

## Get Your Tickets Now!

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ClubFest 2005 has added lots of fun music for a great afternoon for adults and kids alike. Do not wait any longer! Buy your tickets now — use the registration form on page 57.

Sunday, October 2

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## StubHub: New Club Partner for Prime Tickets

■ **Need great seats for special events? Forget brokers: Try new Club partner StubHub.**

**THE CLUB** — The Club introduces a new way for members to get those great seats for special concerts and sporting events: StubHub, a great alternative to brokers, and at a discount for Club members.

Navin Cotton, the Club's Ticket Guy, is still your best source for movie tickets, amusement parks and many other offers. But for those one-of-kind requests, he suggests StubHub.

"We've been looking for a way to help Club Members get great seats for special concerts and sporting events," he says. "And StubHub is a great resource for those kinds of events."

See Discount Tickets, Page 16



■ **New monthly column by retiree favorite Hal Danowitz is just one of the exciting new *Alive!* features beginning this month.**

**THE CLUB** — Here comes Hal!

Hal Danowitz, that is, veteran retired City adventure writer. With this issue, he joins *Alive!*'s lineup of fun and informative features to serve Club Members and the City family.

"The paper is beautiful," Hal said while talking about having his column run in *Alive!* "You've really expanded it."

We have, Hal. And that expansion is really noticeable this month with the debut of The Best Years, *Alive!*'s expanded section for retirees. And that's just the beginning.

"We take a lot of pride in producing *Alive!* for all our members," said Club CEO John Hawkins. "The Club really listens to our members and the readers of *Alive!*" he continued. "You write letters to the editor, you call us and e-mail us, you see us out there in the City, and

See Adventure, Page 25

To "catch" Hal's New Column, See Page 34



City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

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# Alive!

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by **John Hawkins**  
 President and CEO, The Club



## Staff Works Hard For Even Better *Alive!*

As you've seen over the past three years, the Club staff works hard to outdo itself to bring you a better and better *Alive!* newspaper each month. Everything we do is about celebrating your lives and work, and this issue is no exception.

We start with the ever-intriguing Hal Danowitz. He's been writing a travel column for years, yet never for *Alive!* Well, after I talked it over with Hal at the recent RLACEI Retiree Picnic, we both agreed that having his column in *Alive!* would be a real treat for our readers. You see, Hal's column is more than an article about his travels; when you read his column you feel like you are experiencing exactly what he's experiencing. Let Hal be your personal tour guide to new and exciting places around the globe. But hang on because reading his column will literally transform your senses. Go ahead, see for yourself; read his column on page 34 and tell me if you, too, can feel the crisp Alaskan air blowing through your hair or smell the fresh hickory-smoked bacon being cooked to order by the King Pacific Lodge chef.

Okay, now that I'm back in Los Angeles, you'll also notice our new and improved retiree section. Our goal is to celebrate the lives and past work of our 40,000-plus retirees who have given their talents and hard work to a life of civil service. We'll still be working with Ed Harding, the President of RLACEI (Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.) and we'll soon be collaborating with the leaders of the other two main retiree associations: Dolores Foley from the DWP Retirees Association, and James Chastain, the President of LARFPA (Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association, Inc.). I recently met with the leaders of all three groups, and they're as excited as I am in getting the good news and information out that's vital to the livelihood of all retirees.

Last but not least, many of you have come to know the Ticket Guy (Navin Cotton) and the Events Guru (Michelle Moreno, of "Events 411" fame). In this issue we present their first collaboration called "Who's Got the Popcorn?" It's a campy, fun sort of feature that brings the best out of renting and watching movies. It, too, is guaranteed to draw you into TG and EG's world of entertainment in a Club sort of way. Make sure you contribute to the new feature; it won't be the same without you!

Well, that's it for me. I hope you enjoy this new and improved *Alive!* As always, you can e-mail me with your comments.

See you at ClubFest!

-John

[jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)



Sunday  
 October 2, 2005  
 See page 57 to order your tickets.

### Numbers YOU CAN USE

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City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655	Local 347	(213) 482-6660
City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328	Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480	Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
City Personnel Office	(213) 847-9240	Los Angeles Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
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DWP Employees Assn.	(213) 367-3146	Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211	Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
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Have a number you'd like us to include? Send it in: [alive@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:alive@cityemployeesclub.com)

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All active or retired City of Los Angeles and DWP employees are eligible to become members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

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# LETTERS To the Editor

## YOUR LETTERS

### Bob Likes the Golf Coverage in *Alive!*

I enjoy reading *Alive!*, especially the July issue. That was a great spread on the RLACEI golf tournament. Thanks for letting me join your Club.

— Bob Okuda, Club Member

### He Takes Family to Zoo to Visit City 'Brothers, Sisters'

I know this sounds real dumb, but I didn't know that the zoo was a Department until I read your article on the new Sea Lion Exhibit. Upon seeing that it was, I spirited my family away to the zoo and we had the time of our life. Seeing the exhibit and seeing how the zoo has improved over the last couple of years made me proud in front of my family knowing that the employees there were city brothers and sisters. Thanks for doing the story and keep up the good work.

— Thomas W. Spencer, Gen. Services

### Hynda's History Column Gives Him Good Information

Please let Hynda Rudd know that I really enjoy reading her column. You rarely find such detailed information on City-related history. Thank you.

— Roger Emmets, Retired, Public Works, Bureau of Engineering

### Her Club Discount Is Just The Ticket for Disney Fun

Thank you for the tickets! I'm retired now and want to spend more time with my adorable grandkids, so I bought tickets through you to Disneyland. I saved more money than I would have anywhere else! I then was able to spend the savings on food and keepsakes. Where were you when I was an active employee! Thanks again, Club.

— Marjorie Aquinos, Retired, LAPD

### Music, Race Have This ClubFest Veteran Excited

I have been going to each ClubFest party since the wild one at the Zoo. I can't wait to see the new things you have going like the bands and the special race.

I still can't believe the food that you guys have for us. I think I had a dozen hot dogs and that was only the first hour I was there with my kids. I know my family is getting really excited about this year's ClubFest.

— Tim Jones, Rec and Parks

### Look Out, Mediterranean, Here She Comes With *Alive!*

I am really impressed to see Club Members traveling with their *Alive!* newspaper everywhere from Beaumont, Calif.; Wild Kingdom Animal Park in Florida; to the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.. I really like reading *Alive! Around the World*. Maybe when I go on my trip to the Mediterranean, I will send you a picture of me and my *Alive!*

— Tina Trammel, LAFD

### Things Get Simmering When Cooking With Club

I love cooking, and it has been fun cooking up the recipes the Club's Chef Larios has been printing in *Alive!* I especially liked the August Roast Marinade and Maria's Chicken Thighs.

My colleagues at work and I really enjoy these recipes because they are very easy to make, and Chef Larios seems to make sure that the recipes have ingredients that we all should already have in the kitchen.

Has anyone noticed how Chef Larios likes to use sea salt instead of regular table salt? I tried sea salt for the first time a few months ago, and I won't buy anything else.

My kids got a kick of the latest Cooking with the Club because there was a cartoon graphic of Chef Larios grilling away. Keep up the good cooking, Chef!

— Margaret Floyd, Gen. Services

### He Loves the Before/After Photos in Book Sold by Club

I don't know how you people do it. I bought the book about Los Angeles that you are selling [*Los Angeles, Views of the Past and Present*; see the Club Store at the back of this issue], and I must say it's fantastic! Never before have I seen such accurately portrayed before-and-after photos. I have even traveled to some of the sites to see the changes myself. Thanks for the deal and for making this book available.

— Samuel Lechliński, Club Member

### WRITE TO US TODAY!

Send your letters by email to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) or conventionally:

The Club, World Trade Center, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

## QUESTION ? of the Month

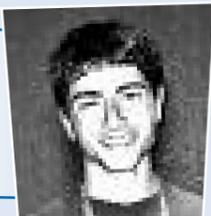
### Introducing a new feature in *Alive!*

Our Club Counselors are all over the City, every day, serving our Club Members. While we're out, we'll be asking City employees a fun question. Keep your eyes open... you never know when we'll be asking you what you think!

### Question: What do you miss most about school?



My friends.  
— Leyla Siordia, City Attorney, 8 years.



School dances and having a pretty girl's locker next to me. Also, the carefree times with friends, where all I worried about was school.

— Joseph Camello, Student Worker, Harbor, 6 years.



The organized school activities such as football games and dances...sports night and friends.

— Tracy Page, Sr. PSR, LAPD Communications, 15 years, Club Member.



Nothing!  
— Inbar Cohen, City Attorney, 10 years, Club Member.



The free time I use to have, the three-month summer vacations and my class mates. It was also before I acquired bills.

— Constance Moore, Accounting Clerk, Airports, 21 years.

## The Word on the Street



Cecilia Talbot, Club Claims Administrator

You probably won't get to meet Club Claims Administrator Cecilia Talbot very often ... until you really need her. That's when her service shines. So, to assure you that you are in good hands, from time to time *Alive!* will reprint letters commending the service given by Cecilia and her excellent staff. —Ed.

Your service was "extremely good, professional, caring, courteous and overall considerate. The efficiency with which you helped meet my needs was overwhelming. I don't have the words to express my gratitude fully. Thank you."

— Peter J. Turner, July 2005

The Club service was "excellent. Anything that was needed was handled promptly and professionally. It's certainly wonderful to know that people are still out there that take pride in what they do. [That's]

not to mention the compassion and courteous demeanor you all folks. We appreciate immensely the way everything was handled. Thank you again."

— The Schaups, June 2005.

We appreciate your condolences so much, and we want you to know God loves you, and we love [you] also. May God richly bless you.

— Theodore Wedlow and family, June 2005

The Club service was "very good. [You were] polite, and you answered all my questions."

— Milton E. Reynolds, April 2005

## PRAISE

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**WORKINGMATTERS**

by JACKIE DAVID, Public Information Director, Public Safety Division, Personnel



**‘Pursuing’ the LAPD at Expo, Fair, Race Event**

On Saturday, Oct. 1, the LAPD plans to host its first “In Pursuit of the LAPD” Expo, 5-K Run and 10-K Run at the Elysian Park Police Academy and you, your family and friends are all invited!

The Expo promises to be a family affair, with special events and activities for all. There will be all sorts of entertainment for kids: a jumper, rock climbing, karate demonstrations, LAPD historical vehicles and lots of freebies courtesy of the LAPD and other organizations and vendors participating in the event.

LAPD’s Specialized Units will be on site to share with the public who they are and what they do:

- Air Support
- Bomb Squad
- Dive Team
- K-9 Unit
- Mounted Unit
- SWAT
- Off Road
- Haz Mat
- Motor Unit
- Beach Detail
- Reserves
- Traffic
- PSR
- SID
- Recruitment



“The focus of the event is to draw and expose the public and media to the various opportunities LAPD has to offer to all ages,” LAPD Recruitment Officer Gavin Stieglitz pointed out. “We will have Explorers, Magnet School students and Reserve Officers all participating to share information and encourage qualified candidates to sign up. Recruitment and testing will be provided on the day of the event for those individuals who are ready for a new career – either Reserve Officer or full-time Police Officer.” The LAPD Written Test is scheduled at 9:30 a.m. and again at 1:30 p.m.

The big events of the day, the 5-K (3.1 miles) and 10-K (6.2 miles) Runs, promise to be a blast and are open to all so do sign up. Registration costs \$35 per person for the 5-K run and \$40 per person for the 10-K run. Proceeds from the race will go to the LAPD Memorial Foundation, Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation and the Los Angeles Police Family Support group – organizations that support our officers and their families, especially fallen officers and their families in times of need.

The 5-K and 10-K runs will challenge any runner’s stamina – with an aggressive course over hills and dirt trails. The 10-K first-place winner wins based on fastest overall gun start time and gets to drive away in a brand new 2006 Honda vehicle! There will be other prizes, like a three-day, all-expenses-paid trip to Mexico.

Trophies will be awarded to all winners in nine categories:

- 
- Ages 12 and under
  - Ages 13 to 15
  - Ages 16 to 17
  - Ages 18 to 20
  - Ages 21 to 29
  - Ages 30 to 39
  - Ages 40 to 49
  - Ages 50 to 59
  - Ages 60 and above.

What’s really neat is that, in the end, all runners walk away with a T-shirt; a goody bag that includes a gift card; a free lunch; and an LAPD medal.

The 5-K run starts at 8 a.m. The 10-K run starts at 8:15 a.m. Those interested can register online at [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com) or [www.JoinLAPD.com](http://www.JoinLAPD.com). You may want to register by Sept. 19 because, after that, the registration fee goes up by a few dollars. Late registration is available on the day of the event at 6:30 a.m.

Remember to save the date: Saturday, Oct. 1 at the Elysian Park Police Academy, 1880 N. Academy Rd., Elysian Park, Los Angeles. It will be a day worth remembering for family fun, interesting stuff, winning at a 5-K or 10-K run or the day you or someone you know made the right career move and joined the ranks of the world-class Los Angeles Police Department.

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# Perspectives



Paula Petrotta, Executive Director, Commission on the Status of Women.

## When Domestic Violence Doesn't Stay At Home

### ■ City offers training programs to help managers address domestic violence issues.

By Paula Petrotta, Executive Director, Commission on the Status of Women

Every year in the United States there are more than three million incidents of domestic violence. That means that every nine seconds, someone is beaten by their domestic partner. More than 4,000 victims of domestic violence are killed each year. The vast majority are women.

Domestic violence does not stay home when victims and abusers go to work.

With nearly one-third of American women reporting physical abuse by an intimate partner at some point in their lives, it is with certainty that domestic violence will affect employees. It can affect productivity, increase absenteeism, raise the risk of violence in the workplace and can cost hundreds of millions of dollars in increased health care costs. According to a United States Department of Justice report, more than 13,000 acts of violence against women are committed each year in the workplace by batterers.

Domestic violence can take different forms, but its goal is always the same – batterers want to control their victims through fear, abusing them physically, sexually, psychologically and economically. Many times the abuser will stalk or attack the victim at work, leading to safety and security issues. Nine-four percent of corporate security directors who were surveyed rank domestic violence as a high security problem.

Thus, domestic violence is not only a business issue but also a security issue – one and the City of Los Angeles is at the forefront in addressing.

In 1998, the City Council adopted the Policy in Support of Employee Victims of Domestic Violence. The policy puts the full weight of the City behind those employees who experience domestic violence; the policy seeks to protect the workplace from perpetrators. It offers assistance and a supportive environment to its employees who experience domestic violence or abuse. It requires that domestic violence cases are taken seriously and holds managers responsible for investigating the potential for violence and taking action accordingly. Additionally, the policy ensures that employees who are in domestic violence relationships have the opportunity to obtain appropriate assistance so that they can remain productive members of the City's workforce. It provides referrals to appropriate community resources, a sensitive and supportive environment and an alternative to discipline when work performance is affected as a result of the battering relationship.

While many cities across the country have domestic violence workplace policies, the City of Los Angeles is the only one to have a Domestic Violence Resource Team (DVRT). The establishment of DVRT assists with the implementation of the City policy and protocols as well as providing departments and employees with advice, referral and alternatives to disciplinary actions where appropriate.

It is the intent of the Domestic Violence Resource Team to determine if a nexus exists between domestic violence or abuse and the cause for proposed discipline. Should a nexus be established, DVRT will assist both the employee and the department with alternatives to discipline including but not limited to holding the discipline in abeyance, providing the employee with work assignments to accommodate the affects of the domestic violence, if possible, and periodic review of employee-victim work performance improvement. The Commission on the Status of Women heads the Domestic Violence Resource Team.

When a supervisor becomes aware that an employee is in an abusive relationship and subjected to harassment, threats or violence by the batterer the supervisor will offer the employee information on the DVRT and other available resources for assistance such as the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), battered women's shelters, legal assistance agencies and/or the employee's union. When warranted, the supervisor will review the facts of the situation. If appropriate the supervisor, in consultation with the City Attorney's office, can request a restraining order against the individual if it would improve the safety of the workplace.

Domestic violence protocols were approved by the City Council in 2001 to assist both supervisors and employees with domestic violence and implementation of the City's policy. The protocols provide uniform steps of action and alternatives to discipline for all departments throughout the City to maintain the greatest opportunity for safe working conditions and to provide a supportive work environment for the employee-victim.

The Commission on the Status of Women, the City Attorney's Office and experts in the field of domestic violence have undertaken a training program to educate supervisors, managers and non-supervisory employees on the nature and effects of domestic violence, the impact of domestic violence on employees in the workplace and strategies for successful interventions.

Violence against women has a dramatic and often profound impact on the workforce. The City has recognized that domestic violence knows no boundaries and that its waves create a ripple effect that inevitably enters the workplace.

The Policy in Support of Employee Victims of Domestic Violence and Abuse will accomplish its objectives only with the full support of management and employees at all levels of the City. For further information, please contact the Commission on the Status of Women at (213) 978-0300.

