescueRanger** - 11/12/12 - 11:33

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Wake County « Another Morning Myste... » Raleigh Fire Departme... Fire Commission Meeting - Thursday, Nov. 15

### Wake County Fire Commission Meeting - Thursday, Nov. 15

11/11/12 255 W - + 7 - 5

The next meeting of the [Wake County Fire Commission](#) is Thursday, November 15, at 7:00 p.m. The location is the Wake County EMS Training Facility, in the lower level of the Wake County Commons Building, [4011 Cary Drive](#). See below agenda and [related documents](#).

#### Agenda

- Call meeting to order
  - Invocation
  - Roll of Members Present
  - Approval of Agenda
- Minutes
  - Adoption of Minutes for July 19th, 2012, Regular Meeting
- Regular Agenda
  - Bus on Shoulder System (BOSS) – Triangle area pilot project
  - Future of Fire Service in the Fire Tax District
  - Consider Approval of Calendar Year 2013 Meeting Dates
  - Consider Approval of Facilities Committee Recommendation
  - Consider Appointment of Facilities Committee Chair
  - Consider Appointment of Staffing Committee Chair
- Information Agenda
  - Funding Request - FEMA AFG Grant (5% share) for the Stony Hill Fire Department
  - Fire Training Center Pump Update
  - Apparatus Replacement Update
  - Wendell Fire Department Noncompliance Notice
  - Fire Tax Financial Report
  - FY 2014 Fire Tax Budget Kickoff
  - Chair Report
  - Fire and Emergency Management Director Report
- Other Business
- Public Comments
  - 30 minutes maximum time allotted, Maximum 3 minutes per person
- Adjournment – January 17, 2013

#### Documents

- Agenda
- Draft minutes - July 19, 2012
- Bus on Shoulder System (BOSS)
- Future of Fire Service in the Fire Tax District
- Consider Approval of Calendar Year 2013 Meeting Dates
- Consider Approval of Facilities Committee Recommendation
- Consider Approval of Facilities Committee Chair
- Consider Approval of Staffing Committee Chair
- Funding Request - FEMA AFG Grant (5% Share) for Stony Hill FD
- Fire Training Center Pump
- Apparatus Replacement Update
- Wendell Fire Department Noncompliance Notice
- Fire Tax Financial Report
- FY 2012 Fire Tax Budget Kickoff

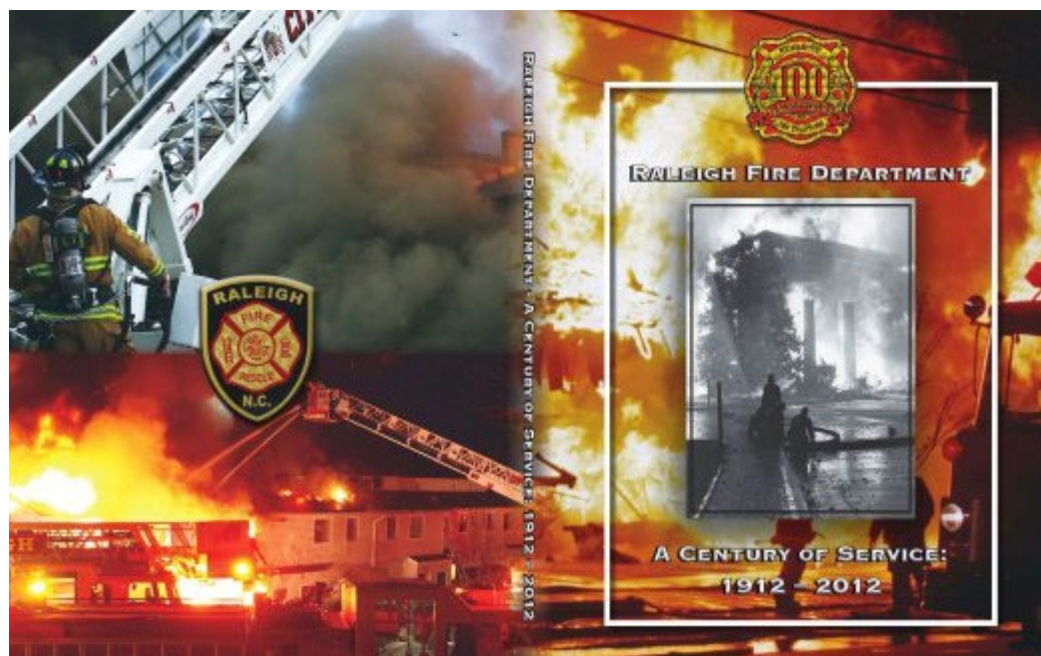


## Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book Nears Completion

11/11/12 568 W, 2 I - + 4 - 5

Production is nearly complete on a commemorative book chronicling the history of the Raleigh Fire Department. The project has been one of several this year celebrating the department's 100th anniversary as a career fire department.

A group of active, retired, and former firefighters has been working on the book since February. They've been soliciting pre-orders, collecting historical materials, and designing page content. Their deadline is mid-January, and publication is planned for March.



The book won't be available in stores, however. It's a limited-edition volume that's available exclusively for pre-ordering. The 260-page, full-color, hardcover book is priced at \$60.00 until December 1. The price rises to \$70.00 on December 2. The deadline for all orders is January 15, 2013. Ordering information is available at [www.rfd100.com](http://www.rfd100.com).

Among the book's special features are pictures of all active and retired personnel. "We're including portraits of every retiree since the start of the city retirement system in 1949," notes department historian Mike Legeros. "We've compiled over 350 portraits, and with many unearthed through detective work."



Other sections of the book include:

- Decade-by-decade historical photos.
- Written history of the fire department.
- Station histories, photos, and crews.
- Division histories and photos.
- Portraits of all personnel.
- Special disciplines (EMT, rescue, haz-mat, USAR, etc.)
- Special groups (Local 548, the Explorers, the Fireman's Club, etc.)
- Apparatus photos through the decades
- Candid photos from across the years.

Plus plenty of modern action shots. "The project team's reviewed hundreds of incident photos taken by the fire department photographers in recent years," notes Legeros. "We'll have a special section called Firefighters in Action, showcasing those shots."

Learn more about the book, and follow its progress, on the project's Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/rfd100book>.

For ordering information, visit [www.rfd100.com](http://www.rfd100.com).

### Questions and Answers

Q: Is this book a "history book" or a "yearbook" or both?

A: The Centennial History Book is also a yearbook of sorts. It presents a complete portrait of the Raleigh Fire Department during its 100th anniversary year. It will contain portraits of all members, pictures of all fire stations, pictures of all station crews, and photos of recent incidents. Plus one hundred years of historical content.

Q: How many books has the fire department produced to date? Are they still available?

A: The first commemorative book was published in 1984 by Taylor Publishing Company. Another was published by the same company in 2002. Both are out of print. The fire department's 95th anniversary was celebrated with a book in 2007. [It is still available](#) from M.T. Publishing.

Q: Who is writing the Centennial History Book?

A: The book is being produced by a committee of active, retired, and former firefighters. The text history is being written by Historian Mike Legeros, who will combine, update, and expand the texts from the 1984 and 2002 commemorative books. Those histories were written by Capt. B. T. Fowler and Capt. Peter Brock, respectively.

Q: Where will the book be sold? How can we purchase copies?

A: The Centennial History Book is available for advance order only. It will not be sold in stores, nor available after publication from the publisher. The price is \$60 until December 1, and \$70 starting December 2. The deadline for ordering is January 15, 2013. For ordering information, visit [www.rfd100.com](http://www.rfd100.com).

This news release is also available at <http://raleighfiremuseum.org/news/2012-11-12.html>.

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Moonshine is Poison

11/12/12 101 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

For your Monday morning amusement, came across these on eBay. Created as a public information channel by the state, it appears Internal Revenue Service. No idea what decade these are from. Nor any idea of how severe of a public health problem this was (or still is?). But it did inspire a heck of a popular auto racing sport! Cue banjo music... (And if memory serves, my archives have some stories about 'shine raids in Stony Hill in the 1920s or abouts. Maybe also involving fires or arson. Need to dig those out again.) Click to enlarge:



While attending Charles R Bugg Elem School in Raleigh a few weeks ago, one of my classmates had a bunch of 12" rulers that had the logo "MOONSHINE KILLS" that is on the fan on the left (the apparently deceased body).

DJ - 11/12/12 - 09:35

Forgot... late 60s when I was at Bugg.

DJ - 11/12/12 - 10:58

Pleading the 5th. ...and you saw nothing... you just need to look on up the road a ways. There is nothing here for you to see and nothing associated with my family or the area I reside (known as the Harricanes) – yes the spelling is correct. Keep on moving fella.

A.C. Rich - 11/12/12 - 18:09

I got one of these at the state fair in the early 70's. There was an exhibit in Dorton arena with a still on display. More than likely taken from the Rich farm!!

Troy G. - 11/13/12 - 07:24

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info?
E-mail: (optional)	
	Yes
	No



Night Riders in New Light, 1923

11/13/12 58 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

Second part of this week's exclusive Moonshine Series. Read [part one](#). From the *Raleigh Times*, March 12, 1921. Found while doing other research as memory serves. More later, as time permits some transcriptions of the stories. Just *try* to find such compelling and cutting-edge content other fire blogs...Click once or twice to enlarge:



...you found it. "Secret" heritage of Stony Hill.  
A.C. Rich - 11/15/12 - 00:27

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

Holly Springs Hot Shot

11/13/12 49 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

FireNews.net has [posted this hot shot](#) from Thomas Babb of Sunday night's structure fire in the 100 block of Bass Lake Road in Holly Springs. Mutual aid from Apex, Fairview, and Fuquay-Varina fire departments. Readers can post a run card and incident details as desired.



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HOT SHOT

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## Holly Springs Multiple Alarm

### Wake County

Send Hot Shots to  
[hotshot@firenews.net](mailto:hotshot@firenews.net)

Mon Nov 12 at 21:43 hours by NewsDesk

[Leave a Comment](#)



HOLLY SPRINGS – Multiple southern Wake County departments responded to a large frame building used for storage Sunday evening.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Comment:

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

/ [Textile](#)

<https://www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog/pivot/entry.php?id=5654>[10/15/2019 7:21:21 PM]



More Video: Car Fire on 40 + Ecstasy of Gold

11/13/12 65 W - + 6 - 2

Here's another find via Google. This time it's a car fire on Interstate 40 either somewhere in North Carolina, or perhaps closer to home. Are those Sutphens from Durham and Durham County? Black gear, which is... Bethesda? Music by Ennio Morricone, of all things. Footage is also slightly sped up. Traffic cam apparently. Uploaded last week.

I 40 and the RR bridge that crosses the highway just past Davis Dr. Bethesda first on a reserve Engine followed by a rig from Durham City.  
**Bethesda** - 11/13/12 - 19:30

Morrisville Ladder 2 I believe was blocking up the road a little bit.  
**Spanky** - 11/13/12 - 22:00

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Unusual Firehouses of the World

11/13/12 37 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

From a reader, here's a neat [compilation of photos of unusual firehouses](#), as posted to the Leesburg Volunteer Fire Company web site. Take a look...

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### Unusual Fire Houses of the World

**Web** ( page 2, added October, 2010 )

Ok, this is something I've wanted to do for quite a while. I love to travel, and when I do, my eyes are always open for anything fire service related. Throughout the world, there are thousands and thousands of fire stations. Once in a while, you find one that is just a bit unusual, not your typical municipal or community building, but one with a little character. These are the buildings I'm looking for! Send me pictures of the most unusual fire station you've ever seen. Include as much information about it as you can, and I'll post pictures of the best ones as I can. And don't forget to identify the photographer!!

To start this off, I'm posting the picture below. I took this while on vacation in my favorite state, Colorado. The Drake Fire Station is on Route 34 between Estes Park and Loveland. This road is a lot of fun to drive. It follows the Big Thompson River down from Estes Park, through a canyon with walls towering above you until it opens up onto the plateau at the eastern edge of the Rockies. Not sure what's inside the "station", but I'm guessing it's "home response" only!

Summer is almost over, so get the dust off the digital camera and start snapping pictures! Send them to me [here](#) .

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## New Look For Durham County EMS

11/13/12 37 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

Found on Facebook, here's a new look for Durham County EMS ambulances. It was unveiled last month. Quite striking! Thanks for the heads-up, Marshall.



Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify:      Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Fire Engine Called Out - Video From Japan

11/13/12 90 W - + 6 - 4

Been a while since we blogged photos or footage from Japan. It's always a treat to see how things are done on the opposite side of the world. This video is dated July 2009, and was featured in this [morning's update from Firegeezzer](#). Shamelessly stealing here, but with attribution! Dig the flagger that runs into the roadway, to stop traffic. Does your station have one? Or just some guy in a loud shirt who walks into the street with a camera?

---

At what point were they actually dispatched? They're rushing around in the beginning on the video like they're gearing up for a call, but it takes them 3 full minutes to get out of the station? One of our engines would be on scene before they ever left the station!

**rfburns** - 11/14/12 - 11:29

So much for response times! Here they would go around the flagger or run over him! Looks like a nice station tho..

**fire1983** - 11/14/12 - 14:33

It seems like they took forever to get out of the station. it seems that around here, from dispatch to enroute is about a minute or less.

**charlie** - 11/14/12 - 18:08

Gattis taught us to hustle on the fireground. Don't run, but don't walk. The same thing applies surely to getting to the engines. (Ran once in socks on a freshly waxed floor at Station 17. After the call, a sore bum reported a sore bum. And smarmy accident report included something about "treading more carefully when clad in socks.")

They seem to hustle, but in circles. Wonder how fast fires spread in Japan? How's the building codes, and do room and contents fires stay contained longer than here, or the opposite? (Ergo, is there any logic in their longer time getting out of the station? Can't imagine, though...)

Next question for consideration. Are they equally less... go-go-go when they arrive on the fireground? That's in turn translate to less aggressive suppression? Hmmmmmm.

**Legeros** - 11/14/12 - 18:32

Im glad we have the trucks we have here in America. I wouldnt be caught riding on one of those things for nothing. Where is their hose and

pumps and compartment space on them “things”. Goes to show how well we have it here.

**Red** - 11/16/12 - 22:38

@Red – re: compartment space. ....which brings up an interesting topic. How much space do we need? I would guesstimate over half of the junk carried on Raleigh’s engines could be removed. Take the hose clamp for example. Why do we need to carry one on the rig except for it to meet “criteria”. Blah.

**Rescue Ranger** - 11/16/12 - 22:44

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



Wake County Tanker Strike Teams

11/14/12 322 W - + 7 - 2

Get ready to roll some water. Four regional tanker strike teams have been established in Wake County. (Love me tender, if you prefer that NIMS nomenclature.) They can be requested by any fire department via the Raleigh and Wake County Emergency Communications Center. They have designations in the CAD system as FTANKN, FTANKS, FTANKE, and FTANKW.

The teams will likely be called to regions other than their own. For example, the incident commander at a north region structure fire, where Bay Leaf, Stony Hill, and Wake Forest are operating, would request, say, a West Region Strike Team. (Note that these are tanker strike teams, not [necessarily] tanker + staffing strike teams. Each [or some] will probably only have an operator.)

The teams can be used for more than just structure fires. Such as, say, tanker fires on the Beltline in Raleigh. That's the gist of the system. We'll let our readers in the know provide more details as desired. Below is the run card for the teams. Holly Springs is missing from the South Region Strike Team. Their previously designated unit was removed, and a replacement hasn't been designated yet.

Region	Department	CAD ID	Capacity
North	Bay Leaf	BLP366	1100 Gallons
North	Bay Leaf	BLP122	1000 Gallons
North	Durham Highway	DHP1	1250 Gallons
North	Stony Hill	SHTA268	1800 Gallons
North	Wake Forest	WFTA5	1000 Gallons
South	Garner	GFTA7	2000 Gallons
South	Fuquay	FVTA1	2000 Gallons
South	Fairview	FFTA6	2000 Gallons
East	Hopkins	HOTA227	2000 Gallons
East	Zebulon	ZFTA98	2000 Gallons
East	Rolesville	RVTA157	2000 Gallons
East	New Hope	NHTA12	1800 Gallons
East	Eastern Wake	EWTA3	1800 Gallons
East	Wendell	WETA117	1800 Gallons
West	Swift Creek	SCTA2	2000 Gallons
West	Apex	AFTA1	2000 Gallons
West	Western Wake	WWTA198	2000 Gallons
West	Morrisville	MFP3	1000 Gallons

Morrisville Pumper 3 is a first out truck so it has 4 personnel assigned to it with 3 as its minimum. NOT (I emphasize NOT) to start anything, but in all seriousness, I wonder if the county is going to require a strict en route time for these units?

**Spanky** - 11/14/12 - 22:06

Nope and that is understandable. The 17 different departments on that list all operate differently. We are not unified and until that happens there will always be different standards due to staffing among other things. Who is to say what a strict en route time is when one is responding from the house? Obviously not as fast as a staffed department. In my book thats ok because this is the nature of the beast with Volunteers making up 67% of the fire service.

**Johnny** - 11/14/12 - 23:37

The strike team was agreed upon by all chiefs and exists as a resource to assist other regions without drawing down a local area. The county really does not have any say in this process except for the approval to move forward to program into CAD by ECC. The minimum expectation is for one person to respond with water, however a department may send any amount of personnel they desire. Also, a timely response would be expected, but there are no performance standards associated with the response. I hope this info helps with any questions.

**A.C. Rich** - 11/15/12 - 00:21

Question, I am a FF in a county that runs with departments from the Southern areas of Wake County so i am looking for some info. Why is the North Region Task Force running trucks that dont carry alot of water. For the exception of the Stony Hill Tanker all the other trucks are running around 1000 gallons of water. Is that because the northern area has more hydrants so the need for large trucks is not there? Do those departments have large tankers and just dont staff them? I understand water is water but it looks like every other region runs large tankers.

**Jay** - 11/15/12 - 11:26

@Jay – I would assume large capacity tenders simply aren't needed in northern Wake because majority of the area has hydrants. Chief Rich, care to validate?

**Rescue Ranger** - 11/15/12 - 12:22

Those departments in the northern region, with the exception of Stony Hill, do not have large capacity tankers. They have Pumpers which are ~1000 gallons in capacity.

As for the why's of that, each department would have to explain their rationale for what kind of apparatus they are equipped with.

**Big Water** - 11/15/12 - 13:15

Most of Northern wake county is without hydrants. Stony Hill has none and I believe Bayleaf has 50%? A tanker shuttle was used on bayleafs last major fire.

