

# BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2007

# Training for



The annual Baker to Vegas foot race was created and is produced by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club (LAPRAAC). The Club is grateful for their leadership in this event.

# Baker to Vegas: Getting Ready for the Big Race

## RAISING FUNDS RAISING FUNDS



Club's Barbecue Choice Award

Manhattan Beach Police Department, from left: Shayne Brinkerhoff, Animal Control Supervisor; Capt. Randy Leaf, Torrance Police Department; Patrol Officer Jim Ruiz; Traffic Officer Tony Presgraves; and Sharon Ruiz, wife of Jim Ruiz. The Manhattan Beach booth served tri-tip, peachy barbecue glaze chicken and smoked baked beans. They won the Club's Barbecue Choice Award.



From left: Chef Robert Larios; LAPD Chief William Bratton; Club CEO John Hawkins with his son, Isaiah; Sr. PSR I Anita Whited, Club Member; and Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor.



Jacob, son of PSR II Natrese Thomas, staffs the merchandise table.



Trying out the tri-tip at Manhattan Beach Police Department's booth were, from left, Deona Jackson, PSR III, and Michelle Willis, PSR III, Club Member.



From left: Four-year-old twins, Davis and Anton; Cindy; Luca, 6; and Don Diamont, an actor on *The Young and the Restless*.



From left: Anita Whited, Sr. PSR I, Club Member; Deputy Chief Lee Carter, Club Member; and Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor.



Enjoying her dad's cooking is Samaia, 2.5, with her mom, Kaie Tinson, wife of LAPD Communications Chef Shawn Tinson.



Anita Whited, Sr. PSR I, Club Member, with Club CEO John Hawkins.



From left: PSR II Jennifer Chavis and PSR II Susana Reynoso, Club Member.



Ready to eat are the judges, from left: actor Don Diamont, from *The Young and the Restless*; Club Chef Robert Larios; Club CEO John Hawkins; and Downtown News Managing Editor Kathryn Maese.

## Sweet Smoke, Good Cause

■ **LAPD Communications hosts a fundraising barbecue for its Baker to Vegas team. The Club's Chef Larios is a celebrity judge.**

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Photos by Arlene Herrero and C.T. Feng, PSR III, Club Member

**POLICE DEPT.** — LAPD Communications held its first LAPD Barbecue Cookoff March 31 at the Police Academy.

The City Employees Club sponsored the event.

There were nine booths at the event, consisting of several LAPD Divisions and two outside agencies. Hundreds attended, enjoying several varieties of barbecue to satisfy anyone's palette.

Club CEO John Hawkins had the honor of awarding the Club's Barbecue Choice Award to the Manhattan Beach Police Dept. The Club's very own Chef Robert Larios had the honor to be a celebrity judge, along with Kathryn Maese, Managing Editor of *Downtown News*, and TV actor Don Diamont from *The Young and the Restless*.

### Winners were the following:

- **Master of the Grill:** Shawn Tinson, LAPD Communications Division
- **Second Place:** Manhattan Beach Police Dept.
- **Third Place:** Hollenbeck Division, LAPD
- **Club Choice Award:** Tony Presgraves, Manhattan Beach Police Dept.
- **People's Choice First Place:** Jeff Joyce, 77th Division
- **People's Choice Second Place:** Shawn Tinson, Communications Division
- **People's Choice Third Place:** James Farrell, Hollenbeck Division

Thanks to Sr. PSR Anita Whited, Club Member, for her assistance.



Master of the Grill

Shawn Tinson, PSR II, takes first place as Master of the Grill.



Second Place

Manhattan Beach Police Dept. takes second place.



Third Place

Officer Ferrell takes third place for the Hollenbeck Division.



Actor Don Diamont enjoys his first sample.

## BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2007

# the Big Race

■ Running one of the world's most grueling events – the annual tandem foot race between Baker, Calif., and Las Vegas – requires many months of training. Here, *Alive!* catches up with three teams that the Club is sponsoring for 2007.

Photos by Arlene Herrero and Angel Gomez, *Alive!* staff members

**POLICE DEPT., HARBOR** — It's all about the training.

When your team is getting ready to run one of the most difficult foot races, you'd better be prepared.

