



Recruit Academy Starting

Raleigh Fire Department Recruit Academy #34 starts on January 7. During 26 weeks of training, 24 recruits will receive certification as EMT, Firefighter I and II, and Rescue Technician VMR. They will also receive training on haz-mat operations and awareness, fireground procedures, high-rise operations, rapid intervention teams (RIT), accountability systems, safety companies, engine and ladder company operations, and firefighter safety and survival.



Hiring started in the summer and 562 applications were accepted. Orientation sessions for the Certified Physical Agility Test (CPAT) and written examination were conducted in August, with some 380 participants. The CPAT and written examination were administered the week of September 17, with 204 applicants passing

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Profile: Tim Henshaw, Fire Protection Engineer

The Fire Prevention Division of the Raleigh Fire Department performs a variety of services, from new and existing construction inspection, to reviews of fire alarm and sprinkler systems. Timothy R. Henshaw has served as the division's Fire Protection Engineer since July 3, 2006.

His duties include assisting the Fire Marshal with division operations, overseeing inspectors, and providing technical support to the deputy fire marshals. Tim works weekdays, and spends about half his time at Fire Administration. The rest of his time is spent shuttling between other city office locations.



Tim is a third-generation member of the fire service. He was a firefighter in Rocky Grove, PA, like his father and grandfather. He moved to North Carolina in 2002, to serve as Fire Protection Engineer at Duke University. He presently volunteers with the Bethesda Fire Department, and also works with the investigation team of the Durham County Fire Marshal's Office.

Long an apparatus buff, Tim also collects and restores them. He bought his first engine in 2005, a 1955 American LaFrance 700 Series pumper that served out of state. He now owns three LaFrances, including Raleigh's old Engine 3. He saved the 1951 engine (#L-4433) from being scrapped last year. His plans for the rig have not been determined. Learn more about American LaFrance collectors at www.alfowners.org, a site maintained by Tim. ❖

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both. Approximately half of the 204 were selected for background checks. From the remaining pool of applicants, 74 were invited for interviews in November.



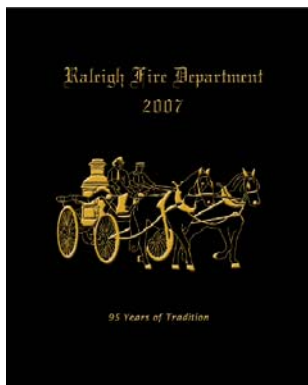
After five days and 40 hours of interviews, the final candidates were selected for physicals and controlled substance testing. A total of 24 recruit candidates were selected and offered employment.

A pre-employment session was conducted at the Keeter Training Center in December. Candidates were also fitted for uniforms and turnout gear at that time.

The academy begins on January 7 at 0800 hours. The recruits graduate on July 7. ❖

Yearbook Update

Production is concluding on a new Raleigh Fire Department commemorative yearbook. A committee has been working since September to coordinate portraits of active and retired personnel. They also have been compiling current and historical images for inclusion in the volume, titled *Raleigh Fire Department 2007: 95 Years of Tradition*.



To be published in the late spring, the hardbound book will measure 9 by 12 inches and feature all color pages. The cost is \$50.00 and it can be ordered by anyone with an interest in the Raleigh Fire Department. The deadline for ordering is **January 15**.

The book can be ordered online through the publisher's web site, www.mtpublishing.com. For information on ordering by postal mail, contact Battalion Chief Luther Walters at luther.walters@ci.raleigh.nc.us or 919-291-4684. ❖

Promotions

The following personnel were promoted effective December 8:

Promoted to Captain: Timothy N. Pearce, James E. Reeves, Brian L. Sherrill.

Promoted to Lieutenant: Frankie L. Beasley, Brian V. Pearce, Jayson T. Ramsey.

Promoted to Senior Firefighter: Joshua L. Barbour, Jeffrey L. Barefoot, Kevin J. Ellsworth, Daniel P. Fox, Shannon L. Haeck, Jeffrey L. Harrison, Brian C. Hill, Michael D. Jackson, John E. Olive, Jr., Charles E. Smith, and Christopher P. Tucker. ❖

Retirements

Captain Wesley W. Medlin retired on December 1 with 29.2 years of service.

