

BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2011

Results of t

Baker to Vegas: A Race in the Desert



This year's edition of the grueling footrace sees a number of City teams do well.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager; Photos by Arlene Herrero and Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

The annual Baker to Vegas Relay Challenge Cup was held April 16-17. This was the Club's seventh year of sponsoring City teams; this year, the Club sponsored four teams: LAPD Communications, Port Police, LAPD Gang Narc/IA/EOD/FID and LADOT/G.S.P.D.

This amazing foot race is an annual

event for public safety organizations throughout the world. The relay race is a 120-mile, 20-stage foot race between Baker, Calif., and Las Vegas and is considered the "Super Bowl" of law enforcement and the champions are the best, in terms of physical fitness and logistics the police world has to offer. The race was created by and is man-

aged by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, and the City Employees Club is grateful for their leadership.

The overall winning team was the LA Sheriff's Dept./MCJ, which took first place in the Open Category and finished the race in 12 hours, 53 minutes and 37 seconds.

This year, 261 teams created more traf-

fic on the racecourse, creating a challenge for us to shuffle back and forth for the pictures. Thanks to the teams we sponsored for sharing their experiences.

Special thanks to Anita Whited, Officer Alex Castillo, Officer John Long, Lisa Pallares, P3 Tom Deluccia, Chuck Foote, Officer Tony Adler and Milan Romero.



Go!

OFF THEY GO!



Club Product Manager Arlene Herrero takes names down for the photo captions.

RUNNING RUNNING RUNNING

Port Police Team

Sr. Lead Officer Alex Castillo, Port Police, reports:

Our Los Angeles Port Police Baker to Vegas Team was motivated and excited to compete for another 'mug' this year. We believed we had a faster and stronger team than in previous years. However, the extreme heat of Death Valley caused one of our runners to fall out in Leg 3. Our runner suffered from heat exhaustion and was airlifted to a nearby hospital for treatment. According to our follow vehicle support staff, our runner was .2 miles away from the finish line when he began to run in place. The strange stop from him moving forward and running in place surprised our alternate runner, who jumped

out of the vehicle and noticed that our runner was not responsive. Before losing consciousness, our runner was put inside our follow vehicle and taken to medical staff. Medical staff for Baker to Vegas determined he suffered from heat exhaustion and was airlifted to the hospital. Luckily for our Police Department, that officer was treated and cleared on the same day with no significant injuries. This caused us a 10-minute penalty, which is the first penalty our Baker to Vegas Team has ever received. We missed the mug by approximately 13 minutes this year. But we are determined to come back strong next year (2012) and mug again."



Team 132: Sgt. Glenn Twardy, Club Member, on Leg 2, consisting of four miles.



Team 132: Port Police Officer Phillip Heem, Club Member.



Team 132: Port Police, from left: Det. Ed See, Club Member; Officer William Yocham, Club Member; Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Leg 1 Runner, Club Member; Lt. Mike Kettelkamp, Club Member; and Officer Rudy Meza, Team Captain, Club Member.



The Team 132 Port Police follow-vehicle crew.



Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Club Member, is off to a great start for Team 132 Port Police.

BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2011

the Big Race



Top, from left: Dana Tipton, Officer Kendra Williams, Lt. Edward Trahan, Officer Mark Corral, Team Captain Officer Alfonso Lagos, Lt. Joaquin Mendez, Assistant Chief Michael Hyams, Airport Police Chief George Centeno, and Officers Hans Bergmann, Tom Pendola and Jerome Evans, team co-captain.
Bottom: Officer Gerard Kilayko, Sgt. Floyd Johnson, Officer Starla Reader, Officer Greg Iwamiya, and Officers Farnaraz Farnia, Kimberly Ojeda, Miguel Lozano and Michael Ahumada.

Airport Police

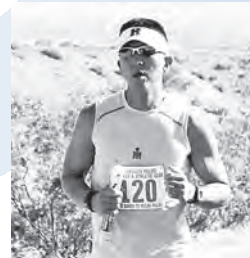
Airport Police photos by Madeleine Flanagan.

Sgt. Belinda Nettles reports: "Airport Police entered in the 'Mixed' category, which consists of five women and 15 men per team. We placed 15 out of 26 teams in our category, with a time of 17 hours 30 minutes and 41 seconds. Airport Police was 116 out of a total of 262 teams, an improvement in the completion time of the race. The team will

continue to strive for a Relay Cup. A special acknowledgement is extended to Officer Starla Reader. She was the number one female on leg 15, a 5.5 mile run, rated the fourth most difficult leg to run of the 20-stage race. Her time was 47 minutes and 45 seconds, only three minutes more than the current female record of 44 minutes and 34 seconds."



Officer Mark Corral, Club Member.