And these three teams – all public safety departments, as the race is for police departments exclusively – know a lot about preparation for a big event.

This year, the Club is sponsoring three teams in the big race: the LAPD Communications Division, the LAPD Training Division, and the

Port Police. So *Alive!* decided to check in on the teams as they got ready for the big race, scheduled for April 21 and 22.

We'll have race photos and results in the June issue.

### About the Race

The annual Baker to Vegas foot race is produced by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club (LAPRAAC).

The Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club is a private nonprofit organization, established more than 70 years ago by police officers of the Los Angeles Police Department. LAPRAAC has strived to ensure

the highest level of professional law enforcement skills by providing athletic, educational, marksmanship, physical fitness, recreational, and social activities to benefit its members.

The Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, which challenges teams of runners to race (on foot) from Baker, Calif., to Las Vegas, was founded by Los Angeles Police Officers Chuck Foote and Larry Moore in 1984 with the continuous financial support of LAPRAAC. It began with 19 teams composed of law enforcement officers who faced the harsh Mojave Desert in an effort to prove which team was up to the "challenge" and would come away the winner of the Challenge Cup.

The race has become the largest law enforcement athletic event of its kind worldwide. Participation includes 10,000 law enforcement personnel of all ranks and agencies including the LAPD, the Sheriff's Dept., federal agencies, United States military, the Chief of Police, Department heads, agents in charge, and special VIP guests, celebrities, dignitaries, family members, race sponsors, press and media.

There are 227 teams of law enforcement agencies scheduled for the 2007 race. Entry fee per team is \$1,500, which comes from sponsorships and their own pockets.

## RAISING FUNDS RAISING FUNDS



Foothill Division, from left: Officer Mike Koeller; Officer Andrianna Munguia; Det. Carole Hughes; Sgt. Mitzi Grasso; Lauren Berudez, 12; Pam Wells, PSR; and Officer Harold Crossley, along with the Foothill Explorers. Their booth served "Foothill Area Secret Super Sonic BBQ Beef," potato salad and watermelon.



LASD College, from left: Frances Feliciano, Law Enforcement Tech; Angie Gonzalez, mascot; Deputy Robert Hernandez; and Andres Hernandez, 6. Their booth served barbecued chicken with macaroni salad, chili beans, and grilled chicken tacos.



77th Division, from left: Officer Ed Pernesky; Jake O'Connor, 14; Officer Jeff Joyce; and Officer Tom Chin. Their booth served barbecued pork sandwiches, tri-tip chili, barbecued chicken breasts and corn bread.

People's Choice First Place



People's Choice Second Place

Front, from left: Berta Ugas, Sr. PSR I, Club Member; Anita Whited, Sr. PSR I, Club Member; and Susana Reynoso, PSR II, Club Member. Back: Oscar Berumen, PSR II; Andrea Esquivel, PSR II, Club Member; Stephanie Shelling, PSR II, Club Member; Jennifer Chavis, PSR II; Larry Gates, PSR II, Club Member; Laura Cruz, PSR II; Mina Chong, PSR II, "Chef"; Sharon Katona, PSR III; Allison Karnoff, PSR II; and Shawn Tinson, PSR II, "Chef." Their booth served Korean short ribs, pork ribs, barbecued chicken, potato salad, macaroni salad, mac and cheese, greens, baked beans, Rice Krispy treats, homemade salsa, rolls and corn on the cob.



LAPD Chief William Bratton makes his way to the Hollenbeck booth.



From left: Capt. Sharyn Buck and Commander Gannon.



Rampart Division, from left: Det. II Ben Lee; Det. III Rick Ramos; Officer Matt Vocke; Officer Carlos Diaz, Club Member; Sgt. Eddie Solomon, the "Chef"; Officer Alfredo Aguayo; and Officer Oscar Duenas, Club Member. Their booth served tri-tip, pork ribs, hot links, chili, chicken and buttermilk pie, which was homemade by Sgt. Solomon's grandmother.



