

State Budget to Have Serious Impact on City, Mayor Warns



■ **Could there be layoffs? Mayor offers other suggestions to try to avoid them.**

Mayor Jim Hahn Dec. 12 addressed a special session of the Los Angeles City Council to discuss ways in which the City of Los Angeles can prepare for massive state budget shortfalls. Mayor Hahn told the City Council that if Sacramento does not act immediately to address the backfill from the lowering of the vehicle license fee—a revenue stream that under the State constitution belongs to local government—it will result in a loss of an additional \$105 million to the City of Los Angeles between now and June 2004.

“This loss of revenue is devastating to the City and will force us to make tough decisions to reduce our expenditures in order to end the year with a balanced budget,” said Mayor Hahn, who pledged to work with the City Council to develop a list of priority services and programs that the city must continue to fund and identify programs and projects that the city can afford to cut.

In his address to the council, Mayor Hahn

See Budget, Page 21

Rec Parks, Gen. Services Team To Earn City Millions in Profit

■ **Project that keeps operation of Pershing Square garage in City hands means millions of dollars for the City. Monies are used for parks programming.**

When Rec and Parks asked General Services to take a look at the contract that had the management of Pershing Square’s underground parking garage in private hands, Rec and Parks might not have known just how fortuitous that request was. When General

Services took a look at the operation, it thought it could do a better job managing the garage for Rec and Parks, which owns it.

That was in 2000. Today, under General Services management, the garage is now earning more than \$2 million a year for the City. Under private management, the garage was returning just more than \$300,000 per year for the City.

The turnaround has garnered for General Services and Rec and Parks a Competitive Government Award.

See Profit, Page 13

Fallen Firefighters to Be Memorialized at Planned Fire Museum



■ **Fundraising in full swing to support plans for memorial plaza at LAFD Historical Society site. General Services, Cultural Affairs, City Council also involved.**

Before 1998, Liz Bamattre, the chairperson of the Memorial Committee at the LAFD Historical Society, was already working on plans to memorialize those 80-plus firefighters who had paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to their City.

But then came 1998, when the department lost five firefighters in a single year.

Deeply affected, she returned, galvanized to create a proper memorial. Now, at the dawn of 2004, that memorial is under a full head of steam.

“It was a really rotten year,” she says about 1998, with her British-bred understatement. “We [her husband is LAFD Chief Bill Bamattre] became really entwined with the surviving families. ‘What can we do?’ we kept asking.

“The Memorial Plaza took on a new

Frank Borden, director of the LAFD Historical Society, with the statues that will soon be placed in a permanent Memorial Plaza, in front of old Fire Station 27 in Hollywood.

meaning after that.”

She and Frank Borden, himself a retired LAFD firefighter and the director of the LAFD Historical Society, got busy and started making plans. First, they restored old Fire Station 27, the largest fire station west of the Mississippi River when the facility was built in 1930, but in serious disrepair after the new Station 27 was built right next to it. The restored Fire Station 27, at 1355 N. Cahuenga Blvd. in Hollywood, became the home of the

LAFD Fire Museum and the headquarters. That was done with quite a bit of help from General Services and the office of Councilman Tom LaBonge.

“Getting that building restored was catalyst number one,” she says. “It was the Glory Days of Hollywood revisited.”

The completion of that amazing

See Fire Memorial, Page 4



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Alive!

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by **John Hawkins**
 COO, The Club



Saying Thanks To Employees Can Say It All

I hope your New Year is beginning well. This is the time when we talk about making resolutions, and then try to live up to them.

I have a suggestion for you. Don't worry, it's an easy one to keep. But it's also important:

Say thanks more often.

When you're at work, say thanks to those City employees who help make your job easier. Tell them you appreciate them, and make sure they know it.

As I write this, I'm right in the middle of the holiday season, and I've just been to several City employee appreciation events. I feel that there are not enough of them, or often enough.

In October 2002, when the Club recreated *Alive!*, I wanted to show how much we appreciate all the hard work that everyone does in the City. So I'm really pleased that some in the City, even during these difficult budgetary times, insist on thanking those who work hard for the betterment of us all.

This came to mind as I listened to Jon Mukri, general manager of General Services, talk about just how important appreciation is to him.

He spoke at both the Custodian Appreciation Day, and at the Mail Services Appreciation Day. He talked about the pressure he sometimes felt to curtail the appreciation days to save money. On the contrary, he

said; in his opinion, there was no greater effort he could make than making sure his employees knew how much he appreciated them.

I absolutely agree, and I congratulate him on his resolve.

I have also seen the same kind of spirit embraced by Maggie Whelan in Personnel. She takes the time to thank and recognize her employees.

There are plenty of others who do the same, so forgive me if I don't mention you. Better yet, write me and let me know, and we'll put it in the paper.

It's important to us at the Club to make sure City employees know how much we appreciate what they do. That's why we work so hard, taking all the photos you see in this newspaper: You are the people, every one of you, who run the City. General managers, clerk typists, maintenance workers, assistants, analysts, lab techs, officers, firefighters, engineers, retirees, and on and on. Everyone. So take a bow!

True appreciation begins at home. Let's remember that; it's one resolution that pays dividends to us all.

Happy New Year, everybody. And thanks for all you do. 🙏

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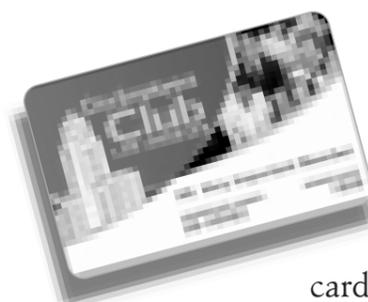
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Members Speak Out

■ Club Event at Magic Mountain Was Their Family's Kind of Outing

We want to comment about another one of your fabulous ideas and adventures—the recent Magic Mountain private party!

Once again the Club has outdone itself—the Magic Mountain adventure was one of fun enjoyment, and what I really loved was the total and free access at any time to any one of the rides. The lack of the 3-hour line waiting to get on rides made it extra special.

For those who missed it because they thought it was going to rain, you missed out because the rain stopped and the wind was quite light. The fun of Magic Mountain can only be compared thus far to the fun of ClubFest.

We did not leave the park until 2 a.m. despite us thinking it closed at 1 a.m. Our 2 children—Najah, 9, and Alex, 10—got on just about every ride in the park and were so exhausted that by the time we got in the car they were asleep.

We have been so impressed by the events of late that we are committed to being at every event that the Club has from now until forever.

Thanks again for such a wonderful event!

— Gary & Tasha Muldrew, LAFD

■ A Professional Communicator Likes The Professional Approach Of *Alive!*

I would like to compliment you and your editor, John Burnes, on your fine publication. As the former director of the City's printing operations, I witnessed the production of

feature every single employee's picture. With a staff of 40,000, it is rare to be able to recognize everyone as you have done.

Nice photos, fresh graphics, and good use of color combine to produce one of the top in-house newsletters that I have seen.

— Les Iden, Retired Asst. Gen. Mgr., General Services

■ It's a Blessing to Call Ourselves Employees With the City of L.A.

Be honest now: Admit it. Stop and think about it. You work for the City of Los Angeles and you really like it! In fact, you're darned proud of it.

It was not easy trudging through the City's testing process...and then interview after interview and yet, here we are, working for one of the largest cities in the world! Congratulate yourself on this one.

Okay, so we have good days and bad days ... maybe even a string of "bad" days. The bottom line though is that we all collect a paycheck and vacation time and retirement benefits and other miscellaneous perks. More importantly, when times are lean and mean and pink slips become common in the business community, there is that big sigh of relief that we are doing a good job and hopefully job secure for the most part—an important trade-off when comparing salaries with private industry.

Did I forget to mention that we now have this new added benefit called the City Employees Club of Los Angeles and this neat newspaper *Alive!*?

There's one other truly important consideration while we are counting our 2004 blessings: The City does not hold us

back, that is, so long as the City can afford to move us forward and upward. For now, we do have a hiring freeze. This also means, very few, if any, promotions.

However, when the City's purse strings allow it, there are promotional exams we can take.

The sky is the limit really. There are many City employees who came onboard as clerks and now head up departments as chief analysts or department heads. It really is up to each one of us. For those who do want to promote, opportunities are available. For those who are comfortable where they are, that works too, and comfortable it is so long as we all work our best.

When I tell people where I work and what I do, I often get the response, "lucky!" We all know, it isn't luck, rather, plain hard work and persistence—year after year after year.

Blessings, blessings, and blessings ... we need to count them all and look forward to even more this fresh new year.

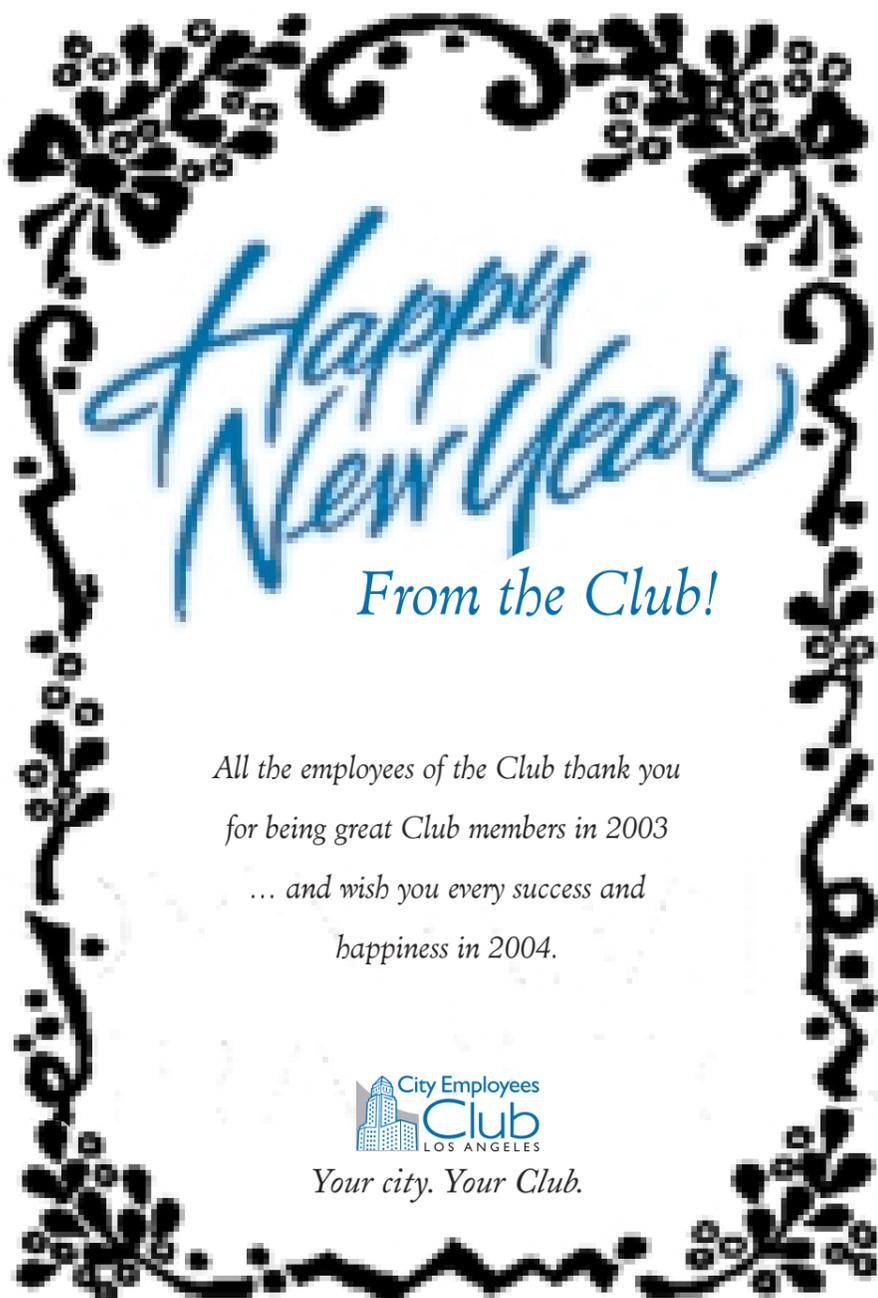
— Jackie David, Animal Services



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voices heard!**

Do you like something we've done? Hate it? It's your Club, so let us know!

**WRITE TO US TODAY: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com, or conventionally mail to
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How to Contribute to *Alive!*

Alive!—the newspaper you are reading right now—is the best way for the Club to talk to one another. It's your newspaper!

Here's how to be a part of it:

- 1. Letters to the editor:** Have something to say? We'll publish it! It can respond to something you saw in the paper, something work-related, something that interests you off-hours, or really anything non-libelous. Send it in, and we'll print it.
- 2. Movie and book reviews.** Seen or read something great—or not so great? Write a short review! If it gets printed, we'll send you two free movie tickets. Look to the review page in this issue of *Alive!* for formats.
- 3. Have a story idea,** or do you want to be the Department of the Month? Let us know.
- 4. Cooking with the Club** is one of our most popular features. Send in a recipe.
- 5. Moved?** Send us your new address.
- 6. Where in L.A.?** Our newest contest will give you two free movie tickets, if you are the first to identify our monthly contest photo. Check it out! (e-mail responses only)
- 7. Kids Coloring Contest.** Have your children color and send in their pages, and they could win a fabulous prize from our periodic coloring contest. 🎨



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Public Works' Hannah Choi Wins Minority Business Award

Hannah Choi, contract compliance program manager for the Dept. of Public Works, has won the Ron Brown Award of Excellence from the Los Angeles Minority Business Opportunity Committee.

She was awarded as part of the mayor's Minority Enterprise Development Week, at a supporters breakfast held Nov. 18 at the L.A. Mart.

According to program materials, she won the award of excellence for these reasons:

"Hannah P. Choi is the City of Los Angeles Public Works Office of Contract Compliance manager, responsible for planning, organizing, directing and integrating the various wide-ranging programs that assure equality and opportunity for minorities and women whether they are business owners or employees taking part in City contracts.

"Under her leadership, the City has implemented aggressive programs that have resulted in national recognition. The outreach and the labor compliance programs have been declared as 'model' programs for public, private and nonprofit organizations. As a result, minority, women and small local businesses have successfully participated in City contracts, and many residents have secured employment within the framework of the prevailing wages and solid benefits that her organization enforces.

"Although Hannah has helped many MBE firms successfully compete in a difficult environment, she considers her greatest accomplishment to be her wonderful family, which includes her husband Johann, and their children Jeremy, Elliot, Johannah and Danielle."