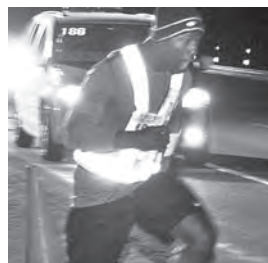
Officer Sur, Club Member.



Officer David Ayala, Club Member, hands off the baton to Officer Adela Lopez, Club Member.



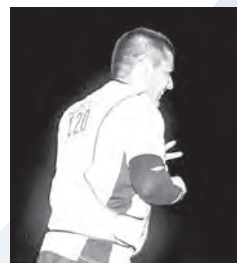
Baker to Vegas Captain, Officer J. Evans, and Sgt. Sam Pittman (with camera).



Officer Raymond Woods, Club Member.



APD Canine Officer Kendra Williams-Quiros, Club Member.



Officer Ciro Benitez, Club Member.



Officer Miguel Lozano, Club Member, passes the baton to Officer Gerard Kilayko, Club Member.



Officer Starla Reader.



From left, representing LAX Police: Peter Trance, P3, Club Member; Officer Jennifer Camacho, Club Member; Madeleine Flanagan, Sr. MAI, Club Member; Officer Rosalia Olguin, Club Member; Leg 6 Runner Officer Kendra Williams, Club Member; and Sgt. Harold Evans.



Officer Greg Iwamiya, Club Member, crosses the finish line.



Team 120: Airport Police.



Officer R. Rouzan, Club Member, and Manahan, Club Member.



Officer Corral and Sur, both Club Members.



Team 120: Airport Police.



Officer Michael Ahumada and Chief George Centeno.

LAPD Combined Divisions

Dennis McNeal reports: "Despite the well-more-than 105-degree heat, the GND [Gang and Narcotics], PSB [Internal Affairs], ESD [Emergency Operations] and FID [Force Investigation] combined running team performed well. The team 'mugged' as they finished in 12th place (mixed invitational), a slight drop in placement compared to last year's race but a strong finish nonetheless.

"One frightening moment occurred at the end of the 1st leg of the race when runner Edgar Ramos completed his leg strong but then began complaining of pain. As it turned out, Officer Ramos became severely dehydrated and his body had reached a temperature of a soaring 104 degrees. The on-scene medics tried valiantly to reduce his temperature by placing him in a virtual bed of ice. That attempt proved to be not enough to reduce his temperature so he was immediately airlifted to a nearby hospital, where he was treated for his condition and

released a few hours later.

"Another highlight of the race was at the very end when it was time for retired Det. Ron Hodges to take it home. It seems to have been a tradition for the past few years to allow Ron to finish the race, as he is the most talented runner in our team. Don't let his mature handsome looks fool you. Ron should be coined "The GND Rabbit" because of his lightning fast speed... just ask all the young Officers he gracefully passed on the way to the finish line with his swat-dog smile.

"This was our first year to run with combined Divisions, who all gave it their best. We would also like to thank those people who worked as support and other behind-the-scene duties. Without their efforts, the performance of our team would not be possible.

"The team looks forward to next year's race with confidence, pride and tradition!"



Team 76: LAPD Gang Narcotics/IA/EOD/FID.



Team 76: A follow vehicle.



Team 76: Officer Edgar Ramos.



Club-sponsored Team 76 LAPD Gang Narcotics/IA/EOD/FID proudly shows off its mug!

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Team 200 LAPD Communications celebrates its victory and brings home a mug!



Team 200: LAPD Communications Team Captain Anita Whited, Club Member, on Leg 7 with 6.2 miles.



Team 200 LAPD Communications Maria Coronado, Club Member.



From left: Sr. PSR I Berta Ugas, Club Member, proudly holds the mug for Team 200 LAPD Communications with her husband, Sgt. II Delaney Jones, WELS/OMBUDS.

LAPD Communications

The Club's participation started seven years ago when then-Club Member Dan Basilgo and Club Member Anita Whited from LAPD Communications approached us to sponsoring their team.

Anita Whited reports about this year's entry: "This year's Communications running team once again proved to be one of the best teams ever to compete. Every team member showed up on time, ran hard, improvised and problem-solved when necessary. And necessary it was when the team follow vehicle broke down on Stage 13, leaving our runner having to depend on other teams for water. It took a group effort to get stranded teammates back to Las Vegas. Two personal vehicles at different times were

transformed to be the follow vehicle for the remaining seven legs of the race. The runners conditioned themselves properly to withstand the heat and hills of this race. They completed each leg strong, standing on their own two feet like true champions. We completed this race proudly, penalty free. Our entire team met the challenges, which were to come home safely, way under 200, penalty free, with a mug in our hands. Mission accomplished."



Surrounded by fellow runners and support is Capt. Justice, Team 200 LAPD Communications.



Team 200 LAPD Communications.



From left, representing LAPD Communications: PSR II Carlos Marsh, Club Member; PSR II Gloria Martinez, Club Member, and Sgt. Marc Archuleta, Leg 10 runner, with his wife, Gloria Archuleta.



