

Last Night's Major Fire in Warrenton

02/03/11 189 W, 2 I - + 6 - 9

Southern States Farm Supply at [216 W. Franklin Street](#). Very large commercial building that was fully involved within a short time after being reported about 6 p.m. Hazards in the structure included fertilizer and fuel storage. Some 15 to 20 homes evacuated in five-block radius. Other exposures included nearby library building.

Eight or ten or twelve or more fire departments on scene from North Carolina and Virginia, plus others involved for coverage. Regional EMS response included Wake County EMS unit. Regional haz-mat team responded from Raleigh. Haz-Mat 2 and other units based operations at a nearby school.

Photographer Mike Legeros (Yours Truly) arrived about 8:30 p.m. Fire was controlled by that time. [See his preliminary photos](#). We'll see if we can get and post some other earlier shots. Same for more details, and maybe a list of all participating departments and agencies. News coverage included [News 14](#), [WRAL](#) and [WTVD](#).

Below pictures show Warrenton's tower in the top shot and a (Carolina blue!) Soul City pumper and a Kerr Lake telesquirt in the bottom photo.



Mike – long time reader of the blog and amateur photographer as well. Great pictures of this scene! I'm curious to understand your settings and lens setup is for shots like this (http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2011-02-02-warrenton/slides/IMG_9673.html) and this (http://legeros.com/ralwake/photos/2011-02-02-warrenton/slides/IMG_9412.html).

Tim - 02/03/11 - 17:02

Thanks Tim. If you'll click on the "I" icon on either photo page, you'll see the EXIF information displayed for each picture. In general for such night scenes, I am shooting with a Canon 40D (or for close-ups, a Canon Rebel XT). High-expansion ISO, at 3200. Program shift mode. Rarely dialing different exposure settings. Don't recall metering mode, but I do use spot-metering techniques to get the exposure just right. Lens is L series, f4.0. Wish it wish f2.8, but that's **really** high-dollar glass. Finally, I am pressing the camera as hard against my face as possible, to keep the shot steady.

Legeros - 02/04/11 - 08:41

And at this particular incident, a lot of deleted shots. Keepers as few as 1 in 4 or 1 in 10 for some of these. Takes some takes to get right. At this incident, I shot some 800 pictures. Maybe 175 have been retained.

Legeros - 02/04/11 - 08:43

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