

LAFD

'We Will Not Forget'

A group of LAFD motorcyclists heads for New York for the 9-11 Memorial.

Story by Capt. Mike Ketaily, FS 69; Photos courtesy LAFD

On July 24, a departure ceremony was held at the Historical Fire Museum (Old Fire Station 27) in Hollywood for the "Ride for 911" bicycle team. Some of the dignitaries present included Councilman Tom LaBonge, Club Member; Interim LAFD Fire Chief Brian Cummings; and LA County Fire Chief Daryl Osby.

At approximately 8:30 a.m., the "Ride for 911" bicycle team departed from the Historical Museum (Old FS 27) bound for New York City. The riders were led to the city limits by old LA County Squad and Engine 51, Engine 27, the "Fire Hogs," a film crew, many other cyclists, and the support motor home.

The team consists of six full-time riders and five part-time riders. The LAFD is well represented with the following six riders: Jorge Ostrovsky, FS 69, 31 years of City service; Jim Prabhu, FS 37, 11 years; John Marasco; Marv Williams, FS 4, Retired; Scott Hambly, FS 37, 6 years; and Warren Sutton.

This journey will take approximately six weeks and cover 3,300 miles. The team will average approximately 100 miles per day. "Ride for 911" is raising money for the Leary Firefighter Foundation and the Wounded Warrior Project. There will be many fundraising events along the way. Some of the major stops will include: Scottsdale Ariz; Albuquerque, N.M.; Oklahoma City; Joplin Mo.; St. Louis; Chicago; Pittsburgh, Penn.; Washington, D.C.; and New York City at the Firefighters Memorial. They will be there to

help commemorate the 10-year anniversary of 9-11. They will also visit the crash site of Flight 93 in Pennsylvania, and the Pentagon. As a special treat, they will also get to go on the set of the final episode filming of "Rescue Me." As of this writing (July 27), the "Ride for 911" team has made it successfully to Scottsdale, Ariz. They have made overnight stops in Yucca Valley and Wickenburg and Parker, Ariz. They have put on more than 370 miles to get to Scottsdale and have endured temperatures in excess of 120 degrees. The riders are holding up well. They are being followed by a 34-foot motor home driven by Rob Scott and Alex



The team is on its way.

Wendt that functions as a support vehicle.

Everyone along the way has been extremely supportive. They have stayed in community centers, fire stations, and a jail. People have lined the streets with signs and given "thumbs up" as they enter towns. Jorge Ostrovsky says it has been humbling.

Donations can be made at www.Ridefor9-11.org. A map of the ride is also available along with live GPS tracking of the ride at the same Website. A trip blog is also being written and can be found at blogspot.com. It is titled, "Driving the Ride for 911."

This month marks the 10th anniversary of the terrorism attacks on the World Trade Center, The Pentagon and United Flight 93 that crashed in Shanksville, Penn. Our Historical Society has held an annual remembrance ceremony for 10 years. It will be held this year on Sunday, Sept. 11, starting at 7 a.m., which coincides with the attack on the World Trade Center (Eastern Time). "We will not forget" the sacrifice, bravery and loss of life that took place that day. Come join us that morning at the LAFD Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Hollywood.



The LA Firefighters bike team before it left on its 9-11 ride.

9-11 Memorial at Old FS 27

The LAFD Museum and Fallen Firefighters Memorial is planning a 9-11 remembrance on the 10th anniversary of the tragedy - Sunday, Sept. 11, from 7 to 8:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend. Old Fire Station 27 is at 1355 N. Cahuenga Boulevard, Hollywood.



CITY EMPLOYEES AT WORK

Do you have a photo of City Employees on the job? Send it in and we might print it! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Our *Alive!* cameras found these DWP employees hard at work, from left: **Phil Williams, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Supervisor**, 27 years of City service; **Sergio Brito, Apprentice Lineman**, 6 months of service; and **Lawrence Madrid, Apprentice Lineman**, 2 years. Phil and Lawrence are helping to hook up Sergio so he can climb the power pole.



Here's **Peter Reynosa, Traffic Officer, Transportation, Club Member**, doing his duty.



Here's **Sabino S. Palestino, Warehouse and Tool Room Worker**, 10 years of City service.