*Perspectives is an occasional forum provided by Alive! to discuss City-related topics. Interested in sending in a comment about this article, or writing your own Perspective? Contact Alive! at talk-back@cityemployeesclub.com*

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New City Councilman Bill Rosendahl meets his new District 11 constituents at an open house July 28 in Westchester.

## Rosendahl for All

### ■ New councilmember holds open house at his constituent service center in Westchester.

**COUNCIL** — Bill Rosendahl hopped up on a table to better address the more than 100 neighbors who showed up to meet him at an open house July 28 on Manchester Avenue in Westchester. Rosendahl took office July 1 after defeating Flora Gil Krisiloff in the March runoff.

As soon as he quieted the room, Rosendahl apologized for being stuck in traffic, which was one of his campaign themes. "Gridlock is poor planning," he said to applause.

Reiterating his campaign themes — and pressing the flesh — appeared to be high on his agenda at the open house.

"Every major metropolitan area in the world has more than one airport," he said, touching a nerve with the crowd assembled less than a mile from LAX's northernmost runway. "Why not L.A.?"

"Regionalism is the answer," he said. "We're all in this together."

On the subject of regionalism, he spoke of reaching out to other constituencies in the area — Santa Monica, Marina del Rey (L.A. County) and Culver City — to find better solutions.

"Development must be tied to transportation and building and safety," he said.

He also talked about supporting the idea of extending the Red Line subway "down Wilshire Boulevard, all the way to the beach," and extending the Green Line into LAX. Both suggestions met with applause.

"My most important job is to serve you," he said before stepping down and shaking hands. "It's all about constituent service. It's about action, not talk."

The open house also served as an introduction of the new staff to the district.

Rosendahl also held an open house July 19 at his West L.A. constituent center on Corinth Avenue.



Bill Rosendahl was an animated center of attention at a recent open house.

## Could Deficit Put Chill In Budget, Signal New Freeze?

### ■ After being in place for more than a year and saving the City millions, the hiring freeze ended in July. But the word on the street is that it could return soon.

**COUNCIL** — With the new City budget taking effect July 1, the City Council also lifted the City's hiring freeze, which had been in place for more than a year. Department managers once again have the authority to fill their open positions. That's good news for City employees who are hiring for — or hoping to take — those positions.

But there is talk that an expected budget deficit mentioned in previous issues of *Alive!* could prompt another freeze put into place. A new freeze could be in effect by the time you read this.

The hiring freeze, put in place by the Chief Accounting Office to save the City money in lean times, required department managers to go through special procedures involving the CAO to fill open positions. The procedure involved justifications, cost analyses and other checks-and-balance measures. During normal times, department managers generally do not have to have positions okayed by the CAO.

Without the freeze, managers can now work directly with Personnel, as had been the case before the freeze was put in place. But if the freeze ends, department general managers and/or those who hire will once again have to go through the Chief Accounting Office.

The freeze left a significant number of City positions unfilled, saving the City millions of dollars during the recent budget crunch. A growing economy and the easing of the crunch were considered the reasons for the lifting of the freeze. But a projected budget deficit could bring the freeze right back again.

## Political Forum



By Bill Rosendahl, Councilman, District 11

## New Councilman Wants Your Ideas

### Greetings!

As newest member of the City Council, I want to introduce myself to the City family. My name is Bill Rosendahl and I represent the constituents of the 11th District.

If you are not familiar with this area, the 11th District is bounded by Mulholland Drive on the north, the Pacific Ocean on the west, Imperial Highway on the south, and (roughly) the 405 Freeway on the east. It includes the distinct communities of Brentwood, Del Rey, Mar Vista, Marina del Rey, Pacific Palisades, Palms, Playa del Rey, Playa Vista, Venice, West LA and Westchester.

I took office July 1 and have been having more fun than I ever could have imagined. I am dedicated to providing positive change within Los Angeles communities and believe this is only possible by bring people together, sharing knowledge and information, and building consensus.

To do that well, I need your help, your skill, your experience, and your ideas.

When I was an executive in the cable industry, I prided myself on reaching out to our workers, empowering them, and using their energy and following their suggestions and ideas for the company. I want to bring that same dynamic to City government, and I invite you to be my partners in making a better Los Angeles.

I love people, and I love finding out what they think and what makes them tick. Don't be surprised if I strike up a conversation with you and ask you a half-dozen questions in the

### Councilman Rosendahl represents:

- Brentwood
- Del Rey
- Mar Vista
- Marina del Rey
- Pacific Palisades,
- Palms
- Playa del Rey
- Playa Vista
- Venice
- West LA
- Westchester

elevator or parking lot, or while having lunch across the street in the mall under City Hall East.

I have learned a lot in these impromptu discussions, about everything from affordable housing policy to police procedures. My staff already knows not to be surprised if I walk into their offices with some smart but under-utilized City employee I met in the elevator. We've gotten some great ideas for legislation and problem-solving that way!

I sincerely welcome any suggestions you can provide me in my new position. I thank all of you that I have met for your enlightening conversations and I look forward to meeting many more members of the City employee family!

*Each month, Alive! invites political leaders to speak directly to City and DWP employees and retirees. Alive! brings you these views as a public service. The opinions of those on this monthly column are independent of Alive! and the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.*

Efforts to end the hiring freeze began in January, when Councilman Dennis Zine drafted a motion asking the CAO to consider lifting the freeze:

"It is inherent in any City General Manager's job description that they manage the personnel and other expenditures of their department as provided in each year's budget.

"In consideration of the Charter Reform that provided General Managers with Civil Service exemption, it is reasonable to expect that they would be held accountable, for any and all decisions that reflect on their ability to manage their budgets. They are expected to operate the Department [that] they oversee without incurring a deficit; and this is a reflection of their managerial abilities and a test for maintaining their appointment as General Manager.

"The current Managed Employment Process (often referred to as the Hiring Freeze) serves as a handcuff to the General Managers and their ability to exercise their management skills. It serves as a roadblock which forces a reduction in services performed by the personnel of a department rather than permitting the General Manager to prioritize all expenditures as a means to maintain their budget.

"I therefore move that the CLA, CAO and the Personnel Department be directed to report with recommendations which would eliminate the existing Managed Employment Process and would once again make the General Managers of City Departments fully accountable for decisions that reflect on their ability to manage their budgets, including staffing, as reflected in the City Charter."

Chief Accounting Officer William Fujioka reported back that he was willing to discuss the end to the freeze as part of the deliberations for the 2005-06 City budget. The Council passed the \$5.9 billion budget and lifted the freeze.

"This is a strong budget, but we still have to watch it closely," Parks was quoted in the *Los Angeles Daily News* as saying. Parks chairs the Budget and Finance Committee. "We still are facing a \$200 million structural deficit, but we have policies in place to control it.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa has indicated that addressing a possible \$200 million deficit would be one of his challenges.

**Wanna be heard?** What do you think of the City lifting its hiring freeze? Was it the right time to do that? Send your thoughts to talk-back@cityemployeesclub.com

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# Feet Afire

## ■ Firefighters run part of the Memorial Relay in the Harbor area.

Story by Bev Haro, Club Counselor

LAFD — Firefighters ran through the harbor area as part of the LAFD Memorial Relay, to raise funds for the Firefighters Memorial at the LAFD Historical Society and Museum in Hollywood.

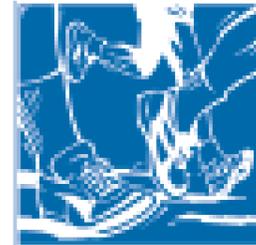
For the segment July 24, the runners started at FS 40 on Terminal Island and ran over the Vincent Thomas Bridge to the LAFD Harbor Museum in San Pedro. Then they ran to FS 112. Shown here are photos from that part of the run.

They continued from there through Ports of

Call to FS 48 and on to FS 101 to end the first day of three days of the relay. It was very hot and humid, but the runners were in great condition and ran without a problem.

The first two runners were Captain Brian Jones, assigned to the Harbor Fire Prevention office, and Firefighter/Diver Chuck Simpson, FS 49, Fireboat 3 "C" Platoon and his dog. The second group of runners started from FS 112, where Brian and Chuck continued on with them. The LAFD Fire Hogs motorcycle group escorted the runners along with the LAPD and the CHP, and they all did a great job making sure our runners

made their way through the traffic safely. Thanks to Ted Aquaro for sending us this information. Ted is the Secretary-Treasurer of the L.A. Firemen's Relief Association.



Runners during the Memorial Relay.



The first part of the Battalion 6 Relay.



Battalion 6 runners.



The Memorial Relay runners in the harbor area.

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# Employee of The Quarter

■ Maria Madero is Gen. Services employees of the quarter.

Story and photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

**GENERAL SERVICES** — General Services' Supply Services Division in City Hall East gave its Employee of the Quarter award to Maria Madero, Procurement Analyst II, Aug. 4.

Maria was recognized for her outstanding job performance as well as her leadership skills and work ethic. Her customers and suppliers have consistently praised her responsiveness and customer support. Recently, Maria was able to negotiate a price reduction in LAPD body armor that will save the City more than \$1million over the term of the contract.

It is for this and many other reasons that Maria Madero was selected for this well-deserved honor and recognition.

Congratulations, Maria! And special thanks to Tom Kasowski for assisting us with this story.



Pictured with Employee of the Quarter Maria Madero (seated, center) are, standing, from left: Malintzen Julien, Procurement Analyst I, 4 months, Club Member; Tom Kasowski, Supply Services Manager I, 31 years, Club Member; and Marivic Reyes, Procurement Supervisor, 16 years. Seated: Eric Lau, Procurement Analyst II 8 months; Maria Madero, Procurement Analyst II, 20 years; and Ramiro Puhawan, Procurement Analyst II, 4 years, Club Member.

## Thanks; You're Welcome

Marie Kardiban (center), LAPD Central City Police Boosters, presents a plaque to Club Counselor Arlene Herrero (left) and Club CEO John Hawkins for the Club's support of the LAPD's recent 34th annual Charity Motorcycle Ride, held June 26. The plaque reads: "City Employees Club of Los Angeles, In appreciation of your generous contribution to the Central City Police Boosters Third Annual Charity Motorcycle Ride."

The June event marked the third year the Club has sponsored the charity ride. We've been there from the beginning," Arlene says. Thanks to Marie and to Capt. Andrew Smith for the lovely plaque. (Club photo by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager.)

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## Questions?

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**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.

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350 South Figueroa Street, Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

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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"/>	

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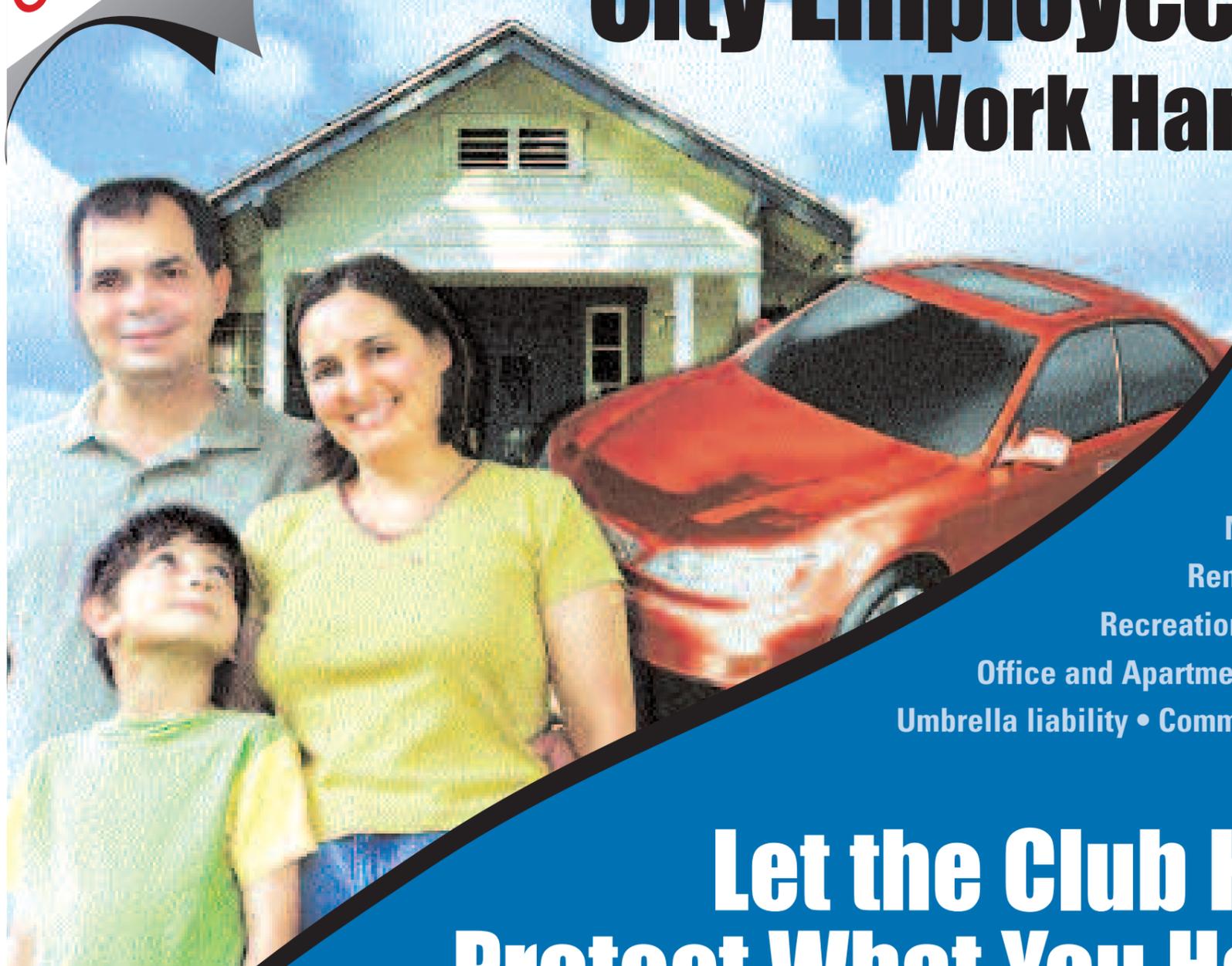
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Top: Playwright (and Club Member) Donaco Smyth. Middle, from left: Llana Kira, Sunny Colbacchini and Lee Sherman. Bottom: Darren Meekin.

Donaco Smyth, playwright, Clerk Typist at the LAPD Valley Traffic Division, and Club Member.

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# Play's the Thing

■ *LAPD Clerk Typist and Club Member Donaco Smyth premieres his first produced play in Los Angeles.*

appropriate hairpieces and grandmothers who don't know if they are alive or dead.

**POLICE DEPT.** — The world premiere of Donaco Smyth's *Annoyed by Life* opens at the Hudson Guild Theater in Hollywood and runs Sept. 6 to Oct. 12. The zany and intelligent comedy is produced by Dancing Man Productions, which has a history of presenting sketch and improv comedy in New York City. *Annoyed by Life* is the first full-length play that the comedy troupe has taken on.

The play's director, Domitius Brown, says the show is about some very curious people and how they just don't seem to get what they'd like to get out of their lives. "It's like the frustration that we all feel. But these characters are so odd and endearing; you really root for them while you laugh at their misfortunes."

Smyth has been a City employee for nearly four years and is also a City Employee Club member. He works for the LAPD in the Valley Traffic Division. He has definitely picked up material in his day-to-day work-life that has enhanced his writing. "Who isn't just a little bit annoyed by life in the City?" he says.



*Annoyed by Life* features five performers each playing a variety of characters. They deal with annoyances including yapping poodles, dating services, unrequited love, inappro-

Donaco's other produced plays include *Capsized Flotsam*, *Grievances*, and *Having No Right to Say So*. This production is his first play performed in Los Angeles. Recently, he finished the second draft of a movie script, a family Christmas comedy.

The cast of *Annoyed by Life* includes Sunny Colbacchini, Llana Kira, Darren Meekin, Lee Sherman and Donaco Smyth. The Hudson Guild Theater is at 6539 Santa Monica Blvd. in Hollywood. The play runs Sept. 6 through Oct. 12 Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

For more information, log onto: [www.plays411.com/life](http://www.plays411.com/life)

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## Golf Tourney to Tee Up

■ **Central City Police Boosters' annual golf tournament set for Sept. 22.**



**POLICE DEPT.** — The Central City Police Boosters has scheduled its 8th annual fundraiser golf tournament for Sept. 22 at the California Country Club in Whittier.

The tournament benefits the group's crime prevention and youth programs for the LAPD Central Area.

The Club plans to be there, supporting the event.

Applications can be obtained by mailing to Central City Police Boosters, P.O. Box 532043, Los Angeles, CA 90053

**Central City Police Boosters' 8th Annual Fundraiser Golf Tournament**  
 Sept. 22 at the California Country Club in Whittier

# South Sanitation Picnic

## ■ South District Yard has fun in Irwindale.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

**PUBLIC WORKS** — The Sanitation South District Yard held its annual family picnic Aug. 13 at Santa Fe Dam Park in Irwindale.