The Club congratulates Hannah on her much-deserved award. Good going, Hannah! 🏆



Hannah Choi (second from right) receives her Award of Excellence from Mayor Jim Hahn (left) at the Minority Enterprise Development Week breakfast Nov. 18.

Remembering Those Who Died Fighting Fires

Fire Memorial

Continued from Page 1

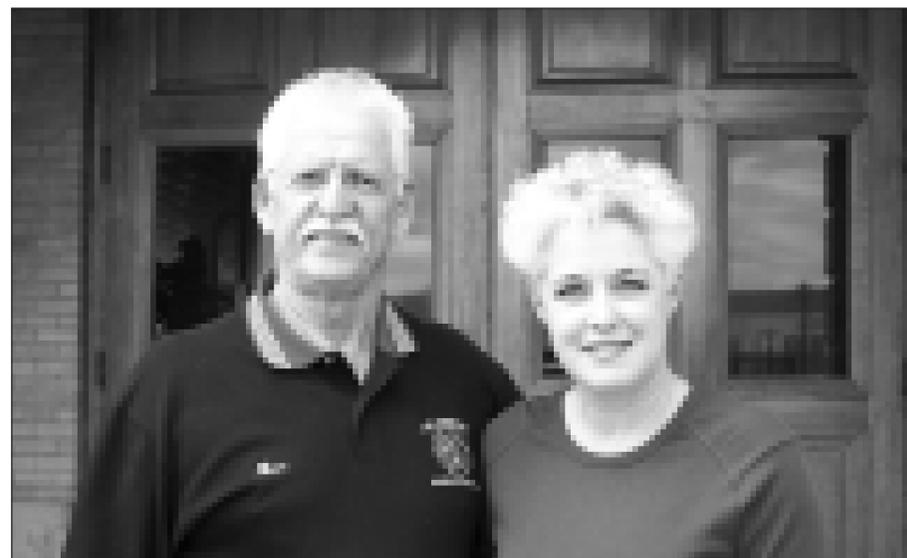
project—a visit to the Fire Museum is worth it all on its own—would have been enough for most activists. But not for these two. They now had their location for their memorial.

"We noticed that Los Angeles is one of the few major cities without a firefighters memorial," she said. "There is a war veterans memorial, that contains those firefighters who died

Rotondi of Roto Architects to create the plaza. The Memorial Wall itself, which will hold the names of those fallen in the line of duty, was designed by Los Angeles artist Yoshikawa. The wall will contain an archway of limestone, water that streams down the surface, and etched glass.

The overall design is in its final stages, and will be submitted to Cultural Affairs at the end of this month.

There is funding to consider, not only to



From left: Historical Society Board of Directors member Ben Holder, and Memorial Committee Chairperson Liz Bamattre.

serving their country. But no memorial for those who died serving their city.

"Boston has several, for example," she explains.

The first thing they needed was a design. The Historical Society organized a design contest. Five entries were received, and the winning design came from LAFD (active) Captain Dwayne Golden.

"He has a background in graphic arts," Liz Bamattre explains. "It's five bronze statues, of firefighters doing what they do, fighting fires and saving lives. It's not contemporary. It's very realistic and practical, which we thought was appropriate. It's poignant.

"I've seen many memorials. But our statues really bring into the memorial the department's everyday emergency abilities, an emergency medicine element. Emergency medicine is so much of what the department does.

"The design really reflects what the department does every day."

The design selected, the Historical Society took the plans to Honors for Excellence, a Minnesota company that specializes in creating such memorials. "Building our statues was a labor of love for them as much as it is for us," she says.

The statues were delivered in early 2003.

Where to put them?

"There's an outdoor plaza outside old Fire Station 27 that we thought would be beautiful," she says. And thus it was chosen. The society selected Los Angeles architect Michael

build the memorial, but also to maintain it, and to provide revenue to continue and expand the Museum's William Rolland Educational Institute. Some of the project is being funded by Prop. F, since the design involves the beautification of an existing fire station.

But the Historical Society has also launched a brick memorial program, where anyone can contribute to the project and have their name etched permanently on the patio's brick pavers. There are many price levels for the brick program; details can be found inside this issue of *Alive!*

The brick paver program is more than about money.

"Those who contribute will be a part of this project forever," she says. "They can feel they are a part of it. That's important."

The society has already sold 500 bricks, having just barely begun. More than 10,000 are available for etching over the decades to come.

She knows she is important to the project. But she also knows that it's not about her.

"This has nothing to do with my husband's administration," she says. "I really prefer to remain behind the scenes. What keeps me focused is that, 50 years from now, the names that will be remembered are on the memorial, not mine." 🏆

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Mail Services Says Thanks To Employees at Luncheon

■ **Division delivers more than 15 million pieces of mail per year.**

Friday, Dec. 5, the Mail Services Division of General Services said thanks to its employees at its second annual Employee Appreciation Day.

The lunch event was held in the Tom Bradley Room atop City Hall. The event was cosponsored by the Club.

General Services General Manager Jon Mukri and Councilman Dennis Zine attended to give their thanks to the employees, who deliver more than 15 million pieces of

City mail per year.

Awards were also given to those in honor of their service to the City, to those who demonstrated perfect attendance over the past year, and to those demonstrating exemplary service.

Recognized for their long years of service were Chandra Mosley, 22 years; James Steele, 20 years; Fred Knauf, 15 years; Randy Gordon, 15 years; Ersalyn Green, 10 years; Benjamin Sacro, 10 years; and Margaret Moore, 10 years.

Named for exemplary service were: Ying (Ken) Mak and Michael Hammersley.

Named as dedicated team members were: Mary Ann Ruiz and David Pongvarin.

Named for perfect attendance were: Kim Harris, Terry Brummund, David Meraz and Jack Callies.

Councilman Zine was made an honorary mail delivery person, and was given an official uniform shirt in recognition. He put the shirt on to a round of applause at the end of the event.

The Club, which provided some of the attendance prizes, congratulates all the hard-working employees of the Mail Services Division for their dedication.



The cake of the day.

Here are photos from the event.



From left: Jack Callies, Delivery Driver 1, 6 years; David Pongvarin, Delivery Driver 1, 3 years; Terry Brummund, Delivery Driver 1, 25 years; and Mike Hammersley, Delivery Driver 1, 3 years.



John Hawkins, COO of the Club (event cosponsor), tells of his appreciation of the work of the City's Mail Services.



From top, clockwise: Randy Gordon, Clerk, 15 years; James Sley, Clerk 23 years; James Steele, Delivery Driver 1, 20 years; and Mary Ann Ruiz, Vocational Worker, 6 months.



Honored by the management team for their years of service were (not in order) Chandra Mosley, 22 years; James Steele, 20 years; Fred Knauf, 15 years; Randy Gordon, 15 years; Ersalyn Green, 10 years; Benjamin Sacro, 10 years; and Margaret Moore, 10 years.



From left: Manny Melendez, Delivery Driver 3, 19 years; Angelia Gray, Principal Clerk, 8 years; and Benjamin V. Sacro, Delivery Driver 2, 10 years.



Honored by GM Jon Mukri with the year's Dedicated Team Member Certificate was David Pongvarin.



Honored by GM Jon Mukri with the year's Dedicated Team Member Certificate was Mary Ann Ruiz.



Honored by GM Jon Mukri with the year's Exemplary Employee Certificate was Ying (Ken) Mak.



Honored by GM Jon Mukri with the year's Exemplary Employee Certificate was Michael Hammersley.



Councilman Dennis Zine (second from left), made an honorary Mail Services Deliveryman, poses in his new duds with (from left) Chandra Mosley, Tony DeClue and Tony Royster of General Services.



Clockwise, from top: Peggy Moore, Messenger Clerk, 11 years; Kim Harris, Clerk, 3 years; Fred Knauf, Clerk, 16 years; Ken Mak, Clerk, 4.5 years; and Wayne Rorex, Messenger Clerk, 4 years.



Chandra Mosley makes Councilman Dennis Zine, who shared his words of appreciation to the workers, an honorary Mail Services delivery driver.



Chandra Mosley (second from right) receives a plaque of appreciation from her employees.



Honored by the management team for their perfect attendance over the past year were (not in order) Michael Hammersley; Kim Harris; David Meraz; and Terry Brummund.



From top, clockwise: Espie Reynoso, Messenger Clerk, 3 years; Dominique Camaj, Messenger Clerk, 1 year; Kevin Ward, Messenger Clerk, 9 years; and Marshall Kang, Parking Attendant, 1 year.



From left: David Meraz, Delivery Driver 1, 9 years; Napoleon Fuller, Delivery Driver 1, 6 months; Jacobi Patterson, Delivery Driver 1, 6 months; and Ernie Bernal, Delivery Driver 1, 2 years.



From left: Vergia Ball; Ron Hardie; Erica Nicholson; Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa; and Jerrilyn Mitchell, District of the Year – North District.



From left: Cedric Hardy and Antonio Villaraigosa, reading a Special Commendation.



Fred Lowe, business manager of LIUNA Local 777.



From left: Terry Gray, Peter Banks, Joe Greenhoward, David Lincoln (Chief Custodian, Civic Center), Nicholas Ramos and Ignacio Valdivia.



From left: Tony Stone, Phil Bereal, Shawn Lollis and Darwin Gray.



From left: Senior Custodians of the Year: Erica Nicholson (North District); Julie Butcher (Local 347); Jon Mukri, general manager, General Services; Humberto Docazal (South District); Renee Anderson (Local 347); Tony De Clue, assistant general manager, General Services; William Wilson (Civic Center District); and Tony Royster, General Services. (Custodian Jorge Sansur [LAPD District] also won but was not present.)



From left: Tony De Clue (assistant general manager, General Services); Joe Greenhoward, Maintenance Laborer of the Year; Jon Mukri, general manager, General Services; Julie Butcher (Local 347); Renee Anderson (Local 347); and Tony Royster (General Services).



Antonio Villaraigosa, Councilman, District 14.



From left: Tony Royster (General Services); Luis Pagan, 30 years of service; and Jon Mukri, general manager, General Services.

City Officials Come Out To Thank the Custodians

■ Officials, including mayor, councilmembers, union reps and Club officials come together to thank those who keep the City clean.

Mayor Jim Hahn led the charge Nov. 6 to thank those who work hard to keep the City clean and functioning.

He joined City Councilmembers, union reps and others to honor City custodians at the 2003 Custodian Appreciation Day, organized by General Services and held at the Fletcher Bowron Triforium downtown.

"My top priority is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles neighborhood by neighborhood, and this goal would not be possible without the dedicated workers we are honoring today," the mayor said. "I am very proud of all of our custodians, and the impact they have on Los Angeles. Together we make a difference for this City and the citizens we serve."

The event, attended by hundreds of custodians and included lunch, prizes and awards, is held annually to recognize custodians for their dedicated service to the City.

The Club joins the officials in honoring and thanking the custodians for the hard work they do. Good going, custodians! 🍷

Here are some photos of the event.



From left: Custodian Supervisors of the Year: Tony De Clue (assistant general manager, General Services); Johnny Johnson (South District); Stephanie Woods (LAPD District); Fred Lowe (Local 777); Jodie Diles (Civic Center District); Jon Mukri (general manager, General Services); Earline Spry (Central District); and Ron Hardie (North District).



From left: Bernardo Senires and Fely Maladaga.



From left: Sabah Washington and Raymond Adams.



From left: Alma Mayes and Jacquelyn Murphy.



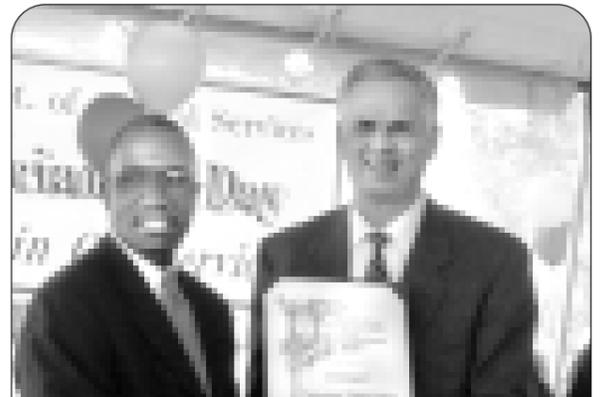
From left: Roy Johnson with Julie Butcher.



Jon Mukri, General Services General Manager, making the welcoming remarks.



Martin Ludlow, Councilman, District 10.



Master of Ceremonies Tony Royster and Mayor Jim Hahn.

Good going, custodians!



From left: Fred Abraham, Stephanie Woods and Malcolm Courtney.



Julie Butcher, general manager of SEIU Local 347.



From left: Tony Royster, General Services; Jon Mukri, general manager, General Services; and James Harrison, 35 years of service.



Mayor Jim Hahn.



Joel Morelos



Tony Royster, Director and Master of Ceremonies.



From left: Milton Harrell, Kenyatta Bonner, Clifford Dickson, B.J. Jenkins, Quintinn Wrong, Alma Mayes and Michael Shannon.



Dennis Zine, Councilman, District 3.



Laura Chick, City Controller.



Tony DeClue, assistant general manager, General Services.



From left: Tony Royster (General Services); Luis Pagan, 30 years of service; and Jon Mukri, general manager, General Services.



From left: Custodians of the Year: Juan Espinosa (Central District); Renee Anderson (Local 347); Josefino Sumilang (Civic Center District); Jaime Arredondo (South District); Santos Burgos (LAPD District); and James Francis (North District).



Fight for Life: LAPD, LAFD in Boxing Competition, for Charity

■ **Event co-sponsored by the Club raises \$50,000 for City of Hope.**

It was the battle for Los Angeles as employees from the LAPD and the LAFD came together and stepped in the boxing ring to battle their county counterparts from the Sheriff's Department and County Fire Department. These officers and firefighters put their pride, and more importantly their chins on the line, as they took part in the 10th annual "Fight for Life" boxing fundraiser, benefiting City of Hope Cancer Center.

These blue and brown warriors battled at the world-famous Grand Olympic Auditorium Nov. 14 in front of a crowd of more than 3,500. The evening featured 15 bouts with winners from each department, but the real victor this night were the patients at City of Hope, as the evening raised \$50,000 for research and treatment programs.

The City Employees Club of Los Angeles co-sponsored the event, helping the event raise even more money.

