

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 pumpers. 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?

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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.

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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.

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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](#).

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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.

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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.

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

A: Small cave in the backyard.

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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.

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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.

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Q: Do you accept sponsors or advertising on the blog?

A: Not right now.

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Q: Why not?

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

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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
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No