**CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Office of the Fire Chief**
228 East Ninth Street
Charlotte, NC 28202-2530
704.336.2791

You are invited to re-visit an important part of **Charlotte Fire Department** and fire service history as we pump "Old Sue"

Saturday, November 20, 2010
9:00 a.m.
Charlotte Fire Department
Training Academy

*HISTORY*

Manufactured by the American Fire Engine Company, the steamer known as "Old Sue" was purchased by the City of Charlotte in 1902. It is symbolic of a glamorous era in fire service history. A two horse hitch was used with Percheron draft horses. Three horses were assigned to this steamer, two dapple gray, Fred and Tony, and one black, High Ball.

Housed in the 100 block of North Church Street in the rear of the Selwyn Hotel, the steamer rendered invaluable service at Charlotte's larger spectacular fires of that era.

In 1916, the horses were taken out of service and the steamer was towed to fires behind a motor driven Knox chemical fire engine. The Department traded the steamer in on a new fire apparatus. Mr. P.O. Heabert the southern representative of the American La-France Fire Engine Company, presented the steamer to the officers and members of the Charlotte Fire Department.

To watch the "Good News" story that WBTV reporter Kristin Hampton did on "Old Sue" click on the following link.

HTTP://WWW.WBTV.COM/GLOBAL/STORY.ASP?S=13352553