Captain John A. Woodall retired on December 1 with 27.6 years of service.

Lieutenant Joseph H. Stuart retired on December 1 with 28.7 years of service.

Births and Deaths

Abbygail Jean Narron was born to Senior Firefighter Jimmy Narron and wife Melissa on February 22.

Tyler Curtis Byrum was born to Captain Ed Byrum and his wife Cheri on September 21.

Noah Caton White and Luke Andrew White, twins, were born to Senior Firefighter Nicholas White and wife Meredith on September 27.

Catherine Marie Moxin was born to Lieutenant Edward Moxin and wife Kimberly on October 17.

Evelyn Nicole Meier was born to Senior Firefighter Andrew Meier and wife Carrie Anne on November 20.

Madeline Kay Murphy was born to Senior Firefighter Jason Murphy and wife Courtney on December 12.

Retired Captain Ben Dixon passed away in Raleigh on October 19. He retired in 1980 with 28 years of service. He was 84 years old.

Retired Captain Bill "Dusty" Bartholomew passed away in Raleigh on December 7. He retired in 1979 with 27 years of service. He was 81 years old.



Recent Incidents

Three alarms were struck at 6904 River Run in north-west Raleigh on December 5. Engine 18 (A shift) arrived at a two-story, sixteen-unit apartment building about 6:50 p.m. and found fire in the first and second floors, and through the roof. The fire was controlled at approximately 8:05 p.m. One occupant was transported with minor injuries. Firefighters also rescued three animals. At least eight units were damaged. The reported cause was a grill on a first-floor deck.



Two alarms were struck at 1423 South Blount Street (above) on November 9. The early evening fire was reported by employees at an industrial plant across the street. Engine 2 (C shift) found heavy fire in the rear of a fenced-in complex. A mobile home and other vehicles and materials were found ablaze. Five drums of unknown substance were checked and cleared by hazmat crews. Water supply issues and the presence of guard dogs also affected the operation. ❖

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

RECRUIT ACADEMY #34 BEGINS

KEETER TRAINING CENTER, 105 KEETER CENTER DRIVE
JANUARY 7

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST

PAM'S RESTAURANT, 5111 WESTERN BOULEVARD
January 8, 7:30 a.m.

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST

PAM'S RESTAURANT, 5111 WESTERN BOULEVARD
February 12, 7:30 a.m.

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST

PAM'S RESTAURANT, 5111 WESTERN BOULEVARD
MARCH 11, 7:30 A.M.

Water Rescue Truck Delivered

The first of four swift water rescue trucks for North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force 8 has been completed. USAR 801 was delivered to the Keeter Training Center in November. The four trucks will be identically equipped, each with VHF marine radios and water rescue equipment including dry suits and harnesses.



Custom-built boat trailers are under construction. The first trailer was delivered in December. Each trailer will carry two inflatable boats, spare motors, generators, and lights. Each trailer will also have a third level for storage and use as an observation deck. ❖

Accountability Enhancements

Company-level accountability has been enhanced with new reflective markers attached to breathing apparatus. One is attached to the rear, and is visible from behind the firefighter. The other is attached to a shoulder strap and is visible from the front of the firefighter.



Personnel have also been issued new helmet fronts. The colors are red (ladder), black (engine), green (rescue), white (chief or captain on apparatus), and yellow (recruits). Brown (fire prevention) and orange (training) are proposed colors. The new fronts are assigned to each piece of apparatus. When personnel are transferred, they leave their shields behind. ❖



Retiree Lunch at Station 26

The crew of Station 26 at 929 Barwell Road in south-east Raleigh served chicken and rice, and sandwiches to approximately 60 retirees on October 25, 2007, at a lunch sponsored by the Raleigh Professional Fire Fighters Association. The retired members were joined by A shift personnel and chiefs. This is the third year that Station 26 has hosted a retiree lunch. See www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos for more photos by Lee Wilson. ❖



Since 1975, over 294 members of the Raleigh Fire Department have retired with over 7,363 years of total service.

