



Raleigh Fire Department Newsletter



Volume 7, Issue 3

Summer 2013

Morgan McLamb Passes Away



Senior Firefighter Morgan James McLamb, age 37, died in Burlington on May 23. The nine-year veteran had been receiving treatment for a recurring brain tumor when he developed complications from the chemotherapy, including pneumonia.

McLamb was last assigned to Engine 8 on "A" platoon. He joined the Raleigh Fire Department on January 5, 2004.

He was promoted to First Class Firefighter on September 29, 2007. He was promoted to Senior Firefighter on October 9, 2010.

McLamb entered the fire service as a volunteer with the Durham Highway Fire Department, and was a member for over ten years.

He worked for the Youngsville Fire Department for one year before joining the Raleigh Fire Department.

On Monday, May 27, a visitation was held at Mitchell Funeral Home in Raleigh. A funeral service was held on

continued on page 2

Two Alarms on Calumet Drive



Two alarms were struck on Tuesday, May 21, at 3216 Calumet Drive. Arriving units found fire showing through the roof of the two-story apartment building. Hydrants were caught and lines were pulled for an interior attack, as the two arriving ladder trucks were positioned. As searches were performed, heavy fire was found spreading through the attic. Crews were withdrawn at about the fifteen-minute mark and Ladder 2 and Ladder 4 began aerial operations. Portable monitors were also deployed, in the front and rear of the structure.



Command was located in the parking lot, on the left-rear corner of the building. Staging and rehab was along Calumet Drive. Dispatched at 3:31 p.m., the fire was controlled at 4:22 p.m. Seventy-five percent of the building was damaged. The cause was determined as natural, by lightning strike. See more photos by Lee Wilson and Mike Legeros at www.raleighfirenews.org. ■

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Morgan McLamb Passes – Two Alarms on Calumet
- 2 Morgan, Continued – Expo Workshop – Parking Lot
- 3 Chief Brock Retires – Fire Marshal Office News
- 4 Promotions – Retirements – More Staff Changes
- 5 Station 29 – Budget Adopted – Training News
- 6 Five Compete in Iron Man – New Haz-Mat Tractor
- 7 Photo Gallery
- 8 Calendar – Helicopter Rescue on Haw River

continued from page 1

May 28, at Providence Baptist Church in Raleigh.

A private graveside service followed at Alamance Memorial Park in Burlington.

He is survived by his wife Amy and two children: Avery, age four, and Carson, age two.

See page six for information on memorial helmet stickers.

Remembering Morgan



Top to bottom, left to right: Station 8 on April 26, 2012; Fire Prevention Week event at Chick-fil-A on Capital Boulevard on October 9, 2012; Leigh Merchant retirement at Station 8 on November 30, 2010; Ladder 5 members on October 21, 2009.

Changing the Culture on Emergency Vehicle Driving

On Friday, August 9, four members of the Raleigh Fire Department will conduct a workshop at the South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo titled "Emergency Vehicle Driving – Changing the Culture."

With over eighty-seven collective years of fire service experience, presenters Captain and Career Developer Richard Siebel, Battalion Chief Frankie Hobson, Battalion Chief Stephen Page, and Battalion Chief and Safety Officer A.C. Rich will discuss the importance of safe apparatus operation and how leadership encourages cultural change.

Safety, training, and experience aspects will be discussed in detail, including a review of NFPA 1002 and general driving behavior in the fire service.

The Raleigh Fire Department's annual Emergency Vehicle Drive program, which includes classroom instruction and a rodeo cone course, will be highlighted.

They'll also discuss the 2009 rollover of Ladder 4, and how the fire department has worked on changing its culture related to driving safely at all times.

The South Atlantic Fire Rescue Expo will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center on August 7-10. ❖

MORE PARKING FOR ADMINISTRATION



A new parking lot has been installed at the Dillon Building, which houses the Office of the Fire Chief and the Office of the Fire Marshal. The lot was resurfaced and two additional spaces were added through the relocation of satellite television equipment. ■

Asst. Chief Peter Brock Retires

On June 1, Asst. Chief and Fire Marshal Peter J. Brock retired with 27.9 years of service.