Hollenbeck Division, from left: Michele Ferrell, volunteer; Greg Ferrell, a volunteer who came all the way from San Francisco; Officer James Ferrell; and Keith Ferrell, volunteer. Their booth served barbecued chicken, tri-tip, pork ribs, baked beans, and grilled corn.

People's Choice Third Place



Wilshire Division, from left: Det. II Ron Cade; Officer Derek Campbell; and Sr. Lead Officer Charles Thomas. Seated: Autumn Paysinger, Sr. Clerk Typist. Their booth served tri-tip, baby-back ribs, chicken, beef sausage, corn on the cob, greens, potato salad and lemon Jello cake.



West Traffic Division, from left: Officer Mike Whitney and Officer Chun Yim. They served carne asada, pork tenderloin and stuffed flank steak.



Manning the bounce house were, from left: Marisol Vielma, PSR II, Club Member; and Natrese Thomas, PSR II, Club Member.



Behind all that smoke are Officers Oscar Duenas, Club Member, and Carlos Diaz, Club Member.



Are we having fun yet?!

# BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2007

TEAM: LAPD Communications



Support team, back, from left: Jorge Rios, Club Member; Melissa Merrin; Jessica Mardesich; Sinuon Von, Club Member; Whitney Olafson, Trainee; and Clayton Simmons, Club Member. Front: Kiyoko Simmons, Club Member.



Sr. PSR I Anita Whited, B2V Team Captain, Club Member, is trying to bring the mug home for the third year. This year, she will be running Leg Four.

## LAPD Communications: Breaking the Top Hundred

"Four years ago, when I took over as the team captain, I challenged our team," said Anita Whited, Sr. PSR I, LAPD Communications. "I said, okay, you've been in this race for 13 years [at that point]. We've done okay. But I want to win."

"I shifted their minds, and they did it. We've been moving up ever since."

Last year, due to the team's increased dedication, they came in 110th of 220 teams, exactly half way. Their goal for 2007: the top 100.

"We're looking to drop under 100 this year. We want to be in the double digits."

To reach that goal, the team has been training all year – "we have been participating in some race every month," she said – but they've increased intensity over the last several months. "We stepped it up in November," she said.

"There's lots of competition on this team," she said on her way to Vegas for the race. "People have told me, 'I really have to work to stay on this team.' That's exciting. I like keeping them motivated."

**The Club sponsorship:** "We've been very successful with the Club's support of us," she said. "It's given us positive energy. And the Club's sponsorship funds really help us. We don't have to worry about [the finances] as much."

"[Club Counselor] Arlene [Herrero] is there, everywhere for us. She helps out and offers us solutions. She's really part of our team."

### The LAPD Communications runners by Leg:

1. C.T. Feng
2. Emiko Uyeda
3. Felix Topete
4. Anita Whited
5. John Harowicz
6. Lt. Ann Barrera
7. Robert Cervantes
8. Carlos Mejia
9. Angelina Ortega
10. Charity Cyphers
11. Sgt. Aaron Ponce
12. Adam Timm
13. Ricardo Lopez
14. Quincy Mirage
15. Roy Ortiz
16. John Craig
17. Gricelda Aceves
18. Maria Coronado
19. Dan Basiglio
20. Lourdes Varas



From left: Shannon Phanhong, PSR I, and Daniel Uzomah, PSR I, both are new to the event and will be part of support.



Off they go in preparation for the big race!



Julia Cesena, PSR II, Club Member, will be participating for her first time, as support.



From left: Leeann Flores, PSR I, a newbie, is joined by Christina Oliva, PSR I, Club Member, who will be part of support for the second year.



From left: Christina Anderson, PSR, Club Member, had so much fun last year that she has decided to return. Raul Recio, PSR II will also be part of support.

**Alternate runners: Eddie Gomez, Marisol Vielma, Askley Mikell, Debbie Ramsey and Susana Reynoso.**



Adam Timm, all pumped up!



Maria Coronado, PSR II, Club Member, is a third-year participant. She hoped to run Leg 18, and she is doing just that.



Lourdes Varas, PSR II, Club Member, will be running for her third year. This year, she has the honor of running Leg 20 to the finish line.