The Club provided prizes for the fun event. Guests enjoyed ribs, hot dogs, hot links, barbecued chicken, hamburgers, green beans with sausage and potatoes cooked by Moniquea McKee; "Very Cheesy Mac and Cheese" from Sharlette Reid; potato salad by La Tanya Wright; Meaty Spaghetti by Tanya Barber, baked beans by Renee, a friend of Eddie Pruitt; and the award-winning peach cobbler from the Carodines.

Some of the activities were: sack race, a jumper for the children, a sponge game, egg toss, water balloon toss and a piñata to help celebrate the following birthdays: Henry D. Williams, RCTO; Jerome Johnson, RCTO; John Ingram, RCTO; and Tyrone Reid, RCTO.



Special thanks to the cooks: Hubert Williams, RCTO; Eddie Pruitt, RCTO (who started cooking ribs from 8 p.m. the night before until 2:30 a.m. the following morning); Sean Horace, who was a guest and volunteer; and Tyrone Reid, RCTO. Thanks to those who were unable to attend but still made a contribution: Erwin Holloway, Sanitation Supervisor; Jesse Cruz, Sanitation Supervisor; Norman Aubry, Superintendent; Donald Holmes, RCTO.

Special thanks goes to the Picnic Committee: Moniquea McKee, Clerk Typist; Eddie Pruitt, RCTO; Tyrone Reid, RCTO; Terrence Barber, RCTO; and Hubert Williams, RCTO.

The Club thanks Moniquea McKee, Clerk Typist, for providing the information for this story, and to Marviana Jones and Norman Aubrey.



Tyrone Reid, RCTO, 16 years, cooks.



From left: Judi, spouse; Anthony Smith, RCTO, 16 years; Erin, daughter; and Renecia, daughter.



Back, from left: Tyrone Reid, RCTO, 16 years; Sharlette, spouse; and Tyrone Jr., son. Front: Aisha, daughter; Tyliah, granddaughter, 2; Copelane, daughter, 7; and Van Joyle, daughter, 11.



Standing, from left: guests Cecley and Sweet C. Seated: Ann Moore, guest.



From left: Liam, son, 1; Lewis Cox, spouse, RCTO, 10 years; Kiely, daughter, 3; and Sherry Cox, Sr. Clerk Typist, 10 years, Club Member.



Egg toss winners were, from left: Paul Bonner, guest of Dionne Chappelle, and Deshawn, daughter of Dionne Chappelle, 13. Sister Chazz offers her congratulations.



From left: Chazz, daughter, 9; Dionne Chappelle, Clerk Typist, 6 years; and Amel, daughter, 4.



From left: Jodie Jennings, RCTO, 6 years, Club Member; Jamel, son, 13; and Kybreen, son, 15.



From left: Hubert Williams, RCTO, 19 years, Club Member, with his wife, Lanita. They have been married 31 years.



Eddie Pruitt, RCTO, 25 years, Club Member, shows off the chicken he was cooking.



From left: Corey, Casey, Kiely and Moniquea McKee.



Jonathan, 12 years old, grandson of John Ingram, RCTO, fishing.



The water sponge relay, a game of coordination if played correctly, according to Moniquea McKee.



Back, from left: Alexis, niece; Gareth, son-in-law; Connie, spouse; and Kenneth Carodine, RCTO, 3.5 years, Club Member. Seated: Ashley, niece; Genea, daughter; and Jessica, daughter.



From left: Bobby Buckley, RCTO, 16 years, with daughter, Bobbie.



Guest Sean Horace was a volunteer cook.



Back: David Valdez, RCTO, 2 years, with his wife, Susan.



From left: Luella and Warren Kidd, Retired RCTO, Club Member.



Fishing, from left: Nettie Ingram, spouse; John Ingram, RCTO, 23 years; and Olivia, granddaughter, 5.



Winner of the portable DVD player donated by the Club was none other than Club Member Jodie Jennings, pictured with picnic coordinator Moniquea McKee.



Back, from left: Robert Bell, RCTO, 15 years, Club Member; Delvon, grandson, 6; Janet, spouse; and Taliyah, granddaughter, 3.



Back, from left: Ian, family friend; and Forest Bell, son. Front: Chris Bell, RCTO, 20 years; Megan Bell, spouse; Jacqueline Shannon, GSD, Custodial, 5 years; and Derrick Shannon, spouse, GSD Custodial, 5 years, Club Member.



The egg toss.



Hubert Williams, RCTO, 18 years, Club Member, cooks.



From left: Shawna Adams, sister-in-law; Detra Murray, fiancé; Kevin Steward, RCTO, 5 years; and Angeliq Jackson, daughter.



From left: Moniquea McKee, Clerk Typist; Sean Horace, boyfriend; and Casey, son. Seated: Je Mone, son, with William, grandson, 4.



# John's Picture Perfect Contest



**Grand Prize Winner: (\$50 Target gift card)**

This month there are two first-place winners:  
**FRANK AVILA and JOHN R. SANCHEZ**

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**NEXT DEADLINE: WINNER NO. 1: FRANK AVILA, Rec and Parks.**

**September 12**  
Read the rules below,  
and happy snapping!

This is my son, Frank Avila Jr. The photo was taken at Dumont Sand Dunes, California. He is 15 years old and attends Wilson High School in Los Angeles. He is riding a Yamaha Blaster. This is actually a very steep dune. The photo was taken with a Sony digital camera.

**WINNER NO. 2: JOHN R. SANCHEZ**

Here's a picture of our grandson, Ethan Michael!

**Rules:**

- The contest is open to all Club members in good standing. Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
- If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
- Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
- You must certify (if asked) that you indeed took the picture. No ringers!
- Photos can be submitted either on paper or digitally. Please don't send both.
- If you want your print photo returned, please write your name, address and phone number on the back of your photo.
- Photos can be of any subject matter: vacation, portraits, families, landscapes, still lifes, pets, etc. Subject matter must be appropriate for *Alive!*
- Paper prints can be mailed to: Picture Perfect Contest, *Alive!*, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: pictureperfect@cityemployeesclub.com
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

**Honorable Mention:**

- Latrese Bufford, LAPD
- Irma Muñoz, DWP
- Andrew Kramer, Club Member
- Adriana Courseault, LAFD
- Erika Fields, Harbor
- John Otoshi, DWP
- Barbara Brogden Jackson, LAX
- Kathleen A. Webb, LAPD
- Robert Armijo, Civic Center
- Amy Admas, LAPD
- James Francis; Gen. Services
- Leonides Samaniego, LAPD

**HIS OWN  
PICTURE PERFECT**

The *Alive!* camera caught up with **CARLOS ARANDA, DWP**, as he came into the Club Headquarters to purchase tickets. Carlos won last month's Picture Perfect Contest with a photo of a beautiful rainbow. Good seeing you, Carlos!



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# Latimer Retires

■ John Latimer retires after 35 years with the City.

Story and photos by Verna Pheifer, Traffic Officer II, Transportation

TRANSPORTATION — On June 23, the Valley Division of Parking Enforcement gathered to give honor and thanks to one of its own, John T. Latimer, who was retiring.

The event was held at Big Jims Restaurant in Sun Valley.

The guest of honor was present with his wife and son. They greeted all who came and then the party began. Latimer, who served 35 years with the City, was united with some of his oldest friends with whom he worked during his tenure. Friends like Lt. Arthur Gifford, Lt. Rodney C. Smith, Barry Robbins, Tommy Curran, Harris Yoneoka, Sgt. Jody Perez and others joined John at the celebration. Squad 5, the squad that Latimer worked with, was also there.

A roast was giving to honor John, and old stories and memories were shared of good old days. Everyone shared fond thoughts and well wishes for his retirement years.

A buffet dinner was served, and it included fajitas (beef and chicken), rice, beans, salads, and a Kahlua mousse dessert.

Gifts were presented to John, and the expressions on his face were just candid. He was surprised to see the shadow box containing old equipment and souvenirs of the past, a parking

meter (retired), cards, and other gifts.

John began working with the City Jan. 2, as an orderly at the Northeast Station in Highland Park. He worked there for four months. Afterwards, John was drafted in the U.S. Army, where he served two years. Returning home, John got a job driving for RTD for two years. This just didn't seem like the plan John was looking for, so he returned back to the City of Los Angeles, where he was an orderly at the LAPD Police Academy. There he served one-and-a-half years, and then became a Traffic Officer until he retired.

When asked about his best times on the job John, replied: "When I can provide a service to the community and I don't have to discipline them."

John's bad times occurred when he had to work incidents or accidents, having to see lives taken away. This was really the worst for him, he said.

Fun times for John included togetherness with the squad and fellow traffic officers.

As for his funniest moments, he said: "When I can plan 'unharming' head games with fellow traffic officers."

John's retirement plans include going to Arizona to live and enjoy the rest of his time with his wife and family, but "I will come back for early morning breakfast — Squad 5, see you there."

John, we will miss you, but remember 3C204, the members of your squad.

The Club thanks Traffic Officer Pheifer for writing this story and taking the photographs.



John Latimer, Retiree.



John and Jani Viereck, Kitroom Manager.



John was roasted by old friend Lt. Art Gifford.



Old timers wishing John the best included H. Yoneoka; Tommy Curran; and Barry Robbins.



From left: Lt. Rodney C. Smith; Sgt. J. Perez; and Sgt. J. Curtin.



Squad 5 with John, from left: Manny Contreras; Verna Pheifer; C. Jackson; H. Yoneoka; John Latimer; Donna Goss; A. Cohen (Squad 4); B. Hartman; K. Olsen; B. Bausley; T. Curran (Retired); and Sgt. Curtin.



John and the old timers, from left: Barry Robbins; Lt. Art Gifford; John; and Tommy Curran, Retired.



Lt. Art Gifford with John and M. Contreras.



The shadow box with mementos and a meter.



John with Lt. Rodney C. Smith.



John Latimer with his wife, Sue, and son, Sean.



All the old timers together in one room, from left: T. Curran (Retired); John Latimer; H. Yoneoka; and B. Robbins.



From left: Lt. Rodney C. Smith; Jani Viereck; Sgt. J. Curtin; and C. Jackson.



Dispatcher Operator #102 wishing John happy days.



From left: Sgt. Perez; Candace Vail (Retired); and D. Goss.



V. Pheifer with John Latimer.



From left: A. Cohen; D. Goss; H. Yoneoka; and B. Bausley.

## Discount Tickets • Discount Tickets • Discount Tickets • Discount Tickets



The Ticket Guy, Navin Cotton, fills another order over the phone.

**THE CLUB** — The Club's popular Ticket Guy, Navin Cotton, was reading a story published in *Alive!* in May 2003. And laughing.

In the article, he was talking about how amazed he was that he was then filling 100 ticket orders a month. "100 orders a month!" he said, reading the story. "And I thought that was big."

Now it's really big. Try ten times that: The Ticket Guy now processes about 1,000 ticket orders a month for grateful Club Members on a budget.

The number of tickets he has sold to Club Members, about the best deal in town, has doubled in one year. The volume may have changed, but the concept is the same: tickets for good events, at great Club prices.

He's happy to do it. He started as a claims adjuster and, when the Club was created almost three years ago, he sold tickets half time. Now, not only does he sell tickets at a great discount full-time, but he employs an assistant during the summer.

"Back when I started, I had no idea, no clue, what I was getting myself into," he laughed. "But it's all good. It just shows what a great benefit this is."

What's driving the sales? Well, to put it simply, great deals.

"Disneyland is just through the roof," he said while answering another phone call for Disneyland tickets. "It's partly because of the 50th anniversary of Disneyland, but really, it's a good deal, too, for people with families."

Ticket Guy reports that Magic Mountain, Seaworld and Legoland tickets are also very popular. And of course the cinema tickets.

He knows what's coming in October: Knott's Halloween Haunt/Knott's Scary Farm. "About one of every four calls in October is for that Halloween event," he said. "It was huge last year, and I know it will be big again this year."

Ticket Guy is constantly adding new events, and he's just added the StubHub service (see story on the front page) for special events. It's a supplement for his services, not a replacement. Club Members should come to him first.

His newest event: The Los Angeles County Fair (see related story). "I no more than put that on the Website, and the calls started coming in. It's already going fast." Club Members can save 40 percent off regular-price fair tickets.

And don't forget about the great Club merchandise: hats, watches, gift books and the like. The Club keeps re-ordering, because Club Members keep buying the quality and unique merchandise. The keepsake merchandise make



Kelly Arthurs, Building and Safety, gets ready to go to Knott's.

great retirement presents.

A lot of people stop by the Club office to pick up their tickets. And while the Club — and the Ticket Guy — are always happy to see members drop by, Ticket Guy suggests that members order their tickets over the phone, or by fax, or through the Club Website ([www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)). You'll have to leave a credit card number and pay for the postage, "but a gallon of gas is more expensive than the postage," he said. "And it's less wear and tear on the members."

Counselors often carry cinema tickets with them, but you can always call your counselor (see back page) three days ahead of time to confirm.

There are other benefits to his booming business besides making Club Members very happy: Ticket Guy is building his own cult of celebrity. People know him ... and like him.

# Ticket Guy Breaks Records

■ Ticket discount is one of the best reasons to be a Club Member — and you're proving it with booming sales.

"I've met a lot of cool people doing this," he said. "They come up to me, and they're great. When my wedding picture was in a few months ago, a lot of people wrote in and congratulated me. A few even sent nice gifts, which was not necessary but definitely cool and appreciated."

"I see people at the movies and they say, 'Hey, it's the Ticket Guy!' My neighbor said, 'I know that guy! It's the Ticket Guy!'"

"And people see me at church, too. Someone once asked me to autograph my photo in his copy of *Alive!*"

As far as the Club's ticket benefit goes, the sky's the limit.

"Most people say, 'It's great, I don't use it enough.' And that's right. Whenever they need tickets at a great discount, we're ready."



Natalie Sanchez, Gen. Services, buys Legoland tickets from the Ticket Guy.

## Try Club Partner StubHub for Prime Tix (But Try Ticket Guy First)

### Discount Tickets

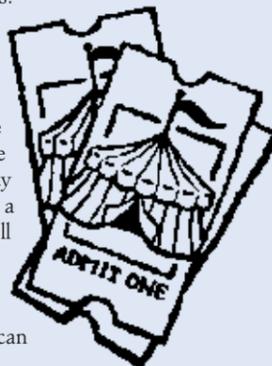
*Continued from Page 1*

"It's a supplement to the Club's own ticketing service. Try me first, but you should go to StubHub for premier tickets. It fills a need and continues our great service to our members."

StubHub is a leading marketplace for tickets to sporting events, concerts, theater and exclusive events.

StubHub now offers a concierge-type service to the Club so that members can use StubHub to purchase tickets. City

Employees will earn a \$10 discount on all transactions when they use the special Club Website or phone number. You can either log on to



#### When to Use StubHub

Have you ever tried to purchase tickets to those special events like concerts or premier sporting events, and been frustrated by Websites that say "sold out" or by brokers who can't give you exactly what you want, when you want?

That's where StubHub comes in. It's a ticket clearinghouse, where ticket owners offer what they have to those who want to buy. You see what is on offer, and you decide to buy or not from a position of confidence.

With StubHub, you avoid brokers and

"sold out" messages from ticket Websites.

**Here's How to Use StubHub**  
Have a premier event you want to attend? Here's what you do:

■ **Contact the Ticket Guy (888-777-1744) or check out the ticket order form in the back of this issue of *Alive!* to see if he's already got a great deal on the tickets you want.**

■ **If the Ticket Guy isn't selling the tickets you want, log on to StubHub's special Club site to locate what you're looking for: [www.stubhub.com/cityemployeesclub](http://www.stubhub.com/cityemployeesclub)**

■ **If you would rather use StubHub's Club phone line instead of the StubHub Website, call (800) 563-1690**

■ **You must use StubHub's special Club Website or phone number to get the \$10 discount on orders.**

#### More Information

StubHub does not take any inventory of tickets. Instead, StubHub is the marketplace for event tickets, where all transactions are 100 percent guaranteed. StubHub acts as a clearinghouse and validates all sellers and all transactions. A vast selection of tickets is available on StubHub at any given time. Thousands of ticket sellers list tickets with

StubHub, and this creates a competitive marketplace.

"Club Members don't have to go to brokers anymore," says Tony Knopp, Southern California Corporate Sales Manager for StubHub. "Most of the time, people go to TicketMaster and see that an event is sold out. Then they have to go to a broker."

"They don't have to go from place to place anymore," he says. "They can just come here."

"We work with teams — the USC Trojans, the San Diego Chargers, and many others — and we work with individual season ticket holders, too," to build inventory. "If we have to, we'll also go to a broker to find what you're looking for."

"We're more affordable, especially for sporting events, and we have a lot more inventory," Knopp says. "We can get you better seats for that really special night out."

Brokers don't always have what you want, he says.

"When you call a broker, they sell you what they have, not what you want. We look for what's best for you, not for us. You tell us what you want, and we try to find it."

"We're all about personal service," he says. "We look forward to working with City employees."

