



Building Construction Team

Long before the first companies arrive at a commercial structure fire, another division of the Raleigh Fire Department has been working to protect the property and its occupants.

The Building Construction Division is part of the Fire Prevention Division. The team of Deputy Fire Marshals is led by Fire Protection Inspector Steve Berry. They perform several vital activities, beginning with reviewing the building plans to ensure compliance with local, state, and national codes.



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Two Alarms on Tall Timber



Two alarms were struck at 4951 Tall Timber Drive on the morning of Feb. 13. The fire was dispatched at 2:26 a.m., with the Emergency Communications Center reporting multiple calls. Engine 16 (B shift) arrived at a three-story, wood-frame apartment building with heavy fire showing through the roof. Crew made an initial interior attack, and also evacuated other residents. Two hydrants were caught and several hand lines were util-



ized. Battalion 4 was the Incident Commander. As the fire progressed, defensive operations were started using Ladder 17. The fire was controlled two hours later. Twelve apartments were rendered uninhabitable and 19 people were displaced. The cause was determined as started by discarded smoking materials on the second-floor rear deck. See more photos from Lee Wilson at www.raleighfirenews.org. ❖

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For any planned fire system, either new or altered, they meet with engineers, architects, owners, and contractors. They also inspect the fire system after installation.

Building Construction also conducts tactical reviews, either in the planning stages or after a commercial structure is built. They work with Operations Division command staff for ideas regarding tactics. They also meet with nearby fire stations to discuss the FDC, pumps, pressure reducing valves, fire alarm panels, and other equipment.

Recent field inspections include the 509,000 square-foot Raleigh Convention Center, the 17-story North at West, and the 34-story RBC Tower.

The Building Construction Division was moved from the city Inspections department into the fire department in August 2006. ❖

Meet the Team



Left to right: Steve Berry, Chris Warren, Kevin Bailey, Dean Leutwyler

Kevin Bailey has worked in the fire protection field since 1993, in the areas of sprinkler, alarm, alternate suppression, and extinguishers. He was an Aviation Electrician in the Marine Corps.

Steve Berry has worked for the city since March 1994, where he started in plan review. He was raised in the construction industry, served on an aircraft carrier in the Navy and trained on fighting deck fires, and is a former volunteer firefighter.

Ryan Cutright has been a fire prevention inspector since 2008. He's also a certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (CFEI) and Vehicle Fire investigator (VFI) with the National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI). He was also a Damage Controlman Second Class Petty Officer in the Navy.

Greg Frazier (not pictured) has worked in fire prevention inspection since 2000. He's also an EMT, firefighter II, and a fire prevention inspector instructor. He's a member of the Wake County Arson Task Force.

Dean Leutwyler has worked in the fire protection field since 1991, in areas including fire alarm/electrical, alternate suppression, and fire extinguisher hydro testing and maintenance. He also served as a Tactical Communications Technician Staff Sergeant in the Army.



Left to right: Brian Morgan, Ryan Cutright, Lee Lovic, Eric Phillips

Lee Lovic has worked for the city since 2004, where he started as a Field Inspector. He moved to Plan Review in 2006. He's also a veteran firefighter, instructor, and driver-operator, and a member of the Fuquay-Varina Fire Department.

Brian Morgan has been a fire prevention inspector since 2008. He's also a certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (CFEI), Instructor (CFII), and Vehicle Fire investigator (VFI) with the National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI).

Eric Phillips has worked in the fire protection field since 1996. He's a certified backflow preventer (cross connection) inspector, and has been a member of the city inspections team since 2004.

Chris Warren is a former Asst. Captain for the National Park Service with qualifications in wildland fire-fighting as Firefighter type I, Faller B, Helicopter crew member, and Incident Commander Type V. ❖

Solar Power for Station 15

A solar thermal hot water heating system has been installed at Fire Station 15, at 1815 Spring Forest Road. It supplements a natural gas unit that was the facility's only source of hot water. The system consists of three solar collectors on top of the station's roof, a solar water tank, a heat exchanger, and other associated equipment, including pipes, valves, sensors and water flow meters. One of the reasons Station 15 was chosen is because it has the least amount of shade, providing the best environment for solar production. ■



Recruits Finish Fire Academy

Recruit Academy 35 has completed their Firefighter I & II training and is starting Live Fire and Fire-ground Operations. They travel to Gaston College on Apr. 1 for three days, and to the Wake County



Fire Training Center on Apr. 6 for four days. The final week of their academy includes Skills Testing, Shift Ride Along, and Final Exams. That week, recruits receive a day of orientation on station life and expectations when they arrive at their assignments. Graduation at the Raleigh Convention Center is Friday, Apr. 17 at 7:00 p.m, in Exhibit Hall A. See more photos by Lee Wilson at www.raleighfirenews.org, including the burn lab (above) recently completed on the lower-level of the Keeter Training Center. ❖

Crews Cropped for a Cause



Crews battled clippers on Feb. 28 at Hibernian Restaurant & Pub on Glenwood Avenue, with firefighters raising money for the St. Baldrick's Foundation. The shorn squad included "C" shift personnel from Station 1. Pictured left to right, standing: Charles Kneeshaw, Bill Melina, Rick Hufham, Pat Murphy, Jerry Ward, Reggie Hocutt, Chris Wilson, Jim Tyner, George Jones, Ronald Campbell. Kneeling: Chad Vradenburg, Brian Morgan, Jason Bolduc, Brian Murphy, and Jason Edwards. ❖

Fire Station Six Turns Sixty

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of the city's oldest engine house, Fire Station 6 at 2601 Fairview Road is hosting a public open house and birthday party on Saturday, Jun. 27, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Food will be provided, and fire apparatus will be displayed.