The LAPD and Sheriff's Department have special ties to City of Hope that makes this event very important to them. LAPD Officer Diane Alonzo faced a battle with leukemia in 1996 and turned to City of Hope for help. Without hesitation, both departments joined in numerous bone marrow drives to find a

potential donor and one was found, her brother, a Sheriff's Department Deputy. Shortly thereafter, Alonzo underwent a bone marrow transplantation at City of Hope. She returned to active duty in September 1997 and now in addition to her work with the department, she volunteers on the "Fight for Life" event committee.

"I received my miracle at City of Hope in November 1996," said Alonzo, a mother of four. "And through the efforts of the wonderfully dedicated City of Hope staff, my doctor, family members, fellow brother and sister officers and friends, I was given my life back."

For more information, please call (800) 260-HOPE or visit the Website at www.city-of-hope.org.

Here are some photos from the event.



A few of the Sheriff's Dept. fighters marching in.



At the Fight for Life event.



From the Club: Noah Hawkins and dad John Hawkins, Club COO; Robert Larios, Club sales operations manager; and Dan Wang, AIG.



At the Fight for Life event.



Part of the LAFD team marching in.



At the Fight for Life event.



Part of the LAFD team marching in.



LAPD Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell and LAPD Officer Diane Alonzo.



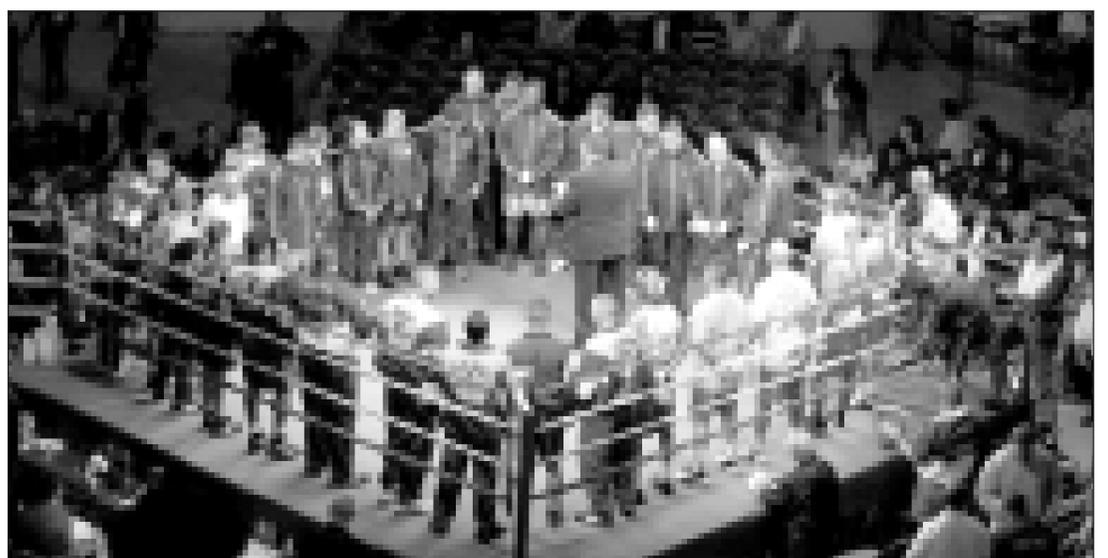
Sheriff Lee Baca and Noah Hawkins, son of Club COO John Hawkins.



At the Fight for Life event.



At the Fight for Life event at the L.A. Sports Arena.



Bradley Terminal at LAX To Undergo Renovation

The 20-year-old Tom Bradley International Terminal at LAX, one of the main ways the City connects to the rest of the world, is scheduled to undergo a major interior renovation over the next two-and-a-half years, it was announced Dec. 8 by Mayor Jim Hahn. The project is estimated at costing \$225 million and intends to improve operational efficiency and enhance customer satisfaction.



LAX's Bradley Terminal is scheduled to undergo renovation.

The Bradley renovation is unrelated to the Mayor's proposed \$9 billion general rebuild of the entire airport, currently under consideration.

Nearly 40 percent of the estimated cost of the Bradley rehab is allocated to security and safety upgrades. The terminal overhaul will be the most extensive capital improvement project undertaken by Los Angeles World Airports since the 1984 Summer Olympics.

The \$225-million project will be financed with a combination of airport revenues, Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs), and LAWA's commercial paper program. The U.S. Transportation Security Administration is expected to reimburse LAWA for up to 90 percent of the cost of installing a new outbound baggage security screening system. At an estimated cost of \$72 million, the screening system complies with a federal mandate to screen 100 percent of all checked luggage and will replace an interim solution in place since September 2001 that has resulted in increased passenger congestion and circulation challenges.

"Since Tom Bradley International Terminal opened in 1984, it has welcomed millions of passengers to Los Angeles from all over the world," said Los Angeles City Councilmember Cindy Miscikowski. "But over the years wear and tear has begun to show and it is time to remake the terminal in the image of Los Angeles as the Gateway to the Pacific Rim and the world."

Other major elements of the TBIT renovation project on both the Upper/Departures and Lower/Arrivals Levels include:

- Dynamic overhead signage and plasma displays for flight information and other public communication;
- Improved acoustics and lighting of all public areas, including new back-lit walls and additional exterior windows for natural light;
- A new canopy over ticketing counters and back walls;
- New terrazzo and carpet flooring;
- Improved ramps and stairs for easier passenger access to bus-gate hold-rooms and exits from federal inspection areas;
- New food/beverage and retail concessions with outdoor seating, a children's play area, and a second-level walkway connecting the mezzanine seating area to new concessions;
- More relaxing in-transit waiting lounges;
- Replacing existing airline clubs with new combined airline lounges;
- Faster-throughput baggage claim carousels;
- Upgrading all elevators, escalators and moving walkways.

The Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners is expected to consider authorization to request proposals for construction management in the near future and will begin soliciting construction bids in May 2004. Airport officials anticipate construction will begin in late fall 2004 and take up to two-and-a-half years to complete.

Thirty-two international air carriers currently operate at the Bradley Terminal, serving more than 9 million passengers annually. LAX serves almost one-third of all air travelers between the United States and Asia-Pacific, the fast growing international market in the world. ■

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Newsbrief

STATE OF THE VALLEY

Dec. 11, Mayor Jim Hahn delivered his State of the Valley address to business and community leaders at the 54th annual Valley Industry Commerce Association (VICA) meeting.

"Over the years, I've heard the people of Los Angeles insist that leaders must listen in setting priorities," said Mayor Hahn. "My priorities are in sync with what the people of Los Angeles want for their city: making Los Angeles the safest big city in America; improving the delivery of services to neighborhoods to improve the quality of life; and growing our economy by bringing more housing and more jobs. I am proud that my administration has focused on delivering results for the people of Los Angeles."

Mayor Hahn emphasized efforts made to increase public safety in the San Fernando Valley, noting that crime is down in every category citywide, with homicides down nearly 30 percent in the Valley. Mayor Hahn said that the LAPD also created a task force to focus on auto theft in the Valley, and the city added LAPD stop-in centers to 12 Valley parks to increase safety



Mayor James Hahn

for the families who use them.

In addition to improving safety, Mayor Hahn said that progress has been made in increasing both jobs and housing in Valley neighborhoods. Although Los Angeles County and the state have suffered job losses over the past few years, Mayor Hahn cited a recent report by Cal State Northridge showing that job growth in the Valley has increased. The study also showed that Valley finance, real estate, retail and construction businesses have grown.

Mayor Hahn also addressed how he has worked to make city government more responsive to residents. The City of Los Angeles now has 81 certified neighborhood councils, including 26 in the Valley. Residents and business owners also have access to city services 24-hours a day, seven days a week through the 3-1-1 system. Neighborhood City Halls are currently being opened throughout the city.

"Working together, with a focus on achieving results, we have been able to reduce crime and improve neighborhoods despite the tough economy after September 11 and the state's severe financial problems that impacted our local budget," Mayor Hahn continued. "As a result, the state of our Valley is safer, thriving, and is getting better every day."

VICA's mission is to encourage and enhance the economic vitality of the greater San Fernando Valley region by advocating on behalf of its business community. Established in 1949, VICA has approximately 300 corporate members and is a private, non-profit business advocacy and lobbying association of businesses. 

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LAPD Chocolate Badge wrapped and sealed in a gold gift box. All proceeds benefit the DAPS Youth Program.

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FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Marie Kardiban (562) 572-4776 or
Officer Irma Foster (213) 485-6586

CENTRAL DAPS

Central Deputy Auxiliary Police Youth Program

Have a great

Valentine's
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With so many happy Club couples, we just know there are great Valentine's Day stories out there. We want to know!

Tell us your story, including your name, your department and your phone number. If we print your story in next month's issue of *Alive!*, we'll send you two free movie tickets! (Deadline for submissions: January 12, 2004.)

So stop kissing, start writing ... and send in those stories to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com!

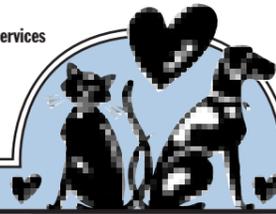


Your city. Your Club.



by Jackie David, Public Information Director, L.A. Animal Services

The Pet Club



Getting Your Dog Licensed Could Be Your Most Important 2004 Resolution

Happy New Year, Club members!

L.A. Animal Services welcomes 2004 with a new License Canvassing Program to help make your neighborhood and community a safer place to live.

The Department's License Canvassing Program is a pilot "in-house" program operated by city employees. License Canvassers, in uniform and displaying proper identification, will be in neighborhoods to provide information on city services, such as the 3-1-1 call center, as well as animal-related information and to ensure all dogs have been vaccinated against rabies. A license is proof that a dog is vaccinated against this dreadful viral disease.

Don't fret. These are friendly folks whose only mission really is to protect you. Here's how: Let's say your sweet Fido decides to bite the next person who comes to your door. Guess what? You can prove that your dog has been vaccinated against rabies. Believe me, it will help calm your dog's victim. It will also help calm your nerves knowing that it will cost you less in terms of medical bills (you won't have to worry about rabies, right?). Besides, think of it the other way around: Wouldn't you feel safer knowing your neighbor's dog has a license and hence, is current on his rabies vaccinations?

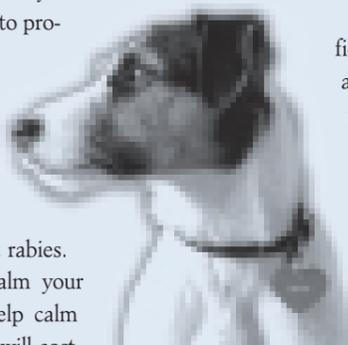
Here are other reasons to get a license: It is legal proof that you are Fido's proud owner—that is, should anyone decide to claim your very cute and very lovable dog as his or her own. Also, a license can help reunite you with your Fido should he decide to leave home and explore the world around him. Think about it. A license is your dog's identification. If your dog should find its way into our shelter, we will call you to let you know we have your dear animal.

Finally, it is the law that your dog has a license. We are all law-abiding citizens, right? In the City of Los Angeles, it is just plain illegal to own a dog and not have a license. Why? That's because state law requires that all dogs be vaccinated against rabies and that this vaccination is current. A license is the only way of ensuring that all dogs are vaccinated against this totally preventable disease.

What is rabies and how bad is it? Let's just say that, unchecked, death can occur within days of the onset of symptoms. Here's the down and dirty: Rabies is a viral disease that can live in all mammals. It can be transmitted from animals to animals and from animals to humans. The rabies virus is usually transmitted through a bite from a rabid animal. It attacks

the nervous system. The victim starts out with maybe a fever, headaches and just plain doesn't feel well. As the disease progresses, so do symptoms: confusion, paralysis, hypersalivation, difficulty swallowing and hydrophobia or fear of water, and ultimately, death. Scary stuff.

According to our L.A. County Health Department, bats are the highest rabies risk in L.A. County. In fact, 34 rabid bats have been found in various parts of our County. (With this in mind and knowing that cats like to climb trees where they may meet bats, it wouldn't be a bad idea to also get that rabies shot for your "Gracy" cat – to protect "Gracy," your family, your neighbors, your community and the City. Better safe than sorry, right? By the way, you do not need a license for your cat.)



Licensing your dog is not difficult. You fill out an application and send it in along with your payment and a copy of your dog's rabies certificate. Your veterinarian should provide you with this. If not, then ask! If your dog is fixed, sterilized, spayed or neutered, then do include a copy of the sterilization certificate with your

license application. Do not send originals. You won't get them back.

How much does a dog license cost? If your dog is spayed or neutered, a dog license will cost you \$10 each year. If your dog is not spayed or neutered (and adding to our soaring pet overpopulation), the cost of a dog license goes up to \$100 each year. By the way, the average cost to spay or neuter your dog is \$50 to \$100 depending on its size, weight, and health condition. If your dog cannot be fixed because he/she is too old or has a pre-existing medical condition, you will be exempt from the \$100 fee and will instead be charged the \$10 per year license fee. When applying for a license, do include, with your application, a copy of a veterinarian's certificate stating why your dog cannot be spayed or neutered.

You can pick up a license application at any of our six City shelters or at our administrative office on Fourth and Spring Streets, or through our really cool website: www.LAAnimalServices.com.

Call our toll-free line for information: 1-888-4LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381.

Make it official then. Claim your dog as your own family member this 2004 New Year. License your dog. You will be happy you did. So will Fido.

By the way, should you see your friendly License Canvasser, feel free to wave and be equally friendly and helpful. You can be sure they will appreciate the welcome! 🐾

Send Questions

Feel free to send questions and concerns to me, and I'll be happy to respond to them in my column. I'm excited about this, so don't hesitate!

Write to me at: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Jackie David, Public Information Director,
L.A. Animal Services



REFER A FRIEND!

and earn FREE movie tickets!



Just have your friend (City of Los Angeles or DWP employee) fill out and sign the form below (make sure your name is included in the "Referred by" section). Mail the form to: Refer A Member, City Employees Club, 350 South Figueroa St. Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

For each friend you refer, you'll receive one **FREE** movie ticket. There's no limit to the number of referrals (or the number of FREE movie tickets you can earn!) so if you need more membership applications just give us a call at 800-464-0452.

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As a Club member, you'll receive this newspaper every month and **all** Club benefits for only \$4 per month. See page 2 for a complete listing of Club benefits.

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- Monthly *Alive!* Newspaper including free classifieds and special Retiree's section

• Access to Group-Rated Insurance Products

• Free notary services

Questions?

A Club counselor would be more than happy to answer your questions about the Club: **(800) 464-0452** (toll-free)

INSTRUCTIONS: Simply complete the form below and complete and sign the payroll deduction authorization. Cut out the application on the dotted line and mail in an envelope. We'll process your application and send your membership card in about two weeks.