**Johnny** - 11/15/12 - 23:44

Sorry for the delay guys... (I did not register to receive email on the posts). As for the tankers, many years ago (1980s) the belief was in the 1000gal pumper/tankers and placing multiple ones on the road for water shuttles. Looking back, it is silly. Higher capacity tankers were not as prevalent due to the weight/size of the trucks then and the power to move them (many were older converted military or farm units). Fortunately now the times are different and we are finally seeing the higher capacity tankers. Both Wake Forest FD and Bay Leaf FD will be receiving 2000 gallon tankers this year. I would estimate hydrants are only present in 15%-20% of the rural areas of Northern wake Co. (0% in Stony Hill), therefore tankers and auto-aid are a must!

**A.C. Rich** - 11/16/12 - 12:52

anyone know: The new 2,000 gallon tankers for Wake Forest and Bayleaf ....are they going to be built by Pierce? And is this going to be an existing county spec tankers or the beginning of a new contract for the county?

**Buckwheat** - 11/17/12 - 11:23

Maybe we'll see the return of tandam-axle tankers in Wake County...

**Legeros** - 11/17/12 - 13:12

The counties existing contract for tankers just ran out so it is up in the air now on who will build them. We are not entirely sure when the new bid process will happen so we are in a holding pattern right now.

Tandam-axel with some smoke stacks would be cool Mike...or maybe one of those huge tractor trailer ones for each region thereby needing only one person to go to each fire with it, and having a massive supply of water sitting right there to supplement the shuttle ;-)

Pierce Rescue Tiller (!)

11/16/12 127 W, 1 I - + 12 - 6

Here's one of the coolest concepts to come down the pike in some time, a tillered heavy rescue from Pierce for Portland, Oregon. That's a retractable crane behind the cab, a bit concealed in the photo. (Rescue rigs in European often have such cranes, at least in photos seen by me over the years.) Probably has a light tower or tower, maybe on the cab and on the body? Would love to see the specs on this baby. Probably thirty or fifty percent more storage space than even the biggest traditional rescue. [See more photos](#). We've seen at least one tillered rescue before, this Seagrave that serves Orange County, CA. Was this one the first one? Google for photos. Here's a [short video](#).



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## Yesterday's Confined Space Rescue in Fuquay

11/16/12 112 W, 8 I - + 5 - 7

WRAL had a splendid aerial view of yesterday morning's confined space rescue in southern Wake County. The location was a water treatment plant at 5812 Hilltop Road. Subject with leg trapped in machinery in a location fifteen feet underground. Fuquay-Varina Fire Department incident commander requested USAR resources from Raleigh. They responded with USAR 1, USAR 2, and other units. Perhaps readers can provide a run card. The accident occurred about 9:30 a.m., reports [this WRAL story](#). The subject was extricated and lifted to ground level about 10:45 a.m. Below are some screen captures from the live feed, with some more after the jump.







*WRAL photos*







WRAL photos

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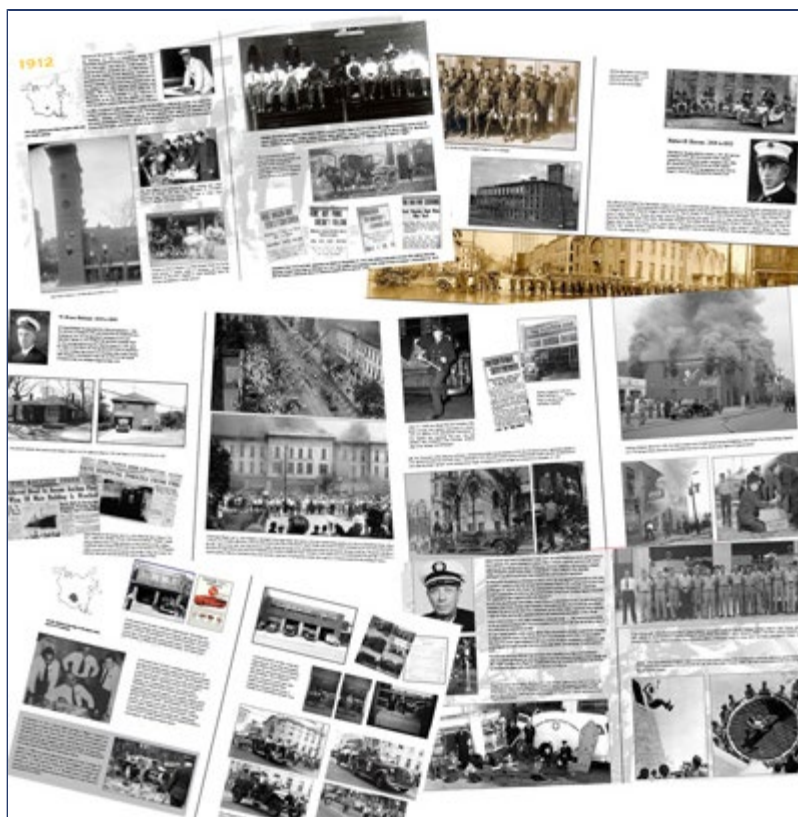


## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - History Book - « Yesterday's Confined ... » UPDATED: News & Obser... Page Previews, Early Decades

### History Book - Page Previews, Early Decades

11/17/12 64 W, 1 I - + 5 - 2

The [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#) will feature a section of historical photos, divided by decade. From the 1910s to the 2010s. Plus four pages of photos from the volunteer era. Here's a preview of what we're designing. Haven't [ordered yours](#) yet? Price goes up on December 2, and orders closed on January 15. Click to enlarge:



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The Lean

11/18/12 37 W, 1 I - + 4 - 5

And some times the gods of composition smile upon you. [See the entire series](#) from this afternoon's vehicle-versus-building on Lunceton Way off Grove Barton Road in west Raleigh.



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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

## Last Night's House Fire on Old Deer Trail

11/19/12 146 W, 4 I - + 9 - 3

[See these preliminary photos](#) by Mike Legeros of last night's house fire at 7908 Old Deer Trail. Engine 4 arrived at a two-story, wood-frame, single-family dwelling with 2,978 square-feet. Built 1989. Fire showing on the first floor and through the roof. Crews withdrawn from structure about twenty-five minutes into the incident. Defense operations started with Ladder 1 flowing, along with one (just one?) portable monitor previously deployed. Second hydrant caught by Engine 9, an additional company special called. Fire reported by neighbor. Dispatched 11:13 p.m. Controlled 11:59 p.m. Cause determined as accident. No injuries reported. Units on scene included: E4, E15, E18, E16, E9 (special called), L1, R1, B1, B4, A1, C10, C20, C2, ~~Safety 1~~ Car 14, EMS 3, EMS 15, D1.







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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

## New Duke Life Flight Helicopters

11/19/12 100 W, 1 I - + 14 - 4

Here's a [recent WRAL story](#) about Duke Life Flight's newest helicopters, notable for its larger cabin. They can load a full-sized stretcher, and nurses have full head-to-toe access from seated, belted positions. Google finds a bit more information, such as this posting (or posted press release) from [Alec Buck's EMS Helicopters](#) web site. The helicopters are operated (and also owned?) by Metro Aviation in Shreveport, Louisiana. There's an area we could learn about. Maybe one of our readers can give us a tour of the air ambulance business. Click to enlarge:



*WRAL photo*

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

Wake Forest Fire Station 4

11/20/12 234 W - + 7 - 4

[On the agenda](#) (PDF) for today's Raleigh City Council meeting is a request from the Wake Forest Fire Department, for extension of public utilities into the Falls Lake Watershed and for subsequent connections to their new fire station location at [1509 Jenkins Road](#). The department entered into a \$145,000 contract in June with a property owner for 2.05 acres on the site, reported [this Wake Forest Gazette story](#) in September. The station will have three bays and ten bedrooms, which will provide enough sleeping space for two companies, along with some room for volunteers. The story also has some information about the site's sewer connections, as well as an update on expansion of the fire department board that month.

The story also references the nice-looking and entirely informative [Wake Forest Fire Department Annual Report](#) (PDF), which was published on September 25. The twenty-five page document includes an organizational chart and organizational background, district, station, and apparatus information, milestones of the past year, future plans, and their budget. Among the contents: the department's ISO rating was updated this year, from Class 5 (municipal) and Class 6 (rural) to Class 4 (municipal) and Class 5/9 (rural). Engine 4 has been ordered, to replace a 1996 E-One. Rescue 3 will be placed next year with a service truck. They're also getting a new tanker soon, which was noted in the *Wake Forest Gazette* story.

What other departments around here have published annual reports recently?

Did the station get approved for water from the city of Raleigh?

**ncnjems** - 12/09/12 - 00:57

Would this new station take over some of Stony Hill's territory?

**RescueRanger** - 12/09/12 - 14:43

Yes. The response areas will be adjusted for closest station as with any other area of the county. ISO or NCCRS areas will be re-evaluated as needed to optimize the benefits. The area between SH and WF is large and densely populated, therefore the new station will be a welcome addition to the service delivery!

**A.C. Rich** - 12/09/12 - 14:56

Will the design of the new firehouse fit in with the neighborhood surrounding and natural environment that surrounds this property? Has consideration been made for the safety of the families living in single family housing surrounding the firehouse? What will be done to ensure safety on Jenkins road as it is very narrow and getting fire trucks in and off this road will pose a hazard to other vehicles given the topography?

**Shannon** - 01/15/13 - 20:29

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *UPDATED: Raleigh* « Wake Forest Fire Stat... » A Brief History of Ar... *Fire Museum Debuts Restored Hand Hose Reel*

### UPDATED: Raleigh Fire Museum Debuts Restored Hand Hose Reel

11/20/12 576 W, 5 I - + 12 - 18

November 21

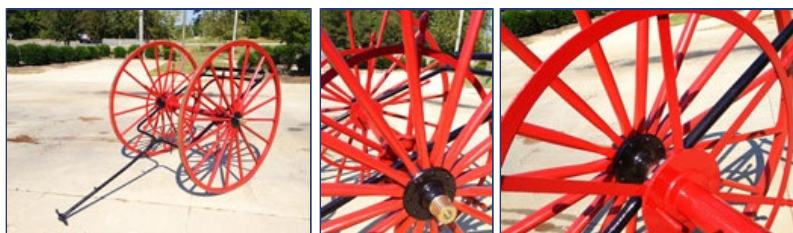
Added three photos of the antique while stored at Station 26, and awaiting equipment and later transport to the ball.

November 20

A newly restored piece of antique fire apparatus was presented this weekend by the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#). On Saturday evening, a nineteenth century hand hose reel made its debut appearance at the Raleigh Fireman's Ball at the Raleigh Convention Center. The private event capped a year of celebrations for the Raleigh Fire Department, which celebrated its 100th anniversary as a career fire department this year. Some 580 people attended the ball, including active personnel, retired members, city officials, special guests, and friends and family of the fire department. Click to enlarge:



The hose reel was stored in the basement of Station 8 on Western Boulevard for a number of decades. It was disassembled during storage, and the frame and wheels were suspended from the ceiling. They were later moved to a storage building behind the station. Early this year, the Raleigh Fire Museum sent the wheels to Lancaster County, PA, to be rebuilt by Amish craftsmen. The museum paid for the repairs. Upon its return, the hose reel was restored by Captain T. N. Duke, Captain N. L. Murray, Senior Firefighter P. M. Rogers, First Class Firefighter C. W. Langston, and Junior Allen. They donated their time and materials. Click to enlarge:



The hose reel is presently displayed inside the Raleigh Fire Museum, which is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Center Drive. The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. [Learn more about the museum](#). Click to enlarge, and read more history of the reel below:





### **Nineteenth Century Hose Reel**

This hand-pulled hose reel dates to the nineteenth century, when the Raleigh Fire Department was comprised of volunteer fire companies. Hose for both hand lines and supply lines was carried to fires using two-wheeled, hand-drawn "reels." The Rescue Company Steam Fire Engine company, for example, had a hand reel along with its 1870 Gould steamer. The steamer carried its own suction hose. The reel was pulled behind the horse-drawn apparatus, either by hand or towed by the engine.

In 1887, the first fire hydrants were installed in Raleigh. The volunteer firemen could connect their hose lines directly to the hydrants. No pumping engines were required. New fire companies formed, with apparatus consisting solely of a hand-drawn hose reel. These companies included the Capital Hose Company and the Independent Hose Company.

Hose reels were developed for metal-riveted leather hose, which was difficult to roll or fold. It required a lot of maintenance, including the application of oils. Cotton-jacketed rubber hose, developed in the late eighties, was more flexible and could be packed on a flat plane. It would develop mildew and rot when wound on traditional hose reels.

In the 1890s, hose wagons began replacing hose reels in the Raleigh Fire Department. The bed was ventilated, with wooden slats on the bottom and sides. Water could easily drain, and air could easily enter. The hose wagons were horse-drawn, and used until replaced by motor apparatus after the organization of the career fire department in 1912.

Hand hose reels were also used in the nineteenth century in Raleigh by institutions and private fire departments, including at Dorothea Dix Hospital, North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, and Saint Augustine's College.

---

We have two Wilcox hose reels in my firehouse, we are looking to make 1 good hose carts. Does anyone know a name of someone who would restore these.

**John** - 09/26/13 - 14:32

About 40 years ago I bought a pair of wheels that they said were off a antique fire apperatus. Most of the spokes are gone, but there is enough left for a pattern. The wheels are about 5' in diameter and have brass hubs. I just dug them out of storage. If you know of anyone that is restoring an apparatus, please let them know that they are available

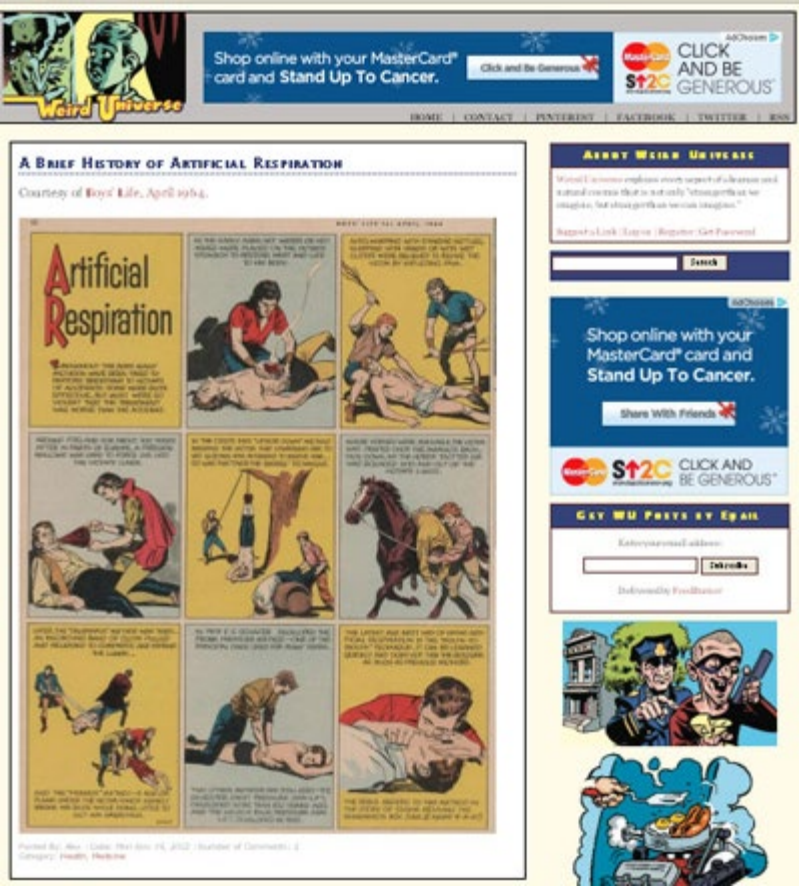
**John McDonald** ([Email](#)) - 06/19/17 - 22:33



A Brief History of Artificial Respiration

11/21/12 32 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

As found at and [linked to Weird Universe](#), which they found in Boys' Life magazine, April 1964. Click to access:



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Yesterday's Trench Collapse in Raleigh

11/21/12 207 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

This is a mobile phone panoramic photo of yesterday's trench collapse on Main Campus Drive, as shot from the media viewing area. News cameras was staged at the opposite end of an athletic field. The incident was also bordered by Main Campus Drive, above an embankment. [See closer photos](#) from Mike Legeros. (Closer, conventional photos. Need to take more of those panoramic ones.) See aerial photos in these [WRAL](#) and [WTVD](#) stories. Click once or twice to enlarge:



Here's my incident description: Trench collapse at construction site on Main Campus Drive near Achievement Drive. One fatality, male subject in a four-foot trench who was covered by about three feet of dirt. Dispatched about 12:30 p.m. Worker reported trapped under dirt. Additional companies and special equipment soon responded. Cary Fire Department trench rescue truck requested as mutual aid. Public Works compressor truck and two vacuum trucks special called. Crews used a backhoe and then suction equipment to move soil away from the trench. Body was recovered about 2:18 p.m. Units on scene included E20, E14, L7, L4, R3, B2, B3, HM1, SR2, C10, C71, C72, C2, USAR 7; Cary R4, B1, USAR 803, TRS1; EMS 2, M95, M93, D1, D9, T1, Chief 200, WC1.

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What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

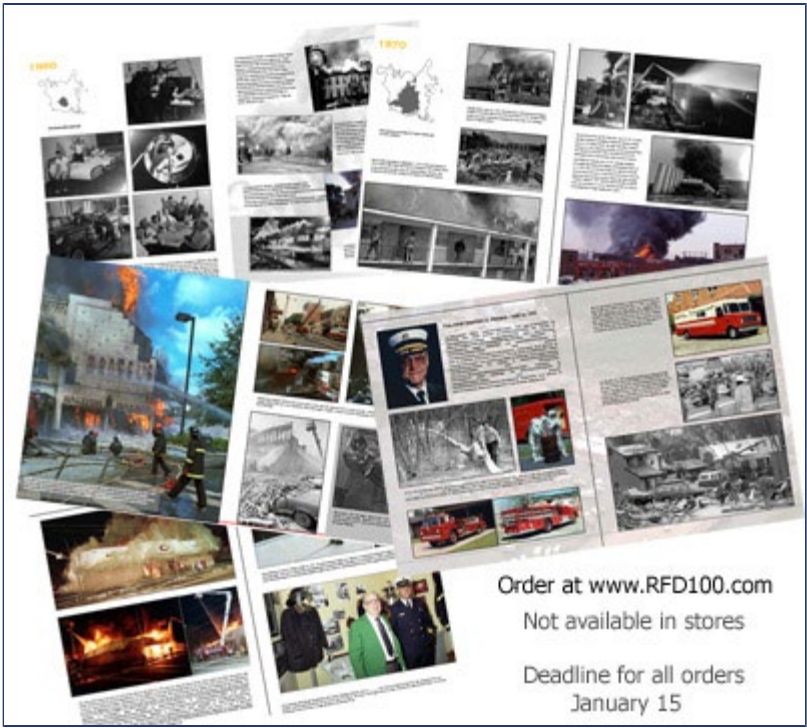
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History Book - Page Previews, Part 2

11/21/12 77 W, 1 I - + 7 - 8

On vacation this morning, working on the [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#). As noted in [this prior posting](#), it will feature a section of historical photos, divided by decade. From the 1910s to the 2010s. Plus four pages of photos from the volunteer era. Here's a second preview of what we're designing. Haven't [ordered yours](#) yet? Price goes up on December 2, and orders closed on January 15. Click to enlarge:



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Raleigh's Old Aerialscope in Action

11/22/12 60 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

Our friends in Barnwell, South Carolina, have passed along this picture of Raleigh's old Aerialscope in action at a house fire on Monday. [Here's a news story](#) with an early arrival photo. The town purchased the 1977 Mack/Baker aerial platform in 2007. [See this prior posting](#) and [this prior posting](#). Thanks Tony! Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Comment:

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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## Raleigh Mack to Fairdale Fire Department in Kentucky?