Charity Cyphers, PSR II, was just hoping to qualify. Cheer her on as she conquers Leg 10.



Sgt. Aaron Ponce has past experience with Baker to Vegas, although this is his first year running for LAPD Communications. "I don't care which leg as long as it's not uphill."



Roy Ortiz, Polygraph Examiner IV, has taken part in the race for the past 25 years. Though he is assigned to SID, he will be running with LAPD Communications on Leg 15.



Carlos Mejia, PSR II, Club Member, will be participating for the sixth year. His leg of choice is Leg Eight.



Ricardo Lopez, PSR Trainee, is a first-time event runner.



Adam Timm, PSR II, is another veteran runner on Leg 12.



Officer Felix Topete, Office of Public Safety, GSD, will once again join LAPD Communications for his second year. He will be taking on Leg Three, a very difficult leg.



Emiko Uyeda, PSR II, will be participating in her first Baker to Vegas race. She asked for Leg Two, and got it.



Quincy Mirage, PSR II, was hoping to run leg eight for his fifth year return but will be running Leg 14 instead.



Eddie Gomez, PSR II, Club Member, is a fourth-year participant who will be an alternate runner.



From left: Sylvia Esqueda, PSR I, will be a shuttle support for the first time along with Andrea Esquivel, PSR II, Club Member.



Lt. Dennis, armed with his supplies, is a first-time participant. He will help shuttle the runners.

# BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2007

TEAM: LAPD Training



The LAPD Training Division Baker to Vegas Team.

## LAPD Training: Could Be Hot, Could Be Snow



Catchers are, from left, Officer Deborah Hernandez and Sgt. Chris Booker. Officer Hernandez ran in 1995 and has been a support for the past four years. Sgt. Booker ran his last race in 1994 and has also been support for the past four years.



Sgt. Darryl Ito, Club Member, is the Baker to Vegas Team Captain for the LAPD Training Division.



Sgt. Chris Costley, running Leg Four, has run for the past 16 years. He is Co-Captain.



Runners verify the contents of their bags.

Baker, Calif., might be in the middle of the Mojave Desert, but the race also traverses mountain passes at elevations of 2,500 feet. That could mean snow.

"The race had to be canceled due to snow conditions once," remembered Sgt. Darryl Ito, Team Captain and Club Member. "So we train for cold weather. We train for 30-degree temperatures - our race times have us running in the middle of the night. Running when it's cold can be hard for the first mile, but we warm up after that."

Ito said the team has been training hard for four months, running up to eight miles (each) three or four times a week. "Everyone trains a little bit differently. They're pretty much on their own." They ran time trials to determine who would make the team, and which leg they might be best at. "I had to let some friends know that they didn't make the cut," he said.

"We're aiming to finish number one in our category, or in the top 20 overall," he said. "That's our goal."

**The Club sponsorship:** "This is the first year of the Club sponsoring our T-shirts," he said. "That's for our entire team of 34 people. We're so grateful."

### The LAPD Training Team runners by Leg:

1. Dave Wright
2. Michael Santiago
3. Jim Stepan
4. Chris Costley
5. Art Miller
6. Jason Janata
7. Shawn McCoy
8. Brian Davis
9. Lydia Mills
10. Rachel Barragan
11. Heather Herrera
12. Brandi Scimone
13. Dana Smith
14. Thomas Onyshko
15. Abel Cepeida
16. Ryan Secor
17. Steve Burroughs
18. Mary Kite
19. William Mateus
20. Capt. Bill Murphy



P2 Al Canche, alternate runner for Legs Five through Eight.



P2 Al Canche, alternate runner for Legs Five through Eight.



Leg 15 will be LAPD recruit Abel Cepeida.



LAPD recruit Dana Smith will be running Leg 13.

