

East Valley Firefighters Charity Ride

The 19th annual East Valley Firefighters Charity Run was held Saturday April 6, 2024. Superstition Harley-Davidson in Apache Junction, located at 2910 W Apache Trail, once again hosted the sign-in & registration. SHD is a long-time sponsor of this event.

A Pancake Breakfast prepped & served up by local firefighters was included in the registration fee. Visitors were also treated to a presentation by members of the Mesa Fire/Medical Department Pipes & Drums Honor Guard.

The route included stops at the Drift Inn in Globe, Jake's Corner Bar in Payson, and Midtown Yard on Hwy 260 in Star Valley / Payson, before reaching the destination of Handlebar Pub & Grill in Apache Junction. The loop was about 220 miles.

The raffles included custom-crafted wood flags; a custom fishing kit; a dog care basket which included toys, leashes, and bed; and a gun case with ammo and cleaning kit.

This year's sponsors included Super-

stition Harley Davidson, Law Tigers, Local 2260, Ash Creek Financial, Core Construction, and JD's Custom Designs.

Winners of the day: Corena VanRanken, with the Worst Hand of the Day, collected \$250. Tim Donovan held the Best Hand and picked up \$500. Congratulations!

There were 331 registered riders. While this was one of the event's lower turnouts in recent years, the organizing team is working on ideas to bring attendance up to at least 500 for next year's ride. All monies raised by this event help our East Valley community.

From EVFC Event Coordinator Colin, "Our goal for this event is to bring a memorable and safe ride to our riders while raising money for our charity. Our Charity is represented by 1100 firefighters spreading across 9 fire departments in the East Valley. 100% of donations made to East Valley Firefighter Charities goes back to our communities and our firefighters. Over \$200,000 has been dispersed amongst our communities within

the past year through things such as hydration campaigns, clothing drives, toy drives, food drives, and medical equipment." He added that leftover ride shirts are for sale, pickup only, in Mesa/Gilbert. {See center photo} If anyone is interested, email Colin at firefightercharities@yahoo.com.

East Valley Firefighter Charities fundraising events throughout the year include the MDA 'Fill the Boot' campaign, the Hook and Ladder Golf Tournament, this motorcycle ride, and more. You can also donate via their website. [Click here for more information about donating to EVFC.](#)

The goals of the East Valley Firefighter Charities include promoting "good will through those lives we are able to touch." Learn more about EVFC and how you can support their efforts in our community at their website <https://firefightercharities.com>

Thank you, East Valley Firefighters, for all you do for our community!

Betsy

Photos at SHD by [Randy Anagnostis](#)