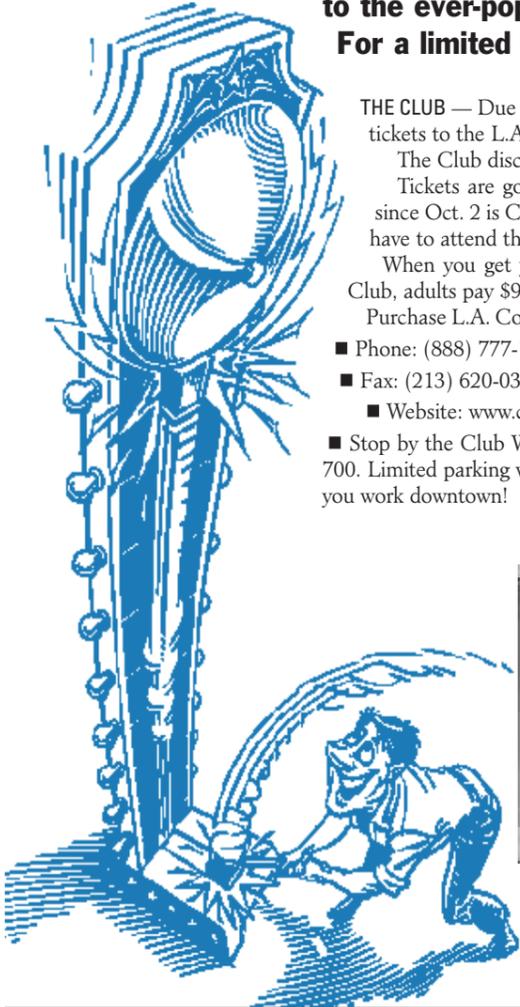
Use the special Club Website and phone number, listed above. But if you have questions, special requests or large orders, you can contact Tony Knopp directly at (310) 228-0966, or [aknopp@stubhub.com](mailto:aknopp@stubhub.com)

**Discount Tickets • Discount Tickets**

# Fair Game



■ **Ticket Guy is now selling tickets to the ever-popular L.A. County Fair. For a limited time!**



**THE CLUB** — Due to member demand, the Club is now selling tickets to the L.A. County Fair.

The Club discount reduces the price by up to 40 percent.

Tickets are good from Sept. 9 through Oct. 2 only. And since Oct. 2 is ClubFest (and you're attending, right?), you'll have to attend the Fair by Saturday, Oct. 1!

When you get your L.A. County Fair tickets through the Club, adults pay \$9 and children pay \$5.

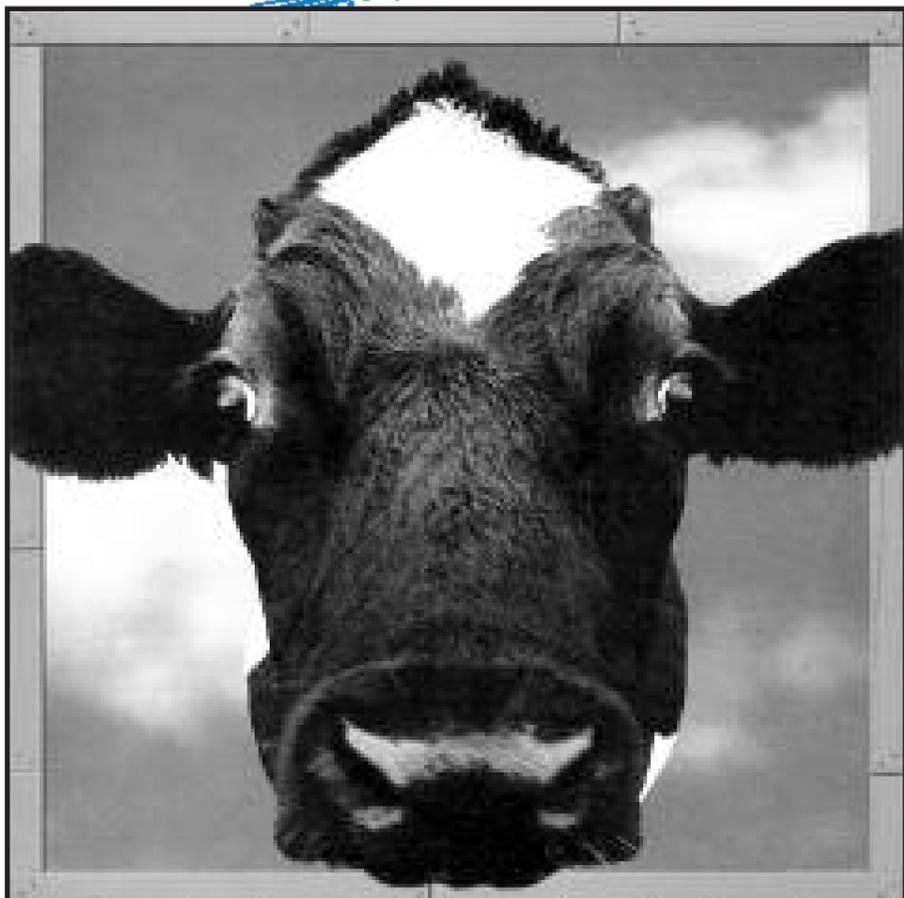
Purchase L.A. County Fair tickets through the Ticket Guy by:

■ Phone: (888) 777-1744

■ Fax: (213) 620-0398

■ Website: www.cityemployeesclub.com

■ Stop by the Club World Headquarters, 350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700. Limited parking validation, so it's better to ride the DASH if you work downtown!



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## Newsbriefs

### BIG SEWER DEDICATED

Councilmember Ed P. Reyes joined more than 100 sewer project workers, City and community leaders July 21 to dedicate the \$162 million Northeast Interceptor Sewer (NEIS) Project.

"The six-mile sewer line provides a much greater capacity for wastewater and will protect the health of our families and children," said Reyes, who helped secure funding for the six-mile sewer line, which snakes through most of Council District One.

"The NEIS also helps prevent events like the 1998 El Niño storms, during which our children were left playing in wastewater that overflowed onto neighborhood streets," Reyes said. "I thank residents for their patience during the construction of the new sewer line. I also commend all who worked on the sewer line, a tremendous undertaking."

The NEIS was built as part of Public Works' 10-year, \$2 billion program to upgrade the City sewer system. It extends northward from the Seventh Street Bridge at the Los Angeles River in Boyle Heights to Eagle Rock Boulevard and San Fernando Road in the Glassell Park area.

"The new sewer was constructed in a tunnel dug by subterranean drilling equipment an average of 130 feet below ground in order to minimize disruptions to the surrounding neighborhood," said Board of Public Works President Cynthia Ruiz.

City Engineer Gary Lee Moore described the NEIS project as "a mammoth undertaking." The tunnel is lined with more than 37,000 pre-cast segments, each weighing more than 2,500 pounds. The piping consists of 1,167 sections, each more than 24-feet-long and weighing 45 tons, Moore said. "Nearly every division of the Bureau of Engineering was involved in NEIS planning, design, environmental documentation, bid and award, and construction management," Moore added. "We are really proud of the outcome."

### NEWS RACK BLIGHT

Councilman Greig Smith, Chairman of the City's Public Works Committee, and members of the C.L.E.A.N. (Coalition for LA's Enforcement Applied to News Racks) Coalition marked the implementation of Los Angeles' new news rack ordinance Aug. 17.

"I believe in the broken window theory, where blight leads to the deterioration of communities and the increase of crime," said Councilman Smith. "We will now be able to improve the look of all neighborhoods by ending news rack blight which is prevalent throughout Los Angeles."

As Chair of the Public Works Committee, Councilman spearheaded the efforts to bring the news publishing industry and CLEAN Coalition (an organization comprised of numerous business and community organizations) together to create a comprehensive ordinance addressing news rack blight.

"We are thrilled with the implementation of this ordinance," said Kerry Morrison, Executive Director of Hollywood Entertainment District and member of the CLEAN Coalition. "We look forward to working with the City and the news publishing industry to reduce the blight on our streets."

Councilmember Wendy Greuel said, "News racks are a nuisance in our communities. On one block alone in Studio City, there are over 157 news racks. The new policy will protect the quality of life for our residents and it will ensure that our neighborhoods remain clean, safe, and beautiful." The City's new news rack ordinance limits news racks by location, number and appearance.

Along with Councilman Greig Smith, Councilmember Wendy Greuel and members of the CLEAN Coalition, press conference attendees included representatives from Public Works' Street Services.

# Ellis Retires

■ Lt. Richard Ellis retires after 30 years with Airport Police.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor, Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

**AIRPORTS** — Lt. Richard Ellis retired July 7 after 30 years of service with LAX Airport Police. Friends and family gathered at the Proud Bird Restaurant in Los Angeles to wish him farewell. Retired Sgt. Alfred Turner was the Master of Ceremonies, and Captain Brian Walker presented Lt. Ellis with an engraved departmental clock for his service.

In July 1974, Lt. Ellis was a Special Officer, and in 1985 he became a Principal Special Officer. In November 1997 he retired from the Army Reserve as a Major after 27 years of service. Congratulations on a great career, Richard!



From left: Lt. Richard Ellis, Retiree, 30 years; and Alan Hyde, Commanding Officer.



From left: Sergeant Marlo Richardson, 6 years; Ken Bowers, 21 years; Corey Holmes, 5 years; and Sam Pittman, 21 years.



From left: Lou Duran, Sergeant, 34 years; Clarence Franklin, Retired; and Phyllis Massey, Airport Police, 32 years, Club Member.



From left: Howard Whitehead, 31 years, Club Member; Michelle Irwin, 7 years; and Frank Koehler, 6 years.



From left: Darline Beatty, Clerk Typist, 21 years; and Rose Crutchfield, Airport Police Officer, 28 years.

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From left: Kimberly Tolson, Principal Communications, 17 years, Club Member; Harvey Coleman, Airport Police Officer, 7 years; Sgt. Barbara James, 21 years; Officer Dawn Smith, 3 years; Club Member; Dawn Smith, Sr. Communications Officer, 15 years; and Terri Miramontes, Sr. Communications Operator, 15 years.



Front row, from left: Lt. Carolyn Smith, 23 years, Club Member; and Capt. Greg Staar, 19 years, Club Member. Back: Virginia Cormier, 7 years, Club Member; Allen Harvin, Captain Brian Walker; and Barbara Ellis.



From left: Billy Henderson, Special Officer III, 26 years; Sandra Smith, Special Officer III, 36 years, Club Member; Jonanda Smith, Special Officer III, 14 years; and Emily Waters, Special Officer III, 20 years.



Front row, from left: Richard Ellis and Al Turner, Retired Sergeant, 44 years. Back: Karen Rachall, Clerk Typist, 24 years; Donna Wong, Clerk Typist, 4 years; Rose Crutchfield, Officer, 28 years; and Mattie Thompson, Retired Sergeant, 32 years.

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**■LAX employee association has appreciation day for the swing shift.**

*Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor, Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager*

AIRPORTS — On July 21, the Association of Airport Employees (AAE) held its first Employee Appreciation Day for the swing shift. The In 'n Out truck was there to hand out burgers and drinks, and the Club was also in attendance to celebrate the evening with everyone who attended.

The swing shift crew begins its workday at 3 p.m., not allowing them to take part in the employee activities held during the day. So the Association of Airport Employees organized a special evening event in the parking lot by Terminal 6 to give praise to their evening employees.

The evening was a big success, and it's expected that it will be the start of a new tradition.

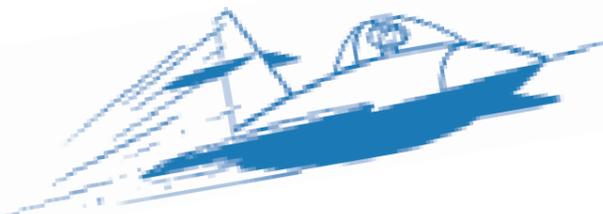


People line up to get their In 'n' Out burgers.



From left: Chavele Talley and Preston Shaw, Club Member.

# Into the Swing of Things



Airport employees enjoy their special day.



From left: Jaime Arredondo, Club Member; Sidronio Fernandez; Nora Gil; and Rosa Gutierrez.



From left: Henry Victor, Deferred Comp Rep, and Ricardo Jimenez, Club Member



From left: Maria Gutierrez and Maria Barraza, Club Member.



Dvosha Pleasant and friend.



From left: Jose Guerrero, Club Member, and Jerry Williams, Club Member.



From left: Sergeant Brown and Lita Jacobs, Club Member.



From left: Maria Barraza, Amalia Valencia, Audlia Bauales and Maria Orantes.



From left: Maria Zanders, Jose Alvares and Blanca Zuniga.



From left: Jaime Arredondo, Club Member; Sidronio Fernandez; Nora Gil; and Rosa Gutierrez.



From left: Dvosha Pleasant, Custodial Supervisor, Club Member; Maria Delgado; and Calvin Palmer, Custodial Service Attendant, Club Member.



From left: Danny Ponce; Albert Ornellas, Club Member; Alma Aguilar, Club Member; and Ernesto Ramirez.



From left: Amalia Valencia, Custodial Service Attendant; and Ralph Johnson, Custodial Service Attendant, Club Member.



From left: Maria Ramirez; Jose Ramirez; Franklin Carrera, Club Member; Jose Morales; and Maria Galvez, Club Member.



Back row, from left: Dvosha Pleasant, Custodial Supervisor, Club Member; Mirna Sosai; and Calvin Palmer. Front: Colin Rubin; Rebeca Guardado; Maria Gutierrez; and Maria Delgado.



From left: Juan Villalobos; Rico Rosas, Club Member; Chavele Talley, Club Member; Carlos Ramos, Club Member; Javier Parga, Club Member; Ed Cuevas; and Hung Ma, Club Member.



From left: Simon Martinez, Custodial Service Attendant; Demetries Jackson, Custodial Supervisor, Club Member; Marta Rosales, Custodial Service Attendant; Jonathan Scranton; and Shermalyn Thompson, Club Member.



# For London

■ **Club Member Michael Barnes holds fundraiser for victims of London terrorist bombings.**

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

Michael Barnes, Club Member and employee at the Harbor, is also President of the British and Dominion Social Club. And so when he heard of the recent terrorist bombings of the "tube" and buses in London, he reached out to help.

The social club hosted a fundraiser July 23 at the club's headquarters in Garden Grove. The Club provided some items for the silent auction; the Harbor Dept. Employees Club (HDEC) assisted in selling tickets for the raffle.

Here is Michael's wrap-up:

Dear friends and fellow countrymen,

On Saturday night your generosity and support for the victims of the London Bombings and their families was without question outstanding. I am proud to be part of the British community in Southern California and especially here in Orange county.

To all the volunteers for all their hard work behind

the scenes, making it possible for this event to happen, the Board of the British Club thanks you.

To all the wonderful artists who entertained us for seven memorable hours, giving freely of their time, we all thank you.

Last but not least, to all our friends and fellow members for their tremendous show of support in making this a financial success, I thank you on behalf of London Bomb Victims and their families.

So far we have raised more than \$5500, and still donations are being sent in.

Please contact our Relief fund Chairman Larry Brown at lbrown2014@aol.com if you would like to make a financial donation, all checks should be made out to: **The British and Dominion Social Club, 12882 Valley View St., Suite 10-B, Garden Grove, CA 92645** and in the memo, write **The London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund.**

All funds will be given direct to a relief organization in London.

Regards to all,

Michael Barnes, President British and Dominion Social Club.



From left: Michael Barnes, British and Dominion Social Club President, Port of LA Employee and Club Member, aboard the Angelina II; Marcel Bamdijk, Marketing Manager, 4.5 years; and Steve Hanger, Machinist, 25 years, Club Member.



The "Beach Toys" sang songs as a tribute to the Beach Boys.



Steve Hanger, Machinist, 25 years, Club Member, sold raffle tickets to Port of LA employees.



From left: Joe Donnelly, vice president of the British and Dominion Social Club, with Phyllis Green, guest.



From left: Rebecca Barnes, wife of Michael Barnea, with Ginni Burch. The ladies did a great job selling raffle tickets.



The "Beach Toys" got many of the guests dancing.

# Adventure Column Is One of the New Features

## Adventure

Continued from Page 1

tell us how much you love the Club's newspaper. We're always happy to hear it. And we respond by giving you even more.

"We wanted to do something special for retirees, and Hal's great monthly column is exactly what we were looking for. I love reading about his adventures, and now you can, too."

Hal's column is just the beginning: This month's issue also features an expanded entertainment section, other new columnists, new contests, and even a new crossword puzzle.

Hal's new column, "Adventures With Hal," leads the way. Hal worked for the City (he retired from the Controller's office as the Director of Systems) for 35 years. And he travels extensively. So he writes a monthly adventure column for retirees.

"I'm surprised by how many fans I have," Hal says. (There will be many more, now that you're in Alive!, Hal!)

"I love meeting with everyone, and I have a lot of fun writing the columns."

Be one of the first to congratulate Hal on his column being in Alive! Read it on page 34, and send him a note.