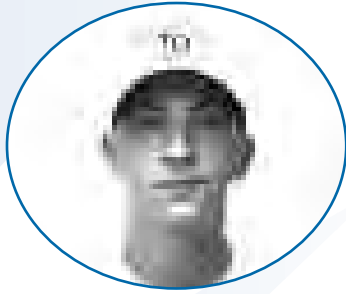
**Alternates:** Legs 1-4: Andy Hwang; Legs 5-8: Al Canche; Legs 9-12: Angela Tumbeiro; Legs 13-16: Maurico Valdovinos; Legs 17-20: Brian Johnson. Drivers: Ron Evans, Kathy Evan; Catchers: Sgt. Rich Laguna, Sgt. Chris Booker, Officer Debbie Hernandez, Kyle Tolliver.



Alternate runner for Legs 13-16 will be LAPD recruit Maurico Valdovinos.



Leg 16 will be LAPD recruit Ryan Secor.



LAPD recruit Brian Davis will be running Leg Eight.



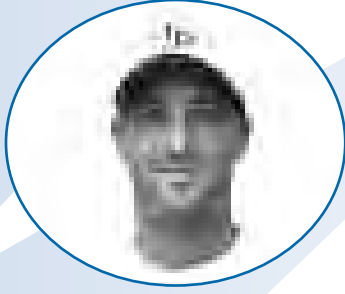
Leg 12 will be run by LAPD recruit Brandi Scimone.



Leg 17 will be run by LAPD recruit Steve Burroughs.



LAPD Recruit Shawn McCoy will run Leg Seven.



LAPD Recruit Tom Onyshko will run Leg 14.



Leg 19 will be run by LAPD recruit William Mateus.



Alternate for Legs 9-12 will be LAPD recruit Angela Tumbeiro.



Leg 11 will be run by LAPD recruit Heather Herrera.



Leg 10 will be run by LAPD recruit Rachel Barragan.



Leg Six will be run by LAPD recruit Jason Janata.



Leg Nine will be run by Sgt. Lydia Mills, who has participated the past 11 years.



# BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS

# BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2007

TEAM: Port Police



The first Port Police Baker to Vegas Team (not all pictured).

## Port Police: Rookies of the Year

"I started this team, not realizing how much work it takes," said Port Police Officer Alex Castillo, in between training sessions.

For example, the team trains early in the morning, before shifts. "We set up a trail, with hills, that's exactly five miles from the station to Cabrillo Beach, and back.

"We're really excited, since it's our first time. We don't know what to expect. We're expecting the unexpected.

"We feel like we're making history" at the Port, he said.

Like all the team leaders, Officer Castillo felt that he could not have done it alone.

"I've had the support of leadership, especially Lt. Michael Kettelkamp, who helped me with logistics. He pushed me over 'the fence.'

"And Police Officer Rudy Meza also helped with logistics, and Senior Lead Officer Daniel Cobos is Team Co-Captain."

**The Club sponsorship:** "The Club is picking up the entry fee for us," he said. "That's a big, big help. We are thankful for that."

### The Port Police Team runners by Leg:

1. Alex Castillo
2. Rosario Ferrara
3. Ryan Mullany
4. Byron Culbertson
5. John Joyce
6. Albert Alvarado
7. Arthur Kurkowski
8. Chris Brincat
9. Tou Moua
10. Al Rosario
11. Justin Sepe
12. Roberto Redondo
13. Victor Morales
14. Nathan Ewert
15. Kiyo Amano
16. Mark Pagliuca
17. Ismael Flores
18. Joseph Keen
19. Bill Paxson
20. Roberto Ramirez



Runners stretch before their practice run.



Runners recite the Pledge prior to their run.



Port Police Chief Boyd, Club Member, thanks the runners for their dedication to a successful event.



Off they go.



The palm trees will soon be replaced by desert.



Team motto: "We run on water."



Runners make their run along the streets of San Pedro.



Officer Kiyo Amano, Club Member, will be running Leg 15.



Officer Justin Sepe, Club Member, will be running Leg 11.



Officer Chris Brincat will be running Leg Eight.



Officer Mark Pagliuca will be running Leg 16.



Officer Bill Paxson, Club Member will be running Leg 19.



Starting off Leg One is Officer Alex Castillo, Club Member and Baker to Vegas Team Captain.



Officer Rosario Ferrara, Club Member, will be running Leg Two.



Officer John Joyce, Club Member, will be running Leg Five.



Officer Roberto Redondo, Club Member, will run Leg 11.