11/22/12 190 W, 3 I - + 5 - 6

Here's an interesting story as posted to the timeline of the [Raleigh Fire Museum's Facebook page](#), from Donald Bailey. This Mack CF pumper was ordered by Raleigh in 1978 or 1979. The city didn't take delivery of same, and it was sold to Fairdale Fire Department in Louisville, Kentucky.

It served as a first-due apparatus, and then as a reserve truck. It was refurbished in 1992, and sold in 2003 to the Breeding Fire Department in Adair County, KY. See the [Facebook page](#) for more details and more photos.



Gregory Stapleton Photo  
KentuckyFireTrucks.com

Next question, does here know this story? And reasons why Raleigh didn't accept the truck? Bailey says he contacted the Mack Museum, which confirmed that the truck was ordered by Raleigh. Recall also that a similar story has been told about a Burlington Mack, which we recounted in [this posting in 2011](#).

What other rigs were once bound for Raleigh in prior decades, but didn't get here? For example, Chicago has or had a Pirsch ladder that was intended to compliment the 1986 Pirsch pumper that the city purchased. Here's a [posting from 2006](#) about that story.





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## Last Night's Major House Fire in North Raleigh

11/22/12 225 W, 2 I - + 10 - 5

Bay Leaf, Raleigh, Wake Forest, Durham Highway, Stony Hill, and Western Wake fire departments worked a major house fire last night at a very large house at 1000 Swithland Court. The two-story, wood-frame, single-family dwelling measured 9,995 square-feet. Had a full basement. Built 2010. (Valued at \$1.2 million, the headlines are quick to note.)

The fire was reported about 10:00 p.m., after reportedly starting on the patio, after a group of families was preparing to roast marshmallows using the patio fireplace. Crews entered the structure and went to the second floor, where they encountered heavy fire in the attic. They were soon withdrawn as sections of the building began to collapse. Aerial operations were utilized Bay Leaf Ladder 25. (Narrative based on news reports. Yours Truly didn't go the scene, nor listen to the incident.)

Read stories and see photos and footage from [WRAL](#), [WTVD](#), and [NBC17](#). From radio traffic, it sounds like crews are still on the scene this morning. They'll probably or certainly be doing overhaul and investigation through the morning (or later). Readers can add details, and help complete this partial run card: Bay Leaf P258, P122, P366, L25, A12, C1, C2, C3, C120; Raleigh E22; Wake Forest E5; Durham Highway P4; Stony Hill P261; Western Wake E191; EMS 15, EMS 22, D3, T1; WC1.





*Adam Owens/WRAL photos*

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So why was Western Wake called and not New Hope? Its nearly 4 miles less from New Hope

**206** - 11/22/12 - 13:02

Minor correction on Bay Leaf nuts on scene BLP258,BLL-25,BLP-122,BLP-366,BL-A12,C-1,C-2,C-3 & C120 Thanks too all our mutual-aid brothers and sisters who turned-out last night to help with the big fire . Happy Thanksgiving everyone Stay safe ! BL-103

**BL103** ([Email](#)) - 11/22/12 - 13:21

Bay leaf command requested additional trucks for manpower. Central proceeded to dispatch 2 unstaffed bay leaf trucks that were not going to respond since all hands were on scene already. When command was made aware of this he specifically requested an engine from stony hill and western wake. Also it isn't always about mileage, despite being 3 miles further than stony hill, western wake was on scene 3 minutes earlier. Either way its about helping a neighboring department when in need and all 6 departments on scene did a great job together! Go team

**First hand** - 11/22/12 - 23:22

Why focus on WW vs NH. How about why wasn't Raleigh engine 25,18,4,16,19 or ladder 5,1 called for manpower? why skip them all for WW or NH? Both would have to drive past a lot of Raleigh stations. I believe command said I dont care where you get them from but I need manpower. Just saying, when in a need for help, county vs city doesnt matter!

**manpower is manpower** - 11/23/12 - 09:00

You are correct the horse is dead. Was merely trying to expand the range of questioning for NH 206. In the county 2nd alarms dont really exist, so usually you have to directly and specifically call your additional units. So knowing who is closest to YOUR district and who to call when needed is important. I guess thats what we can learn today about dispatching. hope this helped a little. enjoy your weekend!

**manpower** - 11/23/12 - 17:47

as illustrated above the biggest problem is that there when units were requested the first thing that happened is unstaffed, thus out of service, units were sent. Thus requiring additional to be requested by name.

but alas that's another horse that's been beaten way past it's funeral.

**shevais** - 11/24/12 - 09:11

Some uniformity of fire-ground operations would be a step in the right direction. The tanker strike teams were a step in the right direction; dispatching only staffed units, uniform training guidelines and fire ground operations would be great to see.

**Silver** - 11/24/12 - 12:08

I agree Jeff, to a point. As long as there is a command presence at the scene it doesn't matter about uniformity of fireground operations. You are given an assignment and you carry it out. It's worked in this county for years very effectively. Heck cities and county run together all over the county on all types of calls and do so pretty well.

I completely agree with the dispatching of only staffed units, but like I said, that's a dead horse which isn't any closer to being fixed. To me it's still about the sandbox, a mentality, that people have. It has gone away to an extend in the county, although it does still exist some places, but it has come a good ways from what it used to be. I think the more that departments run together the more the sandbox mentality goes away, which just takes time.

Talking about the county second alarms, there is not even a consistent first alarm assignment in the county, each department dictates what it wants on calls of all natures, so it would be hard to sit and determine what a second alarm would entail. And even then you may deal with a hydranted vs. non-hydranted area, commercial vs. residential, etc.

I have personally seen the fire service come a long way in this county, and think we can still do more. I look forward to seeing what is to come!

shevais - 11/25/12 - 10:14

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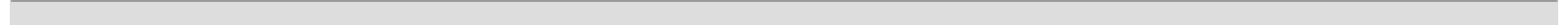
What are the **FIRST TWO LETTERS** of the word 'fire'?

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *What Do You See* « Last Night's Major Ho... » Calling KICs and KSOs... *in This Old Photo of Station 6?*

### What Do You See in This Old Photo of Station 6?

11/22/12 49 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

There are some interesting things in this photo of Station 6 in July 1961. There is one particularly interesting thing and is a bit concealed. What is it, and why is it interesting? Click to enlarge:



*News & Observer photo*

Left top window has a large fan. Gas pump outside

**Rob Mitchell** - 11/22/12 - 11:13

The truck behind the left truck? The antenna going up from the door on right? The weird angle of the shadows from the trucks not looking the same?

**2redline** - 11/22/12 - 14:13

Interesting because E4 was assigned both of the FWD trucks purchased by Raleigh? Interesting because old E4 as a reserve is sitting directly behind new E4? Or maybe because the trucks are in consecutive order? E4, E5, E6?

**Rescue Ranger** - 11/22/12 - 20:18

Look closer at what's parked behind Engine 4...

**Legeros** - 11/22/12 - 20:55

1939 American LaFrance 500 Series / 1919 American LaFrance Type 17 Aerial Ladder

T 1

**Jason Lane** - 11/23/12 - 00:44

hard sleeves on passenger side and it looks like pump panel controls on the passenger side on engine 5

**bradley** - 11/23/12 - 02:29

Stations 1,2,6,16 and of course Warrens @ Station 12 lol

**Rob Mitchell** - 11/23/12 - 13:13

Are the bays long enough to accommodate the '39 ALF tiller? Or does the tip of the aerial extend out the rear window?

**stretch** - 11/24/12 - 02:30



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Calling KICs and*« What Do You See in Th... » Another New Raleigh P... *KSOs - North Valley Apartments, 1970*

### Calling KICs and KSOs - North Valley Apartments, 1970

11/23/12 132 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

This is my favorite picture on display at the [Raleigh Fire Museum](#), a vintage *News & Observer* image, depicting a fire at the North Valley Apartments at 4343 Lassiter Mill Road on September 6, 1970. Superb image by Frank Urban, absolutely superb. Even the narrative is great. Woman was taking shower, looked up, and saw her ceiling on fire. Happened around noon. Engine 9 was first due, back when it was riding an open-cab 1950s American LaFrance. Three units were extensively damaged. For your Black Friday discussion, how many things do you see done different then than now? Go nuts and play KIC (Keyboard Incident Commander, coined by Dave Statter) or KSO (Keyboard Safety Officer, coined by me). Click to enlarge:



*Frank Urban/News & Observer image*

What do these people expect to accomplish? 1) There can't be an Incident Command system in place 2) Looks like two booster lines are laid in, hardly an effective fire flow for this volume of fire 3) Turnout gear must be optional, but it looks like at least one has a helmet on his head and a coat on his back. The cop's participation in this photo has not changed and may be found at fires today.

**Jim Guy** ([Email](#)) - 11/23/12 - 11:13

At least some salvage is going on but I do not know if that should be the priority effort with the staffing on scene at the moment.

**Charles Chapman** - 11/23/12 - 13:05

One thing about these guys is a person can learn a lot from them that no book could ever teach you.

**Rescue Ranger** - 11/23/12 - 21:52

That said, Double R, how different is today's firefighting, based on the building materials and burning materials that are encountered? Is it still wet stuff on red stuff, 40 years later? That's simple, that straightforward?

**Legeros** - 11/23/12 - 22:09

Yikes!

**Silver** - 11/23/12 - 23:18

Clueless is the first word that comes to mind. That feeling of "impending doom" should not be reserved just for heart attack victims as these folks should be experiencing that sensation full throttle about now.

Immediate concerns should include evacuation, accountability, roof construction, cutting the fire off at the exposure and throwing ladders for

emergency egress once that overhang starts to drop.

**Tiger Schmittendorf** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 11/24/12 - 00:23

Let's see. 1970. Staffing was alot worse then today. Most fire fighters lived close to the city back then and probably came to do anything to help. Different mentality than today, most were veterans and had a stonger "sacrifice mentality" than people do today. Didn't have to worry about cutting a hole in the roof, looks like it vented very well. No smoke coming from the apartments. Non truss roof construction, and i would venture to say that the ashalt shingles and thick plywood (solid boards, not OSB) under them is providing most of the fuel load. Different era, if you ever saw the turnout gear and plastic helmets from that day you would realize it wasn't much better than the clothes they have on now. Probably only had 1 SCBA on the rig. They evidently went as far and did as much as they were comfortable with at the time, put wet stuff on the red stuff and the fire went out and the building did not burn down. Point is this; you cannot compare strategies and tactics of that time with today. Advancements in firefighting equipment with the addition of crappy roof construction, hydrocarbon based furniture has drastically changed fuel loads and amount of time you have to get the fire under control. I'm not going to question their decisions from that time period, but I would not expect to see that done today.

**gen3fire** - 11/24/12 - 10:42

The interesting thing about historical staffing comparisons, are the five and six person companies that Raleigh ran back in the day. I am thinking 1950s, for that. With smaller companies in the "suburbs. "

In 1970, there wasn't even a third shift yet! Er, platoon.

**Legeros** - 11/24/12 - 11:23

2 Engines, 2 Truck companies and 1 rescue fought the fire. Then 1 relief Engine later on. Think about what kind of response would happen for the same building today.

**gen3fire** - 11/24/12 - 14:14

Found the logs for the engines. E9 had four: Carter, Stell, Peacock, Warren. E4 had five: Mabrey, Burchette, Hicks, Hunnicutt, Maidon.

**Legeros** - 11/30/12 - 22:30

Love seeing my photo from way back then; appreciate the compliment.

I'm sorry to inform you that it is a copyrighted photo.

In order to avoid litigation, you'll need to invite me to a firehouse meal, AND let me ride along on a respond-to-fire (or at least a routine inspection of fire hydrants)!

**Frank Urban** ([Email](#)) - 01/11/18 - 13:39

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preferred)  
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Yes  
No

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## Another New Raleigh Police Cruiser

11/23/12 21 W, 1 I - + 8 - 6

Seen on Millbrook Road this afternoon. [See previous discussion](#) on this topic. Click to enlarge:



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The new Ford Interceptor, based on the Taurus body. The biggest complaint I've heard of both cars (Ford and Chevy) is that the rear window is so high that it's very difficult to back up. You can't tell how close you are to an object behind you.

**rfburns** - 11/23/12 - 20:58

I know that Fuquay-Varina PD has gone to this as primary. I have also seen a Holly Springs PD Ford Interceptor on the roads

**shevais** - 11/24/12 - 09:08

Concord PD has over 30 of the Ford Interceptors and haven't heard any complaints about them. The one I drove handled very well. I think it also was equipped with a rear camera.

**Curtis Teague** ([Email](#)) - 11/24/12 - 11:02

It is a better looking car than the Caprice! The twin-turbo feature is awesome!

**A.C. Rich** - 11/24/12 - 12:34

Praying for the RPD officer injured in the line of duty yesterday!

**njncems** ([Email](#)) - 11/24/12 - 12:52

Amen!

**A.C. Rich** - 11/24/12 - 14:04

Charlotte Fire Department Showcases 125 Years of History

11/23/12 65 W, 1 I - + 4 - 6

[Here's a short WSCO-TV story](#) about the Charlotte Fire Department's participation in the annual Thanksgiving parade. They celebrated 125 years of service with antiques dating from 1866 (Jeffers hand engine) to 1971 (Seagrave pumper). [Here's another WSCO-TV story](#) about the parade, that includes a shot of a 1920s service truck that appears privately owned. What's the story on that one!?!



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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Another Fuel Pump*« Charlotte Fire Depart... » Major Fires at Montec... at a Old Station

### Another Fuel Pump at a Old Station

11/25/12 191 W, 2 I - + 5 - 8

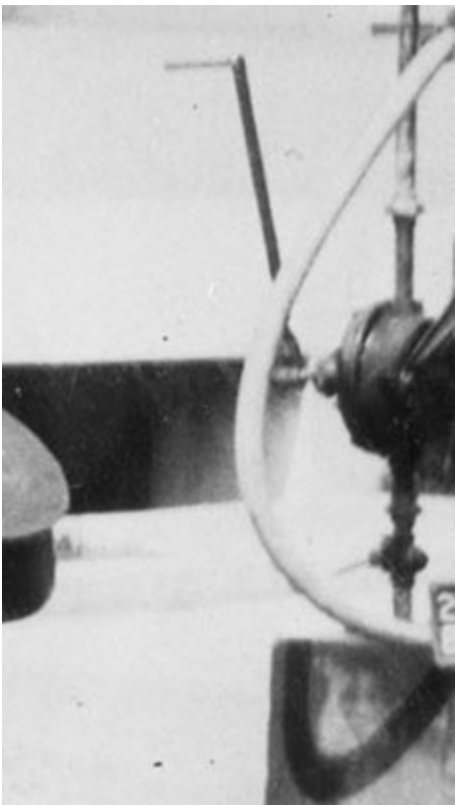
Noticed this this morning, a hand-cranked fuel pump at old Station 1 on West Morgan Street. Add that to the list of Raleigh fire stations that had fuel pumps. When was the photo taken? That's a good question. The North Carolina State Archives records the date as July 1928, and the source as Bill Uzzle. Description recorded as fire engine in front of fire station. Call number N.97.9.129.

But notice the white building to the right. That's the Revenue Building, which was expanded beginning in 1938. The fire station's tower was demolished in March 1938, and an extension of the Revenue Building occupied the space left by the tower *and* an alley that existed between the two. [See this posting](#) with a photo showing the tower and the alley. No alley is visible in the photo, which suggests this picture was made in 1938 or later.

Maybe the date citation was incorrectly recorded, and meant July 1938. (Would that section of the Revenue Building have been built from scratch in just four months?)







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Verifying the major fires at Montecito and Montecito West apartments over the years. This look right to you?

- July 7, 1991 (three alarms)
- August 27, 1991 (three alarms)
- April 30, 1994 (two alarms)
- November 22, 2004 (two alarms).

Was there a two-alarmer in recent years?

having both lived there for a time and working close enough where I can see the complex I knew there was another fire during working hours that brought a pretty good response.

WRAL says that fire was about 3/18/2010.

you have another in the archives 1/5/12 of this year

not sure if either of those meets the criteria you are looking for.

(there was also another business day fire in that general area but I cant find if it was Montecito west or behind it)

**RaleighRes** - 11/25/12 - 19:53

The one 03/18/2010 was only single response because the first in engine did a killer job knocking it down! ;)

**hey mike** - 11/30/12 - 22:12

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
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**Just in Time for Thanksgiving...**

11/25/12 63 W, 1 I - + 7 - 4

That is, post-Thanksgiving. Found for sale on eBay, what looks like a vintage license plate from the Turkey Fire Department in ~~Onslow~~ Sampson County. There's something wonderful about a small sign that reads "turkey," at least for those of us who might resemble that remark. You can call me that. It won't make me fowl.



Name: (real name preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

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## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Old Holly Springs* « Just in Time for Than... » Would You Believe a B... Apparatus Serving in Kentucky

### Old Holly Springs Apparatus Serving in Kentucky

11/26/12 111 W, 2 I - + 8 - 5

Reader Benjy Grice has found a pair of ex-Holly Springs apparatus now serving in Kentucky, and photos therein posted on the 'net. The town's old 1985 Kenworth/FMC engine and 1986 Pemfab/Broadworth telesquirt are serving the Stanton Fire Department, which is the county seat of Powell County. They've been ably photographed and posted on the excellent [kentuckyfiretrucks.com](http://kentuckyfiretrucks.com). Man oh man, somebody get a North Carolina Fire Trucks site started! (Or maybe [Mr. Grice's Picasa site](#) qualifies as same?) Click to visit the site and see larger versions of the photos:



Would You Believe a Bucket Truck?

11/26/12 106 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Speaking of old Holly Springs apparatus, one of the more interesting rigs to serve in our county was this 1986 GMC utility truck that Carolina Power & Light donated to the Holly Springs Department of Public Safety in 1996. Firefighters added a piped waterway and converted the hydraulic auger assembly into a remote-operated master stream. They also added generators and floodlights and modified the air compressor to work with rescue tools. The apparatus was sold two years later to Swepsonville. Can't find my larger version of this picture, alas. No click to enlarge. [See other photos](#) of former Holly Springs rigs.