City Employees Club of Los Angeles
World Trade Center
350 South Figueroa Street, Suite 700
Los Angeles, CA 90071

New Member Information:

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|--------------------------|--|---|-------|--|
| Last Name | | First Name | | MI |
| Address | | | | |
| City | | | State | Zip |
| Work Phone () | | Home Phone () | | |
| E-mail | | Social Security No. | | |
| Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY) | | <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female | | <input type="radio"/> Married <input type="radio"/> Single |

I was referred by:

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|--------------------|-------|-----|
| Last Name | | First Name | | MI |
| Address | | | | |
| City | | | State | Zip |
| Work Phone () | | Club Member Number | | |

Payroll Deduction Authorization

Social Security #: _____ Name: _____ Department: _____

To: **Controller—City of Los Angeles or Paymaster—Department of Water and Power**
I hereby authorize the deduction from my salary of amounts sufficient to cover premiums/membership fees on any of my group benefits provided by **City Employees Club of Los Angeles**. In the event any premiums should change due to age, increase in salary or benefits, or a general rate increase for the entire Association, I authorize you to make such change upon notification from the City Employees Club of Los Angeles and such deduction to remain in force until canceled by me in writing.

Federal Law P.L. 93-579 Section 7
RE: FEDERAL PRIVACY ACT AND USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS
This law requires you be informed, when asked for your Social Security Number, that it must be provided for use in employment, personnel and payroll processes: Authority for requiring this information is based upon provision of the City's payroll and personnel candidate processing system operational prior to January 1, 1975 and applicable Federal Law.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Code Deduction

Sign Here

X _____

City/DWP Employee

Date

Holiday Highlights



Toy Drive Delivers Joy to 230 Children Downtown

■ The Club thanks those who helped bring toys to those who needed them.

The toy drive in which the Club participated delivered its gifts to hundreds of youths downtown as part of a joyful event Dec. 16 on the 51st floor of the Arco plaza downtown.

The event delivered toys to 230 children ranging in age from 5 to 14. The Club donated more than 60 toys to the large effort.

The Club wants give sincere thanks to all those who contributed a toy or who helped organize the event. Needless to say, all those who participated in any way brought joy to area children.

The Club would also like to thank the Central City Police Boosters, which organized and sponsored the toy drive, and especially LAPD Officer Marie Kardiban.

Here are some photos of the event.



Children at the toy drive event.



The Club board contributes to the season's holiday toy drive. From left are Paul C. Blount; Marilyn McGuire-Holley; Chairman of the Board Robyn L. Barnes; Bill T. Costley; Marilyn McGuire-Holly's sister; and David Muraoka.



Jocelyn and Jessica with their toys.



Christopher, with Lightning Willie and Whistles the Clown.

Second-grader Marisol with Officer Marie Kardiban (who organized the event) and Inez.



Second-grade girls form a line as they wait to sit on Santa's lap and receive their gifts.



Officer Candeliria with Angie Anfuso (volunteer) and the kindergartners.



First-grader Cynthia with Santa.

Santa and Officer Foster with the kindergartners.



Children waiting for Santa's arrival.



Holiday Highlights



ITA Communications Div. Throws Holiday Barbecue

December 17, the Communications division of ITA threw its annual holiday barbecue. This year it was held at Piper Tech, where many members of the ITA Communications staff works.

Hand-made centerpieces, raffles and a buffet lunch were featured.

The entertainment was provided by a band made up entirely of ITA Communications workers. Good going!

The Club would like to thank Terry Hadley and Tun Aung of ITA Communications for their invitation. 🍷

Here are some photos of the event.



Holiday Highlights



Personnel Department Throws Gala Holiday Luncheon, Party

The Personnel Dept. held its annual Holiday Luncheon celebration Dec. 11 at the Omni Los Angeles Hotel.

The afternoon featured entertainment, door prizes, delicious food and other surprises.

The organizing committee included Alexia Fleming, Jeanie Molinar, Phyllis Yogi, Selena Tamayo, Malika Givehand, Dewanna Sharp, Jeannette Maya, Linda Lanier, Ramona McCauley, Sheila White, Judith Benitez, Jae Anderson, Jennifer Joo, Lupe Ortiz, Robert Dineen and Felicia Brown.

Here are some photos of the event.



Enjoying the holiday party.



President Ed Harding.

RLACEI Celebrates Holidays, Swears In New Board Members

Thursday, Dec. 11, the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) celebrated its annual holiday get-together and inauguration of officers at the Grace Simons Lodge near Dodger Stadium.

More than 200 people were in attendance to have fun and witness the inauguration, led by former City Councilman and current RLACEI First Vice President Bob Wilkinson.

Singer Ronni Minnis entertained the crowd during lunch.

The new directors are: Tom Stemnock, Jerry Bardwell, Harold Danowitz, Americo Garza, Neil Ricci and Phil Skarin.

Here are photos of the event.



The newly elected board.



Board member Ken Spiker addressing the attendees on legislative matters.



Singer Ronni Minnis entertains the crowd.



Holiday Highlights



City Hall illuminated for the holidays.

Five City Landmarks Together Light Up the City for Holidays

On Dec. 4, Mayor Jim Hahn with Project Restore, welcomed the holiday season by simultaneously lighting Los Angeles City Hall, San Pedro City Hall, Venice City Hall, Eagle Rock City Hall, and the Marvin Braude Constituent Center in Van Nuys.

Hundreds attended the event, headquartered on the south lawn of City Hall, with simultaneous live video feeds from the four other locations. City Councilmembers were on location at the other locations to signal the lighting of those facilities: Janice Hahn in San Pedro, Cindy Miscikowski in Venice, Antonio Villaraigosa in Eagle Rock, and Alex Padilla, Wendy Greuel and Tony Cardenas in Van Nuys.

In addition to the festive holiday lighting, the historic Charles Lindbergh Beacon on top of Los Angeles City Hall was also lit, remaining that way every night from dusk until midnight throughout the holidays.

The special simulcast lighting ceremony was broadcast live by L.A. Cityview Channel 35. At the downtown ceremony were Councilmembers Jan Perry, Tom LaBonge, Erik Garcetti and Ed Reyes. Several departmental general managers were also present, including Jon Mukri (General Services) and David Wiggs (DWP).

Channel 34 sports anchor Francisco Pinto hosted the ceremonies.

Entertainers included:

- City Hall:** the Mistletoe Carolers
- San Pedro:** The Voices of Truth
- Van Nuys:** The Vannaires
- Eagle Rock:** The Angels from St. Dominic
- Venice:** Off Their Jingle Bell Rockers



Here are photos from the event.



Councilmember Tom LaBonge greeting the audience.



From left: General Managers David Wiggs (DWP) and Jon Mukri (General Services).



Mayor Jim Hahn (right) has just finished "throwing the switch" to illuminate downtown's City Hall.



From left: Emiran Jacfe, and Andrew Adelman, General Manager of Building and Safety.



Mayor Jim Hahn sends his holiday greetings to the audience.



Eric Robles, Ceremony Coordinator/Special Events Coordinator.



From left: Maria Espinoza (City Clerk's Office and Club Member at her first City lighting ceremony), and Miranda Paster (City Clerk's Office and Club Member, also at her first City lighting ceremony).



Anchorman Francisco Pinto hosted the event.



Councilmember Ed Reyes taking his turn at giving holiday greetings.



Ed Santa Cruz, Communication Electrician, ITA, says: "I love the City!"

The Mistletoe Carolers entertained the crowd at the downtown event.



Holiday Highlights



General Services Heads to 'Vegas' For its Holiday Event in Pasadena

■ **General Services held its big and festive holiday celebration Dec. 11 in Pasadena.**

Food, games and 'Vegas'-style fun (no actual gambling, of course) highlighted the night.

General Manager Jon Mukri shared his thoughts with the crowd:

"Each year I look forward to having an opportunity to celebrate this wonderful season with you," he wrote. "I want to thank you for joining the rest of the General Services family at this special event.

"This past year there have been many changes in the GSD family. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the many new members who have joined our ranks and best wishes to those who have gone on to other endeavors.

"I think we can all look back on 2003 with pride. We received numerous awards, and many of our service units were recognized for being industry leaders. That recognition is a reflection of your great ideas and hard work. More importantly, we are working collectively as a team to make this City a better place to live, to make our city the City of Angels.

"I would like to wish each of you, and your families, best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a successful year in 2004." 🎁

Here are some photos of the fun event.



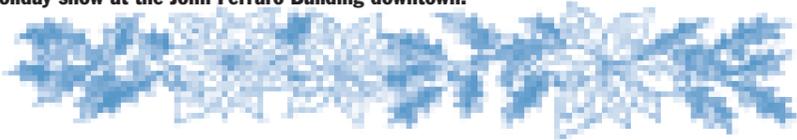
Holiday Highlights



❄️🎁 *Holiday* Highlights 🎁❄️



The Choraliars, the performing group at the DWP, take a break from rehearsing their holiday show at the John Ferraro Building downtown.



Project Angel Tree

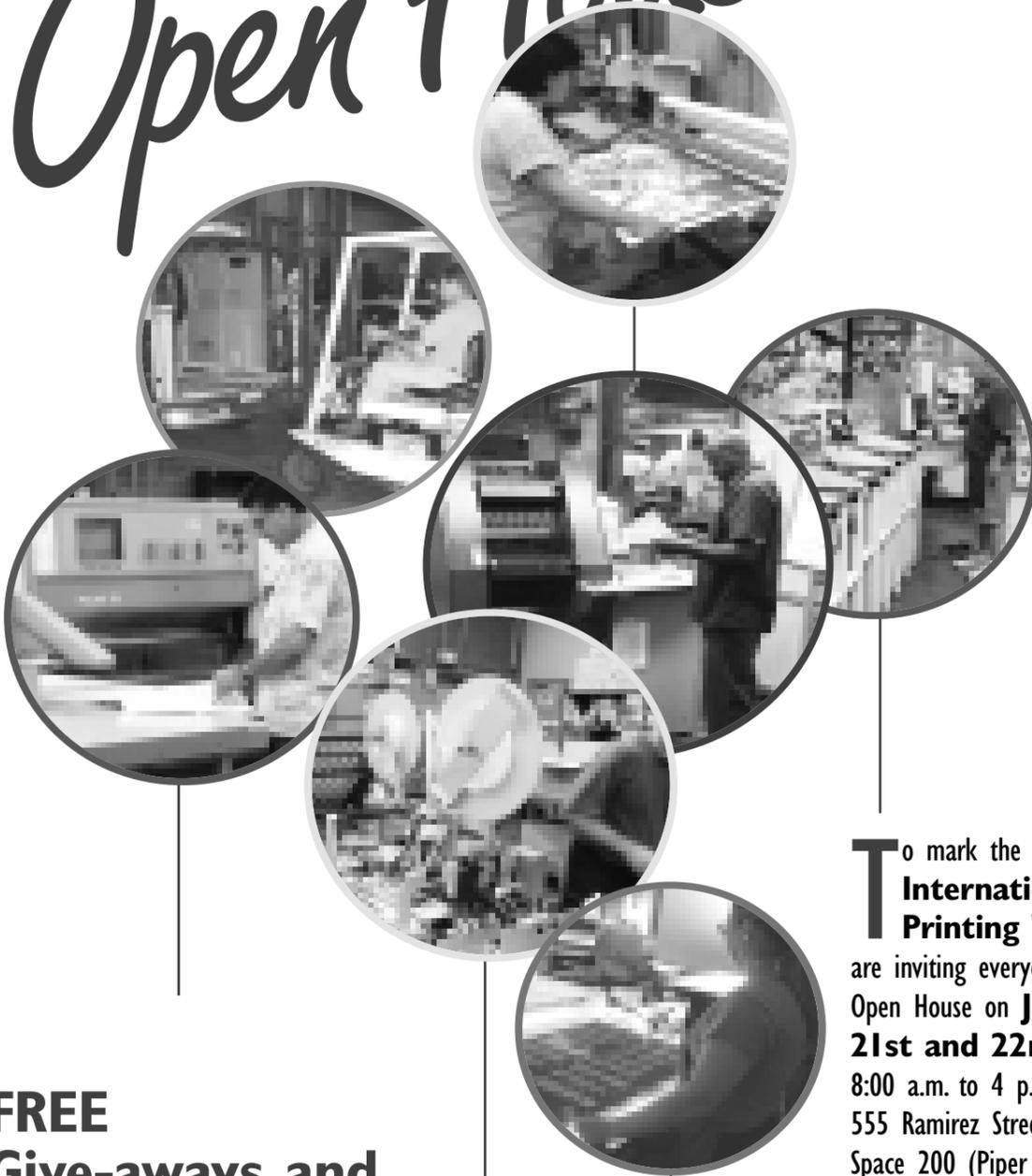
This is the second year that the Van Nuys Police Department's Detention Officers participated in Project Angel Tree. Principal Detention Officer Jennifer Malis (not pictured) has again taken on the task this year to make 25 "Little Angels" very happy. According to Principal Detention Officer David Muraoka, "Some of the participants spent hundreds of dollars to ensure some of these little angels have a very Merry Christmas."



Pictured with some of the gifts collected for the youngsters are (from left) Detention Officers Gil, De La Rosa, Gonzalez, Saucedo and Nieto.

Publishing Services

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To mark the occasion of **International Printing Week** we are inviting everyone to an **Open House on January 21st and 22nd** from **8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
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Celebrating **International Printing Week!**

Newsbrief

MATCHING GRANTS

Applications are available for City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) grants. "Persons or groups who want to apply for these community beautification grants of up to \$10,000 must do so by March 1, 2004," Mayor Jim Hahn announced Dec. 22.

Application packets can be obtained at Los Angeles City Hall, 200 N. Spring Street, in City Council offices or the Department of Public Works Operation Clean Sweep (OCS) office, Room 356. "They are also available in City Council Field Offices or you may call (213) 978-0226 to request one," said Department of Public Works Board President Valerie Lynne Shaw.

Free information workshops on how to apply will take place in January and February at locations throughout the city. More information is available on the OCS website: www.lacity.org/bpw/ocs/nmf. A partnership program between the City and neighborhood-based organizations, the NMF provides cash grants to neighborhood groups that undertake local improvement projects. "Awards of \$500 to \$10,000 match a community's contribution of cash, in-kind contributions and/or volunteer labor," said Shaw.

Applications are accepted from neighborhood-based organizations, groups in which most of the members reside or work in a common neighborhood. Formal non-profit status is not required and the group can be informally structured. Single businesses and individuals are excluded from funding, however.