He joined the Raleigh Fire Department in July 1985, leaving the Cary Fire Department where he was assigned to Engine 2. He started there in October 1984.



On July 29, 1985, he reported for duty alongside such veteran members as Jay Faison, Reggie Hocutt, Mitch Johnson, Joe Massey, Charlie Patterson, David Ritchie, Ralph Thomas, Mike Townsend, Jim Tyner, Dale Wall, Donnie Wall, Jeff Williford, and Tim Woods.

In 1985, the fire department operated seventeen fire stations. The starting salary for firefighters was \$15,388. The Fire Chief was Thomas Kuster.

Chief Brock was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 1992, to Captain in 1996, to Battalion Chief in 2004, and to Division Chief in 2010.

He was appointed as Asst. Chief and Fire Marshal in 2012.



He remembers his first fire, a single-family dwelling at 1216 Beverly Drive with fire in a rear bedroom." I was the hydrant man. Back then the first due engine laid its own supply line, much like we do now, except we used 2 ½ inch hose then. Seems so antiquated now."

There were many differences back in the day. "Ladder and rescue company operations were non-existent. Everything was geared towards putting water on the fire. Two engines, one ladder, one rescue, one Battalion Chief was the assignment in 1985, regardless of the building type."

He remembers smaller and lighter apparatus that he rode and later drove. "I grew up driving a 24,000 pound Mack that was 24-feet long. Today's rigs are 38,000 pounds and 34-feet long."

The transition from driver/operator to company officer was a challenge for Brock.

"Being one of the guys to supervising the guys is a huge adjustment. Correcting performance with a subordinate and then sitting down to eat lunch with them is difficult. Fire service supervision is a different concept that no management book will teach you. It's easy to manage people when you don't have to eat, sleep, or depend on each other in life threatening situations."

As he's climbed the ranks, his perspective has changed: "Big picture thinking. Don't get bogged down in the small details."

What should line personnel know about the Office of the Fire Marshal and their mandate?

"These guys and gals work really hard. They always have the operations personnel in mind when performing our state mandated inspections."

Chief Brock's plans after retirement? He'll be working for the National Park Service as a historical research consultant in the Civil War era.

"It's a dream job. Well, my second one, after the fire department," he notes. ❖

Fire Marshal Office News

Two Deputy Fire Marshals have been hired. **Mark S. Burns** started on April 15. He's worked with the city since 2000 as a Project Engineer I in the Plans Review group. He holds a Level III certification in Building, Fire, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing.

Robert A. Maddy II also started on April 15. He comes from the City of Carrboro as a Fire Marshal. Robert holds a Level III certification in Fire, Level I in Building, and a Probationary Level I in Plumbing, Electrical, and Mechanical.

In other staff news, **Capt. W. Preston Gaster** is the new full-time fire investigator assigned to "A" platoon. He started on May 7. His office is at Station 1.

In other news, the Office of the Fire Marshal is taking over the responsibility for issuing fireworks for commercial operations of fireworks, such as the Fourth of July displays. Permits are currently issued by Wake County. ■

Promotions & Appointments

July 13

Battalion Chief Robin R. Johnson to Division Chief.

Lt. Jason G. Whitford to Captain.

Senior FF Ryan C. Stagner to Lieutenant.

June 1

Division Chief Kendall T. Hocutt to Asst. Chief and Fire Marshal.

Battalion Chief Barry D. Spain to Division Chief.

Capt. Stephen R. Page to Battalion Chief.

Capt. Kevin L. Coppage to Battalion Chief.

Lt. William M. Stanfield to Captain.

Lt. Jeffrey L. Massey to Captain.

Senior FF Philip F. Arevelo to Lieutenant.