Name: (real name preferred)  
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## Ladder 2 in Action

11/26/12 31 W, 1 I - + 10 - 7

Mobile phone photo with Photoshop Elements "smart fix." Ladder 2 operating at an apartment fire on Brockton Drive just a bit ago. Click to enlarge:"



When did Raleigh switch out E15's 2006 Pierce Enforcer with one of the 2004 American La France engines. (noticed this in one of the photos.) and Why?

**charlie** - 11/27/12 - 05:03

sounds like the coming changes will help the fire department better serve the citizens of Raleigh.

**charlie** - 11/27/12 - 20:05

With the new rescue engine specs i wonder if Raleigh will get away from Pierce and switch over to a new manufacture I can see Salisbury being a player.

**Buckwheat** - 11/29/12 - 00:49

@Buckwheat I wouldn't bet on that one...

**Silver** - 11/29/12 - 14:50

Silver...yeah you probably right. Be interesting to see what the spec for these rescues. Not that there's anything wrong with Pirece.

**Buckwheat** - 11/29/12 - 15:15

Saulsbury was purchased by Federal Signal in 2000 or 2001, they also own E-One. In 2004 the Tully NY based Saulsbury Fire Apparatus was closed by Federal Signal. The Saulsbury family now makes fiberglass bodies for fire trucks through Plastisol Composites North America.

**stretch** - 11/29/12 - 17:37

Saw the specs for the new Squad pumpers and they're beautiful....Services did a great job.

**Silver** - 11/29/12 - 18:23

## Shadows and Light

11/27/12 73 W, 2 I - + 11 - 9

That's Engine 11 and Ladder 2 at an outside fire on Stony Brook Road on Friday. The sunlight combines with the trees and the burned areas to produce some interesting lighting and contrast. (That's about 9:30 a.m., the sun lower in the sky.) Can't decide if the shot works better slightly tilted or not. Which one do you like?





I prefer the straight version. Rarely do I accept tilt as a good thing in a photo composition. I think it's from my photojournalism background.  
**John Collins** - 11/29/12 - 23:25

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## Something Old, Something New

11/29/12 91 W, 3 I - + 7 - 5

As photographed by Lee Wilson this week, this 1989 Pierce Lance was delivered to Lillington Fire Department in Harnett County on Tuesday. It served Midway Fire Department in Frederick County, MD. Former Engine 91. It will be placed in service as Engine 721. And here's Vance County Fire Department Station 7 on Satterwhite Point Road. Formerly the Kerr Lake Fire Department, which formed in 2007 and merged with VCFD in 2010. They operate this 1987 Pierce Arrow telesquirt, formerly Squad 5 at Camp Lejeune Fire Department. [See more photos by Lee.](#)







Lee Wilson photos

Another MD rig headed your way:

<http://www.ucvfd.org/news/fullstory/news..->

**George Crosby** - 11/29/12 - 13:15

Previous link was incorrect:

<http://www.ucvfd.org/news/fullstory/news..->

**George Crosby** - 11/29/12 - 15:15

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**Car Versus Condo on Wednesday**

11/29/12 35 W, 1 I - + 5 - 7

[WRAL posted this photo](#) of a car versus condominium on West Millbrook Road on Wednesday. No injuries. Minor damage. Don't know if they blew the horn first.



*WRAL photo*

Name: (real name preferred)  
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## Conway Fire Wagon

11/30/12 408 W, 4 I - + 9 - 9

Here's something for (or from) the history books, as found by exploring photographer [Lee Wilson](#) this week in the small town of Conway, NC. That's in Northampton County. Population under a thousand. Parked (or displayed) behind the fire station at 113 White Street is what looks like a hand-built wooden fire wagon. Could be circa 1951, based on the formation date of the fire department, from their [Facebook page](#). Could be earlier. Here's my guess on the thing's history...



*Lee Wilson photo*

Many decades ago, the town installed fire hydrants. This allowed the connection of hoses with nozzles and thus fire suppression at any location within the town limits or the water system service area. This also necessitated the transport of hose et al to the scene of such fires. In days of old, when jakes were bold, such hose was hand-pulled on reels. Or wagons, depending upon the time frame. In more modern times, a town with a new hydrant system might employ pick-me-up trucks as hose wagons. Like this first fire truck for Rural Hall, NC. See [prior posting](#):



*Rural Hall Fire Department photo*

Heck, the same thing was done here in Wake County. The first fire engine in Knightdale was a 1 1/2-ton truck that firemen equipped with hose, ladders, and equipment at a cost of about \$1,500. [Read that history](#). Other Wake County used hose reels both hand- and vehicle-pulled. If memory serves, Wendell firefighters at one time towed the hose reels behind private vehicles. [Here's a picture](#) from 1952 of the Wendell gang, with one of the old (or maybe still in service at the time) reels:



Back to Conway, looking closely at their wagon, it seems entirely functional for what was needed to provide basic (or primitive) structural fire protection. Long bed for storing hose. Box for nozzles and spanners and what have you. Axe mounted on the side. Roof ladder hanging on the side. Pike pole laid across the top. The bare necessities, but enough for basic fire combat.

How long was the thing used? No idea. Long enough, probably, to work and get people interesting in approving or raising money for a vehicle, and/or pumping engine. Maybe one of their readers will come across this post, and share some stories they've heard from the thing's history. See larger versions of Lee's photos: [View #1](#), [View #2](#), [View #3](#).



*Lee Wilson photo*

First Responders Talent Show - Sunday, Feb. 10

12/01/12 60 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Here's something fun that's coming, as sponsored by the [Raleigh Police Memorial Foundation](#). Auditions on Sunday, January 27, at 4:00 p.m. Location: Ravenscroft, 7409 Falls of Neuse Road, Raleigh. Competition on Sunday, February 10, at 6:00 p.m. Location: Tir Na Nog, 218 S. Blount Street, Raleigh. Participation limited to Wake County first responders. Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)



## **Fire Chief John McGrath and Raleigh Fire Department Honored By NFFF**

12/01/12 328 W, 2 I - + 6 - 7

Press release. In recognition of exemplary commitment to the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) presented the Seal of Excellence to the Raleigh Fire Department in North Carolina.

The NFFF's Seal of Excellence Award is presented annually to an individual, group, or entire fire/rescue/EMS department demonstrating commitment to the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives, commitment to firefighter health and safety, and for contributing to reducing the number of firefighter line-of-duty deaths and injuries.

Following the 2009 crash of a ladder truck, the department developed an extensive apparatus training program for all drivers. They also produced a video about safe driving which included personal accounts from those who had been involved in the crash.

Chief Ronald J. Siarnicki, executive director of the NFFF, presented the award during the department's 100th Anniversary Ball on Saturday, November 17. Chief Siarnicki also presented a replica of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial to Chief John McGrath for his service to the Foundation.

Chief McGrath serves as the Memorial Weekend Incident Commander, is a Taking Care of Our Own® Instructor and a Chief to Chief Participant. Siarnicki noted that from the early planning stages through the final moments of each year's Memorial Weekend, McGrath's focus is on meeting the needs of the survivors and expects the same from all who volunteer during the weekend.





"Chief McGrath's dedication to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, the survivors, and the fire service as a whole is unparalleled" said Siarnicki. "He is respected and admired by all. On behalf of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, it is my pleasure to honor him and the Raleigh Fire Department tonight." Click to enlarge:



Mike Legeros photos

For more information about Everyone Goes Home® and the Seal of Excellence Award, go to [www.everyonegoeshome.com](http://www.everyonegoeshome.com).

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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/ [Textile](#)

## Overhaul and Protective Garb, 1947

12/03/12 157 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Here's your morning historical photo, Raleigh firemen performing overhaul on February 13, 1947. What they're wearing is what they fought fire with. Turnout coats were used in the department as early as the 1930s, though not apparently always or by everyone. Scene photos from that decade show some people wearing dress coats and dress pants while fighting fire. (Admittedly, the number of photos from the 1930s is so small that its really not a good sample size.)

Same for turnout pants, which are also shown in some fire photos from the 1930s and 1940s. Again, not always or by everyone. Maybe there were limited sets? Maybe they had to be personally purchased? Helmets were added later, around 1950. Dress caps were worn while fighting fires and they're shown in scene photos going back to the 1920s. (There were some tin helmets in the departments past. [We blogged about that](#) in the past.) Click to enlarge:



Reader question, when was the first SCBA used and of what brand? Film footage from 1950 shows SCBA used. The tanks are yellow. Presume Scott.

That said, the museum has a mask/breathing air device from that era, that's military surplus or maybe military issued. Unsure of brand.

Also, beginning in 1939, the department had pump-fed smoke masks. Might've been American LaFrance-Foamite brand, recalling a photo that I've seen from the Ammon's Clothing Store fire of that year.

**Legeros** - 12/03/12 - 09:19

## How to Be a Pain in the Neck

12/03/12 88 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Want some neck pain to go with your scene photos? Lean into the camera, instead of keeping your neck straight. You won't notice in the moment, but you'll have a surprise waiting the next day. That's Legeros in action on Hammell Drive on September 21, 2008. Warehouse fire on a Sunday afternoon. Three alarms. See photos from [Mike Legeros](#) and [Lee Wilson](#). Richer colors in the second set. Must be a Nikon versus Canon thing. Click to enlarge:



*Lee Wilson photo*

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preferred)  
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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

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Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Efland's New Engine

12/04/12 42 W, 1 I - + 6 - 3

Lee Wilson photographed Efland's new engine. They're in Orange County. The white-over-yellow rig is a 2012 Ferrara Intruder II Maxx/HME rescue pumper, 1500/1000. It will be placed in service at Station 2 as Engine 134. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

having grown up in that area, it is nice to see Efland upgrade their apparatus fleet.  
**charlie** - 12/04/12 - 16:04

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Apex to Keep Apex EMS

12/04/12 143 W, 1 I - + 6 - 5

[Here's an interesting story](#) from the *Cary News* the other day, about the town of Apex's decision to maintain control of their EMS department. The county has been interested in absorbing the nine-member department into Wake County EMS. It currently collects EMS revenue on behalf of the town, and has declined to fund the chief and administrative assistant positions. (That's my word, "declines." The news story uses the word "refuses" which strikes me as editorially biased. Yours thoughts?) The positions aren't cost-effective, says the County Manager. The town has agreed to fund the positions while it continues negotiations with the county. [See related story](#) about the pending retirement of EMS Chief Nicky Winstead, and more on these fund issues. Next question, how old or current is this patch, that's still on my site?



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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.



## **Car 40 to Station 16**

12/04/12 78 W, 1 I - + 5 - 6

On November 29, the platoon Deputy Fire Marshal was moved from Station 21 to Station 16. That's Car 40, and what might be the first tone you hear for a working fire dispatch. (Do my ears have that correct?) The move was made as Rescue 1 will relocate to Station 21, when placed in service as a five-man (er, person) company in early 2013. That'll happen along with Rescue 2 and Rescue 3 removed from service, and some other stuff. Click to enlarge:



---

seems like rescue 1 should be at station 1. More centrally located.

**Michael** - 12/04/12 - 18:28

Actually sta 9 is roughly the center of the city, hence the nickname "eye of the storm"

**Mike** - 12/04/12 - 18:33

This past March/ April several members of the Special Operations Command Committee took trips to the following departments; Fairfax County, Prince Georges County (MD), Washington DC, Baltimore, Philly, Camden, Jersey City, North Hudson (NJ), and FDNY. Each one of these departments has a Heavy Rescue (some more than one), with the exception of Camden which was disbanded recently due to budget constraints.

One piece of advice remained the same from members of the Rescue from these departments; if you have one Rescue Company in your City, make sure it is in the middle of your main fire area(s), close to your high rise area, and in your area of higher concentrations of people. With that in mind for the City of Raleigh, #7 was originally chosen to be the home of the Heavy Rescue. Due to some last minute, mitigating circumstances, 21's was deemed to be the location for now.

Engine 9 is center city/ mid-town but it simply can't accomodate a five member crew. At shift change you'd have 16-18 people jockeying for parking and it would be nuts. While #1 is in the southern part of the City, it IS in the middle and there are several arteries which make runs to other parts of the City fairly easy as compared to some other firehouses.

I'm excited to see this here and pumped to be the first Fire Department in the area to implement a true Squad Company concept. I can recall conversations 10 years ago along the lines of "you'll never see a Captain on Rescue"; well, around 2/2 or 2/3 it IS going to happen.

Stay Combat Ready!

**Silver** - 12/05/12 - 01:26

Name: (real name  
preferred)

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Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Mystery Fire

12/04/12 13 W, 1 I - + 5 - 1

See if you can place this one. Click to enlarge:



Hillsborough St across from the Vet School?

**Silver** - 12/05/12 - 01:58

Baker Roofing on Martin st. Jan. 03, 1977.

**Rescue Ranger** - 12/11/12 - 23:35

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

**Critical Public Safety Center Moves Forward**

12/05/12 161 W - + 7 - 4

Press release. The Raleigh City Council, on Dec. 4, approved moving ahead with the proposed Critical Public Safety Facility and authorized solicitation and of the Construction Manager-at-Risk (CMAR) for future approval for the project. The City of Raleigh commissioned Pearce Brinkley Cease and Lee (PBC+L) /AECOM in July to program and design the City of Raleigh Critical Public Safety Facility, that would house the Emergency Communications Center, Emergency Operations Center and the City’s Primary Data Center.

This initial Phase One design services included the evaluation and updating of the departmental programming, site evaluation, master planning, and initial conceptual building design efforts. In addition, the City Council authorized conducting a security and threat assessment as a component of the Critical Public Safety Facility’s development. The City contracted with Burns and McDonnell for Phase One threat and security analysis services associated with the initial development of a new facility.

[Read entire press release.](#)

I heard the site was going to be located on Westinghouse Blvd @ Raleigh Blvd. There are talks of a proposal which includes a fire station at the location. It would replace existing #11 to accommodate a new aerial truck since Pierce can no longer build one that would meet the height restrictions of existing #11.

**RescueRanger** - 12/05/12 - 17:01

I would guess you wont see this finished product until late 2015 or early 2016  
They got a LONG way to go. Red tape is thicker than Santa’s beard.

**Buckwheat** - 12/06/12 - 11:14

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Class of 1989 - Now with More Bugles!

12/05/12 105 W, 2 I - + 6 - 5

Raleigh Fire Department Recruit Academy 13 has produced another Battalion Chief. Congratulations to Donald L. "Duffy" Deyo, promoted on December 1. [The class of 1989](#) has now produced five of those bad boys. Plus another seven Captains and four Lieutenants, if my math is right. And, ahem, one photographer/historian. (Member of department from 1989 to 1991.) Two versions for your evening enjoyment, one with Legeros included. Pretty easy to find Waldo in the second shot. Left to right are Battalion Chiefs Barry Spain, A.C. Rich (also Safety Officer), Greg Bridges, Rob Johnson, and Duffy Deyo. Click to enlarge:



Mike

By chance has any of the other class of 1989 members retired from RFD ?

**mln** - 12/06/12 - 09:39

Doug Melville retired on disability about 7-8 years ago.



## Morning Reading - Ethics of Detachment

12/06/12 352 W - + 6 - 2

When do you put down the camera and help? Should you put down the camera and help? Outcry over this week's subway death story (or stories) in New York City notwithstanding, this is an oft-discuss among photojournalists. Or so it seems from a bit of morning reading. Below are some interesting and thought-provoking links on the subject, found via sundry Google searching. The issue of detachment certainly plays through my head at times, in the course of my documenting local emergencies and responders. Don't know if I'd call myself a photojournalist, however. Have to think on that one. This posting's title comes from [this blog post](#) by Ian Lind in Kaaawa, Hawaii. He's links to two of the stories below...

- [New York Post's Subway Death Photo: Was It Ethical Photojournalism?](#) (Forbes)
  - Opinion from veteran NPPA photographer: "Your job as a human being, so to speak, outweighs your job as a photojournalist," he adds.
- [Should photojournalists intervene, or observe in life threatening situations?](#) (David Hume)
  - Summary quote: "To analyse this dilemma four issues must be addressed: the nature of the social contract that exists between journalists and the public; the operational dangers experienced by a journalist working in a conflict zone; the need to tell a story and record history; and finally can a journalist be more effective in saving of one life or many."
- [To Be Human Or Journalist: America Needs To Decide What They Want](#) (Global Grind)
  - Photographs of war, pain, and death are staples of American journalism and culture, it notes.
- [Should this photojournalist have intervened sooner to save the life of a dying snake-handling pastor?](#) (The Blaze)
  - The story of the experience of a Washington Post photojournalist.
- [The Bystanders: photographers who didn't step in to help - in pictures](#) (The Guardian)
  - Warning, graphic images. Contains comments from each photog.
- [Off the Sidelines](#) (American Journalism Review)
  - When should reporters intervene, the article asks and answers.
- [Kevin Carter](#) (Wikipedia)
  - The story of the person who took a famous photo, and a couple accounts of the photograph.

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Remember personal info?

Yes

No

/ [Textile](#)

New Pine Level Engine

12/06/12 55 W, 1 I - + 5 - 5

Another new Ferrara/HME (or is HME/Ferrara?) engine has been delivered in our area. This one's in Johnston County, at Pine Level Fire Department. Their new Engine 3 was delivered on November 19 and will be placed in service in January. 2012 Ferrara/HME top-mounted pumperd, 1500/1000. [See more photos.](#)



Lee Wilson photo

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Yes  
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# Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - FDmaps.com - « New Pine Level Engine... » Construction Photo of... NC Fire Station Mapping Project

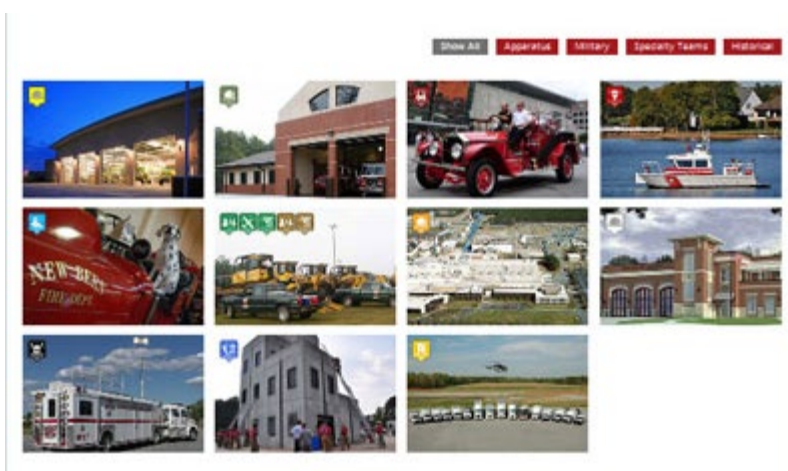
## FDmaps.com - NC Fire Station Mapping Project

12/07/12 448 W, 3 I - + 4 - 6

Here's something that pegs the cool meter, a web-based fire station mapping project that covers the entire state of North Carolina. The site is [FDmaps.com](http://FDmaps.com). The creator is Jeff Harkey, Editor of [FireNews.net](http://FireNews.net) among other things. He's (a.) tracked down the location of every fire station in the state, (b.) mapped the location via geo-coding, and (c.) created a web site to host said map(s). Totally interactive. Click, zoom, pan, etc. (The whole thing started as a CarolinasFirePage project back in 2000. [You've seen that before](#), a list of all fire stations by county. And you may have seen his FDNY maps as well.)