Housed in a rented building from 1943 to 1948, Engine 6 moved into their new quarters on June 25, 1949. The "corner fire station" has also housed a ladder company, a rescue squad, and a Battalion chief over the years. ❖

Help for Fire Prevention



The Fire Prevention Division has received temporary assistance from seven veterans of the city's Inspections department. With development-related inspection activities down due to economic conditions, a group of building, electrical, mechanical and plumbing inspectors has been temporarily assigned to the fire department. They received a rapid training, orientation, and certification program, and started working in the field in March. Pictured left to right: Al Fernandez, Jody Bell, E.B. Adeysian, Kim Adams, Barry Alston, Philip King, and Jerry Joyner. ❖

Retirements

Capt. Darrell R. Canady retired on Apr. 1, with 28 years of service.



Lt. S. Mark Alford retired on Apr. 1, with 30 years of service.



Deaths

Retired Capt. Wade M. Boyette, 69, passed away in Raleigh on Monday, Jan. 19. He retired in 1990 with 29 years of service.



STATION SIX - THEN & NOW



Run Numbers - January 1 to December 31, 2008

The Raleigh Fire Department answered 34,863 calls and rolled on 36,807 runs last year. Unit responses are listed below. Engines 3, 12, and 1 were the busiest engine companies. Ladders 1, 11, and 16 were the busiest ladder companies. Rescue 7 and Battalion 2 were the busiest of those units. ❖

Engine Companies

Eng 1	2,271	Eng 15	1,798
Eng 2	1,477	Eng 16	1,706
Eng 3	2,661	Eng 17	1,061
Eng 4	1,099	Eng 18	1,054
Eng 5	1,326	Eng 19	1,787
Eng 6	1,350	Eng 20	1,372
Eng 7	1,790	Eng 21	1,212
Eng 8	1,777	Eng 22	1,293
Eng 9	1,463	Eng 23	859
Eng 10	1,225	Eng 24	887
Eng 11	1,933	Eng 25	540
Eng 12	2,547	Eng 26	898
Eng 13	1,348	Eng 27	567
Eng 14	1,482	Eng 28	440

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Ladder Companies

Ladder 1	1,800
Ladder 11	1,562
Ladder 16	1,474
Ladder 20	845
Ladder 22	799
Ladder 23	658
Ladder 26	422

Rescue Companies

Rescue 7	870
Rescue 14	722
Rescue 19	591

Battalion / Division Chiefs

Bat 1	443
Bat 2	452
Bat 3	334
Bat 4	356
Car 5	146

Special Units

Air 8	145
Car 20	236
Haz-Mat 2	66
Haz-Mat 15	78

USAR Members Honored By City Council

On Dec 2, the City Council honored six Raleigh firefighters who participated in the Nov. 18 rescue of two hikers in Linville Gorge. Other members of N.C. USAR Task Force 8 also participated in the rescue and were honored. While conducting a ground search in the Upper Falls area,



Capt. Mike Hayes and Senior Firefighter Jason Ceisner, along with two members of Burke County Search and Rescue, located the hikers. Lt. Joe Massey and Senior Firefighter Stephen Holleman, along with Wake EMS paramedic Patrick Collins, met the team and provided assistance to the hikers while awaiting transportation. Capt. Jake Jackowski and Bryan Kilmer, along with Durham firefighters Travis Vickerson and Jeff Roberts, were in helicopters about to be inserted into the search area when the hikers were found. The search was conducted in rugged terrain as temperatures dipped below 24 degrees with gusty winds and over two inches of snow on the ground. See more ceremony photos at www.raleighfirenews.org. ■

Inspections

The staff of the Fire Marshal's Office conducted 11,645 last year, including 6,100 by the Building Construction team.



Recent Events & Incidents

On Mar. 5, North Carolina Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Task Force 8 deployed to Charlotte to participate in a structural collapse drill. They deployed 69 members and set up their base of operations. The team logged 1,656



hours of training during two 12-hour operational periods over the course of the five-day drill. See photos at www.raleighfirenews.org.

On Feb. 25, two alarms were struck at 5321 Evergreen Forest Way. Engine 22 was first on scene at a two-story apartment building with heavy fire in the rear of the structure. The 5:55 a.m. fire was controlled at 6:44 a.m. Five apartments were rendered inhabitable and 30 people were displaced.