"Grants are competitive and funds are limited," added Shaw. "Only the highest rated applications are awarded funds based on community involvement and benefit, projects ready to be implemented with workable plans, and those that address the needs of a problem within the community."

The Department of Public Works is responsible for the construction, renovation and operation of public facilities and infrastructures, ranging from refuse collection and graffiti removal to maintenance of sidewalks, bridges, sewers and streetlights; and management of wastewater treatment plants and building design. 🏗️

State Budget Could Affect City Jobs

Budget

Continued from Page 1

said his number one priority was to ensure that, while the city is unable to afford to expand the Los Angeles Police Department, he is committed to maintaining the Department at its current strength. Mayor Hahn also recommended that the City Council explore cutting or reducing programs in the current fiscal budget, including funding for:

- Golden Monkeys Exhibit;
- Griffith Observatory renovations;
- New Neighborhood City Halls;
- Bulky-item drop-off centers;
- Expansion of the 10th member of 10 fire task forces.

Mayor Hahn said, "Although it is painful to cut valuable programs that are worthwhile to

the communities they serve, the city must focus on its obligation to provide adequate public safety services."

To do so, Mayor Hahn said that he would like to work closely with the City Council and suggested the following measures to close the \$105 million hole created in the City's budget by the loss of State funding:

- End all hiring of new city employees, with the exception of sworn Fire Department personnel subject to constant staff requirements and the hiring of replacement police officers;

- Cut all programs currently in the Unappropriated Balance;

- Use the savings from the Unappropriated

Balance and part of the Reserve Fund to pay for priority programs and legally obligated services;

- Implement a citywide freeze on equipment purchases and expense accounts.

Mayor Hahn also said that because 85 percent of the city's budget is personnel costs, the city should look at cost reductions in personnel and asked the City Council to begin working closely with the employee unions to discuss the potential of implementing voluntary furloughs and contract savings to avoid layoffs.

"I fully recognize that what I am saying today, and what I am recommending will be tough," the mayor said. "What we do to close the budget gap will take its toll on each of us, and most notably on the people of Los Angeles. And, so it is that much more important that we work together in partnership to address the challenges we are facing because when we work together, the people of Los Angeles are better off." ■



Newsbrief

BUDGET WOES

During the Dec. 12 special City Council meeting to discuss the budget crisis caused by the elimination of Vehicle License Fee (VLF) funds from the State of California, Councilmember Jack Weiss suggested the City consider suing the State of California to protect public safety. Cities and counties including Los Angeles rely on funds from the VLF to pay for critical emergency services including police officers, paramedics, and firefighters.

"The governor has broken his promise not to endanger police and fire services," Weiss said. "We need to review our legal options immediately and fulfill our promise to our constituents to make Los Angeles safer. If a lawsuit is viable, it might be a breach of trust to our constituents not to pursue it."

The City Attorney planned to meet with the City Council in closed session Dec. 16 to discuss Weiss' request. ■

MAIL SERVICES EFFICIENCY

To get an idea of the kind of efficiency that Mail Services is bringing to the City, in November, the division of General Services processed almost 160,000 mass mailing pieces, and saved \$20,326 in postage and \$11,096 in related processing fees for the City.

That brought Mailing Services up to 96 percent of its annual productivity goal for 2003, with December still to be compiled. Its total goal of savings to the City for 2003 was \$300,852.

Good going, Mail Services! ■



2004 NBA All-Star Jam Session



2004 NBA All-Star Jam Session is the world's largest interactive basketball theme park featuring over 350,000 square feet of non-stop NBA All-Star entertainment. Jam Session brings the sights, sounds and action of the NBA All-Star Game to fans of all ages.

Jam Session features an exciting basketball experience for everyone: fans can slam dunk; launch a jump shot from a trampoline; shoot baskets with a slingshot; make their own personalized basketball trading card; test their trivia skills; experience the latest multi-media and much more. Jam

Session also offers an extensive trading card and collectibles area, player and celebrity autograph sessions, displays NBA apparel and NBA All-Star Souvenirs.

- At Center Court, NBA and WNBA players and celebrities match up in a variety of activities.
- Club NBA features the hottest musical entertainment to hit the charts. Last year, Atlanta's Club NBA stage included Nelly, Ludacris and B2K, just to name a few.
- Jam Session is fun and affordable for everyone! All activities and entertainment are included with admission.

WHERE: LA Convention Center,
South Hall

DATE: Saturday, February 14th, 2004
9 AM – 10 PM

PRICING: Adults - \$15,
Kids (3-12) - \$10

Make your reservations today. Payment must be made upon reservation. Contact the "Ticket Guy" for further details.

Order now, tickets are limited.



DWP Water Quality and Operations: Ensuring Your Glass of Water Is Great

by Martin Adams, Director, DWP Water Quality and Operations

The Water Quality and Operations Business Unit is one of four units that make up the "Water" part of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Its 370 employees ensure the continuous delivery of high quality drinking water to the residents and businesses of Los Angeles.

WQO employees operate and maintain one of the largest and most complex water distribution systems in the world. That system includes a 600-million-gallon-a-day filtration plant, a number of well fields, and a tremendous amount of real estate that is home to facilities throughout the city.

WQO is split into two camps. The Operations Group, headed by Assistant Business Unit Director Jim Yannotta, handles day-to-day operations, treatment, and maintenance. The Water Quality Compliance Group, directed by Dr. Pankaj Parekh, monitors and tests the city's water supply to ensure it meets all water quality regulations.

Operating the L.A. water system requires the efforts of a large staff to produce, treat and manage delivery of the city's water as it travels through an extensive network of major trunk lines, pump stations, tanks, reservoirs and pressure regulating stations. To assist in keeping an eye on the system, the LAWS-DAC water operations center is staffed around the clock, allowing the operators on duty to remotely monitor the status of the city's distribution system and make changes to flows and pressures or call out emergency crews.

The water quality compliance folks are equally on the spot as well. Collectors traveling throughout the city bring about 50

samples to our Water Quality Lab each day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. These samples will turn into more than 100 separate water quality tests performed daily to ensure that the water delivered to you meets all health standards. The unit also operates an Environmental Chemistry Lab that tests everything from transformer oil to construction discharge water and supports its environmental compliance group.

Even though the tap water served in Los Angeles has never been of higher quality, the unit is continually faced with the challenge of new and more stringent water quality regulations. Water

Quality Compliance is leading studies into new treatment techniques to deal with future standards and working with state and federal regulators to influence the decisions they make.

Of course, all of these facilities need a fair amount of attention, and in a system the size of Los Angeles's, mechanical breakdowns, electrical and communication failures, and just worn out equipment are a daily event. To keep the equipment running and the control signals sending, teams of mechanics, electricians, and instrument repairers spend their days all over the city repairing broken equipment and doing preventive maintenance to stay ahead of the curve.

The City's water system is a large and complex maze of facilities critical to the existence of Los Angeles. The employees of Water Quality and Operations are proud to play a vital role in the daily delivery of some of the nation's best drinking water to our customers. 🏠



Martin Adams



Bryan S. Tiu, Chemist, 16 years.



Marlyn C. Stasiak, Water Quality Laboratory Manager, 18 years.



Club Counselor Angel Gomez stops by the DWP's Tijuca Pumping Station to visit with Club members and other City employees.



Michael Bloch, Water Utility Operator, 29 years.



DWP sisters, from left: Maggie Murdock, Water Utility Operator, 9 years; and Virginia Murdock, Water Utility Operator, 9 years.



From left: Monica Chaney Bickerstaff, Management Assistant, 19 years; and Melinda A. Rho, Manager of Regulatory Affairs, 23 years.



From left: Kasey H. Chung, Chemist, 13 years; and Rene Olvina, Chemist, 11 years.



From left: Chia Yung Hwang, Chemist, 13 years; and Lety Sy, Lab Tech, 11 years.



From left: Cynthia Cruz, Chemist, 10 years; Tailer Wang, Chemist, 11 years; and Hourl Mandjikian, Chemist, 11 years.



From left: Roberto C. Vazquez, Sr. Water Utility Worker, 23 years; George Gallego, Water Utility Worker Supervisor, 19 years; Joseph Migliano, Sr. Water Utility Worker, 17 years; Michael M. McIntyre, Senior Supervisor Water Utility, 34 years; George Vieira, Sr. Water Utility Worker, 4.5 years; Michael Wall, Sr. Water Utility Worker, 19 years; and Bob Avila, Utility Worker, 17 years.



Back row, from left: Randall Shirk, Water Utility Operator Supervisor, 33 years; Brian King, Water Utility Operator Supervisor, 33 years; and William B. Blinn, Sr. Water Utility Operator Supervisor, 22 years. Front row: David Castillo, Water Utility Operator Supervisor, 16 years; Gerard Watson, Water Utility Operator Supervisor, 17 years; Ray Coronado Jr., Water Utility Operator Supervisor, 15 years; and Agustin Tan, Water Utility Operator Supervisor, 20 years.



Candy Sanchez, Administrative Laboratory Assistant, 14.5 years.

DWP Water Quality and Operations

Department of the Month



William E. Cabreal, Gardener, 19 years.



Dan Jimenez, Water Treatment Operator, 18 years.



Tony Castro, Water Treatment Operator, 18 years.



From left: Bob Krivak, Environmental Specialist, 22 years; Pepa Esparrago, Environmental Specialist, 12 years; and Mark Bassett, Environmental Specialist, 14 years.



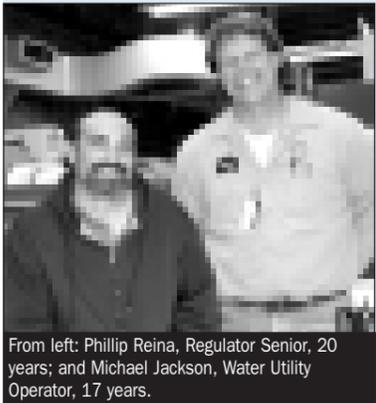
From left: Bob Carlson, Instrument Tech., 25 years; Louis Wood, Instrument Tech., 21 years; and Henry Wettl, Instrument Tech., 28 years.



From left: Jose L.P. Ancheta, Sanitary Engineer Associate, 12 years; Razmik Manoukian, Waterworks Engineer, 16 years; George Miller Jr., Water Quality Sampling Services Supervisor, 14 years; Gloria Williams, Civil Engineering Associate, 12 years; and Marina J.F. Busatto, Water Biologist Supervisor, 14 years.



From left: Stanley M. Kung, Laboratory Director, 26 years; and Lucas Wang, Assistant Laboratory Director, 22 years.



From left: Phillip Reina, Regulator Senior, 20 years; and Michael Jackson, Water Utility Operator, 17 years.



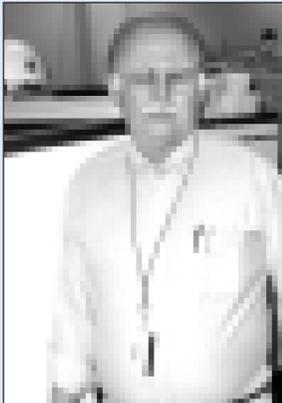
From left: Tom Reynolds, Senior Lead Operator, 23 years; Jorge Pineda, Senior Lead Operator, 15 years; Eric Nena, Senior Lead Operator, 5 years; and Bill Hinton, Senior Lead Operator, 1 year.



Daniel Campos, Water Utility Operator, 21 years.



Jennifer M. Gee, Professional Student Worker, 6 months.



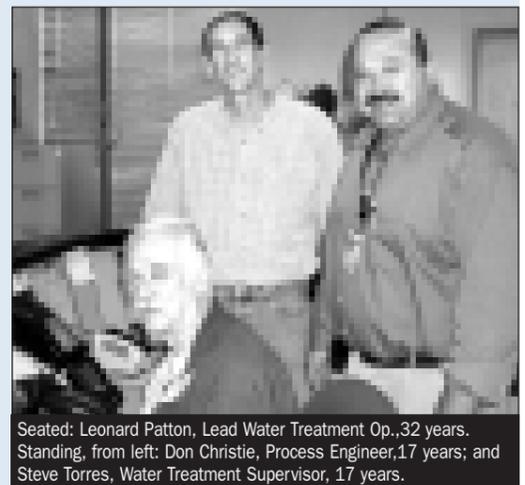
Bernard J. Heggem, Water Treatment Supervisor, 27.5 years.



Front row, from left: Leticia Daligdig, Lab Tech, 18 years; Beda Jardenil, Lab Tech, 22 years; and Xuqing Fu, Chemist, 1 year. Back row: Munir Kiriako, Lab Tech, 13 years; Pat McCaskill, Lab Tech, 10 years; and Ken Lossett, Lab Tech, 10 years.



From left: Fernando Bolanos, Lab Tech, 11 years; Cindy de la Valente, Lab Tech, 9 months; Pol Tolentino, Water Microbiologist, 14 years; Jason La, Water Microbiologist, 2 years; and Lyndon Ventura, Lab Tech, 14 years.

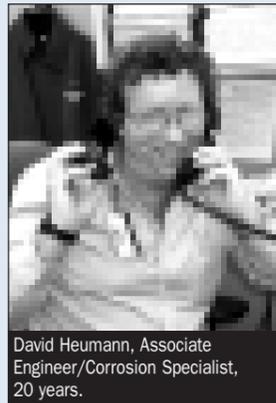


Seated: Leonard Patton, Lead Water Treatment Op., 32 years. Standing, from left: Don Christie, Process Engineer, 17 years; and Steve Torres, Water Treatment Supervisor, 17 years.

DWP Water Quality and Operations Business Unit

PROFILE

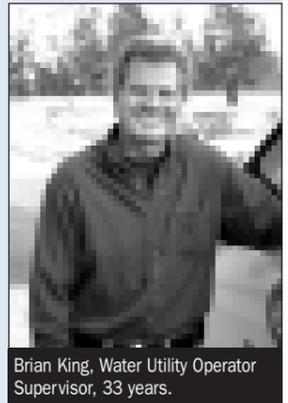
- Director:** Martin Adams
- Assistant Director (Operations Group):** Jim Yannotta
- Assistant Director (Compliance Group):** Pankaj Parekh
- Service zones:** 102
- Pump stations:** 78
- Production wells:** 74
- Tanks/reservoirs:** 105
- Pressure regulating stations (under streets):** 3,500
- Miles of water mains:** 7,100
- Storage tank capacity:** Seven 10-million-gallon tanks
One 30-million-gallon tank, the second largest water tank in the world
- Water treatment facilities:** 30
- Capacity, Los Angeles Aqueduct Filtration Plant:** 600 million gallons
- Testing samples collected:** 16,500/year
- Water tests completed:** 220,000/year
- Employees:** 370
- Annual budget:** \$254.4 million



David Heumann, Associate Engineer/Corrosion Specialist, 20 years.