What's even nifty-er here is that he's included subsets of the data. Such as the location of the state's fire boats, six of which are mapped so far: Charlotte, Cornelius-Lemley, Morehead City, Station 15 - Colington, Station 35 - Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point, and Wilmington. (What, there's one or missing? Such as, say, Wrightsville Beach? No problem, he invites [users to participate](#) and submit data. Yup, this one's heaven for buffs.



Here's a tip, scroll to the bottom of the site and you'll find drop-down menus to select specific cities and counties, as well as select categories and some special/enhanced maps:

<b>SELECT CITY</b> <input type="text" value="— City —"/>	<b>SELECT CATEGORIES</b> <input type="text" value="— Special —"/>	<b>RELATED SITES</b> <a href="#">Carolinian Fire P</a> <a href="#">CFP Divisional I</a> <a href="#">FireNews.net</a> <a href="#">FDNY Maps</a>
<b>SELECT COUNTY</b> <input type="text" value="Wake County"/>	<b>ENHANCED MAPS</b> <input type="text" value="— Enhanced —"/>	

Some of the other goodies waiting to be found on the site:

- Airport fire stations - Thirty-two of those (!) containing ARFF apparatus. Woof!
- Federal military fire protection agencies - Thirty-four.
- Fire stations housing antique apparatus - Nineteen mapped so far. That one will probably expand.
- Fire museums - Seventeen of those, wow!
- Forestry facilities - Total 141, which includes NCFS, NC Parks, and USFS.
- Etcetera.

He's also tracked down the private fire brigades serving in the state. Eighteen of those mapped so far. Now dying to know about them. Apparatus, equipment!?

- Capstone Paper Company
- Clariant Corporation
- Corning
- DSM Pharmaceuticals
- Du Pont Teijin Films
- Duke Energy McGuire Nuclear Station
- DuPont - Fayetteville Works
- GE Nuclear Energy
- Goodyear Tire and Rubber Plant
- GSK - Zebulon
- IBM - Research Triangle Park
- International Paper Company
- PCS Phosphate
- Progress Energy Shearon Harris Nuclear
- Sta 2400 - Blue Ridge Paper Products
- Sta 2500 - Blue Ridge Paper Products
- Sta 36 - Progress Energy Brunswick
- Weyerhaeuser Company

Plenty to explore on this super-cool web site, and plenty of participation for anyone with even a passing interest in the subject. Commence interacting with site. Meanwhile, enjoy as buffs in the other forty-nine states ooze envy at the latest great work of Jeff Harkey. That name again, kids, is [FDmaps.com](#).

Better hope Jeff never gets arrested ...

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2013/02/27/2..>

"Investigators also found a large map of Durham on the man's bedroom wall "with locations of police, fire and emergency medical services locations clearly marked," police detective A.K. Richards stated in a search warrant application made public Wednesday."

Paul - 02/28/13 - 10:59

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Construction Photo of Cary Station 8

12/07/12 36 W, 1 I - + 6 - 4

Speaking of fire stations, things are looking good at [408 Mills Park Drive](#) in this reader photo. Search the blog for prior postings. Or [read more from CFD](#). Click to enlarge:



Name: (real name preferred)  
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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Raleigh Fire Museum Open This Saturday, December 8

12/07/12 186 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

Looking for something to do on Saturday? The [Raleigh Fire Museum](#) at 105 Keeter Center Drive is open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tour the 100-year history of the city's career fire department, and learn about the volunteer fire companies that also protected the Capitol City. Hundreds of artifacts and photographs are displayed. New this month is this hand hose reel from the nineteenth century:



The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month, and is located in a classroom trailer at the Keeter Training Center at [105 Keeter Center Drive](#). Parking and restrooms are available. Admission is free. Learn more about the museum, and the group that operates it, at [www.raleighfiremuseum.org](#).

Please note that other antique apparatus is stored elsewhere. The museum's [1961 American LaFrance pumper](#) is located at Fire Station 9 at [4465 Six Forks Road](#). The city's [collection of antique fire apparatus](#) is housed at at Fire Station 28 at [3500 Forestville Road](#). The collection includes a 1905 steamer, a 1926 American LaFrance pumper, a 1950 Mack pumper, and a 1982 Mack pumper. Visitors are welcome at both locations.

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Yes

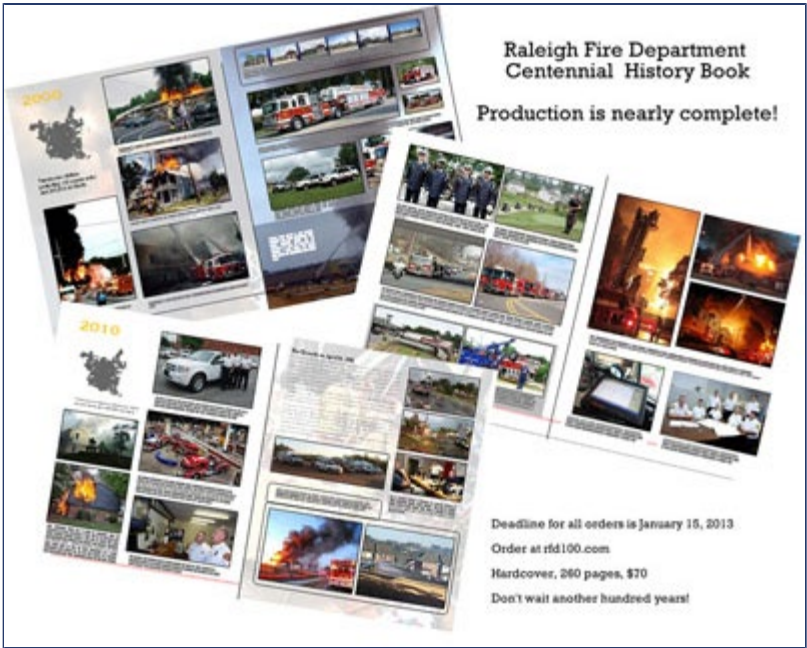
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Still More History Book Page Previews

12/08/12 75 W, 1 I - + 3 - 5

But from just one section of the [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#). As noted in [this prior posting](#), it will feature a section of historical photos, divided by decade. From the 1910s to the 2010s. Plus four pages of photos from the volunteer era. Here's a third preview of what we're designing. Haven't [ordered yours](#) yet? Deadline is January 15. Don't wait another hundred years! Click to enlarge:



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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

## Volunteer Fire Fighters Learning Basic Principles, 1965

12/08/12 452 W - + 4 - 3

From the January 27, 1965, issue of the Raleigh Times:

GARNER - Volunteer fire fighters of Garner are learning basic principles about their work during a two-week training course which began Monday night. The second week will be held Feb. 8 through 11.

Sherman Pickard, director of Fire and Resource [Rescue?] service of N.C. Department of Insurance, is directing the program.

Pickard said that a class held two weeks ago for trainees studied methods of financing a fire department, organizational structure, fire insurance program, personal protection provided for each man in case he is hurt while fighting fire, N.C. traffic law relating to fire department vehicles, history of the local department as well as a brief history of rules and regulations dealing with individual and group fire fighters.

In the classes this week and the concluding week, equipment and how to work it will take up most of the time. Identification of equipment, its use, and location will be taught. Different kinds of apparatus will be demonstrated.

Protective clothing including smoke masks will be explained and shown, and how to ride a fire truck will be taught. Details of equipment, use, different makes, and how to maintain them will be taught.

On the job training will be conducted at Raleigh's training grounds for firemen. Here they will be subjected to about 240 degrees of heat as well as undergo smoke tests.

In more advanced training, operation of water pumps, hydrolytic [sic] machinery, Garner's water system, and more advanced fire fighting tactics will be touched upon.

Standard operation procedures have been drawn up for three "codes" of fires. Pickard said that this is determined by man power, equipment, and water availability.

Code one deals with any fire within town limits requiring handled with 1 1/2 inch hose. Fire hydrants are usually close enough to be used. This code covers most dwellings. This may or may not require all three of Garner's engines.

Code two deals with any fire within town limits that requiring the use of 2 1/2 inch hose. The local schools and probably the business district are the only places in Garner where this code would generally be needed.

Code three deals with rural fires within the St. Mary's Fire District. This not only spells out the duties for engine drives but also systematically gives plans for tanker drivers.

Pickard said that Garner has one of the best rural fire fighting systems in the entire state.

These SOP duties have been brought up to date with a newly published set of duties dated this month.

The classes are being held each night through Tuesday. Fire Chief B. R. Poole expects most of his 40 m en to attend each session.

Name: (real name

Remember personal info?

**Historic Mill Burns in Una, SC**

12/09/12 79 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Twelve fire departments in Spartanburg County, SC, and some hundred firefighters are or were battling a blaze at the vacant Saxon Mill. The fire was reported about 9:50 p.m. last night. The mill was founded in 1990. The main building was built in 1906. Here's some media found via a bit of web searching. [Photos and story at GoUpstate.com](#) and [video footage and story from WSPA](#).



*Tim Kimzey/GoUpstate.com photo*



Old Cary Ladder at Buis Creek

12/09/12 96 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Lee Wilson caught a couple photos of Cary's old Ladder 1, a 1988 Pierce Arrow 105-foot aerial platform that's still serving at Buis Creek Fire Department in Harnett County. They purchased the ladder from the town in 2004. That's a Christmas wreath around the Q on the grill. See more [former Cary rigs](#). There was a time that the truck was one of just a couple platforms in whole of Wake County. Raleigh, Cary, and Zebulon had them. Now everybody's got a "bucket truck." [See more photos](#).



Lee Wilson photo

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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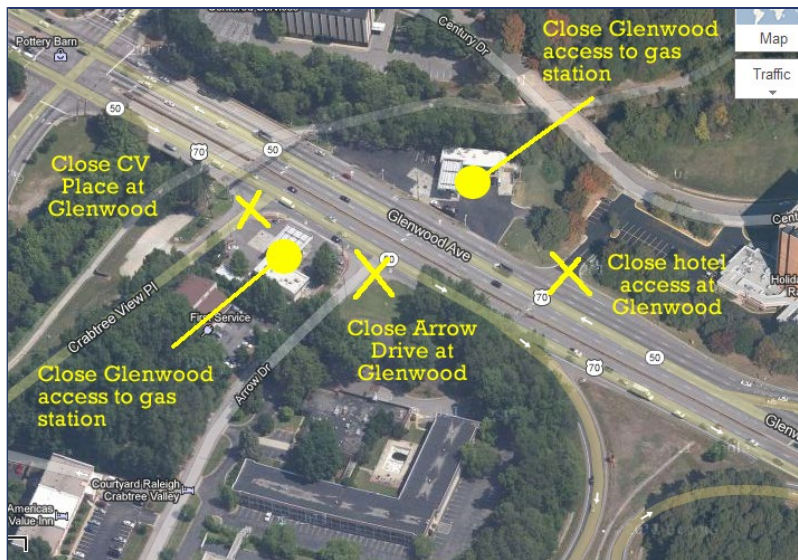
To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question  
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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Glenwood Avenue...

12/09/12 93 W, 1 I - + 5 - 4

...between Blue Ridge Road and the Beltline sucks. Here's my idea to improve the thing. Can't possibly happen, but a fella can dream. Traffic engineers et al are welcome to explain why it wouldn't work. Because if such a seemingly simple solution did, it would have been done ages ago, right? (Seems obvious, at least if you drive through the corridor every day as we do...) And you'd probably put a couple gas stations out of business (for starters). Maybe that's one reason it's never been tried. Click to enlarge:



I dream of an elevated roadway above the current Glenwood that would extend from the beltline to past HWY 50. The current exit ramps from the beltline would be used to access it, new ramps would have to be built for access from HWY 50. The current Glenwood would be for local traffic and access to the mall, side streets and such. It would be a nightmare and expensive to build but would bypass all the mall traffic and stoplights.

**Kevin** - 12/09/12 - 12:43

I think both Glenwood and Capital Blvd should have elevated highways, to get past the heaviest congestion sections. I envision something like US 183 in Austin: <http://tinyurl.com/awtf8r4>

It's not the prettiest, but it gets people where they need to go without clogging up traffic on the "surface streets".

Was this topic thought of because of the WRAL story the other day? <http://www.wral.com/workshop-to-provide-..>

**rfburns** ([Email](#)) - 12/09/12 - 18:41

OK, just a coincidence that DOT is talking about that same section of road. They're stealing your thoughts!

On another topic, how come the "Textile"-format links I posted above worked in my preview, but didn't work when displayed above?

**rfburns** - 12/09/12 - 21:32

Wow that road in Austin is really nice!. Now imagine same road with a light rail option

**njncems** ([Email](#)) - 12/10/12 - 00:41

Love the elevated road idea for both Glenwood and Capital Blvd.

**Silver** - 12/10/12 - 14:36

They've got some elevated roadways in San Antonio, I-35 through the middle of S-A, as I recall from my Fort Sam Houston Days. Seemed to work really well.

**DJ** - 12/10/12 - 15:05

IH-35 (in Texas, they always call interstates "IH" and the number. Weirdos.) .. Anyway, IH-35 through Austin has elevated highways, too. They've got the "express lanes", which go up and over most of the local exits, and the local lanes, which have the regular exits to get onto the local streets. They also have frontage roads that follow the interstate, so there are lots of businesses whose address is actually ON the interstate, such as "1234 IH-35 South".

Imagine an elevated express highway on Capital Blvd that went from I-440 to I-540... I bet that would make the local streets almost not terrifying! :)

**rfburns** - 12/10/12 - 17:29

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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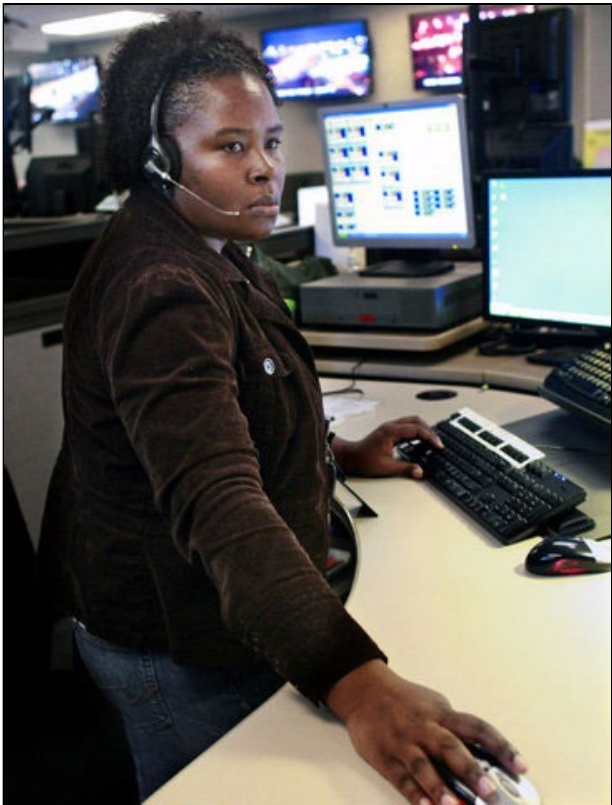
Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
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Top 911 Call Taker Lauded for 'Superhuman Effort'

12/10/12 148 W, 1 I - + 7 - 0

That's the *News & Observer's* headline from Saturday, for a profile of [Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center](#) Call Taker Heather Whitaker. She earned the statewide honor as 911 Employee of the Year. She answered 5,269 calls in May, the highest number ever answered by anyone ever at the ECC. The communications center was hit hard on March 31, when a flood of accidental 911 calls started. Estimates the center's director, they'll have processed up to 200,000 extra calls by the end of the year. That's both the incoming oops and the extra ongoing "hello, someone called 911 from this number" outgoing calls that are returned. Whitaker grew up in Garner, graduated from NC State University, and was a supervisor at a Raleigh call center that handled custom framing orders. She's worked at the ECC for three years. [Read the story.](#)



News & Observer photo

I am so glad to see a public safety member, especially someone from 911 communications get the honor of being Tarheel of the Week. I gave 16 years of my life to emergency communications either full-time or part-time and it does my heart good to see Ms. Whitaker achieve this honor. Way to go!  
**Jason Thompson** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/10/12 - 21:53

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes
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Into the Pit

12/10/12 111 W, 1 I - + 10 - 2

Found this one while looking through some files. Raleigh Fire Department recruit academy at the Wake County Fire Training Center on April 9, 2009. Family day, near the end of their academy. Tramp Dunn at the controls. This one's a flame pit, with gas burners simulating an tanker fire. The shot pretty much takes itself, as long as your camera has a fast shutter. And you've got a telephoto lens. The good ol' fire pit. We've all been there before, though didn't they burn diesel fuel back in the day? As when our academy was put through the paces in 1989? See the [full series of shots](#). Click to enlarge:



Yup, diesel it was! Those "fire cyclones" were an awesome sight!  
**Silver** - 12/10/12 - 22:33

Diesel in 1990  
**Rob Mitchell** - 12/11/12 - 16:30

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No



Mystery After the Fire Photo

12/11/12 77 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Here's a historical treat. This is another vintage color image from from Robert L. Ott Sr., and courtesy of his son William Ott. His father passed away in 1993, but left a photographic legacy that his sons Lee and Bill are working to preserve. What are seeing here? Where's this, when's this, and what's happening in the photo? Many interesting things to comment upon... Click to enlarge:



Robert L. Ott Sr. photos

Salvage operations at Hayes Barton Baptist Church after a structure fire. I can't remember what year though.

David Price - 12/11/12 - 10:56

High Expansion Foam? Have no idea where....

PBM - 12/12/12 - 12:45

Would it be the church at Meredith College?

RPD - 12/18/12 - 22:08

West Raleigh Presbyterian Church education wing

Marcus - 12/20/12 - 00:11

I take back my last post. I did not do my research. After doing more research, I have decided that this is the front side of White Memorial Presbyterian on Oberlin Rd. No more than half a mile from Station 6. That is my final answer.

Marcus - 12/20/12 - 00:36

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

## Life in the History Lane

12/11/12 412 W, 1 I - + 7 - 3

Here are some facts and figures about the [Raleigh Fire Department Centennial History Book](#) project, which Yours Truly has been increasingly immersed in these last weeks. (Have patience if you're waiting for FIREFOTO to resume his regular action. Deadlines have required a pause in photography action. That and a very recent lull in working fires!)

