

CALIFORNIA MEMORIAL MUSEUM NOW OPEN TO PUBLIC

As of Friday, April 26, 2002, the California Memorial Museum was officially opened with a 3:00 pm ceremony that included a performance by the NYPD Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band. An Honor Guard of local Fresno and Clovis Fire and Police agencies hosted the twenty-one NYPD guests who also marched in the Clovis Rodeo Parade that Saturday. Some of the NYPD Bagpipers who performed at the December 8, 2001, California Memorial Dedication returned for this event as a continuation of the special relationship that has developed between Fresno/Clovis and New York City.

The special connection between Fresno/Clovis and New York was renewed in March when 450 area police and fire personnel, as well as 150 Pelco employees, traveled to New York for a memorable reunion. All of the Californians marched in the March 16th, New York St. Patrick's Day Parade with their New York hosts. Pelco President and CEO David McDonald was honored by the FDNY by marching as their Grand Marshal in the Parade.



The NYPD Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band helped celebrate the opening of the California Memorial Museum.



Mayor of Fresno, Alan Autry (left) was among the many visitors at the museum opening.

UNIQUE, HISTORIC COLLECTION

The California Memorial Museum, located adjacent to the monument in Pelco's Building Three Lobby, displays hundreds of items donated to Pelco and to Mr. McDonald from the FDNY, NYPD, and Port Authority Police Departments. This unique collection includes an American Flag flown by the FDNY at Ground Zero, debris recovered at the World Trade Center site, an FDNY firefighter uniform worn during recovery operations, as well as hundreds of photos and other memorabilia. The Museum, open to the public Monday through Saturday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, also includes a fifteen-minute video summarizing the California Memorial dedication event.

The Memorial and Museum have become a popular field trip destination for many area schools with over 1,200 students visiting in May alone. These field trips include lunch provided at no cost by Pelco's Blue Pride Café and complete factory tours for older student groups. Schools wishing to schedule field trips should contact Ms. Julie Grove, General Manager for the Blue Pride Café at (559) 292-1981.

AN HONOR TO FALLEN HEROES

On December 8, 2001, more than 1,150 New York firefighters and police officers were guests of honor at the Dedication Ceremony of the California Memorial to the victims of September 11th. Many of the New York City Firefighters, NYPD Officers, and Port Authority Police Officers had direct, personal involvement with the September 11th disaster.

The public was invited to attend the very elaborate Dedication Ceremony at the Pelco corporate campus in Clovis, California. The ceremony included comforting messages from appropriate dignitaries including U.S. Air Force General Chuck Yeager (Ret.), California Secretary of State Bill Jones, Congressman George Radanovich, the FDNY Chaplain, and others. There were inspiring musical performances by the New York Fire Department Drum and Fife Corp (bagpipes), Barry McGuire - the original artist of "This Land is Your Land," a three hundred piece marching band, and other top-level musical talent. Fresno Mayor Alan Autry was the Master of Ceremonies. The entire ceremony was broadcast live and uninterrupted by ABC Channel 30 (Fresno) and fed live to ABC New York via satellite.



Fresno and Clovis area Fire and Police provided Color and Honor Guards for the ceremony.



Phil Donath, Pelco Shipping and Tracking Manager (left), often takes time from his busy schedule to give tours of the California Memorial and the Pelco factory.



The December 8, 2001 dedication was very elaborate and formal. The US Marines, as well as New York and local Police and Fire, Honor and Color Guards participated in the ceremony.

CALIFORNIA MEMORIAL MUSEUM



The tragic events of September 11, 2001, were for most Americans a profound call to action. Nearly everyone across this great nation has felt compelled to do whatever they could to express new-found patriotism and help in any way possible. We have all been brought closer together by our common losses and collective grief. We have been reminded of how uniquely fortunate we are to live in the greatest country in all of history; where liberty and justice are the very cornerstones of our lives. We have learned not to take for granted our men and women in uniform – those who stand ready to risk their lives protecting the rest of us. We now know who the real heroes are.

At Pelco, this call to action meant building the California Memorial – a permanent monument in memory of all the victims of September 11th and honoring our fallen heroes. The December 8th Dedication Ceremony included well over one thousand New York City Firefighters, NYPD Officers, and Port Authority Police Officers who traveled across the country to take part.

We are proud to offer for public view the California Memorial Museum. This unique collection of gifts, photos, artifacts and memorabilia was given to us, piece by piece, by Police Officers and Firefighters and their families who attended the California Memorial Dedication as a way of continuing to honor our living and fallen heroes.

I hope you enjoy your visit. – *David L. McDonald, President*



Steel, glass, marble and concrete fragments recovered from World Trade Center site — September, 2001. (Wall #7)



A very special gift ax from FDNY Officers and Firefighters of Engine Company #164 and Ladder Company #84. (Wall #6)



Actual sign from Port Authority Command Post at World Trade Center Ground Zero. (Wall #8)



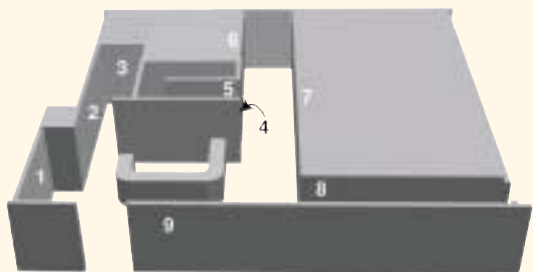
Collection of FDNY commemorative T-shirt art. (Wall #7)



Words of appreciation to Pelco from President George W. Bush. (Wall #7)



Actual Firefighter uniform worn during Ground Zero rescue operations (right). Firefighter uniform presented to David L. McDonald from City of Clovis Fire Department (left). Center – Actual American flag flown by FDNY Truck #10 on September 11, 2001 – during rescue and recovery operations. (Wall # 1)



Memorial Museum Floor Plan



NYPD, FDNY, Port Authority, and Fresno/Clovis Officer Patches. (Wall #7)



Words of appreciation to Pelco from the New York Mayor, Rudolph Guiliani. (Wall #7)



A collection of photographs representing all of the FDNY equipment destroyed on September 11, 2001. (Wall #3)



1. Ground Zero photos from Captain Anthony R. Whitaker, Port Authority Police Department of NJ and NY.
2. Recognition plaque presented to David L. McDonald and Pelco, "In Valor there is Hope". From NYPD
3. Recognition plaque presented to David L. McDonald and Pelco, from the Central Park Precinct, New York City. (Wall #5)



Official Log Book from FDNY #758, Hose Wagon #157 from April - October, 1920; and the Official Log Book from Fresno Fire Department Engine #3, Truck #2 from October - December 1953. (Wall #7)



Photographs and remembrances as placed on California Memorial Monument the day of the memorial dedication, December 8, 2001. (Wall #7)



Original New York Times printing plate from September 12, 2001. (Wall #8)



World Trade Center photographs signed by Fire and Police personnel who participated in World Trade Center rescue and recovery operations. (Wall #7)



Photograph of the recovery of Port Authority K-9 Sirius, Badge #17. (Wall #8)



For more information on scheduling a group or school tour of the California Memorial Monument and Museum please contact Julie Grove at the information listed below.

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