

Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

Fall 2007

New Fire Investigators

The Raleigh Fire Department's first full-time fire investigators were placed in service at Station 9 at 4465 Six Forks Road on August 18. Capt. Tim Duke (A), Lt. Tim Wilson (B), and Lt. Adam Perry (C) each work 24-hour shifts. They are dispatched as Car 198 to all working structure fires. The investigators are operating a 2004 Ford Excursion, soon to be replaced with a 2007 Ford F-350 pick-up truck with a camper shell.



The front room of Station 9—presently a weight room and file storage area—will be converted into an office for the new investigators. It will also include a work space for the Raleigh Police Department Arson Investigator.

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New Engine and Ladder

Two new pieces of apparatus have been placed in service at Station 16 at 5225 Lead Mine Road. Engine 16 received a 2007 Pierce Enforcer pumper on September 6. It is equipped with a 1,500 GPM pump, 500 gallon tank, and 20 gallon foam cell. It also features vertical rear-enclosed ladder storage, LED lighting, and one speed-lay and two cross-lay hose compartments.



Ladder 16 received a 2007 Pierce Arrow XT 105-foot aerial ladder on September 5. It is equipped with a 1,500 GPM pump and 300 gallon tank. It also features two speed-lay and two cross-lay hose compartments. The truck is nearly identical to Ladder 22 and Ladder 26. See photos at www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos. ❖

Mobile Service Vehicle

The Fleet Services section of the Services Division recently completed the conversion of a former rescue unit into a mobile service vehicle. The 2000 Freightliner / American LaFrance previously served as Rescue 14.



The vehicle is stocked with parts and tools to enable

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Select members of Engine 9 will continue to serve as part-time fire investigators, and assist the full-time investigators as necessary. The part-time investigators are Capt. David Boyette (A), Lt. John Ford (A), Capt. Percy Evans (B), Lt. Adam Stanley (B), and Capt. Zeb Overton (C). ❖

Other News

Raleigh firefighters made the switch from full-length trousers to shorts at the end of August. The change will both improve personnel comfort and allow them to function at a higher level while operating in high-heat environments.

The Raleigh Fire Department Leadership Team held a two-day retreat at Anderson Point Park at the end of August and early September. They developed goals for the upcoming budget and fiscal year.

North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force 8 was activated on September 21, to assist the Clayton Fire Department after a single-engine aircraft struck a commercial building on Highway 70. Team members from Raleigh, Cary, Chapel Hill, and Durham assisted with assessing structural integrity and removing the victim. ❖

Fire Prevention Week

The Raleigh Fire Department is excited to be joining fire departments nationwide in this year's theme of "It's Fire Prevention Week: Practice Your Escape Plan." Planned activities include a fire prevention tour at Crabtree Valley Mall on **Friday, October 5** through **Sunday, October 7**. Learn about fire safety and meet the newest addition to the Raleigh Fire Department, Freddie the Fire Engine.

On **Sunday, October 7**, all city fire stations will feature an open house from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. On **Tuesday, October 9**, historian Mike Legeros will present a history of the Raleigh Fire Department at Cameron Village Regional Library at 7:00 pm. And on **Thursday, October 11** through **Saturday, October 13**, the fire prevention tour continues at Triangle Towne Center from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ❖



Promotions

August 18

Lt. Emil Burris to Captain

Lt. Derek Shoup to Captain

SFF Jason Edwards to Lieutenant

SFF Preston Gaster to Lieutenant

SFF Brandon Hopkins to Lieutenant

September 15

Capt. Keith Tessinear to Battalion Chief

Lt. Ian Toms to Captain

SFF K. C. Ray to Lieutenant

September 29

Promoted to First Class Firefighter: Kevin Adcock, David Bagwell, Jr., Patrick Canady, Stuart Denning, Adam Ferguson, Jason Hamilton, Kristin Higgins, Jorge Leiva-Penate, Morgan McLamb, Michelle Munisteri, Robert Murray, Jr., Michelle Smith, Brian Todd, Scott Wright. ❖

Recent Incidents

Three alarms were struck at 1201 Trillium Court on September 16. The late-evening fire apparently started in the storage closet of a second-story apartment. The three-story, twelve-unit structure was heavily involved on arrival of Engine 8. Command was assumed by Battalion 3, who directed defensive operations. Companies remained on the scene into the next day.



Three alarms were also struck at 3833 Bonneville Court (above) on August 20. The early morning fire displaced about 70 people. Engine 11 found heavy fire showing from a three-story apartment building. Police officers, first on scene, were credited in going door-to-door to awaken residents. Three occupants were transported. ❖

Retiree Christmas Party

The annual retiree Christmas Party will again be held on the first Tuesday of the month, December 4, at the Wake County Shrine Club, 6015 Lead Mine Road, which is north of Millbrook Road and south of Lynn Road.

