

# East Valley Firefighters Charity Ride

The 13th Annual Firefighter Charity Ride & Pancake Breakfast took place on Friday April 8, 2016. Registration at Superstition H-D included a Three-Alarm Pancake Breakfast prepped & served up by local firefighters.

582 riders took this self-paced run. The route covered approximately 188 miles. Rolling out of SHD in Apache Junction, they traveled to the Drift Inn in Globe, Jake's Corner Bar in Payson, and Fort McDowell Casino. The last stop was at Mad Dog Saloon in Mesa.

Awards for best hand and worst hands, \$500 and \$250, were given out at the last stop; as well as the raffle drawings. We're told that Mad Dog Saloon also provided drink specials and full use of the entire restaurant, including an outside patio.

Just over \$21,000 was raised for East Valley Firefighter Charities ~ which represents firefighters from Mesa, Superstition, Gilbert, Queen Creek, Florence, Salt River, Gila River, and Fort McDowell Fire Departments. This 501C-3 organization is run completely by the efforts of professional firefighters.

From their website, "As we respond into the homes of citizens we can observe up close the personal situations where people truly need a hand to live and succeed." These monies help to "give something extra back to the communities we live in and care for." A firefighter I spoke with about this event explained that so much of what firefighters see in their work is tragic. Their volunteer efforts through EVFC allow them to take all that negative energy they are exposed to and re-direct it toward a positive outcome.

East Valley Firefighter Charities wants to thank, "all our charity ride stops and especially Galloway Financial for their corporate sponsorship." Event sponsors also included Law Tigers.

EVFC looks forward to continuing the tradition in 2017 with their 14th Annual Firefighter Charity Ride, taking place on Friday April 7th. Watch the website [www.firefighterspokerrun.com/](http://www.firefighterspokerrun.com/) for details about the 2017 event, as they become available.

Charities such as the Child Crisis Center, Cesar Chavez Foundation, Muscular Dystrophy Association, and United Food Bank are among the beneficiaries of the

monies raised by EVFC.

EVFC also has several other fundraisers during the year, including the Hook & Ladder Golf Tournament, toy runs, an annual 911 Tribute, and Fill the Boot for MDA.

Visit Superstition Harley-Davidson, located at 2910 W Apache Trail in Apache Junction. Or surf their website at [www.superstitionhd.com/](http://www.superstitionhd.com/). Any questions, give 'em a call at 480.346.0600. Please mention you read about them here in *AZ Rider*.....

Betsy

PS: THIS month, on December 10, is the Babydoll Hair Adopt-A-Family Toy Drive from 11am-1pm. Every holiday season Babydoll Hair collects toys for The East Valley Firefighter Charities organization. All donations stay in the East Valley and benefit local families in need during the holiday season, so Arizona children can have a wonderful Christmas. Babydoll Hair is located at 1310 E. Southern Ave #106; on Southern Ave just east of Stapley Drive in Mesa. FMI: 480.350.7588. Learn more at <http://www.babydollhair.com/giving-back.html>