**And make sure you check out the other features:**

■ We've added a fun (and original) crossword puzzle and contest for retirees. See page 35.

■ The Smart Money, a new financial planning column by Club Partner Eric Garcia, on page 32.

■ "Who's Got the Popcorn?," a fun – and sometimes irreverent – new focus on home entertainment. We know you are watching more and more movies at home, so Ticket Guy (Navin Cotton) and Events Guru (Michelle Moreno) have the pleasure of helping you with your choices, and add a trivia contest, too. See the new column on page 60.

■ Love writing reviews? In addition to writing movie and book reviews as you have been, you can write short reviews of your favorite rental movies, too, also in "Who's Got the Popcorn?"

■ "History Comes Alive!" columnist Hynda Rudd adds a trivia question to her informative column.



Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

"It all comes down to giving our Members more," Hawkins said. "We're at your service."



## Graduates!

### Congratulations!

**Let the Club family celebrate with you ... by putting your photo in Alive!**

Club members: Have you had a family member graduate from elementary school ... high school ... or college this summer? Send us a photo, and we'll publish it in *Alive!*

**Make sure you tell us:**

- The name of the graduate.
- The school from which they graduated. If a college, tell us their major.
- Their future plans (briefly)
- The name and department of the Club member they're related to (and how they're related)



Digital photos are preferred. Send them to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

If you have a paper print, send a duplicate (we prefer you not send the original) to:

Grad Photos  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Print photos will be returned within two months after publication if you request it, and if you write your name and address on the back.





BY Michelle Moreno, City Events Guru

# Michelle on the Move

# EVENTS 411

what's happening ? what's happening ?

## Ethnic Fests, ClubFest Mark Return to Fall

### Hello folks!

Welcome back to Events 411! I hope you had a great Labor Day weekend.

Have you bought your tickets for ClubFest yet? If not, what the heck are you waiting for? Tickets are selling quickly. If you don't remember the date – it's Sunday, Oct. 2. Also, if you've bought your tickets but haven't signed up for the Amazing Club Race, we still have a few spots available. Many Club Members asked me about how much running and swimming is involved. Don't worry folks, there's very little running and as for the swimming, only one person in your team has to complete this task. So if you think you're up to the challenge and you want to win \$200, then sign up now! Hurry, hurry, and use the form on page 26 in this month's *Alive!*

Okay well enough of ClubFest for a moment, let's discuss other cool events. There are several festivals going on. My personal favorite – the Greek Festival – is back in town. If you're in the mood for some delicious gyros, then this is definitely for you. If you check out the event Website, you can find a discount coupon – now that's a pretty good deal. Speaking of delicious grub, the L.A. Port Lobster Festival is back! Yes, if you love lobster, lots and lots of lobster, then you must attend this event. I couldn't make it last year, but I'll be sure to be there this year, camera in hand, ready to take pictures of you cool Club Members.

Also making its way back into town is the Los Angeles County Fair. I know the Ticket Guy is working hard on getting those awesome discounts, so make sure you stop by and buy some tickets, like Club Member Natalie Sanchez of Gen. Services, who coincidentally shared with me that she liked to read my column. Thanks Natalie!

Well that's it from me. Don't forget that next month is Halloween already! I'll have plenty of cool Halloween events for you in next month's issue. Thanks for taking the time to read Events 411 (like Natalie), and I wish you a wonderful month full of fun times and great memories. See ya around the City!

If you know of any events occurring in the Los Angeles or have any opinions or suggestions on the events listed, please send them in:

michelleonthemove@cityemployeesclub.com

For more information about events around Los Angeles, visit these Websites:

- www.culturela.org
- www.experiencela.com
- www.losangelesalmanac.com
- www.laweekly.com
- www.olvera-street.com
- http://beaches.co.la.ca.us

**Know of any great City events? Let me know!**

I'll be happy to include your event in my monthly column. (Listings are limited to City events, with an emphasis (although not exclusively) on families. Make sure to include dates, times, locations, costs (if any) and contact information. Email me at: MichelleOnTheMove@cityemployeesclub.com or call me at (800) 464-0452.

## September

\*Events subject to change. Please call to confirm date and time information.  
\*Please note some events run through October

### Wild Safari 3D: A South African Adventure at the California Science Center IMAX

"Once considered the most dangerous animals in Africa, they are among the most spectacular and exciting animals on the planet: the elephant, the Cape buffalo, the rhino, the leopard and the lion. Wild Safari 3D puts you in the passenger seat of a South African safari vehicle using the most advanced live-action 3D cinematography available today." (Website)

Date(s): Through Nov. 26  
Time: Vary; Call or visit Website  
Site: California Science Center  
Exposition Park, 700 State Dr., Los Angeles  
Club discount: \$5/adult, \$3.75/child (4-12)  
Cost: Regular price: \$7.50/adult, \$4.50/child, \$5.50/senior, student  
More info: (323) 724-3623 or http://www.californiasciencecenter.org

### Pershing Square Summer Concert Series

Enjoy a series of free concerts held at Pershing Square during your lunchtime or on a Sunday afternoon.

Date(s): Through late September  
Time: Tuesday/Thursday noon – 2 p.m.  
Third Sunday of each month: 3 – 5 p.m.  
Site: Pershing Square, 532 South Olive St., Downtown L.A.  
Cost: Free  
More info: (888) 527-2757 or www.laparks.org/pershingsquare/pershing.htm

### Grand Performances

Enjoy some really cool award-winning music, dance and film performances free during lunch or under the beautiful Downtown L.A. night sky. Call for visit the Website for a schedule.

Date(s): Through October  
Time: Fridays: noon and 8 p.m.  
Saturdays: 8 p.m.  
Site: California Plaza, 350 S. Grand Ave., Downtown L.A.  
Cost: Free  
More info: (213) 687-2159 or www.grandperformances.org

### Sidney Kingsley's Dead End at the Ahmanson Theatre

"Against a brilliant New York skyline, a gathering of tenements and a magnificent luxury apartment building stand side by side along the East River overlooking the Queensboro Bridge. Today the area is Sutton Place. But in the early '30s it was home to the Dead End Kids, a group of scruffy teenage boys whose lives were the streets – playing cards on the stoop, roasting potatoes in a can, and swimming in the river." (Website)

Date: Thru Oct. 16  
Time: 8 p.m. (daily), 2 and 8 p.m. (Saturdays)  
Site: Ahmanson Theatre, 135 N. Grand Ave., Downtown L.A.  
Cost: \$35 - \$75  
Special: \$30 (any available seat) shows (thru 9/15) if you mention Code 6275 and ask for Linda in group sales.  
More info: (213) 972-7231 or www.taperahmanson.com

### Third Annual Santa Monica Drive-In at the Pier

Are you in the mood to watch a film by the beach? "Located on the decks of the historic Santa Monica Pier, these events have an unmistakable nostalgic feel, with the sea air and bustling boardwalk creating the perfect atmosphere for these events. Even outdoors, our powerful sound and video equipment provides a high-quality entertainment experience for visitors." (Website)

Date(s): Every Tuesday through Sept. 27  
Time: 7 p.m.  
Site: Santa Monica Pier  
Cost: Free, but tickets are required. Tickets must be picked up.  
More info: (310) 264-4274 or www.smff.com/smdi

### Los Angeles International Short Film Festival

If you have a love for film, then this event is for you. Come and see some films at the largest short film festival of the world.

Date(s): Sept. 6-13  
Time: TBA  
Site: ArcLight Cinemas  
6360 W. Sunset Blvd, Hollywood  
Cost: \$10/General adm. per film program  
More info: (323) 851-9100 or www.lashortsfest.com

### L.A. Greek Fest 2005

Ya Sas! Come and enjoy Greek food, fun, and lots of dancing. Opa!

Date(s): Sept. 9 – 11  
Time: 5 – 11 p.m. (Fri), 1 – 11 p.m. (Sat.), 1 – 10 p.m. (Sun)  
Site: St. Sophia Cathedral  
1324 S. Normandie Ave.  
Los Angeles  
Cost: \$3/general admission, free for kids 12 and under  
Go to Website for a coupon for free admission  
More info: (323) 737-2424 or www.lagreekfest.com

### Los Angeles County Fair

Bring your family and friends and enjoy a day at the famous L.A. County Fair.

Date(s): Sept. 10 – 26  
Time: Mon-Thurs: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Fri: 11 a.m.-midnight  
Sat.: 10 a.m.-midnight  
Sun.: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Site: Pomona Fairplex  
1101 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona  
Club prices: \$9/adults, \$5/kids  
More Info: (909) 623-3111 or www.lacountyfair.com



### Second Annual Korean International Film Festival

"LAKIFF showcases the best in fiction, documentaries, and short films made by and about people of Korean heritage, highlighting honored artists and new, emerging talent as well. LAKIFF encourages the most diverse exhibition of media arts including animation, experimental, documentary, as well as fiction work." (Website)

Date(s): Sept. 16-18  
Time: 6 – 11 p.m.  
Site: Egyptian Theatre  
6712 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood  
Cost: \$9/general, \$8/seniors, students  
More info: www.lakiff.org



### Mexican Independence Celebration

Bueno! Come and celebrate Mexican Independence with food, entertainment, exhibits and more.

Date(s): Sept. 16 – 18  
Time: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.  
Site: El Pueblo Historical Monument, Olvera Street, Los Angeles  
Cost: Free  
More info: (213) 625-5045 or www.olvera-street.com

### Port of Los Angeles Lobster Festival

Lobster, lobster and more lobster! Enjoy the world's largest lobster festival right here in Los Angeles with lobster, a pet parade, crafts, rides, dancing, other food, and great live entertainment.

Date(s): Sept. 16-18  
Time: Fri: 5 – 11 p.m.  
Sat: 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.  
Sun: 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Site: Ports O' Call Village, San Pedro  
Free parking at 22nd and Miner Streets – Free shuttles to festival.  
Cost: Admission: \$8/adult, Free/kids (12 and under)  
Weekend pass: \$15  
Go to Website for \$2 off coupon  
Cash only  
More info: (310) 798-7478 or www.lobsterfest.com  
City Sponsor: Port of Los Angeles



### Valley Plaza Park – Latin Jazz Festival & Car Show – Sabor Latino

Are you in the mood for some great Latin jazz? How about a cool car show? If so, then you should come to this very cool event at the Valley Park Plaza. There will be great music, food and lots more. Thanks to Club Member Charlton Burton for the info.

Date(s): Sept. 17  
Time: 1 – 8 p.m.  
Site: 12240 Archwood St., North Hollywood  
Cost: Free  
More info: (818) 765-5885 or www.laparks.org  
Sponsor: Rec and Parks

### L.A. Zoo Latino Heritage Celebration

Come visit the zoo for a day of music, crafts, and dance, as well as a highlight of the zoo's Latin American animals.

Date(s): Sept. 17 – 18  
Time: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Site: Los Angeles Zoo  
5333 Zoo Dr., Los Angeles  
Cost: Club discount: \$7/adult, \$4/child  
Regular price: \$10/adult, \$7/senior, \$5/child (ages 2 to 12), free/children (under 2)  
More info: (323) 644-4200 or www.lazoo.org  
City Sponsor: Los Angeles Zoo



### 2005 World Festival of Sacred Music – Los Angeles

This festival "is the largest citywide Festival in Los Angeles, offering 43 events over 16 days in venues across Los Angeles region...from the Throat singers of Tuva, Siberia, to music from the Czech Republic, Korea, Thailand, Mexico and the magnificent diversity of Los Angeles artists – the Festival provides opportunities for you to cross boundaries of religion, class, culture, race and language to share cultural traditions and to contemplate the spiritual, ethical and ecological questions of our times." (Website)

Date(s): Sept. 17 – Oct. 2  
Time/Site/Cost: Vary; call or visit Website for details.  
Some free events are offered  
More info: (310) 825-0507 or www.festivalofsacredmusic.org

### Adopt-a-Beach Day

Come and make a difference in the environment at one of the largest volunteer events in the world! This event takes place throughout several beaches, so if you can't make it to San Pedro, there are several other options available.

Date(s): Sept. 18  
Time: Cleanup: 9 a.m. – noon  
Open house/refreshments: noon – 2 p.m.  
Site: Cabrillo Beach  
3720 Stephen White Dr., San Pedro  
Groups: Call to reserve and arrange for parking (ext. 5007)  
Cost: Free  
More info: (310) 548-7562 or www.cabrilloaq.org

### 2005 Brazilian Street Carnival

Want to celebrate Brazilian Independence Day? Do you like to samba or ever wanted to learn? If so, come and enjoy a day filled with tons of great dancing, live music provided by the biggest Brazilian bands in the country, food, fun, parades and lots more.

Date(s): Sept. 18  
Time: noon – 9 p.m.  
Site: Downtown Long Beach Promenade – North  
210 Promenade N, Long Beach  
Cost: \$15 in advance for adults, \$20/at the gate, Free/kids 12 and under  
Buy tickets online and save \$5  
More info: (562) 508-4504 or www.carnaval.org

### 32nd Annual Los Angeles Korean Festival

Come and celebrate the 100th year of the Korean immigration. The day will be filled with plenty of great food as well as a parade, exhibits, dance performances, live entertainment and more.

Date(s): Sept. 22 – 25  
Time: 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.  
Site: Seoul International Park in Koreatown  
3250 San Marino St, Los Angeles  
Cost: Free  
More info: (213) 487-9696 or www.lakoreanfestival.com

### 2005 Precious Cheese Feast of San Gennaro

Bonjourno! Come celebrate the Italian culture with local celebrities, carnival games, street performers, strolling musicians, food and wine provided by some of the best Italian restaurants in L.A., and much more!

Date(s): Sept. 22 – 25  
Time: TBA  
Site: The Grove/Farmer's Market  
189 The Grove Drive, Los Angeles  
Cost: Free  
More info: (877) 832-1418 or www.feastofla.org



### 11th Annual Heart of the West Pow Wow

Want to learn more about the Native American culture? If so, come and enjoy a weekend of exhibits, dancing, drummers, arts and crafts, and more.

Date(s): Sept. 24-25  
Time: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. (Sat.)  
10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (Sun.)  
Site: Hart Park & Museum  
24151 San Fernando Road, Newhall  
Cost: Free  
More info: (661) 255-9295 or www.hart-friends.org/Event\_Pages/powwow.html  
Sponsor: Rec and Parks

### Annual Watts Towers Day of Drum Festival/Jazz Festival

"The Watts Towers Day of the Drum Festival celebrates the role of drums and drummers in world cultures, past and present. The Simon Rodia Watts Towers Jazz Festival pays tribute to the American music forms of jazz, gospel and rhythm and blues. There will be activities for children and informational material at community service booths. Food and Arts and Crafts will be available for purchase." (Experience L.A. Website)

Date(s): Sept. 24 – 25  
Time: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Site: 1727 East 107th St., Los Angeles  
Cost: Free  
More info: (213) 847-4646 or www.culturela.org

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# EVENTS

CONTINUED

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## September,

CONTINUED

### California Kidsfaire 2005 – America's Family Expo - Los Angeles



"An amazing weekend full of nonstop entertainment, interactive pavilions and unbelievable attractions. Enjoy Trapeze Acts and High Flying Stunt Shows. More than 25 of your children's most beloved television and storybook characters come to life before your eyes...Ride a camel, plan your next vacation at Vacation Village, discover the ultimate in home improvement, and find great resources for your home and your family." (Website)

Date(s): Sept. 24 – 25  
Time: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Site: Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton  
Cost: \$8/adults, \$4/kids (ages 2-12)  
More info: (866) 283-8600 or www.thekidsfaire.com

### 8th Annual Chocolate Lobster Dive

If you want to check your diving equipment for lobster season and are in the mood for milk chocolate lobster, then this event is for you! This year's Chocolate Lobster Dive will be a Dive-a-Thon, where participants will be asked to raise money for the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Prizes will be awarded. Sponsorship is not required. Pre-register by Sept. 19 to receive a free T-shirt.

Date(s): Sept. 24  
Time: Check-in time: 7 – 9 a.m.  
Site: Cabrillo Beach  
3720 Stephen White Dr., San Pedro  
Cost: \$100/Buddy Membership  
\$60/Non-Member  
\$35/Aquarium Member  
More info: (310) 548-7562 or www.chocolatelobster.com

## October

\* See September for dates for ongoing events

### Firefighter Festival of Hollywood

Want to help out the LAFD in its mission to create an LAFD Fallen Firefighters Memorial? If so, come and show your support by attending this event. There will be a parade, music provided by LAFD bands, a silent auction and more.

Date(s): Oct. 1  
Time: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Site: LAFD Museum  
1355 N. Cahuenga Blvd.  
3720 Stephen White Dr.,  
San Pedro  
Cost: TBA  
More info: (323) 464-2727 or  
www.lafdhs.com



### Grand Avenue Festival and Taste of Downtown L.A.

"Downtown Los Angeles' highly acclaimed restaurants, theatres, concert halls, museums and other organizations along Grand Avenue present a premier day in entertainment at the second annual Grand Avenue Festival and Taste of Downtown L.A." (Website) There will be several events, one of which is DRUM downtown, where a bunch of people come together to make some music.