Officer Joseph Keen, Club Member, will run Leg 18.



Lt. Al Rosario, Club Member, will run Leg 10.



Officer Nathan Ewert will run Leg 15.



Officer Victor Morales, Club Member, will run Leg 13.



Officer Arthur Kurkowski, Club Member, will run Leg Seven.



Officer Tou Moua, Club Member, will run Leg Nine.

BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS

## BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2007

### Port Police, continued



Officer Byron Culbertson, Club Member, will run Leg Four.



Officer Roberto Ramirez, Club Member, will run the "glory leg," Leg 20.



Officer Danny Rodriguez, Club Member, will be an alternate runner for Legs 6 – 15.



Officer Rosario Ferrara, Club Member, looks to improve his time for Leg Two of his race.



Officer Alex Castillo, Club Member, practices his running strategy. He is responsible for bringing the team into a lead, as he will start Leg One.



With the palm trees in the background, Officers Brincat and Castillo visualize the Las Vegas landscape.



Officer Bill Paxson, Club Member, practices his hand signal when he passes other runners.



Officer Bill Paxson visualizes the finish line.

**Make sure to see how these teams did in the Baker to Vegas race – in the June issue of *Alive!***

**BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS**

## Newsbrief

### MOBILE HOTSPOTS:

Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and T-Mobile HotSpot, the largest carrier grade commercial Wi-Fi network in the United States, announced completion of the installation of T-Mobile Hotspot service at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and LA/Ontario International Airport (ONT).

Through a multi-year agreement, T-Mobile is providing "curb to nose" Wi-Fi (802.11b) wireless broadband access in the terminals and public areas of two City airports, including the ticket counters, restaurants, boarding gates and baggage claim. From the curb of the airport to the nose of the aircraft, passengers as well as those coming to drop off or greet travelers now have access to the T-Mobile Hotspot service. The new service provides travelers the convenience to check business and personal e-mail, surf the Web and stay connected through a fast, secure and reliable wireless connection.

The deployment at LAX alone spans more than 3.8 million square feet making the T-Mobile Hotspot deployment one of the largest Wi-Fi HotSpot deployments in the world. LAX serves 61 million travelers per year, while ONT handles seven million passengers annually.

"Reliable and secure wireless Internet access is one of the amenities most frequently requested by our travelers," said Acting Airports Executive Director Samson Mengistu. "By partnering with T-Mobile to provide Wi-Fi throughout two [City] airports, we're ensuring business and leisure travelers alike can securely connect to the internet and make better use of their time when traveling."

"The success of T-Mobile HotSpot locations can be attributed to predictably being in the places where people want to connect, and then

making sure the service is secure, reliable and of very high quality," said Joe Sims, vice president and general manager of broadband products and services, T-Mobile USA. "The Wi-Fi generation has embraced T-Mobile HotSpot as a category leader for customers to stay connected with friends and family."

Since the service was launched in 2002, T-Mobile HotSpot has become an expansive wireless broadband network. With the addition of City airports, there are more than 46,000 T-Mobile HotSpot roaming locations in 25 countries, including more than 220 airport locations.

In the United States, T-Mobile HotSpots service is available in more than 7,600 locations nationwide, including hotels, airports, and the airline clubs of American, Delta, United and US Airways.

In addition to its many locations, T-Mobile Hotspot service provides customers with added security benefits using Wireless Protected Access (WPA) with 802.1X security technology. It provides one of the highest degrees of Wi-Fi security commercially available. Using the T-Mobile Hotspot Connection Manager, available for free download at [www.t-mobile.com/hotspot](http://www.t-mobile.com/hotspot),

customers can logon securely using WPA and 802.1X, which encrypts and helps protect the wireless signal between a laptop and/or device and the network's wireless access point.

LAX and ONT are two of the four airports operated by Los Angeles World Airports, a City of Los Angeles department. The others are LA/Palmdale Regional Airport and Van Nuys Airport.

For more information on T-Mobile HotSpot<sup>SM</sup> service, including a list of active locations go to [www.t-mobile.com/hotspot](http://www.t-mobile.com/hotspot).



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