Senior FF Kenneth G. Gilson to Lieutenant.

May 4

Lt. Ralph E. Ripper to Captain.

Lt. Mark F. Kelling to Captain.

Lt. Adam R. Stanley to Captain.

Senior FF Jay D. Rauer to Lieutenant.

Senior FF Keith D. Moses to Lieutenant.

March 23

Promoted to Senior Firefighter, firefighters:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Amber J. Burns | Caleb J. Lewis |
| Corey D. Campbell | Patrick B. Marks |
| Richard D. Carlson | Chaz M. Moore |
| David B. Carroll | David H. Penny Jr. |
| Gregory R. Ceisner | Daniel R. Richardson |
| Preston K. Guidry | Eric D. Stephenson |
| Alexandra O. Gutierrez | Glenn A. Todd Jr. |
| Blaise E. Harris | Brent A. Upton |
| Darrell L. Harris | Robert C. Vradenburgh |
| William T. Janke | Phillip A. Walters |
| Ivon L. Johnson | Sandra B. Woodall |
| Tarmel L. Kennion | Anthony C. Young |

More Retirements

Battalion Chief and Emergency Services Coordinator Franklin G. McLaurin retired June 1 with 30.5 years of service.



Capt. Derek R. Shoup retired May 1 with 17.3 years of service.



Capt. Michael S. Porter retired May 1 with 17.3 years of service.



Senior Firefighter Ricky B. Herring retired July 1 with 12.7 years of service.



Senior Firefighter Jonathan P. Vanore retired May 1 with 16.3 years of service.



Administrative Support Specialist Susan C. Watts retired May 1 with 23.5 years of service.



More Staff Changes

Assistant Fiscal and Administrative Officer **Debbie L. Knight** was hired on March 28. This is a new position reclassified from an administrative support position in the Office of the Fire Marshal. She will assist the Finance Officer with financial tasks, such as budget preparation, pcard administration, purchasing tasks, contracts, and general administrative duties. She previously worked as a Staff Assistant in Inspections.

Planning Officer **Adam S. Perry** was appointed Fiscal and Administrative Officer on March 1. The position was previously titled Finance Officer. Adam was formerly a Lieutenant and Fire Investigator, who entered the fire department on January 8, 1996. He was hired as Planning Officer on May 1, 2010.

Trivia: Only one other Knight has served in the fire department, Firefighter and Mechanic Elmer L. Knight, 1926-1941.

Station 29 Update



On May 21, a \$2.7M contract was awarded to Resolute Building Company for the construction of Fire Station 29. It will be located at 12117 Leesville Road and will house a single engine company.

The 10,000-square-foot fire station, designed by Williard Ferm Architects, will have three apparatus bays, sleeping quarters with twenty-seven beds, an exercise room, office and watch station. The architects also designed Stations 26, 27, and 28.

The facility will have reduced water use and energy efficient HVAC and lighting. ❖

Budget Adopted

Highlights of the adopted City of Raleigh budget for Fiscal Year 2014 included the addition of two Deputy Fire Marshal positions. This will help the city complete the state-mandated fire inspections, which are currently completed only 66% of the time.

Funding for equipment included \$1M for radio replacements and \$3M for replacement of all self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The existing SCBA has reached the end of its life. The new masks have an increased field of vision and better heat resistance, and the air bottles will have 45 minute (standard) and 60 minute (RIT) capacities.

One piece of fire apparatus will be purchased this year: a mobile air unit. The current Air 1, a 2002 International/SVI, needs replacement due to high mileage.

Three fire station projects also received funding. Station 12 replacement (\$3.8M), Station 14 replacement (\$1.6M), and expansion of Station 11 (\$450,000).

This project at Station 11 will raise and lengthen the apparatus bays to accommodate an aerial platform. The station's present size required a special-ordered apparatus that is reaching the end of its frontline life. The expansion will negate the need for future special-ordered apparatus. At the same time, the station will receive other upgrades and improvements.