Ron Hunnewell, Water Utility operator, 19 years.



Brian King, Water Utility Operator Supervisor, 33 years.



Quintin A. Micu, Chemist, 10 years.



Mr. Hat, Visual Motivator (Ferraro Office Bldg, 14th Floor), 30 years.



Jo Ann Newman, Clerk Typist, 14 years.



From left: Cheryl L. Jenkins, Water Service Rep, 29 years; Pete Westdol, C.E. Associate, 18 years; Luis E. Castillo, Water Service Rep, 29 years; (seated) Jane T. Gee, Water Quality Sr. Administrator, 25 years; Cesar Vitangcol, Chemist, 25 years; Walter Orzechowski Mechanical Engineer Associate III, 14 years; and Robert Freeman, Environmental Supervisor, 10 years.



From left: Morley Male, Sanitary Engineer Assistant IV, 25 years; and Roberto Ruiz, Civil Engineering Assistant II, 12 years.



Department of the Month

DWP Water Quality and Operations



Steve Torres, Water Treatment Supervisor, 17 years.

Special Thanks to DWP's Steve Torres

Club Counselor Angel Gomez would like to thank Steve Torres, who called him and hosted the Club team on its final visit to the DWP water filtration plant in Sylmar in production of this Department of the Month feature.

Steve started March 9, 1987, as a Water Treatment Trainee at the filtration plant. In six months, he was promoted to Water Treatment Operator. In 1995 he was promoted again to Lead Water Treatment Operator on the night shift.

In 2000 he became Oxygen Ozone Coordinator, and was promoted nine months later to Water Treatment Supervisor.

Good going, Steve, and thanks for all your help! 🙏



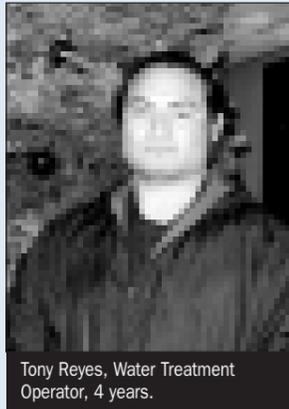
Eddie Corral, Security Officer, 3 years.



From left: Michael Odom, Water Quality and Creations Safety, 20 years; Jamal H. Safa, Mechanical Engineering Associate, 14 years; Jose C.E. Martinez, Associate Water Control Engineer, 15 years; Greg Van, Civil Engineering Associate, 15 years; and Anita Frazier, Office Manager, 18 years.



Don A. Stone, Water Treatment Operator, 27 years.



Tony Reyes, Water Treatment Operator, 4 years.



Eddie Weber, Building Repair, 16 years.



Robert S. Peterson, Chemist, 4 years.



From left: Miguel Angel Rodriguez, Water Utility Operator, 10 years; Roland Villa, Water Utility Operator, 17 years; (seated) John Rashada, Water Utility Operator, 10 years; and Hisa Zempo, Water Utility Operator, 17 years.



Sgt. J. Bueno, Security Supervisor (Van Norman Reservoir), 17 years.



Dan R. Davies, Water Treatment Operator, 25 years.



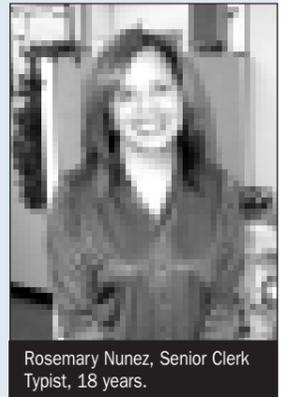
Eddie Glade, Driver, 16 years.



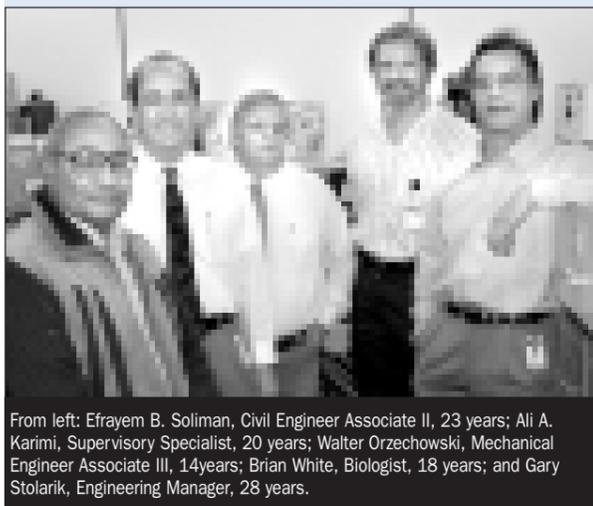
Cliff C. Smith, Water Utility Operator, 14 years.



George Pence, Instrument Tech. Supervisor, 27.5 years.



Rosemary Nunez, Senior Clerk Typist, 18 years.



From left: Efrayem B. Soliman, Civil Engineer Associate II, 23 years; Ali A. Karimi, Supervisory Specialist, 20 years; Walter Orzechowski, Mechanical Engineer Associate III, 14 years; Brian White, Biologist, 18 years; and Gary Stolarik, Engineering Manager, 28 years.



From left: Michael Renwick, Water Quality Inspector, 17 years; Joyce Chemp, Water Quality Inspector, 5 years; Charles R. Lembke, Water Quality Inspector, 14 years; and Michael Greenamyre, Water Quality Inspector, 22 years.



From left: Tommie Walker, Waterworks Mech., 22 years; Shaw Chapman, Waterworks Mech., 14 years; Rick Tuttle, Waterworks Mech., 16 years; Chris Troutman, Waterworks Mech., 24 years; and Jorge L. Pineda, Oxygen/Ozone Coordinator, 15 years.



From left: Vivian Yang, Microbiologist, 3 years; Ronald Dergriggoran, Microbiologist, Supervisor, 17 years; Tsui-yan Kwan, Lab Tech, 1 year; and Leslie Peng, Microbiologist, 3 years.



Standing: Jay Negrin, Water Quality Biologist, 25 years; and (sitting) Mark Osokow, Water Quality Biologist, 14 years.

Hey, DWP Water Quality and Operations: I'm Your Counselor!



Beverly Haro
Member Services Counselor

Hi, I'm **Beverly Haro**, your Club Member Services Counselor. I can help you with insurance products ... advice ... ticket discounts ... and all your Club benefits. It's my job!

I'm over at the DWP all the time. Call or e-mail me to schedule an appointment: (800) 464-0452, or bharo@cityemployeesclub.com

Newsbrief

PORT CONGESTION:

Los Angeles Councilwoman Janice Hahn and Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner James Acevedo co-chaired the second meeting of the Port of Los Angeles' working group to reduce truck traffic in late December. Attendees included representatives of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, the Teamsters Union, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach,



shippers, terminal operators, the Port Police, the Los Angeles Police Department, the California Trucking Association and the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority. Dr. Peter Gardiner, who has been hired by the port to oversee the meetings of the working Group, facilitated the meeting.

The working group agreed that the most effective way to increase off-peak hours is to charge a premium on all peak hour (8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday) operations. Using an appointment system for all truck pick-ups and drop-offs, as well as offering incentives for shippers that use rail were also recommended during the meeting. Additionally, the group pinpointed a number of obstacles to increasing hours of operations, including labor and cost issues.

"With all of these stakeholders working together, I am confident that any obstacle can be overcome. Together, we can increase efficiency at the port while also improving the quality of life for the people who live and work in the Harbor Area," said Councilwoman Hahn. "Now is the time to increase off-peak hours at the port. It is the only immediate solution to significantly decrease traffic congestion and air pollution throughout the Los Angeles region."

"This working group realizes that if we don't create and move toward a solution to the traffic and congestion problems on our own, solutions will be legislated and the stakeholders along the cargo supply chain will be forced to make changes," said Commissioner Acevedo.

The working group will meet again on January 15 to further discuss the obstacles, create solutions and determine what types of premiums and incentives should be put into place. An extended hours pilot program will be finalized and launched at the January meeting. The program should be in place by early 2004.

"This has been one of the most productive working groups that I have even been a part of," said the Councilwoman during closing remarks this morning. ■



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ADRENALINE

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Expires 2/28/04



WIN
 two free adult passes
 and two free
 children's passes to

Knott's
 Theme Park

An award package will be
 given for each age group:

- * Ages 5 and under
- * Ages 6 to 7
- * Ages 8 to 10



It's a Coloring Contest!



Color this winter sports picture, have an adult send it in, and you could win two free adult passes and two free children's passes to Knott's Theme Park!

We want to know about you! Tell us a little about yourself:

Your name _____ How old are you? _____

When is your birthday? _____ What is your favorite television show? _____

What is your favorite snack? _____

What is the first name of your best friend? _____

I want to go to Knott's Theme Park because: _____

For parents/guardian to complete:

Name of parent/guardian: _____

Job title and department with the City: _____

Parent/guardian phone number: _____

Child's address/state/zip: _____

Submit to:

Club Coloring Contest
 City Employees Club of Los Angeles
 World Trade Center
 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700
 Los Angeles, CA 90071

Deadline for submission:

**February 10,
 2004**

The Club will do everything it can to gather all the submissions, but it cannot be responsible for lost or misdirected mail.

Good luck, and have fun!



Hey Club members:

A new monthly **contest!**

What is this? Where is this?

Please answer both questions. See rules for details.

Win two free movie tickets!

Whoever gives the most detailed, complete description of this City landmark wins!

Where in L.A.?

Club members: With the new year, we're starting a new monthly feature in *Alive!* — **Where in L.A.**

We'll publish a photograph, and you tell us **in detail** what that photograph is. It's that simple. The Club member who gives the most detailed, complete description of the object in the photo will win two free movie tickets.

Here's a hint: The photograph will always depict an object related to the City of Los Angeles.

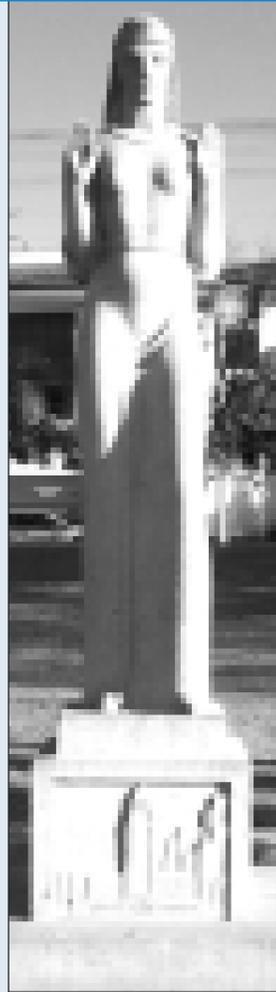
**Please answer these two questions:
What is it? Where is it?**

Send your response along with your Club member number via e-mail to:
whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com

We'll print the names of as many of those who submit the right answer as we can. So don't delay: deadline is January 10.

Contest Rules:

1. Winning contestants must be Club members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club membership numbers will be accepted but not considered for the winning prize.)
2. All responses must be sent in via e-mail. No paper, phone or in-person responses will be accepted.
3. The winning response will be selected from responses delivered by e-mail to whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com.
4. Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
5. The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivery of *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.



Good luck and have fun!

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Life's Important Moments

Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? (Yea!) Get a promotion? (Hooray!) Retire? (Ahhhh.) We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and digital photos to: moments@cityemployeesclub.com
Send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071



Promotions

Laura Contin, promoted to senior librarian at the Malabar Library in Boyle Heights. Formerly she was a young adult librarian at the Felipe de Neve Library.



Sal Miranda, Club member and former West LA District Superintendent, with 26 years of service to the City, has been promoted to Division Manager 1 for the Valley, which incorporates the East and West Valley.

Promotions: Send us your department, your former job title, your new job, and a sentence saying your supervisor is aware that you're sending this. Send your photo, too, plus your phone number. Send to moments@cityemployeesclub.com.



Births

Emily Rose Silah, born Aug. 23 to **Mark and Melodie Silah** of Burbank. Emily's grandfather, Charles Chavoor, is the South District Recreation Supervisor, Rec and Parks.



Sarah Kohana Faircloth, born Dec. 4 to **Cecil and Sally Faircloth**. Cecil is a machinist, General Services, North Hollywood Division.

Births: Send us the following information: full name of the newborn, date of birth, name of parents, job title of the parent(s) who work(s) for the City or the DWP, your phone number and a baby photo. Send to moments@cityemployeesclub.com

Retirements

| NAME | DEPARTMENT | YEARS OF SERVICE |
|------------------|---|------------------|
| David Ashman | Auto Electrician (LAFD) | 16 |
| Allene Buchanan | Sr. Management Analyst (LAPD) | 30 |
| Lonnie Claiborne | Painter (Rec and Parks) | 14 |
| Robert Fawcett | Landscaper (Rec and Parks) | 30 |
| Daniel Gerski | Management Analyst (Aging) | 29 |
| Donna Grimes | Special Officer (Airports) | 30 |
| Gloria Jones | Clerk (LAPD) | 38 |
| Agapita Lobdell | Sr. Clerk Typist (LAPD) | 21 |
| Frederick Merkin | Sr. Assistant City Attorney (City Attorney) | 30 |

Alive! and your City Employees Club wishes to thank each and every one of the following, who have spent many years making Los Angeles the great city it is. Congratulations, and enjoy your well-deserved rewards!

| NAME | DEPARTMENT | YEARS OF SERVICE |
|----------------|---|------------------|
| Roger Michalek | Park Maintenance Supervisor (LAPD) | 15 |
| Angel Palacios | Truck Operator (Library) | 31 |
| Robert Palmer | Sr. Construction Inspector (Public Works) | 16 |
| Emma Pickens | Clerk Typist (LAPD) | 28 |
| Morris Reaves | Structural Engineer Associate (Building and Safety) | 35 |
| Mark Richter | Property Manager (Harbor) | 25 |
| Alvin Takaki | Storekeeper (Airports) | 33 |
| Fred Thomas | Equipment Operator (Rec and Parks) | 38 |



In Memoriam

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the following current and retired City employees who have passed away:

| NAME | DEPARTMENT | YEARS OF SERVICE |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Name | Dept. | Years of Service |
| Wilfred Bonas | General Services | 28 |
| L.C. Burton | General Services | 12 |
| Emanuel Cattolica | Harbor | 25 |
| Georgia Chew | Not disclosed | Not disclosed |
| Chiu Chow | General Services | 12 |
| Silvia Cruz | General Services | 17 |
| Eugene Fisher | Not disclosed | Not disclosed |
| Virginia Frinell | Library | 21 |
| Henry Galle | Not disclosed | Not disclosed |
| Robert Jones | Rec and Parks | 29 |
| John Leech | General Services | 19 |
| Eldridge Mallard Sr. | Public Works | 23 |
| Regina Mitouer | Library | 18 |
| Vernon Peppers | General Services | 35 |

| NAME | DEPARTMENT | YEARS OF SERVICE |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Fred Perry | Public Works | 12 |
| Jesus Rodriguez | Public Works | 24 |
| Robert Scanlan | Building and Safety | 31 |
| Ruth Scully | City Attorney | 10 |
| Lottie Shaffer | City Attorney | 25 |
| Leroy Smith | Public Works | 32 |
| Lloyd Smith | Public Works | 36 |
| George Steele | Public Works | 10 |
| John Stits | Harbor | 13 |
| T.R. Williams | Mayor | 18 |
| Jimmie Williams | Public Works | 19 |
| Nikolai Zemstev | Public Works | 32 |
| John Ethridge | Not disclosed | Not disclosed |
| Margiree Hall | El Pueblo | 20 |
| Loretta Porter | Not disclosed | Not disclosed |

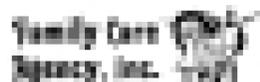
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The Club gives a great big welcome to these new members, who recently joined the Club:

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Gilberto Barrera-Duanes
Nell Bautista
Benott Beaulieu
Huibart Benjamins
Ron Benson
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Mario Betancourt
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Welcome New Members!