On Jan. 14, the Raleigh Fire Department hosted a controlled collapse exercise for USAR Task Force 8 at the corner of Jones and West streets in downtown Raleigh. The three-day, 72-hour exercise was conducted at a structure scheduled for demolition. See more photos at www.raleighfirenews.org.

On Jan. 27, an extended haz-mat operation was conducted at the Neuse River Wastewater Treatment Plant in southeast Raleigh. Firefighters helped contain an oil discharge that culminated at the plant. Crews were on scene until about midnight, and returned for several hours the next day. ❖

NEW WEB SITE ADDRESS FOR PHOTOS
ACCOMPANYING NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:
WWW.RALEIGHFIRENEWS.ORG

Academy Graduates Reunite



On Nov. 18, members of the third 1978 recruit academy met at Station 2 before going to breakfast at Barry's Cafe. Pictured left to right: Paul Johnson (r), K.D. Harris (r), Jameel Ali, Rick Moore (r), Michael Franks (r), Lonnie Bridgers, Ollie Bridgers (r), Danny Poole, Carl Trice (standing on truck), James Allen (r), Derek Hamrick (r, standing on truck), Reggie Perry (r), Hank Roberts (r), Billy Dean (r), Jeff Mullen.



On Feb. 16, members of the 1989 recruit academy met at Perkins Restaurant in Raleigh for breakfast. Pictured left to right, standing: Fred Noble, Todd Jones, Mike Legeros, Randy Mayo, A.C. Rich, Barry Spain, Greg Bridges. Kneeling: Rob Johnson, Al Moody, Jerry Ward, Duffy Deyo, and Tony Edmundson. ❖

Land for Future Fire Stations

Property has been purchased for Station 29 and the replacement of Station 12. Lots at 12113 and 12117 Leesville Road were purchased for the next northwest Raleigh fire station. Lots at 4306 Poole Road, 803 Office Way, and 807 Office Way were purchased for relocating Station 12 from 3409 Poole Road. The timeframe for building both facilities is being determined. ■



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST

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

APRIL 14, MAY 12, JUNE 9

RECRUIT ACADEMY GRADUATION CEREMONY

RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER, EXHIBIT ROOM A

APRIL 17, 7:00 P.M.

FOURTH ANNUAL NC FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL

NASH SQUARE, 227 W. MARTIN STREET

MAY 2, 10:00 A.M. (PARADE), 1:00 P.M. (SERVICE)

THIRD ANNUAL NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

GOLF TOURNAMENT

EAGLE RIDGE GOLF COURSE, RALEIGH, NC

JUNE 11, 10:00 A.M.

BIRTHDAY PARTY/OPEN HOUSE AT STATION 6

FIRE STATION 6, 2601 FAIRVIEW ROAD

JUNE 27, 11:00 A.M.

Another Mack is Put to Pasture



One of the city's last Mack CF pumpers was sold in February. The 1982 engine was relocated to Wisconsin, where it was disassembled and its parts removed. The owner is an apparatus recycler. One other Mack CF remains in the fire department's fleet, a second 1982 model that's stored with other antique apparatus at Station 28. It is presently undergoing restoration. ❖

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

THE RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER IS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR PERSONNEL, RETIREES, AND CITIZENS. THE EDITOR IS RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN MIKE LEGEROS. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT fdnews@legeros.com. MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT, VISIT THE WEB SITE www.raleigh-nc.org/fire. ■

Explorers Compete at Winterfest



In January, Raleigh Fire Department Explorer Post #108 attended Winterfest 2009 in Gatlinburg, TN. They stayed four days with 2,600 participants from 17 states at the nation's largest Explorer convention. Activities included climbing, rappelling, recreational activities, and numerous law enforcement and fire service events. Raleigh's explorers competed in four events: Rapid Dress, Save Your Skin, Pittsburgh Drill, and Rescue Randy.

The Save Your Skin event requires an explorer team to follow a hose while wearing full turnout gear and a blacked-out SCBA. The Pittsburgh Drill event requires a team of explorers to function as a Rapid Intervention Team (RIT). They retrieve a downed firefighter and pull them through several obstacles. The Rescue Randy Event requires a team to connect hose lines, crawl through obstacles, and pull a victim to safety.

Raleigh's explorers also hosted their own event named Job Knowledge, which tests explorer teams with multiple-choice questions from the IFSTA 4th Edition manual. Explorer Post #108 has been attending the event for nine years. Watch a slideshow of Winterfest at www.raleighfirenews.org. ❖

Historical Society Update

Two kick-off meetings were held at Station 1 in February, to organize activities for the newly forming Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society. The meetings included the creation of several committees, to lead tasks such as drafting by-laws, brainstorming on fundraising, developing plans for artifact storage, and conducting an inventory of historical items. Long-range projects were also discussed, including a yearbook and birthday events in 2012. That year is our 100 anniversary as a fully-paid fire department. Learn more at the new web site www.raleighfirehistory.org. ■