Other funded facility projects include a supply building and stockroom HVAC system at Services, and roof

repairs and other improvements for fire stations.

The budget also includes a 3% merit-based increase for salaries of city employees. ❖

Training News

Recruit Academy 38 graduates at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, August 9 at Meymandi Concert Hall at the Duke Energy Center in downtown Raleigh. They'll have completed a 28-week program and received state certifications of Firefighter I and II, Emergency Medical Technician, and Rapid Intervention Team.

On July 17, the recruits will travel to Gaston College in Dallas, NC, to learn RIT/mayday and firefighter survival techniques. They've also attended fire training at Central Carolina Community College in Sanford (June) and the Wake County Fire Training Center (May).

On June 18, the recruits received a chainsaw safety and operations class which generated firewood for the Wake County Warmth for Wake project.

High school student **Tiffany Ayala**, with the city's Summer Youth Program, is also assisting with the recruit academy for thirty hours a week. In other staff news, **Capt. D. Michael Davidson** has joined the training staff. He was appointed Task Force Leader/Program Manager of NC USAR Task Force 8, effective June 1.

The Battalion Chief position assigned to the Training Division has been reclassified as a Division Chief. The position has been filled by Division Chief **W. Keith Tessinear**, effective July 12. The position's responsibilities will be coordinating the day-to-day management of the Training Division and serving as single point of contact for the state haz-mat and USAR teams. Additionally, this appropriate rank will enable the position to more effectively assist with all promotional exams. ■



Firefighters, friends, and family celebrated the retirement of Battalion Chief and Emergency Services Manager Frank McLaurin at the training center on May 23.

Five Compete in Ironman Triathlon



Five firefighters competed on Sunday, June 2, at the Ironman 70.3 triathlon in Raleigh. The inaugural event took place at locations in Chatham and Wake County.

Competing were Asst. Chief of Training Brad Harvey, Battalion Chief Ian Toms (B3-C), and First Class Firefighters Dena Ali (L3-A) and Jennifer Patterson (L3-C), and Firefighter David Foresi (E18-B).

Over 2,400 competitors, ages 18 to 74, from fifteen countries were registered for the three-sport event. It featured a 1.2-mile swim at Jordan Lake, a 56-mile bike ride through parts of Chatham and Wake counties, and a 13.1-mile run in Raleigh.

Members of Engine 8 on "C" platoon and others cheered the runners as they completed the third event on the grounds of Meredith College. ❖



Results

| Name | Swim (1.2 mi.) | Bike (56 mi.) | Run (13.1 mi.) | Finish (70.3 mi.) | Division Rank | Overall Rank |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Ali | 00:57:01 | 03:05:58 | 03:00:00 | 07:12:49 | 67 | 1476 |
| Harvey | 00:32:56 | 03:04:09 | 02:57:19 | 06:41:29 | 138 | 1212 |
| Parsons-Foresi | 00:41:36 | 02:45:24 | 02:10:09 | 05:42:10 | 51 | 462 |
| Patterson | 01:10:43 | 03:33:47 | 02:20:34 | 07:15:06 | 39 | 1492 |
| Toms | 00:40:12 | 02:40:05 | 02:00:29 | 05:25:56 | 27 | 282 |

New Haz-Mat Tractor

In June, a new tractor was delivered for Haz-Mat 2, which is operated as part of North Carolina Regional Response Team 4. The 2014 Freightliner replaces a 1995 International that pulls a 1995 Hackney trailer. The truck was purchased by North Carolina Emergency Management. The old tractor will remain in Raleigh and be used to pull the RRT mass-casualty/non-ambulatory decon trailer. The old tractor will also be available to other RRT units during extended repair periods. Haz-Mat 2 is operated by Engine 27. ❖



Morgan McLamb Stickers



Memorial stickers have been created to remember Senior Firefighter Morgan McLamb. They are avail-

able in two sizes: 2" x 2" reflective (\$3) and 3" x 5" (\$4). The 2" x 2" non-reflective sticker is sold out. The proceeds will be donated to a college fund for Morgan's two children. The stickers are available from Dena Ali at Station 17 on "A" platoon. ■

Photo Gallery



On Friday, June 7, Tropical Storm Andrea dumped over five inches of rain in the Capitol City. The record-breaking rainfall brought flooding to areas including roads in northwest Raleigh. Units were dispatched to rescue or remove occupants at a number of locations including Lumley Road at Brier Creek Parkway, where two occupants in two cars were stranded.