Retirees NEWS

Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Following is a list of contacts for the City and for the DWP:

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

City Retirement Counselors:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| • Edward Harding (805) 584-9417 | • Jack Mathews (310) 762-1942 |
| • Phil Skarin (818) 784-0130 | • Helen Salgado (323) 728-4930 (membership) |
| • Robert Wilkinson (818) 886-1000 | • Americo Garza (562) 928-2051 |
| • Jerry Bardwell (818) 782-5568 | • Neil Ricci (310) 394-1971 |
| • Harold Danowitz (310) 472-0224 | |

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

For Retirees By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Membership NEWS

■ **Bob and Evelyn Bobo** will celebrate 40 years of marriage Jan. 18

■ **David Lessley** serves as a pastoral associate on the staff of First Presbyterian Church of Burbank

■ **John Shadle**, who just turned 80, renewed both his driver and pilot licenses

■ Another relative of **Gary Whittington** (see Nov. *Alive!*) is Robert E. Blyth, a second cousin. He is a painter for the Harbor Dept

■ **Dick Hovius** lives at the Sun Lakes Country Club in Banning. He just won the three-day "A" flight championship of his club

■ **Marcelle Butler** writes that it was very kind to award her poem "Harsh Words" a prize in our poetry contest

■ **Phil Skarin** won a gold medal in the American Masters Weightlifting Championships in Nov. in Cleveland, his fourth of the year, a grand slam.

If you have any news about retirees that you would like to share, send it to Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or fax (818) 906-3722, or phone (818) 784-0130.



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:
The New Year would be a good time to start with a clean slate. But what about those leftovers from last year – those unfulfilled promises, the wrongs you haven't made right, and the grudges you're still carrying? It's time to first clean up any leftovers, then begin to fill in the slate with sublime thoughts and worthy deeds, and have a Happy New Year.



President's Council Formed by 3 Retiree Groups for Better Strategy



Ed Harding,
RLACEI President

Edward Harding, RLACEI President reports that he was happy to see nearly 200 members and guests at our annual Christmas party Dec. 11 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge. Americo Garza, party chairman, did a great job in arranging a fine lunch and musical entertainment. Robert Aguillo, General Manager of LACERS, installed the newly elected officers for 2004.

Two candidates for director offices on the L.A. Federal Credit Union Board were present and promised to ensure that all members will receive friendly, equitable and convenient service. I recommend that you give favorable consideration to Jack Mathews and Roslyn Carter Phillips when you receive your ballots Jan. 19.

President's Council: Early this year we formed the President's Council. It is comprised of the presidents of the City's three retired employee associations – Ed Harding

(RLACEI), Dolores Foley (DWP) and Will Gartland (Fire and Police Assn.). They met in November and discussed some of the unique characteristics of our health and dental benefits, especially regarding spouses and surviving spouses, the rising costs of medical care and prescription drugs and the effect that the latest Medicare legislation may have on our group plans.

We believe that these President's Council meetings can be mutually beneficial as we all share the same concerns. Sharing of information and the strength in numbers are the primary goals of the council.

Legislative Update: Ken Spiker, our elected representative to the LACERS Board of Directors and Chairman of LACERS Benefits and Administration Committee, reports that the retirement fund value exceeds \$7.4 billion due primarily to rising stock prices and the overall resurgence of the national economy.

While the fund continues to grow, the annual actuarial valuation for 2004/2005 recently submitted to the LACERS actuary, indicates that the City contribution rate for the health subsidy increases from 1.85 percent to 4.81 percent of payroll and for retirement benefits

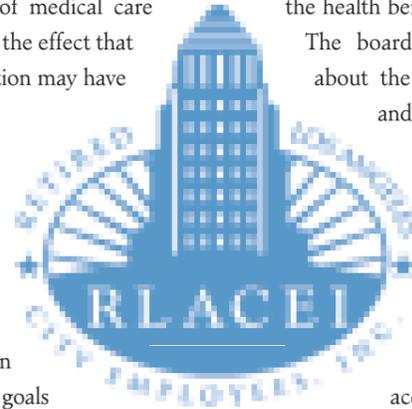
increase from 8.53 percent to 11.95 percent for a combined total of 16.79 percent. Although the rate increase for the retirement benefit was anticipated due to investment performance, the significant rate increase for the health benefit was not anticipated.

The board expressed reservations about the accuracy of the results and directed staff to meet with the actuary to review their findings. In addition, LACERS has retained the services of a third party actuarial firm for a second look at the accuracy of the findings.

The impact on the City budget will be a major hit, especially since the repeal of the Vehicle License Fee increase will cut the state allocation to the City by an estimated \$19 million per month.

Coming events in 2004:

- April 15 – General Membership Meeting
- June 15 – Annual Retirees Golf Classic
- August 12 – Annual Picnic
- October 14 – Annual Corporation Meeting and Elections
- December 9 – Christmas Party 🍷



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Gentle 'Eagle' Robert Bowen, Longtime Public Works Employee, Retires in Jan.

■ Bureau of Contract Administration threw party for him in October.

Bob Bowen, assistant director in the Bureau of Contract Administration in the Dept. of Public Works, and 35-year veteran City employee, is set to retire officially Jan. 25. But the division threw a big retirement bash for him Oct. 29 at Luminarias Restaurant, when he expressed his appreciation to his office staff and his family.



His last words? He looked at his watch and said, "Let's get back to work!"

Congratulations from the Club, Bob, on a great career and a job well done! (And thanks to those who organized your farewell bash.)

Below are photos from Bob's retirement party.



From left: Chris Smith, principal construction inspector, Wastewater Construction Division; and Gary Bigelow; John Reamer; Robert Bowen; Ted Galsim; and Walter (Butch) Bradley.



From left: Robert Bowen; and Walter (Butch) Bradley, chief, General Services Division, and master of ceremonies at the retirement party.



From left: John Reamer, acting assistant director; and Julie and Robert Bowen.



From left: Stanley J. Sysak, former Inspector of Public Works; Robert Bowen; and Larry Williams, chief, Administrative Services.



From left: Gary Bigelow, Principal Construction Inspector, Wastewater Construction Division; Ted Galsim, Principal Construction Inspector, Wastewater Construction Division; Larry Williams; John Reamer; and C. Bernard Gilpin, former Inspector of Public Works.

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by our own
Robert Larios



Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0388 or e-mail us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com.

Giant's Flank Steak

INGREDIENTS

- Marinate 1 flank steak (poked with a fork about 100 times, with shallow cross-slits cut in both sides) overnight in soy sauce, minced garlic and black pepper (I always used fresh cracked).

DIRECTIONS

Grill the steak, brushing with a Teriyaki BBQ sauce. Remove while still rare.



IMPORTANT: Cut very thin slices at an angle. Serve on a steak roll.

Mexican-Style Bean Dip

INGREDIENTS

- 1 can (15 oz.) pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 med. fresh tomato, seeded
- 2 teaspoons lime juice
- 3 garlic cloves
- 2 scallions
- 1/3 cup cilantro
- 1/2 (more or less to taste) jalapeno pepper
- Salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

Crush and chop the garlic, and chop the vegetables. Mix well and serve with hearty tortilla chips.



Artichoke Dip

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup nonfat (or regular) sour cream
- 1/2 cup fat free (or regular) mayonnaise
- 1 (.65-ounce) Italian dressing mix (Good Seasons is a good one)
- 1 (14-ounce) can artichoke hearts, drained and chopped (can be from the can)
- 1 tbsp dill weed
- Salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

Mix all ingredients together.



Resolved to Lose Weight? Good Luck Making It Through the Annual Super Bowl Super Party

Ahhh! Not long after the New Years holiday, resolutions to lose the extra pounds begin to lose their appeal. By the time the Super Bowl comes along, all bets are off and there is no longer any point to keep those New Year resolutions. Why? With a Super Bowl game, you have to have at least one television and megatons of high fat, finger-licking snack foods with a variety of favorite beverages to wash down those deliciously clogging foods. Think about the chips, cheese dips, chili, salsa, Buffalo wings, cheese balls, sour cream and pizza (chicken and pineapple are my favorite toppings!).

It seems that Super Bowl parties are one of the top party events of the year. Super Bowl parties have become much more than a gathering of football lovers. In fact, many people attending these parties don't love football as much as they love the excuse to get together

with friends and food. Whether you're planning a Super Bowl party out of love for the game or just the desire to host a fun, relaxing party, here are tips for making this a super bash:

- Plan simple, portable foods.
- A buffet is the way to do it.
- Get several televisions.
- Serve easy-to-make foods.
- Get a wide variety of beverages.
- Decorate and get in the Super Bowl spirit.
- Be prepared for messes. Have the paper towels handy.

If you are having trouble figuring out what to have for your Super Bowl party, here are a few recipes. I won't be offended if you order pizza ... just make sure you get one with pineapple. 🍷

Eagle Steak

INGREDIENTS

- 2 flank steaks about 2 1/2 lbs.
- 2/3 cup of soy sauce
- 1/2 cup Louisiana hot sauce or some other brand of sweet slightly hot pepper sauce
- 1/3 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 4 tbsp dry red wine
- 4 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 2 1/2 tsp dark brown sugar
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 2 tbsp A1 steak sauce

DIRECTIONS

Mix all ingredients [except the steak] into mixing bowl and then pour over the steaks for at least 24 hours, but two days would be better. Remove the steaks [but save the marinade] and grill over hot coals till done about 5 minutes a side (repeatedly). Meanwhile bring to a boil and reduce the marinade in a saucepan by about 1/3. Let the steaks rest 10 minutes or so; cut on the grain and serve with reduced sauce poured over it.



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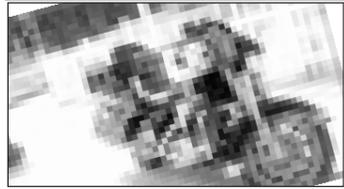
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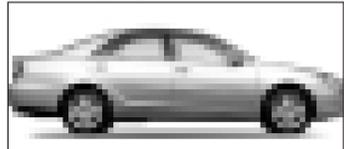
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1996 Olds Cutlass Supreme 4D, very clean and good condition, fully loaded. Original owner. 89,000 miles. \$4,800. Call (323) 296-3931.



Customized 2001 Harley Davidson FLHTCU1, 35,000 miles, black with lots of chrome and extras, pristine bike. \$22,000 or best offer. Contact Jerry at: jjasher64@hotmail.com

Trade: I have a **1989 Volvo 740gl**, engine is good, needs some trans work, would like to trade for pop up trailer tent. Or best offer. (323) 242-7800



2003 Camry LE. 4-Door Sedan, Automatic, Lunar Mist, Power Tilt/Slide Moonroof, All Power. 7,800 miles, \$19,995.00. Call (562) 301-2940.

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1994 Yamaha Waveblaster (Two of them), both stock, fresh water only, always garaged, very reliable, \$4,600 obo for both with trailer. Call (310) 324-6779 or (310) 420-8286.

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DVDs: Willing to swap/trade (Gladiator, Pearl Harbor, The Rock plus many more). bobpearce@earthlink.net

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Encyclopedia of Modern Bodybuilding (Paperback) - Author: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Bill Dobbins - Condition: Acceptable - Book has some folded and creased edges, in acceptable condition. Only \$8.00! Call 213-760-4521, leave message

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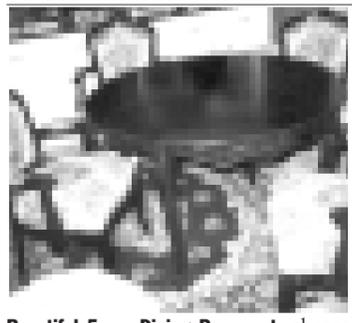
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Furniture



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Dining table, with extension, wood, sturdy. No chairs. Matching China hutch. All for \$250. Call (323) 721-6957.



Children's white, red & blue desk with red chair. \$48.00. Call (213) 367-1667.



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Dining table, wood, with six chairs. Good condition. \$299. Call (213) 367-1667

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Homes/Rentals/Land

For Sale: 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, Monterey Park. FSBO \$290,000. 1,500 sq. feet, pool, jacuzzi, w/d room. New paint. Varnished cabinets and tile floor in kitchen. New marble bathroom floors and shower doors. (626) 288-1658

Room for Rent. North Hills. Female preferred. Must like children. \$500 per month including utilities. Call Angela (818) 314-3296 for more info.

Land: Two side by side 50x100ft. lots in El Camino Village, Bullhead City, AZ. Minutes to Laughlin. \$22,500ea. (626)912-2999

Guest House for rent. Northridge. Separate bedroom living room and kitchen. Central Air, new paint, carpet and hardwood floors. No smoking, no pets. \$1,200/month. Call Paula at (818) 885-5155.

Household Items

Fabric for sale - many patterns, colors and types to choose from. Great for upholstery and pillows. (310) 766-0964.

