

## History of the History Books

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Notes on the histories of the Raleigh Fire Department's four commemorative history books, which were published in 1984, 2002, 2007, and 2012. [See this web page](#) for more extensive details, including history text (1984) and page samples and production notes (2007, 2012).

Organizing some piles in the man cave this morning. Note that two of these projects either stalled or were postponed. Glorious results resulted, however.

### First Book

- 1983-84 - Organizational meetings start for a commemorative book
- 1984, June 25 - Order deadline for 1984 book.
- 1984-85 - Book is probably printed in late 1984 or early 1985.  
Need to research this one.

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### Second Book

- 1997, June - Production meetings have started on a second commemorative book.  
Contract is signed in June 1997. The production year will be 1998.  
The book will be 152 pages. There will be 500 copies.  
Portraits are taken of personnel in 1997.  
Project stalls and resumes two years later.  
Two-person committee.  
Portraits are taken again of all/some personnel.
- 2002 - Orders are placed through the spring, if memory serves.  
Orders are taken starting six months prior to completion of content.  
Book is priced at either \$50.00.
- 2003, spring - Book is printed, fulfillment begin.  
Need to research this one. Can't remember when mine was in hand.

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### Third Book

- 2007, August - Organizational meetings start for a third commemorative book.  
Committee is formed, including members of the 2002 book project.
- 2007, October-November - Portraits taken of personnel.
- 2007, November - Order forms (flyers) distributed, marketing begins. Book is priced at \$50.00.
- 2007, January 15 - Order deadline (flyer). Subsequently extended to February 1.
- 2008, April - Content deadline for submission to printer.
- 2008, August - Proofing deadline.
- 2008, September - Book goes to press.
- 2008, November - Book is printed, fulfillment begins.

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### Fourth Book

- 2010, April - Organizational meetings start for a fourth commemorative book.  
Committee is formed, including members of 2007 book project.  
Project planned to coincide with fire department centennial in 2012.
- 2010, November - Project is postponed.  
Planned publication date is 2013, to allow inclusion of anniversary activities planned for 2012.
- 2012, January - Organizational meetings begin for 2012 book.

Committee is formed, including members of 2007 book project.

Production meetings start the following month.

- 2012, March - Order forms (flyer) distributed, marketing begins. Book is priced at \$60.00.
- 2012, May - Portraits taken of personnel.
- 2012, December 1 - Order deadline (flyer). Subsequently extended to January 15. Book price is raised to \$70.00.
- 2013, January - Content deadline, last of rolling deadlines for completing and proofing content that started in November.
- 2013, January-February - Portraits taken of additional/promoted personnel.
- 2013, February - Book goes to press.
- 2013, April - Book is printed, fulfillment begins.

[Learn more.](#)

Here are some related images, including a montage of book covers, the acknowledgement pages for each book, a pair of 1984 cover designs credited to Firefighter Donald C. Heath, and flyers from three of the four books. Click to enlarge:



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