Source material? Digital assets at History Central include 65.3 GB of scanned images and documents. That's 20,964 files in the folder, which include 1,635 TIF images and 16,0003 JPEG images. There are some duplicates in there, for sure. Even some triplicates. (Included in that staggering count is 7.31 GB and 7,466 JPEG newspaper scans.<sup>1</sup>)

The total excludes, however, digital photos by Legeros. Meaning, scene and stock shots. From 2004 to mid 2012, we'll put that total around 60,000. No idea on total size. As for photographic prints, there are at least 500 in albums as reprinted from the State Archives. Add another 500 in albums that were borrowed from others. And another 500+ of mine, from my pre-digital days. (Plus a few hundred or several hundred 35mm slides and negatives, from various sources.)

What's the output looking like? The book's project folder contains 49,064 files that total 62.6 GB in size. That's still a ways behind the 2007 book project. which numbered 91,039 files and 100 GB. What do those numbers translate to? Content created or prepared to date includes:

- 567 portraits (so far) of active personnel
- 407 images depicting the volunteer era through 2012
- 365 portraits (so far) of retirees
- 204 images of specialty disciplines, groups, and special functions
- 116 photos of/about fire stations
- 106 candid photos
- 103 photos of/about OFC, OFM, training, services, operations
- 81 crew photos, one per station per platoon
- 40 apparatus photos, in dedicated section

Pretty good start. We'll be adding several dozen more in these final weeks of production. Firefighters in action. Centennial events. And some other goodies, which we haven't mentioned above. Over 2,000 photos in a 260-page hardcover book. Sounds like a bargain to me. And we haven't tallied the prospective word count.<sup>2</sup> [Order yours here.](#)



<sup>1</sup>That was a project from a copy years ago. Read every day's newspaper(s) in Raleigh from the late 1860s to the early 1910s. And copied every

article about the fire department. [That project](#) took a little while.

<sup>2</sup>The book's text history will be finished over Christmas. That's my holiday project. Taking the history text from the 1984 and 2002 yearbooks, and adding everything that's happened since. Plus normalizing the whole thing, adding new facts, corrected old errors, etc. Should totals 25,000 words. Maybe 30,000.

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
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Vintage Mystery Chief's Car

12/12/12 51 W, 1 I - + 6 - 7

Here's another mystery photo, dated July 1982. Make and model of said vehicle is probably (certainly?) older. Fire Chief's car from somewhere in North Carolina. Another vintage color image from from Robert L. Ott Sr. by way of son William Ott.



The picture was taken in the coastal regions. There are shrimp boats on the right hand side of photo.

stretch - 12/12/12 - 11:46

1960 Chevrolet Impala although rims don't appear to be original.

Eugene Beard (Email) - 12/12/12 - 15:23

Man I would love to have that. I think about a 1960 Chev Impala

Rob Mitchell - 12/12/12 - 16:51

Car was in Beaufort.

Owned by the Asst Chief at the time. He operated a small store at the Beaufort bridge. (this is were the picture was taken)

He bought the car and had it painted red and installed the red light and decals.

Forgot about this car. Don't remember what happened to it.

JC - 12/16/12 - 00:39

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

The Pope Tweets

12/12/12 82 W, 1 I - + 7 - 2

Today is 12/12/12. Was the apocalypse supposed to happen, per the Mayan calendar? Or was that asteroid that just passed close to earth suppose to strike us? Meanwhile, over in Vatican City (been waiting a lifetime to write that phrase), the Pope sent his first tweet this morning. HHPB is online. Social media is here and even the Really Old Schoolers are joining. Maybe you can convince your chief to get on board.



Benedict XVI

@Pontifex

Welcome to the official Twitter page of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI

Vatican City · [news.va](#)



Benedict XVI @Pontifex

2h

Dear friends, I am pleased to get in touch with you through Twitter. Thank you for your generous response. I bless all of you from my heart.

[Details](#)

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: [/ Textile](#)

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Oregon Mall Shooting Media

12/12/12 140 W, 1 I - + 8 - 3

Aerial images of yesterday's mall shoot in Portland, OR, are appearing around the 'net. You can see some of the units that were on scene, and they were staged/parked. Search via Google or just look on local news sites. Would be an interesting run card to see. Looks like three or four engine companies and at least a half-dozen ambulances were on the run card.

[Harder to find is this photo gallery](#) from Thomas Boyd at the *Oregonian*. It's the outside-the-mall perspective of bystanders and responders. Based on the twilight, looks like they were taken some hours afterward. The gunman started shooting around 3:30 p.m. The responders were probably there for hours. Maybe our readers can advise how long a store-by-store search would take in such situation. Probably an hour? Longer?



Associated Press photo

Much longer than an hour to clear a mall – they were probably at it overnight. What I learned at the Apex target shooting is that the LEOs take clearing an area like that VERY seriously, and for good reason. At Apex they didn't find more bad guys, but they found citizens hidden in all SORTS of locations – and it's a matter of professional pride not to have someone "appear" behind you. Kind of like showing up at the jail with a prisoner and having a corrections officer find a knife on somebody you said you searched. Back in the day they would post your name with a photo of what you missed, and it could stay up for a month!

The Clackamas County Fire District #1 (shown with AMR ambulances here) is a very professional outfit – and they had done active shooter training at the Town Center within the last 8 months. Not many victims to triage and treat, but they were prepared!

**Skip K** - 12/12/12 - 22:02

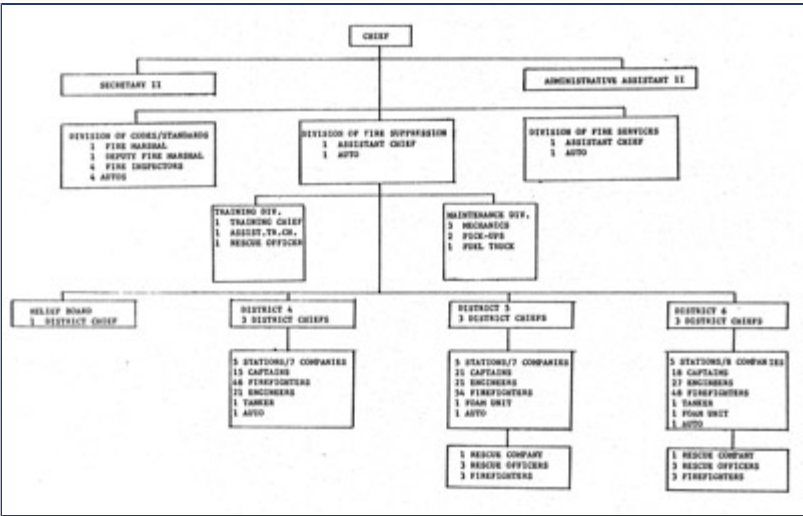
Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>
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/ [Textile](#)

Raleigh Fire Department Org Chart, 1980

12/13/12 165 W, 1 I - + 9 - 4

Here's your morning historical artifact, from the Fiscal Year 1980-81 budget document. Note that some vehicles are included. Click to enlarge:



For contextual comparison, here's that decade versus this decade.

Calendar Year	1980	2010
Calls	4,326	38,151
City Pop	150,255	403,892
City Size	55.165	143.865
Stations	15	27
Average Station Age	15	27.8
Engine Co	16	28
Aerial Truck Co	2	8
Service Truck Co	3	n/a
Rescue Co	2	3
District/Bat Chief	3	4
Chief	Keith	McGrath
Fiscal Year	FY80	FY10
Authorized Positions	325	568
Admin	21	7
Prevention	5	25
Operations	299	520
Services	n/a	9
Training	n/a	7

Adopted Budget            5,040,282    50,481,355

What’s the difference in the 2 rows named “Calls” (rows 2 & 7) ? Values are the same in each for 1980 but different for 2010

**Paul** - 12/13/12 - 09:25

The second row called Calls was a typo. It’s been removed.

**Legeros** - 12/13/12 - 09:30

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? Yes No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
Comment:	

/ [Textile](#)

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## Vehicle Versus Bank

12/13/12 60 W, 1 I - + 10 - 6

The latest collision between a moving vehicle and a stationary building happened this morning in the 3900 block of New Bern Avenue. As these [WTVD photos depict](#), a sport-utility vehicle jumped a curb and struck the side of a Wells Fargo bank. The driver fled the scene, the passenger was transported to WakeMed.



*WTVD/Jim Schumacher*

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.  
Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

## Rescue and Squad Helmet Shields

12/14/12 66 W, 1 I - + 10 - 7

Here's a preview of helmet shields that are coming soon to the Raleigh Fire Department. Rescue 1 (as five-man company) and Squad 14 and 15. These are for Firefighter ranks. The Lieutenant and Captain will have their positions listed instead of "rescue" or "squad." [Read the Fall 2012 edition](#) (PDF) of the RFD newsletter for that story. Click to enlarge:



Station 21 to brier creek seems a bit far. Atleast a 20 min run. Siren will have to replaced yearly. lol

**Michael** - 12/14/12 - 21:37

Good thing there is a heavy rescue sitting at Durham Highway just a couple miles from Brier Creek. Certainly the companies up that way know what resources are located/available close to them and will make the best decisions for their patients.

**Mutual Aid** - 12/14/12 - 23:08

Was wondering why the Squads were assuming the Engine Company numbers? Why aren't they being numbered Squad 1 and Squad 2? The Rescue is number 1 not Rescue 21. Seems a splintered numbering system is being used. Old and new.

**stretch** - 12/15/12 - 00:58

Ladder-6 is in Brier Creek. It can handle 99% of the entrapments.

**RFD** - 12/15/12 - 08:03

So what is the purpose of the rescue with the squads and ladder co's with extrication equipment. Gonna mount a boat to the top?

**Michael** - 12/15/12 - 10:01

Sounds like Michael did not pass the test.

**Real Firefighter** - 12/15/12 - 17:46

The Departments we researched which used a Squad (versatile Engine Company) concept were FDNY, Philly, Baltimore (although they seem to be phasing them out), and Jersey City. All but one of these Departments use the engine number it was prior to being converted to a Squad, because they're still an Engine Company and have a first and second due response area as an Engine Company.

A boat on Rescue? Possibly, don't ever rule it out, especially a nice inflatable.



**Silver** - 12/16/12 - 21:36

The Rescue's have had NRS rafts on the truck for a couple years now, with a "john boat" or zodiac on an auxillary trailer. Having the boat would be nothing new.

**PBM** - 12/17/12 - 10:38

PBM you are correct, Rescue 1 on board boat is located on the drivers side, second compartment, bottom shelf! We have been pulling boat trailers aslong as i can remember, not a new idea! Now for the on board inflatable boat we got them some time in 2011! As a soon to be X rescue driver of Rescue 1 B, it has been a blast "P" and I have ran 32 working fires in the 2.5 years I have been on the rescue. Most of them have been apartment fires here in the fire triangle of Batt 1! It was a awesome assignment and we got it done with the traditional 2 man crew! So with the new 5-6 man crew good luck and God bless you all! Have fun we did!! Jason

**Jason Lane** - 12/17/12 - 11:19

Even though I think everyone would love to have more than one rescue truck, I believe that the redundancy and distrubution of vehicle extrication equipment in particular on RFD companies will not change. On the West side of town, there will still be Ladder 3 and Squad 14 to back up Ladder 6. I'm not sure if there is some beef on the west side, but on the east side of town on my platoon, the relationship with Wake-New Hope FD (Who carries light extrication on their engine) is excellent. From my understanding, the only reduction in equipment will mostly be in the confined space/rope arena, as each of the three current rescue co.'s carry quite an inventory in those areas. Also, the single new rescue's inventory will be increased. No company has a 100% reliability rate , so there will always be "what if" issues to deal with. In my experience on the rescue, the ladder's did most of the cutting anyway, and there are eight of them. The rescue usually handled the stabilization. Maybe Silver can elaborate on what extrication equipment will be assigned to the Squad Co.s

**PBM** - 12/17/12 - 15:59

Squads will have a full compliment; cutters, spreaders, three rams, rescue jacks (Ladders too). PBM was correct in all of his comments, especially about the "what if'ing" things to death.

Resources to a pin won't be an issue; one Engine, one Ladder, a Squad and the Rescue. The idea is a "front loaded" dispatch and companies not needed can be returned to service. At a minimum, a pin will yield 15 members and a Battalion Chief. On a good day, 17.

**Silver** - 12/17/12 - 17:55

It's business as usual on the ol' blog; "send us here, send us there", "county-wide standardization of service".....oh if I only had a nickel!

**Silver** - 12/17/12 - 18:59

Change is always met with skepticism.

**A.C. Rich** - 12/17/12 - 19:34

I would say there is plenty of help on the west side and the agencies involved therein work pretty dang well together. Heck they run calls together daily and personnel from county and city agencies have worked or do work for both. Western Wake carries a combi-tool and cutters on their first out engine and has a rescue sitting in the bay. Swift Creek is right down the road, Morrisville carries at least a combi-tool on all of their engines, Cary is sitting on 3 rescues that are within easy distance of anything on the West side as well as one sitting right on I-40. The help is there if needed, and it works well.

**WestSide** - 12/18/12 - 12:28

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

## New Rescues for Thanksgiving and Buis Creek

12/15/12 108 W, 2 I - + 7 - 8

Just in time for Christmas is this picture of Thanksgiving's new (used) rescue. They're in Johnston County. It's a 1997 Pierce Quantum that originally served as Richmond's Rescue 1. Delivered September 13. Get this, the thing has a 500 GPM pump (!) in addition to a cascade system. (So it's a rescue engine?!) [See more photos](#).

Also new in the area is Rescue 881 at Buis Creek Fire Department in Harnett County. Delivered on December 11, it's a 2012 Rosenbauer Spartan-Force. Says photographer Lee Wilson, it's the first Rosenbauer rescue in our area. But we've had a couple engines delivered, no? [See more photos](#).



*Lee Wilson photos*

Mike, not in your immediate area but Cumberland county has some Rosenbauer apparatus, my station GCVFD 24 was the first in the county to

buy a Rosenbauer back in 2007 when CW Williams became the local dealer. Also Stedman VFD received a Rosenbauer Pumper/Tanker in 2009 I believe as well as 2 Rosenbauer units at GCVFD 18, one a 2008 F-550 mini pumper and a newly delivered 2012 Rosenbauer Pumper/Tanker. Here are links to a couple of the Gray's Creek units them in respective order

[http://www.firenews.net/contents/ad\\_1216..](http://www.firenews.net/contents/ad_1216..)

<http://www.cwwilliamsfire.com/?p=2656>

**2406** - 12/15/12 - 11:31

Rocky Mount has several Rosenbauer's including the new Ladder 10, Battleboro has received one also, not sure of the year but its Engine 91. Also, Littleton Fire Department bought an 09 GMC/Rosenbauer Mini-Pumper.

**Trey** - 12/16/12 - 12:22

Buies Creek said they had to go to Va to see the closest Rosenbauer rescue. So maybe the 1st rescue in the state. ?? (check the spelling on Buies x2 Mike)

**lee** - 12/16/12 - 13:34

Cleveland, Smithfield, and Princetons rescue trucks have a pump and water on them also.

**JG** - 12/17/12 - 13:01

Buies Creek's is the first Rescue truck body built in this region of the state. There are engines and rescue engines but this is the first Rescue Squad. And yes the committee had to travel to Spotsylvania county to view the closest rescue. <http://www.cwwilliamsfire.com/?p=1366>

**PGTruckie** - 12/18/12 - 22:30

PGTruckie was correct. We had to travel to Spotsylvania County Frie Station 4 to see the closest Custom Cab rescue. The closest rescue was Maxton Fire Department at the time we ordered the truck, with is in Robeson County, but this was a F-750 cab.

<http://www.cwwilliamsfire.com/?p=2160> As you can see it is a nice truck, but just not what we where looking at. So Buies Creek has the only Custom Cab Rosenbauer truck, but not the first Rescue. This is the first Rosenbauer for Harnett County and Benhaven Emergency Services has ordered a custom pumper with the new Commander Cab. I believe that this is Benhaven's first custom cab truck, and it will be a Rescue-Pumper.

**BuiesCreek802** ([Web Site](#)) - 12/19/12 - 15:36

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

## Nothing

12/17/12 21 W, 1 I - + 8 - 2

Got nothing this morning. Come back later. Enjoy your holiday shopping this week.



Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

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Statesville's New Airport Crash Truck

12/18/12 104 W, 1 I - + 9 - 0

Have you check out [FDmaps.com](#) yet? New site, and [with a blog](#). And more than just postings about maps. There are station photos and the odd apparatus photo, such as this shot of Stateville's new airport crash truck. The 2003 Colet SVD K15 ATTCC previously served Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, VA. (Google finds that detail in Statesville city council meet minutes excerpt.) The apparatus serves Statesville Regional Airport and is presently temporarily housed at Station 1. Next question, what apparatus was the airport operating beforehand? Click to see the larger photo:

FDmaps Blog

FDmaps.com

Statesville Municipal Airport ARFF

December 17, 2012

admin

Leave a Comment



STATESVILLE - The Statesville Fire Department recently received a Colet ARFF apparatus for use at the Statesville Municipal Airport.

The apparatus is currently being housed at Statesville Fire Station 1.

FDmaps.com

Search for website...

Search

SUBMIT YOUR FIREHOUSE



Henderson Fire Station 2

If you would like for us to post a photograph of your firehouse, just email it to [FDmaps](#) along with a few details and we'll post it here on [blog.fdmaps.com](#).

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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Vintage Cherry Point Crash Truck

12/18/12 41 W, 1 I - + 5 - 3

Speaking of crash trucks and found for sale on eBay, here's a postcard view of a United State Marines MB-1 crash truck. That's a Walter truck, right? Photographed June 20, 1979.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

Comment: / [Textile](#)

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

## Slow News Week...

12/20/12 135 W, 2 I - + 6 - 5

Actually it's a busy Mike week. Deadlines for the fire department history book. Mr. Blogger is busying being Mr. Copy Editor and Mr. Proofreader. Happy to have a project over the holidays. Things tend to slow down during Christmas. And we meaning me isn't good at being slow. Then there's the dreaded/wonderful day itself, when *everything* is closed. That is, except emergency services. And the movie theaters. Will be first in line for one of the new movies that day.

Again, got nothing. Guess we'll throw a couple random historical pictures here for collective enjoyment. See if you can place these. More later, longer series and proper labels later. Photographs by Robert L. Ott Sr. by way of his son William Ott. Click to enlarge:



Robert L. Ott Sr. photos

Well, 1st truck is from Salter Path (Cateret Co.), obvious from the 80s (?), is the department called Indian Beach now? Looks like a Ford C Chassis.

Bottom, is from Atlantic Beach (Carteret Co.), the Fire Stix Pumper they are currently selling. The red Pierce Arrow Pumper, I suspect is from mutual aid from Pine Knoll Shores. Think another 80s shot.