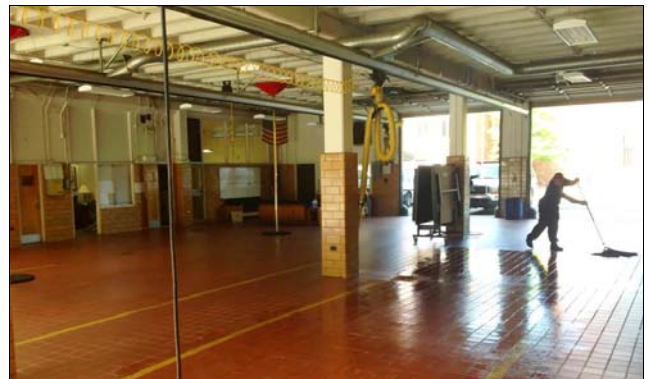
Squad 14 and Rescue 1 personnel rescued a bicyclist struck by a falling tree on Darien Drive during a period of severe weather on Thursday, June 13.



Haz-Mat 1 members deployed absorbent booms to collect water run-off after a chemical fire at a manufacturing facility on Beryl Road on Sunday, June 16.



Recruit Academy 38 participated in the Third Annual Raleigh's Finest 5K firefighter memorial run on Saturday, June 29. The event included a fun walk for children.



Lt. John Rasor was a crew of one at Station 1 as he cleaned the floors on Saturday morning, May 11. Engine 1, Engine 13, and Ladder 4 were on calls or participating in training.



Raleigh's antique 1982 Mack pumper helped carry children burn survivors from Triangle Town Center in north Raleigh to the Jaycee Burn Center's Camp Celebrate in Wake Forest on Friday, May 17.

See more photos at www.raleighfirenews.org

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

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
RALEIGH, NC
PERMIT #813

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SOUTH ATLANTIC FIRE RESCUE EXPO
RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER
AUGUST 7-10

RECRUIT ACADEMY 38 GRADUATION
MEYMANDI CONCERT HALL, DUKE ENERGY CENTER
AUGUST 9, 7:00 P.M.

RALEIGH FIRE MUSEUM
105 KEETER CENTER DRIVE
SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH, 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST
PAM'S RESTAURANT, 5111 WESTERN BOULEVARD, 7:30 A.M.
SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

THE RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER IS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR PERSONNEL, RETIREES, AND CITIZENS. THE EDITOR IS HISTORIAN MIKE LEGEROS. BACK ISSUES ARE AVAILABLE AT www.raleighfirenews.org. TO LEARN ABOUT THE RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT, VISIT www.raleigh-nc.org/fire. THANKS FOR HELP THIS ISSUE: MARVIN BROOKS, MIKE DAVIDSON, FRED NOBLE, ADAM PERRY, JEFF SILVER, IAN TOMS.

Helicopter Rescue on Haw River



On Thursday July 4, Capt. Mike Ezzell and Lt. Stephen Holloman participated in the rescue of a stranded boater on the Haw River near Highway 64 in Chatham County. They're shown attaching their short-haul rescue rigging to the Highway Patrol helicopter. Ezzell was carried aloft, with Holloman as back-up. The first rescue, attempted at 2:30 a.m., was delayed five hours due to fog. This was the first rescue after numerous deployments for Raleigh firefighters participating in the N.C. Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Technician (HART) program. ■