Date(s): Oct. 8  
Time: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Site: Grand Ave., Between Temple & Second Street, Los Angeles  
Cost: Free  
More info: (213) 624-2146 or www.downtownla.com

### California Kidsfaire 2005 – America's Family Expo – Orange County

See Sept. 24.  
Date(s): Oct. 8 – 9  
Time: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Site: Orange County Fairgrounds, Costa Mesa  
Cost: \$8/adults, \$4/kids (ages 2-12)  
More info: (866) 283-8600 or www.thekidsfaire.com

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# FREE

## JOB INTERVIEW CLASSES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

The Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works Task Force for Employee Achievement and Morale is offering one-hour classes to help City employees prepare for job interviews.

The classes, conducted by former Task Force member and retired Senior Personnel Analyst Bob Cutler, also help to boost employee morale and improve career advancement.

The purpose of the job interview – whether a part of an employee's Civil Service Exam, for certification to a vacant position, or for a pay grade advancement or transfer – is to give the employee an opportunity to describe his/her ability to do the job. How well employees prepare for these opportunities and then present himself/herself to the interviewers will help determine their success.

If you would like to attend or help set up one of these classes, please contact a representative of your personnel office or human resources division, or contact Bob Cutler at (310) 937-5678, or e-mail him at BC510@aol.com.

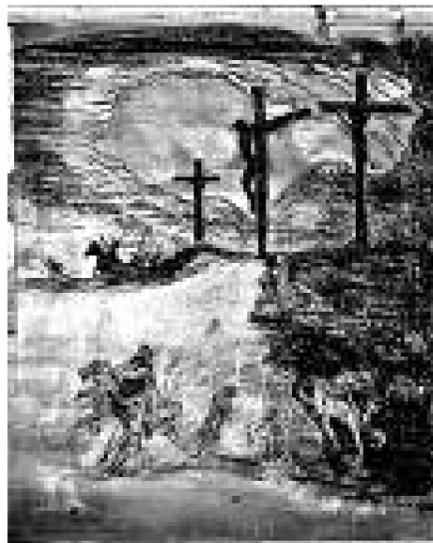


Richard Humphrey stands in front of one of his chalkboard creations.

# Chalk It Up to Talent

## Sanitation chalkboard sketcher Richard Humphrey draws Alive! interest.

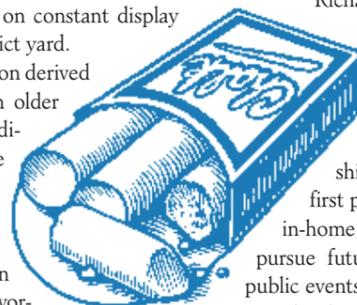
Many of you saw – and wanted to know more about – Richard Humphrey, the Sanitation employee who drew the cool sketch of an old Refuse Collection Truck on a chalkboard during a recent Sanitation Yard Open House. Alive! printed one photo of Richard's work on page 48 of the August issue. (Yes, that really is a chalkboard he drew on!) So here's some more information on Richard, and more photos of his work. —Ed.



Detail of one of Richard Humphrey's chalkboard sketches.

Richard Humphrey offered his talent to the City's Bureau of Sanitation when he applied to the conference room chalkboard realistic images of big green trash trucks in the act of collecting trash containers. His talent so impressed his co-workers that they insisted he continue to provide them with more of this vividly detailed imagery. Today, his impressive artwork is on constant display around the Western District yard.

Richard's early inspiration derived from growing up with an older brother, who, though handicapped and limited in the use of his hands, developed into a skilled and talented artist. Richard's continued motivation comes from the hugely favorable response he enjoys from his

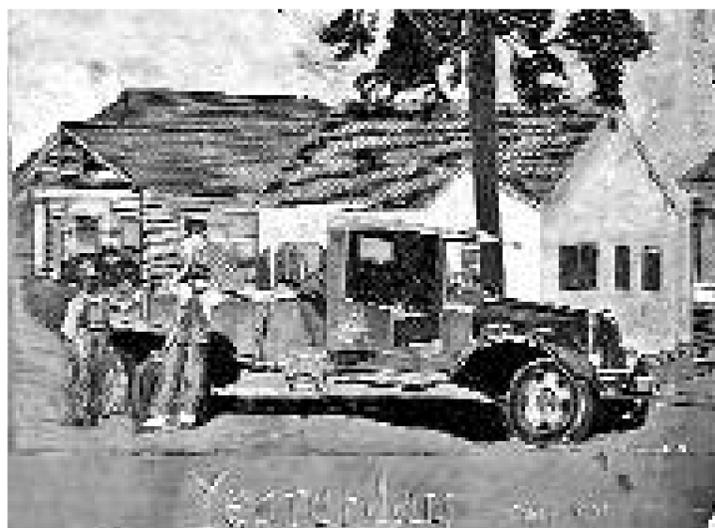


ever growing, captive audience.

Richard's brilliant work was shared with the public at Western District's first Open House event, where he received much admiration from friends and visitors alike. He garnered "Best Design" award for a T-shirt he designed at Western District's first picnic, and he has since built a small in-home studio to enhance his talents and pursue future opportunities in recycling and public events.

Richard Humphrey currently paints portraits for private parties. He will soon be adding air-

brushing and screen printing to his repertoire. For his next venture, Richard has already planned to paint a huge mural at Western District. He will again depict a City sanitation truck collecting a trash container and will use for his canvas one of the buildings on the yard. This should be an awesome project, once completed.



Richard Humphrey drew a vintage Sanitation truck for a recent open house.

# Just Desserts



■ ITA shows appreciation for employees with a 'Popsicle Day.'

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, and Gene Gamachi, ITA, Club Member

Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AGENCY** — On July 27, the managers of the Information Technology Agency (ITA) sponsored a "Popsicle Day" in appreciation of the work performed by their employees. With the recent heat wave occurring in the City, the recently established 2005 ITA Events committee proposed this timely event as both a thank-you for ITA employees and as a fundraising activity for their upcoming Winter Luncheon event. The "Popsicle Day" is a small token of appreciation from the ITA managers to acknowledge the work of each employee.

ITA's critical services vary widely from keeping the City's network and central computer infrastructure operational, to televising Council meetings, to building and managing the phone system, to overseeing the City's Cable Franchise Districts, to developing and publishing the City's Home Page. ITA services are essential to the daily operation of the City ... and meeting their customers' needs is something that ITA employees can be proud of.

The ITA events committee coordinated the delivery of Popsicles to ITA employees to their work locations throughout the Civic Center during this day. The major challenge for the events committee was preventing the Popsicles from melting before reaching each employee. Distribution took place at several of their locations including Downtown Civic Center and Piper Tech.

In the end, the "Popsicle Day" event was a success and provided some welcome relief from the heat and gave ITA employees a well-deserved outlet from their busy work schedules.

The Club thanks Gene Gamachi, Acting Assistant General Manager, ITA, and Club Member, for inviting us and providing information for this story.



## ITA Employee Popsicle Day!

Back, from left: Dodie Munoz, 18 years, Club Member; and Frank Bernhardt, 18 years. Front: Josephine Palacios, 36 years; Theresa Magabilin, 19 years, Club Member; Eddie Williams, 25 years, Club Member; Brian Biggs, 20 years, Club Member; and Donna Dowe, 22 years.



From left: Raquel Hernandez, 3 years; Lynette Reed, 3 years; Valerie Dixon, 30 years; and Greg Wilcox, 6 years.

From left: Sandra Rubio, 3 years; Karen Estrada, 3 years; Elaine Anderson, 38 years; and Diane Richmond, 21 years.

From left: Mika Ma, 6 years; Lou Lavarro, 3 years, Club Member; Georgianna Mitchell, 19 years; and Carmen Contreras, 24 years, Club Member.



From left: Emily Tran, 17 years; Brian Lee, 18 years; Anson Fong, 2 years; Bob Cheong, 15 years; Sandy Eng, 18 years; and Thomas Wang, 16 years.



From left: Nestor Acio, 20 years, Club Member; Jackie Tran, 18 years; Giselle Federis, 13 years, Club Member; June Bui, 5 years; and Arcadia Caballero, 21 years, Club Member.



Back, from left: James Lee, 15 years; Miu Lee, 20 years; and Edgar Samayoa, 7 years. Front: Kim Ly, Club Member; Diana Nguyen, 4 years; Anne Phu, 7 years; Emily Tran, 17 years; and Wayne Chan, 18 years.



From left: Jung Kim, 27 years, Club Member; Marita Saul, 5 years, Club Member; Silvestre Dipasupil, 25 years; Doris Bruton, 38 years, Club Member; Ernest Tsui, 16 years; Donna Dowe, 22 years; and Carlo Abrantes, 11 years.



From left: Veronica Hester-Allen, 14 years, Club Member; Lisa Miller, 21 years; Larry Stiner, 20 years; and Jamiela Knox, 3 years, Club Member.



From left: Sylvia Baray, 36 years; Koorosh Yeganeh, 6 years; Ed Magos, 1 year, Club Member; and Lonnie Drew, 17 years.



From left: Richard Stubbs, 3 years; Carlette Colvin, 11 years; Tinh Dinh, 11 years; Gilbert Casequin, 21 years; Amy Lava, 16 years; and Joy Magallanes, 23 years.



From left: Wendy Gross, 27 years; Nancy Wilson, 20 years, Club Member; Cuong Nguyen, 15 years; and Frances Woods, 25 years.

### Knights' Tournament

## A Summer of Knights.

**LEGOLAND® California** has crossed the drawbridge for you to enter the medieval world of knights and dragons. Begin your quest on the only indoor-courses in North America - Knights' Tournament. Choose your destiny: there's a selection of some-singing tournaments and intensities that deliver an unpredictable side experience unlike any other.

**Knights & Damsels Mini-Renaissance Fair**

**June 11th - 26th, 2005**

Adventure and excitement abound in every corner of the Festival Damsel this June at LEGOLAND®. Dress in medieval garb, feast heartily on exotic food and enjoy live music and dancing by the Village Blacksmith. Add a unique prize challenge of the knights'! Guests, bring damsels and brave knights will receive a collectible badge and be knighted by the King!

**Spark in the Knight Fireworks Spectacular**

**Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays**

**July 1st - August 31st, 2005**

The medieval tournament continues with a dazzling pyrotechnic fireworks display and original music soundtrack that will tell a classic tale of mystery and daring.

**LEGOLAND CALIFORNIA**

The fun is at LEGOLAND® California, 55 minutes north of San Diego and one hour south of Irvine. The Park is open daily through September 1st, call (619) 518-5100 or use www.LEGOLAND.com for Park days and hours of operation.



From left: Susan Bursk of Council District 5 District Director, with Commissioner Low.



A farewell sign for Commissioner Ronald Low.



From left: Chris Low (Ron's son), Commissioner Low, Cameron Low (Ron's son) and Wanda Denson-Low (Ron's wife).



From left: Debbie Kindred, Diana Williams, Commissioner Low and Geraldine Rodriguez.



A farewell embrace between John Reamer, Bureau Director Contract Administration, and Commissioner Low.



A business colleague wishes Commissioner Low farewell.

# Goodbye to Low

## ■ Pioneering Commissioner Ronald Low leaves the Board of Public Works.

Story and photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

**PUBLIC WORKS** — Friends, family and others bade farewell to Commissioner Ronald Low as he leaves the Board of Public Works.

The reception was held in City Hall Hearing Room 350 Aug. 8.

Commissioner Low was appointed to the Board of Public Works by Mayor James K. Hahn in October 2001. This appointment followed a brief stint in the private sector as a consultant, handling governmental affairs and providing legal advice on affordable housing matters.

Low was the first Chinese American to serve on the Board of Public Works, the City's only full-time policy making commission, during its 98-year history. He, along with the four other members of the Board, serve jointly as general manager of the Department of Public Works, the City's third largest municipal agency.

The Department, responsible for construction, maintenance and operation of the City's public facilities and infrastructure, employs more than 5,000 personnel and has an annual budget of more than \$1 billion.

As a Board Commissioner, Low's duties involved a variety of assignments focusing on litigation, procurement and subcontracting opportunities, community outreach and participation, and environmental concerns.

"One of my main goals as a Commissioner" Low said, "[was] to ensure that our vital City services are delivered in an efficient, equitable and balanced manner throughout the City. I also want to make sure that our department reaches out to the public to get as much of their input and participation as possible in the development and delivery of public facilities and infrastructure projects.

"Another goal [was] to promote services and infrastructure projects that will address some of our environmental concerns like improving water and air quality, increasing water conservation, and reducing pollutants from getting into our various water bodies.

"Finally, I [wanted] to make sure that minority, women and other small businesses have an opportunity to compete for our contracting dollars," Low added.

He was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Bureau of Contract Administration. The duties of that Bureau include administering minority, women and other business enterprise subcontractor outreach programs for the Department; equal employment opportunity/affirmative action for City contracts; state and federal prevailing wage laws for public works construction contracts, and City-wide certification of minority, women, other and disadvantaged business enterprises. Low's Bureau assignments also included serving as backup Commissioner in the operations of the Bureau of Sanitation focusing on storm water and water quality issues.

Commissioner Low, who at one point was under consideration for an appointment to the State Court Bench, served as the Board's lead man on all legal issues affecting the Department. He also conducted hearings on sewer service charges involving commercial and industrial projects, subcontractor substitution requests on construction projects already underway, and helped mediate miscellaneous disputes.

Commissioner Low served as Department liaison to the offices of the Seventh and Eleventh and Fourteenth Council Districts as well as their respective Neighborhood Councils, the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, the Community Redevelopment Agency and the Departments of General Services and Transportation.

His special assignments included chairing the interdepartmental Oversight Committee for the \$68 million Santa Monica Boulevard Transit Parkway Project, and serving as a member of the Administrative Oversight Committee for Proposition O, the clean beaches and water bill that was passed in the 2004 November general election, and the Settlement Agreement Review Committee for the EPA/Santa Monica Baykeeper lawsuit.

Commissioner Low also served on the Construction Industry Advisory Committee, the Lincoln Corridor Task Force, the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, and the Citywide Economic Development Cabinet.

Prior to going into private industry as a consultant, Commissioner Low spent 11 years as a deputy City attorney in the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. As a deputy City attorney, he served as head of litigation for the Community Redevelopment Agency, consulting with the Mayor's Office, City Council and the CRA Board of Commissioners on legal issues relating to redevelopment, land use, contracts and condemnation law.

As the CRA's head of litigation, he supervised all of its litigation matters, including decisions to file or defend actions, proposed litigation and trial strategies and conducted settlement negotiations. During this time he also led the City's \$80 million relocation and land acquisition effort for the Staples Center.

Before joining the CRA in 1995, he worked in the City Attorney's Criminal Division with duties that included prosecuting defendants charged with misdemeanor crimes, as well as receiving special assignments to handle violent crimes, stalking and child and spousal abuse cases. Also during his tenure with the City Attorney's Office, he successfully handled one case, in its entirety, all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

Before coming to the City Attorney's Office in 1989, Low practiced civil litigation with two Los Angeles law firms over a span of five years, litigating cases in both state and federal courts.

In 1978, Low was appointed by California's Lieutenant Governor as executive director of the State Youth Commission, where he directed and coordinated the affairs of the Commission. Commissioner Low has worked on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., and the State Capitol in Sacramento bringing his experience in State and Federal government with him to the Board.



From left: John Reamer, Bureau Director Contract Administration, with Commissioner Low.

Low is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, where he received his bachelor's degree in criminology with honors in 1973. He received his Master's degree in social work from California State University, Sacramento, in 1975. Then, he graduated with honors from Howard University School of Law in 1983, with a degree in law.

He was admitted to the California State Bar in 1985 and is a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA), the Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) and several other legal associations.

He is a former member of the Board of Trustees of LACBA and the Board of Governors of NAPABA. He has also served as Treasurer of the NAPABA Law Foundation, which he helped create, and President of the Southern California Chinese Lawyer's Association. He has also served on the National Board of the Council on Legal Education Opportunities.

A resident of Los Angeles for the past 20 years, Low has worked extensively with the local Asian-Pacific American community, in addition to all his professional activities. Moreover, Low has published a case study on the plight of the Amerasian: "No Child Should be Without Love and Protection: The Legal Problems of Amerasians."

Commissioner Low is not only an author but a college instructor as well, having taught various courses in social work at California State University, Sacramento.

The Club congratulates Commissioner Low on his distinguished service to the City, and thanks Diana Williams for her assistance with this story.

## Station 77 Dedication Coming

### ■ Fire Station 77 dedication rescheduled for Sept. 17.

**FIRE DEPT** — The public is invited to the formal dedication of the new Fire Station 77 in Sun Valley, which is already in operation.

The dedication ceremony is set for 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Station, 9224 Sunland Blvd. in Sun Valley.

Expected to attend are civic and community leaders, including Fire Chief William Bamattre.

All members of the community are warmly welcomed to join the Department for this public event.