**Steven** ([Email](#)) - 12/20/12 - 18:49

Fire is in Emerald isle.  
Sign over the Salter Path is the Bouge Inlet fishing pier.  
There is still a small strip mall there today.  
PKS still has the Pierce Dash. I believe Emerald Isle sold their Dash to Stella Fire Dept.  
**JC** - 12/22/12 - 08:42

Name: (real name preferred)	Remember personal info? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
E-mail: (optional)	
Web Site: (optional)	
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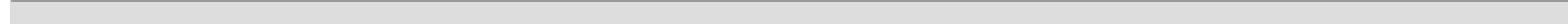
**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify: ☐ Yes, send me email when someone replies.

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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



## New Nebo

12/20/12 84 W, 1 I - + 9 - 2

New apparatus that is. This photo's from a FireNews.net feature about a new pumper-tanker delivered to Nebo Volunteer Fire Department in McDowell County. That's a 2012 International/Rosenbauer with a 1250 GPM pump and a whopping 1,800 gallon tank. Now that's a tall truck! And check out something called a "swivel dump." [See the story](#) for more photos and details. That's a delivery from local Rosenbauer dealer C. W. Williams, and here's the [delivery information](#).



Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

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([Register your username](#) / [Log in](#))

## Idea of Hiring Chief Splits Maryland Volunteer and Career Firefighters

12/21/12 392 W - + 7 - 1

That's the title of this [firehouse.com story](#), reprinting this [Frederick News-Post story](#) about a controversial proposal to create a Fire Chief position to oversee the volunteer fire (and rescue) departments in Frederick County, MD. The proposed authority structure was crafted by a committee of stakeholders over about eighteen months. The position would replace (or at least augment that of) the county's fire and rescue services director. And the proposal has brought mixed feelings. Will this chip away at the authority of the volunteer departments? But it will bring (more) standards and compliance therein. ([Here's an editorial](#) from the paper on the topic.)

From the county's web site, [here's a listing](#) (PDF) of the thirty-two fire and rescue departments. They're a mix of municipal and volunteer. Frederick, for example, is protected by four fire companies. (Don't know if they're unified under a municipal fire chief, or operate independently.) There's the Vigilant Hose Company in there, that protects Emmitsburg, the location of the National Fire Academy and the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial. (They also have a fire museum up that way. [Here's that site](#). And the [National Fire Heritage Center](#).)

How does this relate to Raleigh and Wake County? Well, many have long wondered if a county-run fire department is an eventual future here. Ours is an apple to their orange, however. We have municipalities, but of vastly varying sizes. One to lead them all include Raleigh, Cary, Apex, et al might be a considerable uphill battle. But what about the dozen-plus rural fire protection districts? Either initially with a leader or later with WCFD on the sides of the trucks? Good question.<sup>1</sup>

And how do such consolidating efforts resolve the long histories of the existing departments, you have to wonder. Maybe a WCFD has the "Stony Hill Fire Station" or the "Bay Leaf Fire Company" or such. There's some serious speculation to be had, through nothing no one's hasn't thought about before. (Nice triple-negative, there.)

Interesting story all the same. Read, ponder, discuss, debate.

<sup>1</sup>Don't have a backend comparison to cite, either. How does their county compare with our country with regard to consistency in operations, for example? What sort of service deficiencies or surpluses exist? What do their administrative processes look like, individually and holistically? No idea.

---

Didn't they propose this a few years ago in Wake County? I thought somebody was trying to create a county chief.

**captainchaos** - 12/21/12 - 09:18

I believe Frederick Co already has paid guys in quite a few of the firehouses. I think that all paid guys are already county employees, no one works for the corporations.

If they did go WCFD, then yes I don't see why the name of the area served couldn't remain on the truck. They could say Stony Hill or Bay Leaf.

**Mike** - 12/21/12 - 20:38

There was a proposal several years ago (1994???) which suggested mergers of some fire departments.

**Brandon** ([Email](#)) - 12/21/12 - 23:18

It seems as if that was the one. I believe it was that study which recommended the merger of the Town of Zebulon Fire Department and the Zebulon Rural Fire Department into one agency which occurred if my memory is correct on March 1, 2000. Perhaps this was also the first study with the idea of creating districts through mergers and consolidations

I agree that change is difficult. Many people have dedicated their lives to these departments, some since the departments began years and years ago. I never like to talk about shutting down services, but I do think that in the current time we live in, with the ever watchful eye of the citizens we serve upon us, we need be good stewards of the tax payer's money. If that means consolidation of services then the topic should



be discussed. I have always said " the only ones who care what name is on the side of the truck are the people riding in the truck".

Having cut my teeth in the volunteer world of the Hopkins Rural Fire Department, which bears my family name, and having spent countless hours cutting wood, cooking pigs and chickens and serving plates I know the pride I feel when I see those trucks and that Fire Station. I also know what that fire Station has been to this community, just as many other stations and departments around Wake County have been to their own communities.

I guess that last part was so everyone knows that I do remember where I came from and how thankful I am for the chance I was offered.

**Brandon** ([Email](#)) - 12/22/12 - 11:32

<http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/weblog..>

found it

**Brandon** ([Email](#)) - 12/22/12 - 11:42

Wake should try contractual standardization of service delivery costs prior to pressing consolidation. I have argued this perspective for years within the county. Consolidation is an option but first insure "what it should cost to deliver fire services" and standardize before embarking on consolidation. As I have said in the past, Wake has to determine what the "right size" is.

**A.C. Rich** - 12/23/12 - 01:21

Yes... ditto Mike!! In my opinion, every complex issue has a simple answer – and it is typically human behavior based. It is the willingness of others to recognize the issue that creates path to a solution. Again, personal beliefs and values are obstructions to vision.

**A.C. Rich** - 12/23/12 - 11:22

Would money be saved if we had a county shop that was responsible for everyone's truck maintenance instead of depts either doing their own or paying an outside party to do repairs?

**Mike** - 12/23/12 - 15:05

But there already is a county shop, at least a facility. What would the expense be of adding certified EVT's and tools, etc to fleet services. This is one question that has been asked time and time again as there are so many different companies working on fire trucks in the county. And this gets paid for by budget funding. Has this ever even been approached within the fire commission?

**Mechanic** - 12/25/12 - 08:41

Could the county's shop even handle the extra load that having all of the Contenders in their shop would create? I have to take ambulances to the shop regularly and those guys are great but always completely slammed with all of the existing county vehicles. They would need a shop twice as big to handle all of the issues that the fire trucks would bring (thank you low bid contenders). It would make sense though to have a centralized shop and maintenance plan for them though.

Plus then maybe the county would realize how spending \$20k more on the front side could

A) Save \$10k+ a year for some of those rolling pieces of....

B) Will get a truck that will actually last the proposed 20 years

**Poor Shop** - 12/25/12 - 11:48

I doubt that a class A pumper would even fit inside the current county maintenance facilities. To my recollection, COMM-1 has to be worked on outside. Maybe not.

What's this about trucks that last the proposed 20 years? What trucks have been bought by the county that haven't "lasted" their proposed lifespan, and what has been the reason? "Worn out from fighting fire"?

**Skip K** - 12/25/12 - 16:20

Based purely on cost to maintenance right now for trucks that are only a few years old (the contenders) the cost of ownership will quickly outpace the feasibility of keeping them for the full 20 years that they are expected to last. No historical data to utilize because the county only started buying fire apparatus about 5ish years ago. Ergo if it already costs \$10k plus for a single truck in a given year at what point do you say that you are spending more than is necessary for that piece of equipment and get rid of it?

Chief K does Wake EMS have a system in place where they say Ambulance X costs \$Y to repair each year, but the value of the rig is only \$Z

therefore it is just not worth the maintenance and downtime that, that entails?

**Poor Shop** - 12/25/12 - 20:46

So looking at the added cost of fleet repair to the Wake County fire apparatus fleet. There has to be a deeper underlying issue then just they are crappy trucks. If you look at the contender on a historical basis, the departments that aren't in Wake County haven't experienced half of the issues Wake County departments have. So I wonder where the true underlying issue is, is a department short changing the alternators in order to have a light bar that is full of nice wonderful LED's? Or is it axle issues because of wanting some other cool item. Maybe it's truly time for a real specification committee. No more of this I want this or we want that. Truly look at what is needed vs what is wanted. I hear so many complaints about the Contender being a piece of junk, but when you look deeper into the problem it falls right back into the specification committee's hands.

Any truck you specify, be it a top of the line Pierce Quantum or a Pierce Saber/Contender, an Eone cyclone or typhoon, a KME severe duty or base line model, and the list goes on and on, can be a heap of junk if not specify appropriately. Every last bit goes back to how you specify your new apparatus. Specify the truck from top to bottom. Axles, transmissions, motors, alternators, brakes, etc need to be first priority then all the other items can be added, if cost and maintenance friendly. Without an awesome drive train you won't have an awesome truck. I've also seen the base line specifications and the options for Wake County and the specifications can and will produce an apparatus that will last 20-30 years.

The last part of the specifications of an apparatus is preventative maintenance. How often are the apparatus seeing a shop outside of being repaired? Changing the oil annually just doesn't cut it, checking the brakes annually doesn't either. There are so many issues that become issues because of lack of maintenance. How often do you change the oil and filters in your own vehicle? I change mine every 5000 miles, but my truck doesn't sit idle for hours pumping at a fire or just idle in general. A great preventative maintenance program will help keep the repairs down and the apparatus on the road more. So I leave everyone with this challenge, take a look at how your running your fleet maintenance program and pick it apart before picking apart the apparatus that are in your fleet.

**Fleet** - 12/25/12 - 22:16

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**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.

Goodbye Denise!

12/21/12 77 W, 1 I - + 6 - 2

That familiar fixture of Fire Prevention-- now named the Office of the Fire Marshal-- is retiring on January 1. That's Senior Support Staff Specialist Denise Smith, whose leaving the front office after 32.2 years of service with the city and the Raleigh Fire Department. She's shown at a lunch on Wednesday ([see photos](#)), where she was toasted and roasted to fine effect. Great party, great person. Happy trails.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

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Vintage Fire Photos - White Memorial Church, August 2, 1987

12/23/12 199 W, 1 I - + 8 - 4

As seen and finally identified in our [recent mystery photo](#), here are a handful of historical photos after a fire at the White Memorial Church on Oberlin Road. The incident date is August 2, 1987. The units seen look like Engine 5, Engine 6, Truck 1, Foam Unit 1 (likely being used as an industrial-strength smoke fan), and whatever the 1966 Chevy panel truck (and former rescue unit) was called at the time. Might've been Light Truck 1. The thing carried lights and later air bottles.

By that time, there was a cascade system in the alarm house at Station 1. Did the panel van also carry a generator? Still trying to determine the year the thing was placed in service. It's remember at Station 1 as early as 1981. Log books list the thing as early as 1983, at least as found so far. They list it in service until 1988, and probably when the first mobile air unit was delivered that year. [Here's a PDF document](#) with unit (and company) histories, that tells more. Anyway, [view the photos](#), which were taken by Robert L. Ott Sr. and presented courtesy of his son William E. Ott.



Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)  
  
Comment:

Remember personal info?  
Yes  
No

/ [Textile](#)



## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Raleigh's Old Light*« Vintage Fire Photos -... » Twas the Day Before Christmas Truck

### Raleigh's Old Light Truck

12/23/12 200 W, 2 I - + 10 - 5

As referenced in [this thread](#), here's a vehicle that we don't have a lot of pictures of. This is Raleigh's old Rescue 1, a [1966 Chevrolet C3605 panel truck](#). It was purchased from Sir Walter Chevrolet on August 18, 1966 for \$2,728.47. It was replaced by a 1975 Chevrolet/Murphy ambulance on December 2, 1974.

From there, my notes get a little weird. Was it placed in reserve? Did it serve as Rescue 12, Rescue 3, and Rescue 14, as the above web page indicates? That doesn't seem right, though [there are photos](#) of the thing parked at Station 12 circa 1974 to 1976. Maybe it was a combination reserve truck and, say, towing unit for boat trailers? Don't know.

Then in the eighties, the thing was converted to a light truck and air bottle transport unit. It was repainted red, and spotlights were mounted on the roof, and wooden racks for air bottles were added in the rear. Some remember an open trailer pulled behind the thing, also equipped with lights and maybe a generator? Service period was as early as June 23, 1983, and as late as July 16, 1988. By February 1989, if memory serves, it was parked at the Keeter Training Center. Click to enlarge the top photo:





## **Twas the Day Before Christmas**

12/24/12 98 W, 2 I - + 6 - 7

Twas the day before Christmas, and all through the house,  
The crews had the spirit, and no reason to grouse.

The trucks and equipment, were checked off with care,  
In case of the big one, which might take them there.



The bathrooms were cleaned, the grocery list made,  
With careful consideration, sweet tea or pink 'ade?

The watch room was staffed, Lt. Edwards on tap,  
Wearing Donnie's fuzzy funny, a singing Christmas cap...



*Happy holidays!*

Merry Christmas!  
**RescueRanger** - 12/25/12 - 10:38

Name: (real name preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

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[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

## Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Not Pretty, But* « *Twas the Day Before C...* » **UPDATE #4 - Hibernian...** *Still Standing*

### Not Pretty, But Still Standing

12/25/12 189 W, 2 I - + 7 - 7

Found via firehouse.com, here's a Fayetteville Observer story from Sunday about the city's old training tower. The fire department hasn't used the thing in about five years. The city deeded the property to the neighboring Cape Fear Botanical Gardens in July. The present problem is that the tower is more eyesore than history treasure. [As the story notes](#), the four-story structure was built in 1952 as part of Pope Park. Demolition is planned, but that will take money and fundraising is probably three years away.



Next question, was other old training towers are still standing in our state? Charlotte's (1938) and Durham's (1927-28) come to mind. The latter is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Greenville's (1943?) was still there at last check, beside old Station 2. They're shown left to right, below. Thinking about, aren't there brick towers still used in Durham (second location) and Greensboro? Is there one still standing in Winston-Salem? Raleigh's is gone, Wilmington's original tower (first in the state, no?) is gone.



---

Rocky Mount's was still standing about 18 months ago.

**Real Firefighter** - 12/25/12 - 18:35

I know Wilmington still has a old tower behind the football stadium off Carolina beach rd. Not sure if its the original but its old!

**Robert** - 12/25/12 - 21:32

Well if you do get down this way come on over the Whiteville Fire dept.and see us. Always welcome in our house!

**Robert** - 12/26/12 - 21:55

I know at Old Goldsboro St. 1 on Ash Street downtown used to have a tower connected to the building, I know you may have a picture of it Mike but the building was sold and someone has really fixed it up.

**car3550** - 12/28/12 - 17:08

Charlotte's tower is still standing and the Palmer Building is still in use by Local 660.

**David** - 01/02/13 - 09:30

Name: (real name  
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

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**UPDATE #4 - Hibernian Pub - Narrative, Media, More**

12/26/12 368 W, 4 I - + 10 - 7

December 28

Narrative of the fire, drafted and posted yesterday, has been posted in [this FireNews.net story](#).

December 27

Here's the first version of a narrative. Edits are welcome. [See also photos by Mike Legeros](#).

[ snip ]

December 26

3:28 p.m.

Early incident details. Dispatched 10:20 a.m. Engine 13 arrived with smoke showing from the roofs and eaves of the building. Extensive fire found within voids between ceilings and roof. Engine 1 caught first hydrant. Second alarm requested upon arrival of Car 10, about 10:30 a.m. Crews withdrawn--from interior and from roof--for defense attack about 10:40 a.m. Aerial streams operated with Ladder 2, Ladder 4, and Ladder 3. Four (?) portable monitors used, on two sides of the building. One deck gun used by Engine 13, in front of building. Command at intersection of Glenwood and Lane. Rehab at intersection of Glenwood and North. Staging on North, east of Glenwood, and Glenwood, south of Lane. Four hydrants used: #1 - Glenwood (west side) at Lane, with Engine 1 boosting to Engine 13. Later also supplied Ladder 3. #2 - Glenwood and North, for Ladder 4. No engine boosting. #3 - North, east of Glenwood (?), for Ladder 2. Engine boosting? Controlled at 11:35 a.m. Extensive overhaul with companies on scene into mid-afternoon. Cause determined as accidental, grease fire in kitchen area. [See preliminary photos by Mike Legeros](#).



2:30 p.m.

Mobile phone video clip compilation:



Media coverage:

- [\*News & Observer\*](#)
- [NBC17](#)
- [WRAL](#)
- [WTVB](#)

12:53 p.m.

Let's get the coverage rolling. Here's the run card and coverage assignments. Thanks Max, for compiling the move-ups.

First Alarm - 311 Glenwood Avenue

Hibernian Pub - 10:21 a.m.

- Engine 13, Engine 1, Engine 3, Engine 5
- Ladder 4, Ladder 2
- Rescue 2
- Battalion 3
- EMS 7

Working Fire - 10:27 a.m.

- Air 1
- Battalion 2
- Car 10, Car 20, Car 40
- EMS 2, M94, D1, T1

Second Alarm - 10:30 a.m.

- Engine 6, Engine 2, Engine12
- Ladder 3
- Rescue 3
- Battalion 1
- Car 2, Car 3, Car 5
- OFM staff
- Training staff
- EMS 2, EMS 31, EMS 11

Special called at 10:57 a.m.

- Engine 7, Engine 11
- EMS 14, M94, Evac 1

Relief companies included

- Engine 23 and Ladder 1, dispatched 5:49 p.m.
- Ladder 7

Coverage

- Engine 4 to Station 5
- Engine 19 to Station 7
- Rescue 1 to Station 9
- Ladder 5 to Station 11
- Engine 14 in service with Ladder 8

Plus a trio of phone photos. Click to enlarge:



---

Is it typical for the training staff to respond on a second alarm? Don't think I ever seen that if they have. And anyone know why EVAC1 was special called? For resources I am assuming...just curious, I'm sure details will follow.

**George** - 12/26/12 - 16:01

Really sad to see this happen to a pillar of Glenwood South, but it sounded like everyone on scene did a great job of preventing further damage to the exposures. I'm also glad (not quite the best word, but you know what I mean) that the fire happened at 10:30 a.m. instead of 10:30 p.m. on a weekend, which could have been a completely different scene with victims, traffic, hydrant access, etc.

I hope the employees are able to quickly recover, and also hope that the city uses this as an opportunity to educate our citizens on the services RFD provides and how having the number of companies relatively nearby may have kept a bad situation from getting much worse.

**Eric** - 12/26/12 - 17:40

news coverage showed at 6pm, E124 which is a reserve truck. and on the 11pm news, E24 and Ladder1 were out on glennwood doing hotspot / flair up duty. so in the next couple of days it would be interesting to know what companies responded as relief overnight.