The cost of dinner is \$17.00 per person, or \$34.00 per couple. Please send payments, with checks made payable to Al Moore, to 6500 Secret Drive, Raleigh, NC, 27612. His telephone number is 919-848-1685. No refunds after November 26.

Guests are welcome as there is plenty of room. Socializing starts one hour ahead of the 7:00 p.m. dinner. Please plan to attend and enjoy the wonderful food and fellowship. We hope our widows will join as well, as they are also part of the Raleigh Fire Department family. ❖

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST

PAM'S RESTAURANT, 5111 WESTERN BOULEVARD
OCTOBER 9, 7:30 A.M.
SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

VARIOUS LOCATIONS
OCTOBER 5 TO OCTOBER 13
SEE PAGE 2 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST

PAM'S RESTAURANT, 5111 WESTERN BOULEVARD
NOVEMBER 13, 7:30 A.M.
SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH.

RETIREE CHRISTMAS PARTY

WAKE COUNTY SHRINE CLUB, 6015 LEAD MINE ROAD
DECEMBER 4, 6:00 P.M.
SEE ABOVE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST

PAM'S RESTAURANT, 5111 WESTERN BOULEVARD
DECEMBER 11, 7:30 A.M.
SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH.



staff to make some repairs and perform service on apparatus and equipment while units remain in their response jurisdiction. ❖

Boots Filled For Fundraising

Raleigh firefighters raised \$12,079 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during the International Association of Fire Fighter's (IAFF) annual Fill the Boot campaign over Labor Day weekend. Personnel and their in-service apparatus were posted at shopping centers and other public locations on Friday, August 31, and Saturday, September 1. IAFF members have donated nearly \$275 million to MDA since 1954.

Baby Delivered at Station 14

On July 19, at approximately 8:50 a.m., a Lexus sport utility vehicle stopped sideways across the apron of Station 14 at 4200 Lake Boone Trail. A woman was giving birth in the front passenger seat and a screaming grandmother-to-be was at the wheel. Lieutenant Ben Averette, Senior Firefighter Nick Lane, and First Class Firefighter Kevin Elseworth answered the cries for help. At 8:57 a.m., Emerson Joseph Robb was delivered. The 6-pound, 2-ounce infant was transported next door to Rex Hospital by EMS 4. The station crew visited the new family that afternoon and again the next morning. Lane notes that though the family members were fans of North Carolina State University, the baby was wrapped first in his Duke University towel. ❖

Back in the Day

In **September 1982**, the Fire Marshall began compiling a list of hazardous material storage areas in the city, after a Charlotte chemical fire forced 1,000 people from their homes. In **October 1957**, fire prevention classes for hospital and boarding home workers were under way. After two years, 1,684 nurses and employees were instructed in extinguishing small fires, and other skills. In **September 1932**, the Raleigh Fire Department had 56 authorized positions and a budget of \$94,144.49. Chief W. Ernest Holland led five engine companies, an aerial truck company, and a service truck company. In **August 1907**, the L.A. Mahler Company won the long-distance steam engine contest at the NC State Firemen's Association tournament in Wilmington. Also that month, the Victor Company won three events at the NC Colored Fireman's Association tournament in Durham. ❖

PICTURE BOOK IN PRODUCTION

A committee has been formed to produce a new Raleigh Fire Department yearbook. Battalion Chief Alan Walters is leading the project, and welcomes ideas. The hardcover book will be full-color and numbering at least 110 pages. It will contain personnel portraits and company photos, as well as plenty of action shots. The committee has set objectives of producing portraits in early November, with photo packages available for purchase, and book publication the following spring. Two prior yearbooks were produced in 1984 and 2002. More information is forthcoming.

RELIEF FUND NEWS

Dennis Hughes has taken the place of the late Hubert Altman on the Fireman's Relief Fund. Also, retirees who have changed their mailing address are asked to contact Mary Butler at Fire Administration, 919-831-6115 or mary.butler@ci.raleigh.nc.us, to ensure that they continue to receive their payments.

Raleigh Fire Department
310 West Martin Street, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27602

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Recruitment Update

The application period closed on July 25 for Raleigh Fire Department Recruit Academy #34, projected to start in January 2008. A total of 604 completed applications were received at the Keeter Training Center. The Certified Physical Agility Test (CPAT) and written examination were administered the week of September 17. A total of 201 applicants passed both exams and will proceed to the next phase of the process. ❖

About this Newsletter

The Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. This issue was produced by Mike Legeros, RFD Historian. He can be reached at mikey@legeros.com or 919-786-0110. Comments, questions, and suggestions are welcome. Photos are by Legeros and Lee Wilson, RFD Photo Unit. For more information about the Raleigh Fire Department, visit www.raleigh-nc.org/fire. To learn about the history of the Raleigh Fire Department, visit www.legeros.com/history. ■

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