Retiree Christmas Party

The annual retiree Christmas Party was held on December 4 at the Wake County Shrine Club at 6015 Lead Mine Road. Over 170 retirees, retiree widows, family members, and friends attended. See www.legeros.com/ralwake/photos for more photos. ❖

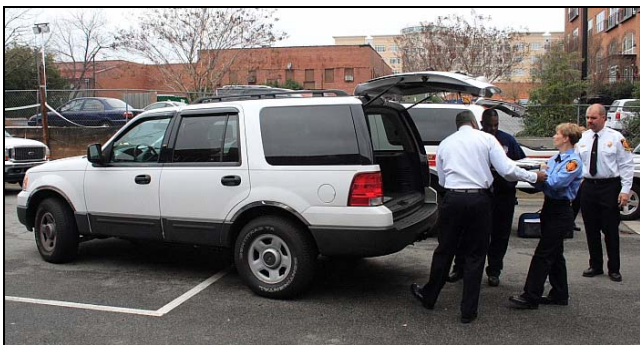


Since 1912, over 1,250 men and women have served as uniformed and civilian members of the Raleigh Fire Department.

HOLIDAY MEAL AT BURN CENTER

Raleigh firefighters delivered holiday cheer to the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill on December 21. Personnel donated money, which was used to provide a lunch for burn survivors, their families, and staff. Over 75 people were present at the annual event.

Fire Prevention members coordinated the collection and transportation of food and gifts. They also conducted interviews for a future episode of FireWatch. Those attending were Captain Mark Bethea, Fire Educator Ronald Campbell, Captain Tim Duke, First Class Firefighter Kristin Higgins, Assistant Chief Larry Stanford, and Firefighter Sandy Woodall. ❖



RETIREES: SHARE YOUR STORIES

Over a dozen retirees have participated in an oral history project being conducted by Raleigh Fire Department Historian Mike Legeros. The taped interviews last about an hour, and a copy is provided to each participant on audio CD.

The purpose of the project is to preserve the living history of the Raleigh Fire Department. The recordings are being archived for future use. To be interviewed, please contact Mike Legeros at mikey@legeros.com or 919-786-0110. ❖



Back in the Day

In **February 1983**, Thomas T. Kuster was appointed Fire Chief. Hired from Louisville, he was the first fire chief hired from outside the department. Chief Kuster served from 1983 to 1986. He was the twelfth full-time Chief of the Raleigh Fire Department.

In **March 1958**, nine vacant homes off South Fayetteville Street burned. They were on the site of a federal housing project. Crews were called twice in the same afternoon, finding five then four houses ablaze.

In **January 1933**, the station captains were W. Ralph Butts (Engine 1), John G. Harrison (Aerial Truck 1 & Service Truck 1), R. Lee Matthews (Engine 2), W. Leonard Choplin (Engine 3), Alvin B. Lloyd (Engine 4), and Edward G. McGhee (Engine 5).

In **February 1908**, the largest building in Cary burned. The Raleigh Fire Department was requested to help and Fire Chief Frank Simpson responded by sending the 1905 American LaFrance steamer and hose on a special train.

To learn about the history of the Raleigh Fire Department, visit www.legeros.com/history. ❖

Newsletter Available on E-mail

Retirees can receive the Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter via electronic mail. Unlike the printed copies, the electronic versions are full color. To receive the newsletter via e-mail, please send a note including your name to rfdnews@legeros.com.

Newsletters will be sent via e-mail to retirees at the same time they are published to active personnel. Delivery of the printed newsletters via postal mail can take an additional number of weeks. ❖

About this Newsletter

The Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter is a quarterly publication for personnel, retirees, and citizens. The editor is Mike Legeros. Photo credits this issue include Legeros, Raleigh Fire Department Photographer Lee Wilson, and Senior Firefighter Jeff Silver. For more information about the newsletter, contact rfdnews@legeros.com. For more information about the Raleigh Fire Department, visit www.raleigh-nc.org/fire. ■