

Reader Mail - February 28, 2014

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Holy cow, it's almost March. Where does the time go? Well, that's easy... research projects! Lately been digging into the [history of local rescue squads and EMS](#), plus a short trip down memory lane on [Wake County fire service governance and more](#). (Pinned down the prior fire marshals last night.) Plus the usual comings and goings at the Raleigh Fire Department, the Raleigh Fire Museum, and around town. Also making travel plans for April. See you at FDIC, first-time visit (!), and around town shooting [historic or former Indianapolis firehouses](#). Now onto the mails...

Q: Question about Raleigh apparatus. What's housed at Station 14. And are any plans in the future for another tiller?

A: Station 14 on Lake Boone Trail houses a rescue pumper (Squad 14), a reserve rescue (twin of Rescue 1) that can also be used by Squad 14 to transport additional technical rescue equipment. Squad 14 also has a boat trailer, housed in a small building behind the station.

Regarding a second tiller for the city, there continue to be words on the street to that effect. Such apparatus are exceptionally maneuverable, which is super-helpful in areas of the city with tighter streets. And they can carry a quite a bit more gear!

Q: Hey Mike, are you going to post some coverage of Smithfield's recent haz-mat incident on your blog?

A: Yes, no, maybe. I'm using Twitter these days for micro-blogging.* That is, to "blog" short sentences with such links as Jason Thompson's [photos of the incident](#). He also posted a short narrative on [jocofire.com](#). Let me see about a blog posting, and any additional incident details. Maybe readers will send me something.

* Wait, you don't use Twitter? No problem! My latest "tweets" automatically appear on the blog home page.** Or check [legeros.com](#), which has a big fat embedded feed.

** Can't you just write regular blog posts? Twitter and Facebook is too complicated! Agree, you should try managing content across all those channels!

Q: Do you do ride-alongs?

A: Negative, they're pretty rare for me. They're fun to do, but the raw time is tough. There's just too much time required sitting and waiting for a fire. Plus, ours isn't a burning city. Fires are mostly room and contents. For "intense fireground action," you have to nearly already be there. Ours is a geographically huge area.

For special projects, however, ride-alongs are *great*. Such taking an afternoon or evening to make the rounds with an EMS district chief. Done that a couple times.

Q: Can our department post some of your recent photos on our web page and/or Facebook page?

A: Most certainly. Here's the fine print: *Photos are copyright 2014 by Mike Legeros except where noted and may be freely distributed or reproduced by any public safety agencies depicted therein.*

Q: Can I get a copy of a photo that you took of me on scene? How much do charge?

A: No charge! But no photo fulfillment services provided, either. What I will do is send you the high-resolution image, which you can take or electronic send to your favorite photo printing place.

Q: Do you mind if I submit your photo of X to newspaper Y?

A: Thanks for thinking of me, but I prefer that my incident photos aren't used on news sites and news stations. Exceptions for special events are a different matter. Just drop a line.

Q: Someone was asking over on a Facebook page about an old training film called BLEVE? Do you have any idea on how to find it? They've searched YouTube, but haven't found.

A: Negative, that doesn't ring a bell for me. Recall watching the thing back in the day, but no idea on its current whereabouts.

Q: I'm looking for a model of an American LaFrance 900 Series cab, in 1/64 scale. Can you help me?

A: Code 3 Collectibles manufactured some ALF 900 models, some years ago. Believe they were tillers.* If you look on eBay, or via Google, you can probably find references or even models for sale? Another good source is [this discussion board](#). Ask other collectors on good sources or places to look. Good luck!

*Never did get one of those tillers. They were released about the time that my interest in the hobby was waning.** Sure, still have [hundreds of models](#) on display in the Man Cave AKA North Raleigh Toy Fire Truck Museum. Plus dozens in boxes that need new homes. Watch for fire sale one of these years.

**What did Mike turn his obsessive attention toward, once his interest in *toy* fire trucks started to wane? Take a guess...

Q: Takes you forever sometimes to answer an e-mail message? What's up with that?

A: Plead no contest. Even worse, if you contact me via Facebook mail, I'll probably say "hey, send me an e-mail about this, please."

Q: Hey Mike, do you have any information or historical photos about [fire department topic]?

A. Send me an e-mail. I will add to my project queue. And if you're really lucky, you'll get mentioned on my blog, in a lame collection of reader mail.

Thank you and have a good morning.

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 and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.