From left: Commissioner Yolanda Fuentes, Commissioner Valerie Shaw, Chris Low (Ron's son), Commissioner Low, Cameron Low (Ron's son), Wanda Denson-Low (Ron's wife), and Cynthia M. Ruiz, President, Board of Public of Public Works.





The EEO/ED Division, from left: Rhonda Dowdy, Senior Personnel Analyst I; Audrey Atkins, Senior Personnel Analyst I; Marie O'Kelly-Green, Senior Personnel Analyst I; Cynthia Carter, Senior Personnel Analyst I; Penny Hurley, Personnel Analyst II; Gloria Griego, Senior Clerk Typist; Diana Lozano, Senior Personnel Analyst I; Rashall Sanchez, Personnel Analyst II; Ann Marie Jones, Senior Personnel Analyst I; Linda Lanier, Senior Personnel Analyst II; Pat Taylor, Senior Clerk Typist; Charlene Klein, Senior Personnel Analyst II; Paula Goldfeld, Senior Personnel Analyst II; Jurutha, Brown, Chief; and Adriene Murphy, Management Analyst II.



From left: Jeanette Maya Romo, Worker's Compensation Analyst; and Simone Verdun, Worker's Compensation Analyst.



7933: Vivian Davis, Sr. Worker's Compensation Analyst, was one of Personnel's top fundraisers for the WalkAmerica event.



Lois Bailey, Chief of Worker's Compensation, was one of the top fundraisers from Personnel.



Ann Marie Jones, Sr. Personnel Analyst, was the City's top fundraiser for the WalkAmerica event.

# Personnel Takes a Walk

## ■ Here are Personnel's top fundraisers for the recent March of Dimes WalkAmerica event.

Story coordinated by Bev Haro, Club Counselor; Photos by Summy Lam, Club IT Business Analyst

**PERSONNEL** — Ann Marie Jones, an Equal Opportunity Officer, was Personnel's top fundraiser during the annual WalkAmerica event, which raised money for the March of Dimes. Not only was she Personnel's top fundraiser, but she was at the top of the list for all City employees who participated in the event, according to a memo by

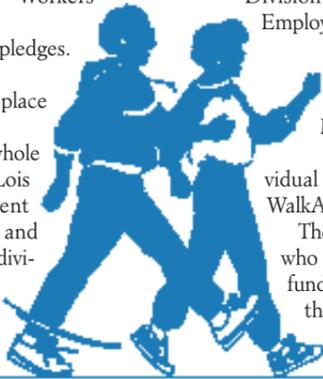
Lois Bailey, Chief of the Workers Compensation Division.

Ann Marie raised \$3,641.12 in pledges. Good going!

The WalkAmerica event took place April 30 in Griffith Park.

The Personnel Department as a whole raised \$12,289.45 for the cause. Lois Bailey's memo thanks Department Coordinators Simone Verdun and Jeanette Maya Romo and various division coordinators for the Department's success.

In addition, the employees of the Worker's Compensation



Division and the EEO and Employment Development Division pooled their efforts to raise \$6,091.85 and \$4,567, respectively, in pledges for the March of Dimes.

Here's the list of the top individual fundraisers (in pledges) to WalkAmerica:

The Club congratulates all those who donated their time, energy or funds to this worthy cause. And we thank Jackie David for contributing information for this story.

### TOP INDIVIDUAL FUNDRAISERS

Ann Marie Jones	\$3,641
Lois Bailey	\$2,164
Vivian Davis	\$1,000
Barbara Johnson	\$365
Diana Lozano	\$275
Yolanda Fountain	\$265
Frances Stith	\$200
Karlene Tillet	\$200

## Auto Alliance Connection

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A NEW Section for Retired Club Members



# The Best Years

## LACERS Fund Reaches \$8.8 Billion, An All-Time High

By Phil Skarin, Publicity Chair, RLACEI

### Legislative Update

Ken Spiker, our elected LACERS commissioner, reports that the LACERS Fund has reached an all-time high of \$8.840 billion.

Ken also reports that LACERS provides health insurance for 15,148 retirees and their dependents. The LACERS Administration & Benefits Committee, which Ken chairs, has unanimously approved and sent to the Commission their recommendations for 2006. The Committee is recommending that LACERS administer the new Medicare Prescription Part D program. Thus, retirees will receive all the benefits provided by part D without going through the Federal paperwork. Our premiums may also be lower with LACERS as the contractor.

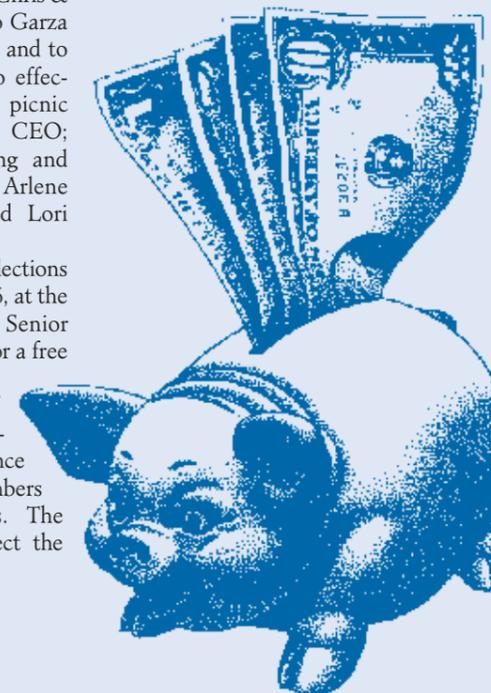
Ken reports all present health care providers are recommended to continue for 2006. No new coverages, but none of our present coverages lost.

### Ed Harding, RLACEI President reports:

"Our annual Picnic Aug. 11 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge was the best one ever. About 200 retirees and friends enjoyed a great meal catered by Chris & Pitts. Our thanks go to Americo Garza for making all the arrangements and to Phil Skarin for publicizing it so effectively. Special guests at the picnic included John Hawkins, Club CEO; Robert Larios, Club Marketing and Communications Director; Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; and Lori Kozlowski, Editor of El Pueblo.

Our Annual Meeting and Elections will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center. You can come at noon for a free lunch, but only if you have made a reservation by calling one of the officers on the Retirees Help-Lines a week ahead. In accordance with our revised bylaws, the members will elect only six directors. The Executive Board will then select the

first vice president. The president, Ed Harding, and the second vice president, Ken Spiker, each have one more year on their two-year terms. The Secretary, Hal Danowitz, and the Treasurer, Jerry Bardwell, are appointed by the Board.



### INSIDE:

- Upcoming Events Listing
- Coverage of RLACEI Picnic
- Members News
- Legislative Update
- Smart Money Column
- Adventures With Hal Danowitz
- Ken Spiker Re-elected
- Crossword Puzzle Contest!
- Important Phone Numbers
- Question of the Month Feature
- Thought for the Day Feature
- Poetry Contest

### HAVE NEWS?

If you have news about retirement activities that you'd like to share, call **Phil Skarin**

at (818) 784-0130, or write to  
5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA  
91411 or fax (818) 906-3722.



Ed Harding is the President of Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI), one of three major retirees associations for the City of Los Angeles. Contact him: (805) 584-9417.

Ed Harding, RLACEI President



**Great Fun and Good Times at the RLACEI Picnic**

— SEE PAGES 36-37

## The Best Years

## Financial Advice



Planning and Managing Your Retirement

## The Smart Money



Eric Garcia, Smith Barney

## Retiree Hotlines

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

**City Employees Retirement System:** (213) 473-7200

**RLACEI Retirement Counselors:**

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

**DWP Retirement Plan Office:** (213) 367-1722

## RLACEI

**Officers for 2005**

Edward Harding, President  
 Robert Wilkinson, First Vice President  
 Kenneth Spiker, Second Vice President  
 Hal Danowitz, Secretary  
 Jerry Bardwell, Treasurer

**Committee Chairpersons for 2005**

Bob Wilkinson, Audit  
 Jerry Bardwell, Budget  
 David Wilkins, Bylaws  
 Ken Spiker, Legal and Legislative  
 Helen Salgado, Membership  
 Phil Skarin, Publicity  
 Tom Stemnock and Phil Skarin, Golf  
 Americo Garza, Picnic  
 Americo Garza, Holiday Party and Installation  
 Jack Mathews, Senior Citizens  
 Neil Ricci, Health  
 David Wilkins, Nominating  
 Neil Ricci, Special Needs for Retirees  
 Hal Danowitz, Parliamentarian

**Directors**

Thomas Stemnock  
 Americo Garza  
 Helen Salgado  
 Phil Skarin  
 Dave Wilkins  
 Jack Mathews  
 Neil Ricci



# Planning for the Future Is Important to City Family

By Eric Garcia, Financial Planner, Smith Barney, Club Partner

**Editor's note:**

Please welcome our new columnist Eric Garcia, who will be providing helpful financial tips every month for all Club Members, but especially retirees and those who are planning for it. Tell us what you think: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

■ **Hello, Club Members. It's good to be writing for Alive!**

Since this is the first installment of a new financial column, please allow me to start by introducing myself. My name is Eric Garcia, and I am a Financial Planning Specialist with Smith Barney. I have been with Smith Barney since January 2001 and have been in the financial services industry since 1997. As a Financial Planning Specialist, my primary responsibility is helping clients plan for the future, whether it be for retirement, college for the kids, or passing assets to the next generation by way of estate planning.

Having been on several on-site visits with the Club's Member Services Counselors like Arlene, Angel, Bev and Liz, I realize that The Club is really first class. The friendliness and commitment to serve that I've witnessed by the Counselors, the support staff and management team has left me with the distinct impression that the

Club truly cares about its members. In keeping with the Club's high standards I am committed to being a financial education resource to the Club's members and doing so with the same first-class service that the Club is known for.

I have been reading *Alive!* every month for quite some time now and have really enjoyed getting to know the people that keep this great City going. It is really neat to learn about the people from different departments, the promotions, graduations, weddings, births, and other events related to the members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles. I really feel that my column here is a natural fit: The Club is all about life events, and so am I.

Through this column, I want to provide you with helpful advice on financial-related topics that are important to you. To do this, your questions are not only welcomed but much appreciated. I am truly excited to be given an opportunity to write for and perhaps provide some insight to the "City Family." So, please don't hesitate to send in your questions to the address at the bottom, and I'll be glad to answer.

While out on a site visit with Member Services Counselor Arlene Herrero, a Club Member asked me the following question, so it will be a great place to start my first column:

## What's the difference between a Section 529 College Savings Plan and the Coverdell Education Savings Account – ESA (formerly Education IRA)?

The two plans are actually quite similar. They both offer the benefit of tax-deferred growth and are both tax-free upon withdrawal as long as the money is used for a qualified educational expense such as tuition, room and board, books and supplies. Both plans also allow you to change the beneficiary so that if one child doesn't want to go to college or receives a scholarship you can change the beneficiary to another family member. Both plans are also not limited to just a college or university; trade and vocational schools are also an option.

The two plans differ mainly in two ways: One being that for the 529 plan, a "qualified educational expense" is limited to post-secondary school, whereas with an ESA you can pull the money out of the account to pay for private elementary school, middle and/or high school. The other difference is the amount that you can contribute to the accounts in any one year. The ESA is limited to \$2,000 per year. The 529 plan has a much higher contribution limit, \$11,000 if you're single, \$22,000 for married couples. The 529 also allows for a special contribution of up to \$55,000 for a single person, \$110,000 for a married couple (certain rules apply).

It's pretty amazing what the government will allow you to put away for college, isn't it? Now if we only had that \$110,000 sitting in a bank account or under our mattresses, wouldn't that be great!

In closing, I want to thank the Club for giving me the opportunity to be part of the City Family. I look forward to our next time together. And don't forget to send me those questions!

Send Eric your questions at [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com). Use "Smart Money" in the subject line.

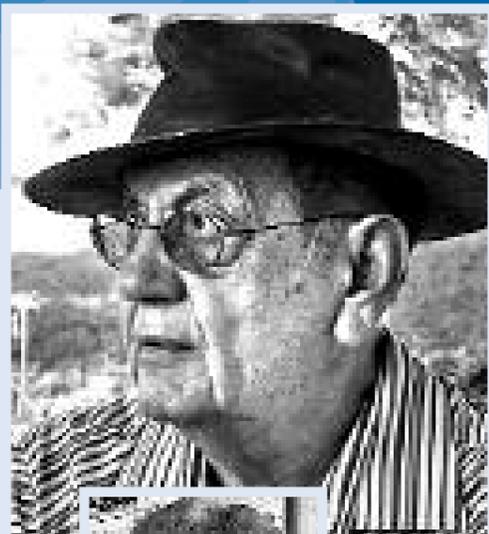
*Eric Garcia is a Financial Planning Specialist at Smith Barney. Eric has been with the firm since January, 2001 and has been in the financial services industry since 1997. He holds Series 7, Series 63, Series 65, and Series 31 licenses. Eric serves on the Board of Directors for the San Gabriel Valley Chapter of LeTip International, is a Finance Committee Member for St. Philip School, and volunteers as a coach for various youth sports leagues. He was educated at Pasadena City College and San Diego State University.*

# Retiree Question of the Month

*Alive!* asked retirees...

## Who is the greatest singer who ever lived?

The Best Years



**Dean Martin** is my first choice, and **Patsy Cline** my second.

— Harvey Ledesma, Retired from Building and Safety in 1997.



**Bobby Darrin.**

— Martha Harl, Retired from Personnel in 1998 after 29 years.



**Bing Crosby.**

— Fred Hoepfner, Retired from Public Works in 1996.



**Frank Sinatra.**

— Barbara L. Smith, Retired from Personnel in 1996 after 13 years.



**Mario Lanza.**

— Milton S. Cohen, Contract Administration Inspector. Retired in 1993.



**Frank Sinatra.**

— Joan Wolsiffer, Retired from Public Works.



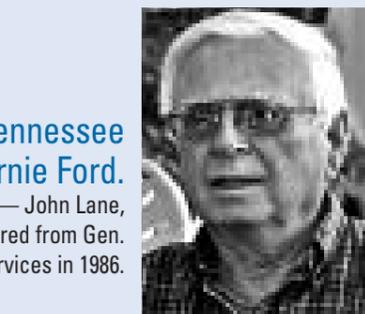
**Doris Day.**

— Laura Ramirez, wife of Bill Ramirez, Retired from the LAFD in 1998.



**Frank Sinatra!**

— Rose and Frederick Hand. Frederick retired from City Planning in 1982 after 17 years.



**Tennessee Ernie Ford.**

— John Lane, Retired from Gen. Services in 1986.



**Frankie!**

— Hynda Rudd, Retired City Archivist and *Alive!* columnist.

## RLACEI Upcoming Events:

Make plans to attend the annual **RLACEI Annual Meeting** Oct. 6. You can enjoy the annual meeting just like these retirees did last year.



At last year's Annual Meeting, from left: James H. Smith, Retired Survey Division; Icle Davis, Retired Public Works Management Employee Services; Dora Smith, James' wife; Olivia Galvin, Retired City Clerk; and Helen Salgado, RLACEI Membership Chair Person.

- **Thursday, Oct. 6 at 1 p.m.** (lunch at noon with a pre-reservation). **Annual Corporation Meeting & Elections** at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center, 5026 Van Nuys Blvd., Sherman Oaks.
- **Thursday, Dec. 8, noon to 3 p.m.** **Christmas Party and Installation of Officers** at the Grace E. Simons Lodge
- **Tuesday, June 6, 2006** **28th Annual Retirees Golf Tournament** at the Alhambra Golf Course.

## Spiker Re-elected

■ **Ken Spiker re-elected to LACERS Board.**



LACERS — In the June 24 runoff election, incumbent Ken Spiker, who contributes to Phil Skarin's monthly column for retirees in *Alive!*, was re-elected to the Retired Member seat of the Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) Board of Administration.

Spiker, a retired Chief Legislative Analyst for the City, has held the seat since July 1, 1995.

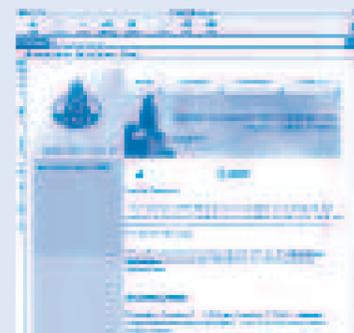
Each Board Member serves a five-year term. In addition to meeting twice a month, each Board Member serves on at least one committee. Spiker currently serves as the chairperson of LACERS' Benefits Administration Committee.

For the 2004 calendar year, the total annual premium base of LACERS health programs was \$66.1 million, and the total annual retirement gross payroll was \$396.7 million.

Spiker received 2,973 votes, which comprised 78 percent of the total ballots counted. Gary Mattingly received 692 (18 percent) votes. Thomas Meyer was third with 48 votes (1.27 percent). Dwight Coffelt was fourth with 41 votes (1.08 percent). And Zbyslaw J. Petryka was fifth with 10 votes (.26 percent).

Spiker was sworn in at the LACERS Board Meeting July 26.

