

**Raleigh Fire Department "Outside Calls" in 1962**

11/16/14 483 W, 1 I - + 7 - 5

Back in the day, the Raleigh Fire Department recorded every emergency call (and requests for service) in an oversized ledger book. Say eighteen by twelve inches in size. There were columns across two pages, with fields for such information as Date, Time(s), How Alarm was Received, Location, Owner of Building, Occupant of Building, Type of Building, Type of Fire, Suppression Equipment Used, and Value and Loss of Building and Contents.

There are ledger books were used from at least the mid 1920s to the mid 1980s. The information was likely recorded by either the Fire Chief or Assistant Fire Chief. There were monthly and annual tallies of data, as notations indicate in margins. By the 1960s, a sheet of paper was inserted that listed the fire deaths of that year. (The carefully formatted information, or summaries therein, were probably or certainly transmitted to the State Department of Insurance.)

In the 1962 record book, all "outside calls" were recorded with a red pencil. This certainly helped more readily locate these entries. Why purpose would that data serve? Could have been anything, from analyzing the amount of mutual aid to considerations for future service needs for future annexations of "fringe areas."

Here's a transcription of the entries from that year. They present a nifty snapshot of their time:

- Jan 29, 1962 - Westinghouse (fringe area) - Paint duct - E4, E7, T7, T1
- Feb 8 - 2700 Louisburg Road (fringe area) - Abandoned house - E4, E7, T7
- Feb 13 - Wayside Furniture Co., US 1 S. - Aid Fairgrounds FD - E8, Tanker 8
- Mar 29 - Lake Johnson, Avent Ferry Road - Woods fire - E8, Tanker 8
- Apr 5 - Westinghouse, US 1 N. - Wood in joint expansion - E7
- Apr 23 - Asbury [?] - House fire - E8, Tanker 8
- May 15 - Electric Storage & Battery Co., 2510 Louisburg Road - Tar vat - E4
- May 23 - Old Milburnie Road - Raleigh Beach - Man fell in water - R1
- May 26 - Service station, Cary "hi-way" - Aid to Fairgrounds FD - E8, Tanker 8
- May 27 - Holly Springs Road, Apex - Drowning - R2
- Jun 10 - Holiday Inn, US 1 N. - Electric motor - Car 2, Car 3
- Oct 17 - State Fairgrounds - Auto show - Car fire - E5
- Oct 19 - State Fairgrounds - Industrial Building - Grass fire - E1, E5
- Oct 28 - Cary - Heart victim, deceased - R1
- Nov 30 - 4736 Wedgewood - Grass fire - E6
- Dec 7 - Sunnybrook Road - Filter plant - Grass fire - E3

Also recorded were more than a couple instances of city fire companies filling in at Six Forks Fire Department, such as Engine 4 on November 30, 1962. Wonder if they also assisted in that capacity with Fairgrounds or New Hope? (Those three being the sum of "suburban" fire departments that served the city at the time.)

E.L. 642

October, 1962

### DAILY REPORT OF FIRES IN

Alarm No.	Time	Alarm	Location	NAMES OF PARTIES SUSTAINING LOSS		Number of Rooms or Units	Occurrence If other than Building or Main (Caves, Dams, Auto, Forest, etc.)	FIRE	Cause (if known)
				Owner or Business	Occupant				
17 10 30	10 30	24h	1402 Crest Rd.				Planned - no damage		
17 6 30	6 30	24h	302 W. South St.				Auto - no damage		
17 9 15	9 15	24h	2000 Broadway - outside city				Auto - no damage		
17 6 30	7 30	24h	2-6 Washington Ave.				Septic flooded up - no damage		
18 9 25	9 25	24h	Wentworth Blvd. & Highland				Wagon fire - no damage		
18 7 25	8 25	24h	"				Wagon fire - no damage		
18 10 15	11 15	24h	Sea Park Station				20 ft fall in at Sea Park		
18 5 30	5 30	24h	2769 Whitley Rd.				Steel furnace - no damage		
18 7 30	8 30	24h	2916 Oberlin Rd.				Wagon on street - no damage		
19 9 30	9 30	24h	1709 Laurel St.				Auto furnace - no damage		
19 11 30	11 30	24h	Bloodworth Morgan				Auto wreck caused fire		
19 1 15	1 15	24h	State St. - Commercial Bldg.				Wagon - no damage		
19 1 15	2 15	24h	Hayes Bldg.				Pub. Heal. 2 office - caused by		
19 2 15	3 15	24h	410 W. Pine St. Mrs. R. C. Parkam (Empty)				Grass		
19 3 15	4 15	24h	Alameda Ave.				Auto		
19 4 15	5 15	24h	Blairwood - Bldg.				Wagon - minor damage		
20 10 30	11 30	24h	3010 Beaverton				Wagon		
20 1 15	2 15	24h	1300 Edenton St.				Wagon - no damage		
20 6 30	7 30	24h	Walter Hill Atlantic Ave.				Wagon - Cross Street		
20 6 30	7 30	24h	412 S. Second St.				Inspection - Smoke good for		
20 10 30	11 30	24h	101 E. South St.				Inspection - Smoke good for		
20 10 30	11 30	24h	945 Hazel Avenue				Grass Can in bathroom - no		
20 10 30	11 30	24h	Adams St. - Nicholas Lockell Johnson	James Johnson	James Johnson		Fire in wall - went down		
21 4 30	4 30	24h	213 Blarwood Ave.	H. P. Arnold	Mr. Hamilton		Wagon - street damage - in		
21 1 15	1 15	24h	2672 Laurel St.				Wagon - street damage - in		
21 1 15	2 15	24h	301 W. Canal				Wagon - street damage		

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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.