Rummage Sale Items - CHEAP PRICES! - Baby swing, crib, bouncer, stroller (2), Boys Clothes Infant to 4T, etc. Ladies clothes (nearly new) Size 8 -12, Shoes size 8-1/2, Maytag Washer/Dryer, wedding dress size 10. Call Connie after 5pm (213) 926-2552.

Refrigerator - Maytag (Black) 25 cu ft. Top Mount, automatic ice maker, never used. "Still in box" asking \$750. Call (909) 225-2335 and ask for Tim.

Refrigerator - Whirlpool (White) 18.2 cu ft. Top Mount with automatic ice maker, and filtered water dispenser. Never Used. \$550. Call (909) 225-2335 and ask for Tim.

Continuous Woodworking tool sale until all is sold. Contact Grant 818 353 3537

Air Hockey Table Wilson, 84 x 44, with electronic scoreboard and sound. \$150.00 Call Ernie at (310) 715-1025

Get 10% off Living Air. See display ad in front section of this edition. 213-689-4662

Jacket - NEW w/ tags gorgeous jacket by Kasper A.S.L. Petites in size 8p. Black, fully lined, with luxurious ivory lapels and cuffs! \$15.00. Winning buyer pays \$6 shipping/handling. Send questions to: msarlene76@hotmail.com

Microwave Oven. 1,000 watt. Excellent condition. \$30. Call Ernest at (626) 333-3740.

Microwave Oven. Heavy-duty, 800 watts. Durable, good for big family. Only \$40. Call (323) 841-2800

Princess House Crystal 50% off. lots and lots of items. Call (213) 367-1667

Two RevoStyler Hair Straightener Kits. Never used. Comes with instructional video and 3-year warranty. Best offer. E-mail: jazzmusic12@aol.com

Miscellaneous

Notary Service - The Travelling Notary serving the greater Los Angeles area 24/7. Bonded. Document preparation also available. (310) 766-0964.

Lakers Tickets: 4 seats together in section 304 (upper level). Many games available. \$25-5- each set. Call Robert (213) 367-0440

Have a great Night Out...Indoors. Host a Girls Night Out! Invite your friends over for a fun & relaxing evening of pampering. Have facials or pedicures using natural products from The Body Shop at Home. Receive FREE gifts and discounted products. For more information, call Connie (323) 351-4689.

Healing Massage - All aches, pains, emotional distress, and stress. No fee. Donations Only! Call Millie (323) 724-1295

Piano for Sale: Old upright, beautiful tone and condition. \$995. Call Sandy (818) 771-2780 work, (818) 594-4958 after 7 p.m.

Locksmith Pinning Kits (2) and many blank keys. \$800 obo. Call Bob at (323) 757-5683

Silk Screen T-shirt Printing Machine Complete frames, paint, squeegee, etc. and T-shirt HEAT TRANSFER MACHINE. 2 machines cost over \$7,000 - Selling for \$2,900. Good for T-shirt printing business, schools/organizations. Call (323) 841-2800

Sports/Exercise

Deluxe Air Hockey Table - Arcade style - with electronic scoreboard, 42" X 84". \$130. Call Ernie at (310) 715-1025.

2 Cobra Fish & Dive Kayaks - fully equipped with paddles, buckets, hi-Back seats, anchors, hatch covers, paddles etc., Used 3 times. \$1,500. Contact Jerry at: jjasher64@hotmail.com

Magna XL2 21 Speed Mountain Bike in mint condition. \$180 or trade for snowboard. Information, call Gus (310) 842-3984 or write to guswho364@yahoo.com

Boat - 2001 Stingray 180LX, Open Bow, 50 mph, 135 hp. Volvo factory warranty, 27hr, many extras. \$13,500 obo. Call Wes at (818) 756-8466 days, or (661) 255-2854 eves.

Orbitrek Stepper - 1 yr. old, \$100 - Call Beverly at (562) 943-0930

Cannondale mountain bike, model Jeckell 3000; 2002 model. Originally \$3,800, selling \$2,000 or best offer. Contact:

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

MEMBERS: to place your free classified ad send us your information (25 total words maximum) including your name, item, description, price, phone number or e-mail address.

You can fax to (213) 620-0598 or email to classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com. We'll run your ad in the next available issue. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

Maria Romasanta, (213) 367-2611

Bicycle pannier. Eclipse, red. For front handlebars. \$10. (818) 832-5522

Rowing machine. One of the original "Concept Iis" - needs a little cosmetic work but is ready to use. \$100 firm. (818) 832-5522

Travel / Timeshare

TIMESHARE FOR RENT: Cancun, Mexico, on the beach. Walking distance to shops, restaurants and night life - Oct, 2003 and May - June 2004. 7 days \$670.00. Call (562)301-2940.

TIMESHARE FOR RENT: Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, beautiful Beach Resort, close to restaurants, shopping centers and night life. 7 days \$695. Please call (562) 301-2940



Time Share: Maui - Kahana Villa Resort, 1 bedroom, air conditioning, kitchen. Directly across Kahana Beach. Buy for \$7500 OBO. Call Jasmin for more information (213) 580-1183.

OVERNIGHT ROSARITO/PUERTO NUEVO TRIP August 16 - 17, 2003. \$95.00 each/3 people/room. \$105.00 each/2 people/room. Inclusive of round trip bus service, refreshments, bingo games, trivia, movies and prizes..... OASIS BEACH HOTEL. FOR DETAILS: CALL GINA CAGUIAT. (818)265-5940 after 6pm.

Rosarito Beach House for Rent - Walking Distance to the Beach, 3 Bedroom 2 Bathrooms, Living/Dining, Kitchen, Patio, Fireplace, Private Parking, Call for Weekend Rates. (626) 536-3446

Time Share: Palm Springs. Club Trinidad, Deluxe Studio. Will sell for \$900 or best offer. Call John at (661) 285-1074.

Timeshare: Desert Springs, Calif. Call Olivia: (323) 724-9535



Time Share: Hawaii - Oahu. 1 bedroom, Air Conditioning, Kitchen, Microwave. Located 100 yards from Waikiki Beach. The resort also features a full fitness center with a coed Jacuzzi and on-call masseuse. \$765 per week or buy for \$3,800. Call Martha for more information (213) 367-1667.



Time Share: Cancun - Piramides Cancun Beach Resort. \$798 a week or buy for \$3,600. 1 Bedroom. For more information call Martha at (213) 367-1667.

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I BUY SILVER & GOLD U.S. coin collections, large or small. Please call Michael at (626) 335-0330.

Wanted: Your childhood Barbie dolls and clothes. I collect dolls from 1959 through 1966. I pay top dollar! I will buy one to 1,000 dolls. Clothing, structures, cases, yes, I will buy them, too. Anything vintage Barbie! Call Cheryl: (818) 771-4835

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Write a brief review of a current movie — give us the general plot line, whether you liked it, and whether it's appropriate for family audiences. If we print it, we'll send you two free movie tickets! So let's hear it! Send them to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Intolerable Cruelty



George Clooney stars as Miles Massey, divorce lawyer extraordinaire, who is hired by Rex Rexroth (Edward Herrmann) who is being sued for divorce by his wife Marilyn (Catherine Zeta-Jones). Although she has a video taken by a detective (Cedric the Entertainer) showing her husband being unfaithful, Miles Massey discovers that her sole intent in marrying this man was for his money. He wins the case and Marilyn gets nothing. The movie then revolves around Marilyn wanting to get back at him for what happened in court.

The best part of the movie is seeing George Clooney and Catherine Zeta-Jones together. They do have chemistry. There is some good fun, laughs and surprises. Although the movie might not win any awards, I did like it. I also hope that they will team up again in the future.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Love Actually

This movie takes you back and forth to several different love stories (some happy and some not). It starts out slow and at first I did not like going from one story to another and to another and to another ... but after I got to know all the people and the stories, it was fine. Although slow to start, great at finish, so I do recommend the movie. Due to some sexual content and nudity, you might not want to take young children.

I think the best part of the movie is Hugh Grant as the British Prime Minister who falls for one of his staff. Hugh is just so cute and charming. I would have been okay if the movie just revolved around him.

Also in the movie and delivering wonderful performances are Liam Neeson, Emma Thompson, Colin Firth, Laura Linney, Alan Rickman and Billy Bob Thornton.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP



The Last Samurai

Wow! What a flick. This movie has it all. If you are looking for a movie that has action, romance, drama, gore and heritage, this is it! It has been a while since Mr. Cruise came out with a good movie and this is it! A must-see movie.

— Frank Ramirez, L.A. Zoo



The Missing

This is a slow and wandering movie that seems to be looking for direction from the start. Tommy Lee Jones has seen better roles and hopefully will soon. This movie is a real wait-for-video type of movie.

— Frank Ramirez, L.A. Zoo

Critic's BOOK REVIEWS

Corner

The City Employees Book Club

Introducing a new *Alive!* feature: book reviews.

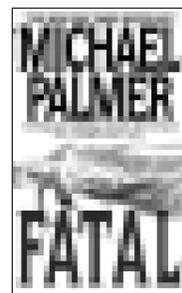
Read a great book lately? Tell your fellow Club members about it!

Send in a paragraph or two about the book, plus the title, author, genre, number of pages and the publisher. Send your reviews to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Fatal

by Michael Palmer



- Medical Suspense/Thriller, Barton Books, 497 Pages

This story centers on Dr. Matt Rutledge. He returns home to West Virginia to practice medicine. Dr. Rutledge also returns to settle a score. He blames the local coal mining company for the deaths of his wife and father. He will stop at nothing to prove his suspicions. In his quest to drive the mining company out of business, he comes across two bizarre cases of a disease he's convinced is caused by illegal toxic disposal at the mine.

As his crusade against the mining company continues, Dr. Rutledge meets a visitor in town who has come to bury her friend that happens to have had the same symptoms as the people who died from the bizarre disease. Dr. Rutledge makes her an ally and together, they survive kidnapping

and attempted murder to bring the mining company down.

This book is easy to follow with a well-written plot. There is a lot of guessing about who is involved in the crimes. Surprise ending!

— Lynne Wright, Ontario Airport

Bittersweet

by Freddie Lee Johnson III



- Contemporary African American Fiction, Ballantine Books, 372 pages

This is a story about the lives of three brothers, written from a male's perspective.

The three brothers are as different as night and day. The one thing alike is that they all love each other unconditionally. Cliff is the brainiac of the family. He has book sense, but no common sense, so he is blind-sided when his wife of nine years wants a divorce.

Victor is the rebel brother. He has one divorce under his belt, so he is determined to be a player and not be hurt again. All of that changes when he meets single mother Edie.

Then there's Nate, the spiritual one in the family, with the type of marriage everyone longs for. But even the most spiritual person can be tempted and that is what happens to Nate. Will he realize how much he has to lose before it's too late?

It was refreshing to read a story that has a male tone to it. It gave insight to male feelings and emotions, which are not too far off from women's emotions and feelings.

— Lynne Wright, Ontario Airport

The Survivors Club

by Lisa Gardner

- Mystery, Bantam Books, 497 Pages

This is a story about three extraordinary women whose lives became entwined because they were all viciously attacked by the same man.

They have formed a club, The Survivors Club, because they were all fortunate to survive the attacks. They refuse to consider themselves victims. As their attacker faces a long prison term after he is caught, he is killed on his way into court. The investigation focuses on the three members of the Survivors Club. The lead investigator wonders if one, two or all three women could be driven to murder (of course they have the perfect alibi—they were all together at the time of the murder). And if they did commit murder, can he let them get away with it.

Excellent book. Worth every cent I paid for it!

— Lynne Wright, Ontario Airport

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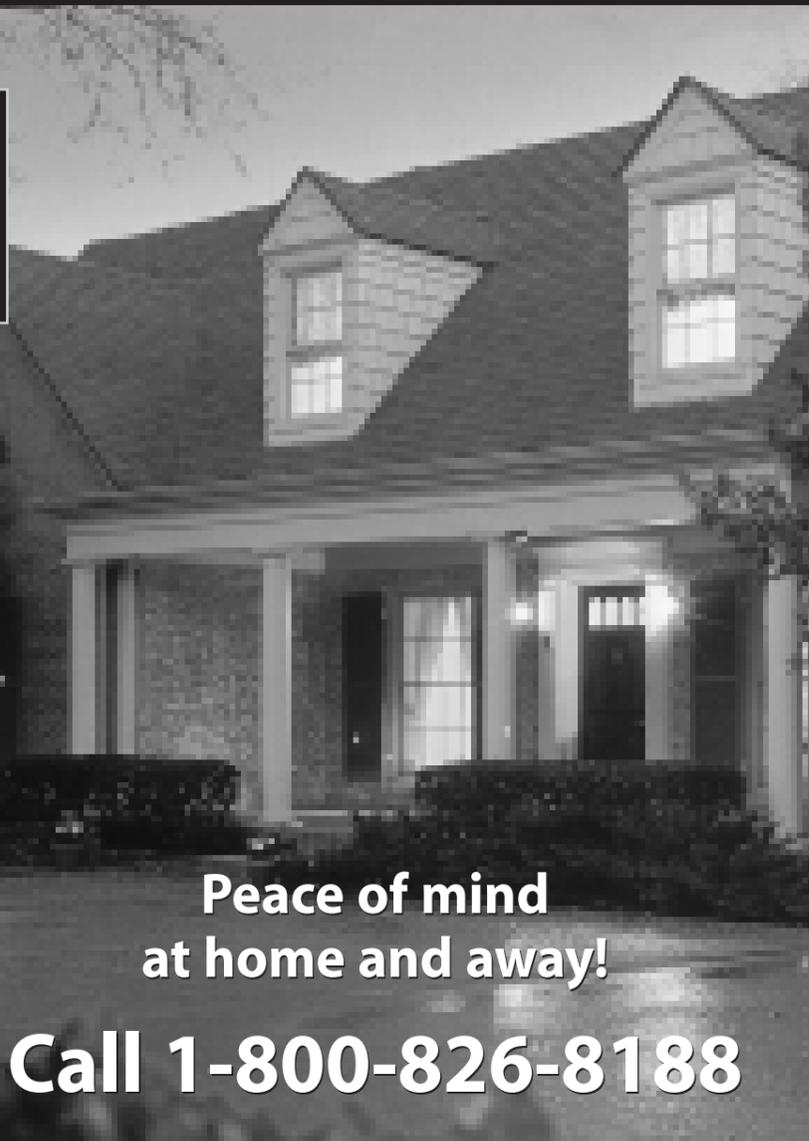
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