**charlie** - 12/27/12 - 00:57

Some of the best scene photography I have seen in a long time – awesome pics!

**Jason** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/27/12 - 03:19

Great write up Mike along with great pics and great job by all of the Public Safety personnel on scene. Kudos to Raleigh FD for keeping a difficult fire contained. Sad to see the Hibernian burn down but hopefully the owner will rebuild.

**Marshall Sherard KE4ZNR** ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 12/27/12 - 13:08

Two questions:

1) WTVD reported yesterday that there was a delay in reporting the fire because an employee thought they could extinguish it. Any idea how long that delay was?

2) I really can't believe they didn't have sprinklers installed. I thought that I saw sprinkler heads once when I was there, but I guess I was mistaken. Can anyone explain who is required to have sprinklers in the city?

**Eric** - 12/27/12 - 13:20

Not trying to step on toes, and i already know that every fire is different but..Just curious and along with several other folks who have asked me...but why does it seem like RFD isnt as aggressive as it was before? Seems like alot of buildings are burning up when a few years ago aggressive interior attacks where being made. I mean the pics are pretty with ALL that fire but what happend to the days of eating a little smoke, pulling some ceiling and squirting some water? maybe its just bad luck or has tactics changed?

With all the engines, ladders, firefighters that the city can put on the scene in a fairly short amount of time, it seems to me that either the fires have had huge jumps or just less of an aggressive approach is being made? Just a friendly question on why things seem like they have changed.

**TTaylor** - 12/27/12 - 14:38

ERIC:I thought the same thing. How can a commercial property that has been sold many different times through the years not been required to bring the building up to at least the 2003 IBC? Maybe the city has their own strict fire codes or local ammendments that work for existing commercial buildings.

I'm certainly not saying this fire could have been avoided but i would think the size and scope would have been smaller.

The placement of Ladder 4 was spot on.

What size water mains are down there?

Saw lots of 5 inch on the ground.

**Buckwheat** - 12/27/12 - 14:40

@TTaylor, I don't know if you are familiar with the Hibernian or Glenwood South, but there are a ton of exposures in this area. Were it not for the smart aggressiveness of the crews on scene many other businesses may have suffered the same fate as Hibernian.

**Eric** - 12/27/12 - 16:09

I am pretty familiar with exposures and all the normal that goes on during a fire...my only question is why does it seem that the last few photographed fires have appeared to be average in size but only to end up with pretty impressive displays of aerial master streams. Of course i wasn't on scene at Hibernian nor several other past fires but a picture sometimes can tell the story and what sometimes appears to be a normal working job for some reason ends up with everything burned up except asphalt outside.

I've been a career firefighter for about 10 years and have seen my share of things that can go wrong and things that could go wrong. Reading Mike's narrative of the fire yesterday and trying to learn from what we've heard, read, experienced and try to play that into the events yesterday, it just kinda makes some of us outside of RFD wonder why it did what it did. It states crews went in with handlines, ladders in place for vent, 20 minutes in and evac horns are blasting.

Just seems that many of the past few working jobs (last couple of years) have ended up with only walls standing and everything else turned to ashes.

@legeros, in question to some of your statements.. "I can attest to the success of the city's firefighting current firefighting tactics." Lately the success as captured in your photos show that Everyone goes home, a few walls may still be standing. The part i think a lot of other outsiders are trying to figure out is how can you have that much equipment with that much personnel on normal run of the mill fires and let roofs, contents, property burn up?!? Other smaller aggressive departments have those same types of fires and manage to knock it down and basically leave a few traces of smoke stained exterior walls or a broken window or two, but keep the fire spread to a minimum. Sure we have fires that get away from us and have no choice but to back out, but doesn't happen that much.

"The fires around here get extinguished quite quickly .. "Why is it taking them so long to get water on the fire," some one ask, after the first master streams started flowing. To which I answered "They've been spraying water all along, just inside the building." But if fire attack was going on for almost 20 minutes and no head way was being made, was it because an inch and a half wasn't cutting it or venting made it worse or was it too much time spent setting ladders up for the arriving photographer or preparation of burning it up.

I surely am no fire God and I'm glad every one went home safely but from having 3 generations come through RFD and knowing the stories told from then to now and even looking back through your photos.. it just seems like the man in charge wants things done a little differently.

**TTaylor** - 12/27/12 - 17:30

Your pictures are great! Like I said before, they can tell you a lot about what's going on, especially if you have some experience. The way the smoke is talking to ya, what type of construction you're dealing with, how long has she been burning, what's burning, how long we got???...etc. You capture quite a bit of excellent photos and I enjoy looking at them. Even if they can't capture everything, some is better than none. When light smoke is captured then a few slides later visible fire coming through the roof, then lots of fire, then maybe lots of steam, hose lines still inside, maybe outside.. WE can kinda piece what's going on lots of times even though WE are not physically there. Thanks for capturing what you do.

**TTaylor** - 12/27/12 - 21:49

Regarding sprinklers, under IBC, they are optional for most buildings, new or old. Sprinklers are intended to allow time for egress and not for saving a structure. Although sprinklers save many buildings, it is a beneficial side effect. IBC has a whole series of guidelines and formulas that determine the need for sprinklers. They factor in occupancy use, occupancy loads, construction type, size of a floor, number of stories, and distance to the property line among a few other things. Providing sprinklers allows an increase in the building area, number of floors, distance to an exit, and occupancy load above the baseline.

This particular building is a one story building and the major assembly space has a direct connection to the exterior. Rather than providing sprinklers, 2 double doors would provide more than enough egress capacity for the use and much more cost effective than a sprinkler system. Sprinklers become a code requirement in much larger buildings due to the distance a person must travel to exit and the time that takes.

All that being said, sprinklers are very common in new construction whether it is required or not. They allow the owners more freedom with the size of the building and the layout of the interior spaces (increased travel allowances). Also, many insurance companies either require them or give substantial discounts on premiums which will offset the initial costs.

**Brady** - 12/28/12 - 11:02

@TTaylor,

The fire was well advanced up between the ceiling and the roof. Once some inspection holes were pulled, it apparently added enough additional air to create problems. The initial interior crews said it wasn't too bad upon first entry but then went very far south in a real hurry. Structural integrity was surely the major concern about when to sound the horns. It was mentioned afterwards that the fire scenario was very similar the the Charleston furniture store fire. A question was made to me recently asking how it got so far ahead. If the employees did delay reporting it to try and extinguish themselves (as was heard by someone), that would go a long way to explaining how it took hold and why it took nearly an hour of flowing from 3 aerial master streams, 1 deck gun, and two blitz nozzles (If I remember correct)(about 5000 gal/min. not including handlines if I'm figurin' right). There was plenty of timber in that building to allow a fire to take hold. I've been to plenty of fires where neither Mike nor Lee were there for various reasons, I'm sure. There is PLENTY of aggressiveness in the tactics. There were several times the other day (while all the aerials were flowing) that white smoke was seen and then to have flare ups evidenced by darker smoke from other areas of the building. Sorry but the pics don't tell the story you are thinking they do, as good as they are.

**Bobert** - 12/28/12 - 14:03

@TTaylor Speaking on this fire.....not really sure how much more aggressive you can be; two lines in and vertical ventilation performed almost simultaneously. Searches revealed everyone was out, and heavy fire was in the void spaces above.

Was the call to 911 delayed? I don't know. What I do know; multiple roofs one on top of the other, and a building that had been renovated a few times with no sprinklers and a high fuel load. Add in that the ceiling had some sort of covering that made it difficult to drop the ceilings, unlike your typical residence.

Lessons learned? Of course, every fire I hope we learn something new. Could anything been done different to change the outcome? My opinion only; I don't think so.

**Silver** - 12/30/12 - 14:41

@Silver,

Does verticle ventilation always need to be performed? I don't believe so. With that said sometimes people or departments think it is needed when like TTaylor mentioned an aggressive interior attack is all that is warranted. This fire however and more than likely needed to that vertical vent job. This fire is similar to the fire that Charlotte had a couple years back when they went in and all was clear except all the fire was between the drop ceiling and the roof.

Enough said about this fire. Going back on some of TTaylor's points, it seems to me that on fires in Cary the only ladders that are going up are egress ladders unlike 5 or 6 years ago. The tables have turned, ladder pipes are in the air (and flowing in most cases) at RFD fires now, and small residential homes are becoming total loss. The department that I work is well under staffed but we go to work and save a lot of lives and property. We don't get near the credit the big City departments do and get paid a lot more. 3 man engines, 2 man rescue or ladder and rural water supply in 40% of our area. Maybe Mike will start a thread and let us post our departments run totals and total working fires at midnight for the 2012? Along with our daily staffing totals and square mile districts. I believe it will open a lot of eyes on this blog.

You guys and girls have a great new year.

**911** - 12/31/12 - 19:26

I have been keeping up with this topic for a little while now and would like to say that RFD did a great job from taking a well advanced fire in a really old and "nightmare type" structure and holding it in check so that they only had one major working fire and not three or four. The best part is that everyone went home. And to the best of my knowledge, everyone has been coming home on these "aerial master stream fires". I don't know anyone who is knocking on RFD but I would guess that they will see more than one day or two where they burn one to the dirt. If not then they aren't a real fireman (firewoman). I would also like to give a huge thank you to the ones that have in the past/present/future made the call that enough is enough. Everyone is hellbent on the old school teachings of "life safety, property and scene". A good officer understands that your crew and yourself is the first and most important thing. Thank you for not making myself and others break out our dress uniforms and put the black bands on our badges. And I would only think that Mike and Lee would only be able to get the big fires on camera and like not be able to get the many, many little fires that RFD and all the other county and city departments have due the the simple fact that..... Well, they just don't burn long enough. It's not very exciting to only see fires after they have been put out and the overhaul is over with, or at least I don't care too much to see them, I like to see the red stuff. And I don't want to make anyone mad by this but I was just putting my two cents in. To some it up, don't throw rocks if you live in a glass house and even more so if you haven't seen a lot of houses. Happy New Year Folks. Be safe and let's all make it a goal to come home at all cost. I would rather be in the paper for burning three houses instead of three fireman.... God bless everyone and keep up the good work.

**OutsiderLookingIn** - 01/01/13 - 02:37



I am really glad that everyone has kept this conversation really civil and not blown up. Valid points have been made about this fire and i completely understand where you guys are coming from..for the most part. Not every fire is as easy as we all would like to see, but i think what @OutsiderLookingIn posted "Everyone is hellbent on the old school teachings of "life safety, property and scene". A good officer understands that your crew and yourself is the first and most important thing. Thank you for not making myself and others break out our dress uniforms and put the black bands on our badges." In my opinion, We are continuing to protect ourselves more by becoming more aware of signs of imminent danger, but when did we start giving up on peoples property? I know that with this fire in general, there was a heavy fire load and exposures, but what i think we are refering to is what about the normal room and contents style fires in single/double/multi story residential structures? Guys, we have fires of all types in our district as well, and i know how things can get 'cut up' on the interior and make fires hard to find. Maybe you can call it "old school" tactics but with today's advancements in technology and as well as our own education and training, we seem to do alot more "firefighting" instead of spending lots of time trying to cut holes or this and that...we hump hose, perform a quick knock down, and mop it up. This doesnt meen that im against venting or any of that..its just like 911 said, we dont have all that manpower and if we looked at it as "well everyone is out" and stood back and let roofs burn off and protect exposures...our taxpayers wouldnt like that too much. We are all very fortunate to get done with a tour and for the most part return home to our family...we didnt sign up to just clean toilets and floors, we can still be extremly aggressive and cautious at the same time and hopefully go home.

Happy New Year to all my brothers and sisters in this crazy ole world we live in! Stay safe!

**TTaylor** - 01/01/13 - 10:32

Outsider makes some good points. How many times have we "risked alot", only to see bulldozers piling everything up days later? All those hours of work to "save" a dwelling, when ultimately nothing was saved at all. We have to make a stand and be aggressive to prevent damage, but at some point we have to stand back and look at the bigger picture. After their initial attack, looks like RFD made the right call to bring everyone back home safely and minimize effect to the adjacent businesses.

**Chris** - 01/01/13 - 10:43

TTaylor we'd also like to know which dept you are a member of and your years of experience so that we can have a better appreciation of where your opinions are coming from.

**Mike** - 01/01/13 - 12:16

Well forgive me for not being a professional blogger..i thought maybe this was kind of like a discussion board...seems like it always has been when other departments have their incidents splattered all over the media. Definitely didn't think that having an opinion about a career i'm extremely passionate about would catch this much grief.

@Mike.. My name is Tyson Taylor aka TTaylor, a great grandson to the late Red Taylor of Raleigh FD, grandson to the late Capt. Henderson Taylor of Raleigh FD, and son to Timothy Taylor who also was a member of the Raleigh FD,. I'm 29 years old with about 10 paid years of service. Began as a volunteer/junior ff with Angier FD at the age of 15, Started with Lillington FD just out of high school where i began earning a pay check, later to Fuquay-Varina FD in October 2002, moved away after 4 years of being there to pursue a different business opp at the coast, joined Emerald Isle FD while away. Moved back to the Johnston County area and got married, joined Archer Lodge FD as a vollie, was hired full time at Zebulon in feb 08, rehired at Fuquay october 08 where i am still currently employed as an A shifter flying the goose at the deuce.

I hope this helps identify myself, i've got several years left in the fire service to learn from hands on experience, other people trials and errors but i also ...watch out, here's another opinion...believe that a firefighter with 30 years on the job will retire thinking the same way as i about learning more...

**TTaylor** - 01/01/13 - 21:08

@Legeros I love the idea of having to make a "profile"; with name, department and a pic to go along with it. It would definitely keep things more civil, and get away from the "vague=anonymous" identities. Make it a requirement for posters, readers can read as they wish.

@911 I never said you have to vertically ventilate every fire. However, the conditions at THIS FIRE warranted it. One could interpret your meaning of "aggressive" to mean don't ventilate, and just go in there with hose lines and pull ceilings; let's make it a few booster lines while we're at it so we can really take a beating. Don't forget "the fan" too (I'm joking around here, obviously).

The fire was HIDDEN; by opening the roof they gave it someplace to go with hopes of CONFINING it. I give these guys credit for not having the "I gotta do something" mindset (which firemen are famous for) and busting out the front windows. They didn't until large water lines were used, which shows great discipline and an understanding by those on scene of what exactly was trying to be accomplished by opening the roof

towards the back, with hose lines advancing from the front.

Being able to recognize when fire conditions dictate vertical ventilation is needed (and getting there quick to do it), along with coordination and advancement of hose lines are considered “aggressive”. Maybe we should start posting every single fire we have too, the ones that aren’t so attractive to the media folk for a quick news blip and the drama of being able to use “a total loss”. When’s the last time you heard the news say “room and contents fire”, or “the fire department made a great stop”? Didn’t think so....

@TTaylor I was reading along in your last post, but you lost me. I have no idea what you were trying to convey with this; “Maybe you can call it “old school” tactics but with today’s advancements in technology and as well as our own education and training, we seem to do alot more “firefighting” instead of spending lots of time trying to cut holes or this and that...we hump hose, perform a quick knock down, and mop it up”.

Happy New Year to everyone on here, let’s make it a great one. Take every opportunity to educate and train yourselves (getting out of the firehouse, takenclasses, internet, book reading, post incident performance review), and stay COMBAT READY.

**Silver** - 01/01/13 - 23:40

Tyson Taylor!! I am starting to feel my age now! LOL

**gen3fire** - 01/04/13 - 16:16

Hi Everybody!

I am not a firefighter, but I do know a little bit about buildings in the Glenwood area and I have yet to hear two words every older North Carolinian will immediately recognize: lighter pine. There is alot of it around and it is some flammable stuff.

**HandyGuyKattermann** ([Web Site](#)) - 01/08/13 - 23:32

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To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
Hide email:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.



12/28/12 65 W, 1 I - + 11 - 3

How many pictures did you take at the fire the other day? About a thousand. How many of those were keepers? Looks like 369. When will you have the rest posted? Today or tomorrow or the next day. What's taking so long? Time. Apologies to those who thought they'd be reading about finger injuries.



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E-mail: (optional)	Yes
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Korean Remake of The Towering Inferno?

12/28/12 60 W - + 5 - 7

Just in time for the holiday season that's almost over, here's a trailer for an upcoming Korean film called *The Tower*. The director is Kim Ji-hoon. The trailer was found at [Ain't it Cool News](#). Looks like a remake of *The Towering Inferno*. Or maybe a cross between that and *Die Hard*.

The original movie "The Towering Inferno" was a cross between two stories: "The Tower" and the "Glass Inferno" and used elements from each. Unsure as to the relationship between this movie and the 1970's story of the same name.

Furey - 12/29/12 - 08:05

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Hide email:	Yes, hide my email address.

**Open House at Old Station 4 on Wake Forest Road on Saturday, Dec. 29** 12/28/12 121 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Last-minute notice on this one. Oak City Coffee Roasters is holding an open house at old Station 4 on Wake Forest Road on Saturday, December 29. The event is from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. They've been using the building this year as a location for roasting their coffee. The public is invited, and no invitation is required.

[This Goodnight Raleigh posting](#) tells more, and has a picture of the roasting operation inside the former fire station. As we [noted in a recent posting](#), the building is apparently destined for demolition. A mattress store is planned for the location. The fire station operated from 1963 to 1993, before relocating to Northway Court.



I stopped by ~7pm and looked around one final time. The place is in amazing condition. I'm sure it was an easy upkeep as soon as the firefighters left. Really goes to show how rough we are on our stuff whether it's the station, apparatus, or equipment. And to think we take care of our stuff simply because we clean it everyday. Tsk,tsk,tsk. I am actually wanting to contact the owners of the facility to inquire about the kitchen cabinets. They seem to be in fantastic shape. I'd hate for them and a few other items to simply be demolished. Seems like a waste. The cabinets at my current station are in horrible shape and we've already been told there is no money for fixing them. I'd love to remove the cabinets from old #4 and install them in my current station.

**Rescue Ranger** - 12/31/12 - 22:48

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E-mail: (optional)	
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Against the Elements

12/29/12 54 W, 1 I - + 9 - 3

That's what we'll title this photo from Wednesday's fire at the Hibernian Pub. Still working on processing the full series of photos. [See the initial set](#). Boy, a lazy blogger (guilty as charged) could get a week's worth of postings out of a incident like this one. Click to enlarge:



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Notify:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, send me email when someone replies.
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Two Firefighters Injured in Nash County House Fire

12/29/12 68 W, 2 I - + 14 - 4

Veteran fire photographer Bob Bartosz snapped some strong shots at today's house fire on Old Highway 64 near Worth Road in Nash County. The fire was reported just before 11 a.m., [reports this WTVD story](#). Two firefighters were injured. The injuries were not life threatening. [See more photos](#) from the *Rocky Mount Telegram*.



Bob Bartosz/Rocky Mount Telegram photos