Team 200: LAPD Communications follow vehicle.

LADOT/General Services P.D.



Team 148: A Transportation/General Services Police Dept. member as he enters the exchange.

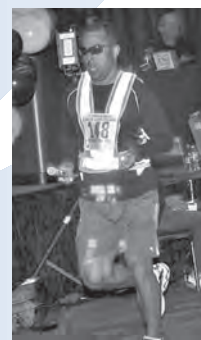
"Team 148 [Transportation, General Services Police Dept.], comprised of officers from both departments, trained hard for this race. With a start time of 1 p.m., our team took off into the desert heat and completed the grueling challenge with no penalties, no injuries and a final time of 18 hours and 2minutes! We placed 19th out of 30 teams in our category and 153 out of 259 overall."



Club-sponsored Team 148 Transportation/ G.S. P.D. outside the Hilton Convention Center.



Team 148: A Transportation/General Services Police Dept. member surrounded by his friends and family who came to cheer him on.



Team 148: Transportation/ G.S.P.D. at the finish line.



Team 148: Transportation/General Services Police Dept., from left: Al Armijo, Retired; Sgt. Ilona Wade, Club Member; Traffic Officer Art Ledesma, Leg 15 runner; Leg 1 runner Traffic Officer Luis Hernandez, Club Member; Leg 2 runner Officer Lisa Jones, Club Member; Volunteer Frances Williams; and Support Team Coordinator Sgt. Diana Armijo.



Team 148: Transportation/General Services.

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Team 77: LAPD Foothill station.



The race line.



Team 102: Chuck Foote will start the race for his team, LAPD (Retired) Team McTaggart, as he listens in on the baton announcement.



Team 102: Chuck Foote is closely monitored by his follow vehicle.



From left: Chuck Foote, Team 102 LAPD (Retired) Team McTaggart; and Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Team 132 Port Police, Club Member.



Team 93: LAPD Wilshire Area.



From left: Officer Mark Corral, Club Member, looking energized to run another 7.5 miles, with Sgt. Sam Pittman, Airport Police.



Team 103: Hollenbeck alongside Team 200 Sr. PSR1 Berta Ugas, Club Member.



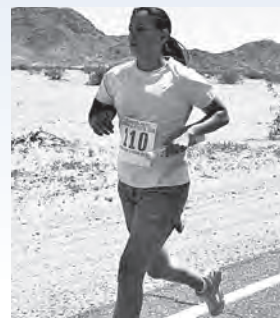
Team 65: LAPD Topanga Station.



Early on, the teams are within a short distance of one another.



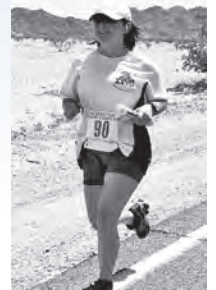
Team 262: Maria Davalos, P2, LAPD Women's Team.



Team 110: LAPD West Valley.



Team 90: LAPD Mission Station.



Team 90: LAPD Mission.

THE HOME STRETCH



Team 151: LAPD Pacific Station.



Team 151: LAPD Pacific Station.



From left: Assistant Chief Mike Hyams, catcher for Officer Mark Corral, Leg 8 runner, Club Member.



Team 125: LAPD PAB on Leg 3.



Yul Johnson, Club Member, catches runner Quincy Mirage, Club Member.



Team 161: City Attorney on Leg 3.



Team LAPD: Topanga Station.



Team 134: LAPD North Hollywood Station.



Team 114: LAPD Metro Black.



Team 103: Hollenbeck takes off on Leg 6.



Medics were busy as runners filled the beds under the medic tent.



Team 115: Jail Division Leg 2 runner.

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Team 132: Los Angeles Port Police at the fishing line.



DOT Officer Milan Romero, Club Member, is congratulated for finishing.



From left: PSR II Sharlene Sutherland, Club Member; PSR II Kiyoko Clemons, Club Member; PSR II Donelle Nubia, Club Member; and PSR II Teresa Azevedo, Club Member.



Team 18: LAPD Metro Blue at the finish line.



Police Chief Charlie Beck enters the finish line area.



Team 102: LAPD (Retired) Team McTaggart. LAPD Chief Charlie Beck had the honor to run to the finish line.



From left: Dep. Sara Pineda; and Transportation Training Officer Milan Romero, Leg 20 runner, Club Member with his wife, Debbie.

FINISH LINE



From left: PSR II Randi Miller, Leg 19 runner, Club Member; and Lyman Doster, P3.



Team 77: LAPD Foothill Station has a runner sprinting to the finish line.



From left: Club Board Member David Muraoka and his wife, Laura, both retired with LAPD Jail Division and come out to support Team 115 LAPD Jail Division.



Team 115: LAPD Jail Division at the finish line.

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