LACERS looks forward to continue working with Mr. Spiker during his new term, and the Club congratulates Ken on his election.



### RLACEI Website

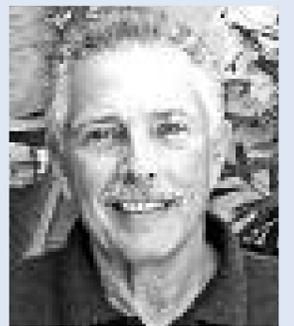
Hal Danowitz asks you to visit our Website at: [www.rlacei.com](http://www.rlacei.com) to find out the latest retiree news.

## The Best Years

ADVENTURES  
with HAL!

Hal shows off one of his catches at the King Pacific Lodge in British Columbia.

By Hal Danowitz,  
Secretary, RLACEI



## Salmon Fishing in Canada Got Him Hook, Line, Sinker

### RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

**John and Marguerite Shadle** celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary by taking a cruise up the Inland Passage to Alaska

**Albert and Rose Jue** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 14

**Ken Soble** is a magician member of the Magic Castle in Hollywood. He has offered to send a free pass to any retiree who sends a self-addressed, stamped envelope to him at 17071 Escalon Dr., Encino, CA 91436-4042. Call him at (818) 995-6865 for more information. Ken also has a 1934 Dodge that was restored by prisoners at a penitentiary in Nevada

**Ady Y. Mendoza**, 75, keeps active by helping her church in food distribution, and helps making lap quilts for needy patients in Nursing homes. She would like to hear from her co-workers in the office of Contract Compliance. Call her at (818) 951-7142 or write her at 7852 Owens St., Sunland, CA 91040-2528

**Patsy and Rose Matrese** celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary July 4. Their secret is to always listen attentively to what ever the other is saying

**Grady Mullen** celebrated his 79th birthday with about 30 friends at his home in Palmdale. He shares his house with a couple and their son from El Salvador. The mother had been Grady's late wife's caregiver; now she helps Grady a lot

**Daryl Covalt** and his wife, **Halimah**, welcomed an addition to their family as Marley arrived Jan. 15. "I enjoy reading your column," he says. Call him at (310) 792-4972

**Robert J. Williams** celebrated his 89th birthday with a family reunion at his home in San Luis Obispo

**Clarence and Alma Haessig** stay close to their home in Malibu, but they do travel to Las Vegas twice a year. Their real dividends are 35 grand and great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. Their phone is always busy. They are frequent visitors to their local Hallmark Card shop

**Jane Hanson** writes, "Thank you for such good work as you do, it is deeply appreciated." I appreciate hearing that, Jane.

Any member news about a retiree that you would like to share should be sent to: **Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or phone (818) 784-0130.**

*Editor's note: Please help us welcome new Alive! columnist Hal Danowitz! Hal loves to travel, and we look forward to bringing you his adventures every month, in our expanded The Best Years section, created by and for retirees. Tell us what you think at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com*

Each year I try to make a trip with my 83-year-old friend, Erwin, to fish for salmon. The past two years have not been very successful; you know, more "fishing" than "catching." We caught only a few fish in Alaska and even fewer at Campbell River on Vancouver Island.

So this year we decided to go back to the one place we knew we would catch our limit, the King Pacific Lodge ([888] 592-5464 or www.kingpacificlodge.com). The lodge is affiliated with the Rosewood Resorts and is on Princess Royal Island, British Columbia. The four-day packages (Friday to Monday) start at \$3250 and include: round-trip floatplane flights between Bella Bella and the lodge; all meals, including an open bar; daily guided ocean fishing (trolling, mooching or fly fishing); processing of the fish; and fishing license and all the gear. We also had to pay for our flight from Los Angeles to Vancouver and from Vancouver to Bella Bella.

We flew from LAX early Friday morning July 22 and arrived in Vancouver at about 10:30 a.m. After clearing Canadian immigration and customs, we stopped in the food court to have lunch. The Vancouver International Airport is very modern and easy to navigate. After lunch we found our way to the Fairmont Hotel, which is part of the airport complex and met the representatives of King Pacific. They took our bags, which were limited in weight to 30 pounds, and we made ourselves comfortable while we waited for the rest of the 30 people who would be traveling to the lodge.

We took a shuttle to the South Terminal where the lodge had chartered three planes to take us to Bella Bella. The flight to Bella Bella took about an hour and a half. The weather was clear and we got a great view of the snow-capped Canadian Rockies. At Bella Bella we boarded six-passenger deHavilland Beaver floatplanes for the 50-minute flight to King Pacific. This was a new experience for most of the guests. The plane flew at about 3000 feet and was very noisy, but the view was worth the noise.

The lodge is located at the end of Bernard Bay and sits on a large barge. Since we had been here last they have build a new 17-room lodge; the old lodge was now being used by the staff. We were the last plane to arrive and the staff was lined up to greet us as we disembarked.

We all gathered inside where the staff was introduced and we had Champaign and snacks. We were given a brief orientation and then shown to our accommodations.

The room was very large, with two twin beds and a large seating area, which looked out over the wooded island. The bathroom was large with a shower and a Jacuzzi tub. We unpacked quickly and returned to the lounge area. The bar was open and there was most

anything you wanted to drink from beer and soft drinks to wine and liquor. You could either get it yourself or they would bring it to you. The lodge has a staff of 40 to take care of our group of 30; needless to say the service was very good.

Before dinner was served we got a chance to meet most of the guests. The group was very diverse, coming from all over the world. There were a number of children, and the biggest fish (30-pound King) was caught by a 10-year-old girl from Germany.

After a 7 a.m. breakfast, we met our guide, Justin, and boarded the 22-foot Bayliner. The lodge provides all the fishing gear, and we each had a floatation suit and boots that we wore on the boat. The weather for the entire trip was wonderful: calm waters, clear skies and temperatures in the mid-70s.

We caught our first fish as soon as we stopped, but it was a pink salmon and we tossed it back. We did that with all the pinks, because we were limited to eight fish total (each) and we were looking for Coho and King, which are both better fighters and much better eating. We were trolling at between 30 and 40 feet, using both live bait and various lures with bardless hooks.

By the time we returned to the lodge for lunch we had each caught a Coho. We went out again at 2 p.m. and fished to 6 p.m. and then returned for dinner. We were catching a lot of fish; we threw most back while waiting for the big one.

The next day we fished from 7 a.m. and took lunch with us and did not return to the lodge until dinnertime. In the early afternoon I finally hooked a big fish; the line went "zing" and the fish started to run. I fought it for about five minutes, but it got off the hook. I guess that is why they call it "fishing" and not "catching." By the end of the day I had caught six fish and Erwin had seven. Our last day of fishing started at 7 a.m., and I caught my last fish one minute before we had to return to the lodge. We both had caught our limit.

We left about 4 p.m. for the flight back to Vancouver. This time I got to sit in the co-pilot seat in the deHavilland. By 8 p.m. we were in Vancouver and spent the night at the Fairmont. The next day we flew home with some of our fish (I sent half to be smoked) and arrived safely.

The King Pacific Lodge is not just for fishing; it offers hiking, whale watching, kayaking and other actives, which makes it a place for the whole family. There is a helicopter and a floatplane, available for a fee, to take you into the interior for river fly fishing, hiking and other activities.

Everything about this lodge is first-class, the food and service were excellent. It is the first trip I can remember when I did not have anything to complaint about.

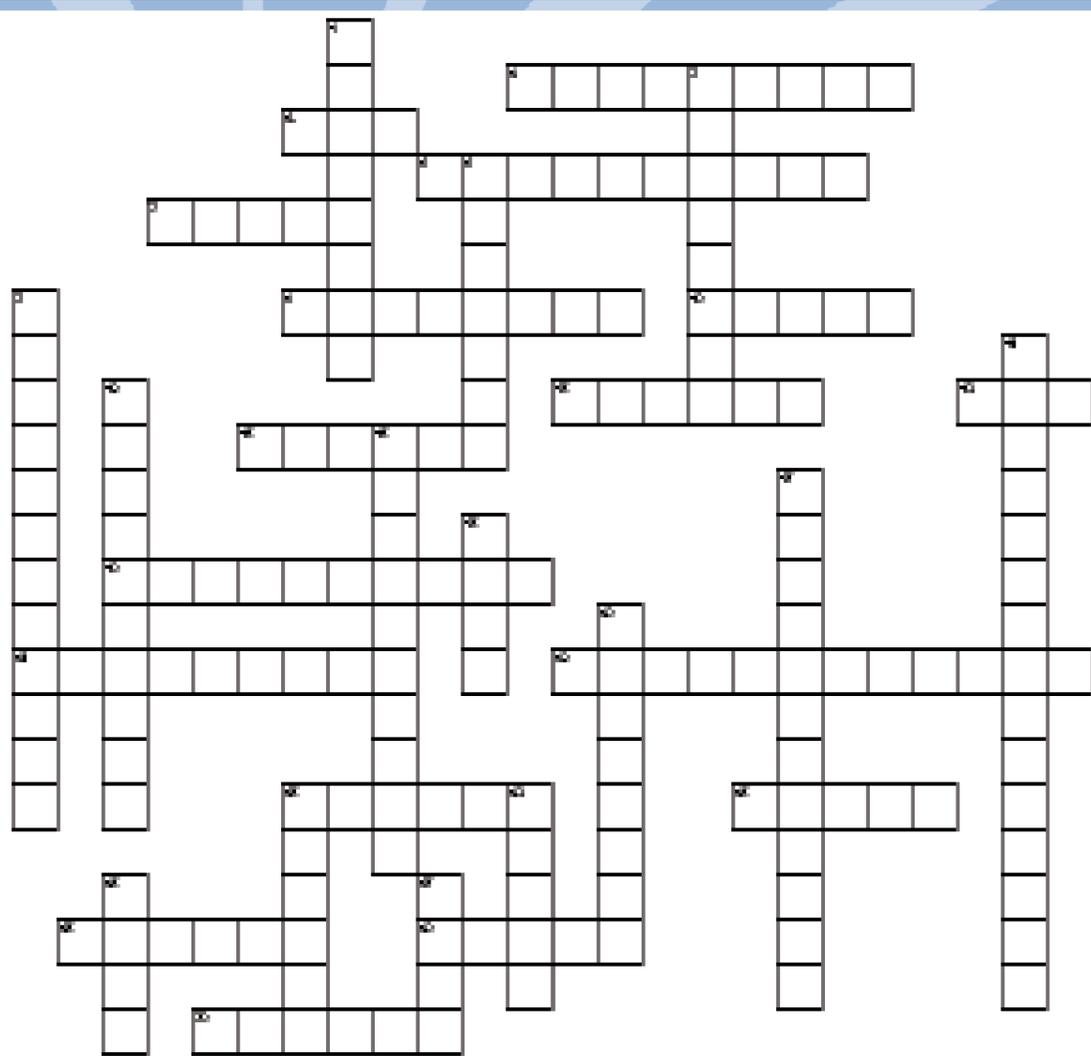
I'm saving up to go again next year.

**Hal welcomes your questions and comments at**  
**hdanowitz@earthlink.net**

# The Alive! Crossword Puzzle

For Retired Members, Compiled by Club Events Guru Michelle Moreno

## The Best Years



Here's a new fun feature for Alive's retired readers...  
and a new contest!

Introducing the *Alive!* Crossword...

a monthly puzzle with a theme relating to the City of Los Angeles and the Club.  
We'll print the answers the following month.

**And here's the contest:**

The first retired Club Members to complete the puzzle and send in the correct results will win a Ralphs grocery gift certificate for \$25.

But: You also have to tell us what the theme is.  
The theme could relate to:

- The City
- The Club
- A topic of interest to retirees, from the past (or the present)

*So grab your pencil, and let the fun begin!*

### ACROSS

2. (2 words) Died on way to a drag race
4. "A hip person"
5. (3 words) Everly Brothers hit
7. "Leave"
9. Greaser hairstyle
10. "Sloppy"
13. "Boring person"
14. A Place in the \_\_\_\_
15. Type of woman's hairstyle
19. (2 words) Best Actor in 1956
21. (3 words) TV series that starred a loveable redhead
22. (4 words) Drive-thru that first opened in San Diego in 1951
23. "The Commerce Comet"
25. "Show off"
28. High Noon star
29. Lewis Carroll protagonist
30. Famous Marlon Brando line

### DOWN

1. General fired by Truman
3. "Catcher in the Rye"
6. Milton Bradley "Yacht" game
8. (2 words) Published "The Invisible Man"
11. (2 words) "I am big, it's the pictures that got small"
12. (2 words) Life cut short by plane crash
16. Opened in Anaheim in 1955
17. (2 words) Western starting Jeff Morrow
18. "Police"
20. (2 words) Love Letters In The Sand
23. Married Arthur Miller
24. The King
26. "Great"
27. Established in 1958 to begin space exploration

**This month's theme:**

### Crossword puzzle contest rules:

1. Mail your completed puzzle (and your guess at the theme) to the Club Headquarters, 350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, Los Angeles 90071
2. Deadline: The 10th of the month.
3. Anyone can enter, but only Club members with valid Club registration numbers can win.
4. This puzzle is for retired Club Members.
5. It's all in good fun: The Club is not responsible for delays in delivery of *Alive!* or the transmission of entries.



### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

#### *Second Chances*

*A runner, if he "jumps the gun,"*

*Is given a second chance to start again.*

*In life, we don't always get a second chance*

*To correct mistakes, or undo wrongs.*

*Why not take the time now*

*To examine our lives to see if there is*

*Still time for a second chance to*

*Keep some unfulfilled promises*

*Resolve old grudges*

*Seek forgiveness for wrongdoings, or*

*Show more love to your neighbor.*

*Then, after cleaning up any of the leftovers,*

*You can begin a new chapter in your life*

*With a clean slate, and a happier future.*

-Phil Skarin



### Poetry Contest!

Our tenth annual Retirees Poetry Contest deadline is Oct. 1. Poems can be of any style, subject or length. There are separate categories for retirees and spouses. Every entry will win something.

Send typed entries to:

Phil Skarin

5301 Norwich Ave.,

Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910.

And remember that *Alive!* will publish all winning poetry submissions, where possible, in an upcoming issue.



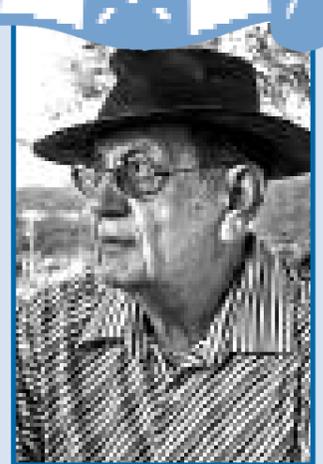
# Retiree Summer Fun!



From left: Ashley Brennan with grandparents Emmi and George Ohara.



The RLACEI picnic always presents a great opportunity for people to renew acquaintances.



Harvey Ledesma, Retired from Building and Safety in 1997.

## ■ RLACEI hosts annual picnic Aug. 11.

RLACEI — The Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) group held its annual picnic Aug. 11 at Grace E. Simons Lodge near Dodger Stadium.

The picnic always serves as a fun afternoon of good friends, good food, memories and plans for the future.

Among those in attendance were Club CEO John Hawkins, Club Communications and Marketing Director Robert Larios and Club Counselor Arlene Herrero, who thank Ed Harding for the invitation.

Singing at the event was the lovely and talented Sandy Mack who works for the Office of Finance Collections Investigation.



From left: Gilbert Agaram, Public Works, Engineering, Drafting Technician, 33 years of service; Gil Garnas, Public Works, Sanitation, Principal Sanitary Engineer, 30 years of service; and Wayne Kubo, Public Works, Engineering, Sanitary Engineer, 30 years of service.



Going around the table, from left: Josephine Salgado, 95 (Helen Salgado's mom); Rene O'Malley (Wilma Rebbe's daughter); Wilma Rebbe, Retired from the LAPD in 1970; Helen Zbydniowski, Retired from Public works in 1985; Lorraine Kalajakis (Helen Zbydniowski's friend); and Helen Salgado, Retired from Housing in 1995.

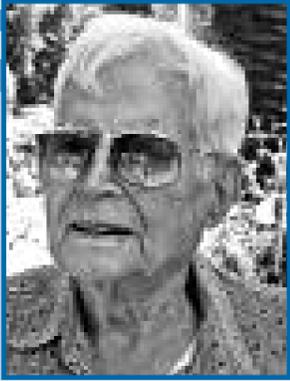


The RLACEI picnic always presents a great opportunity for people to renew acquaintances.

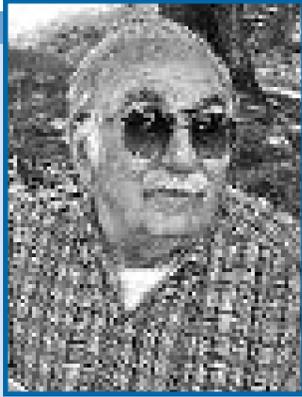
From left: Bill and Laura Ramirez (Bill retired in 1998 after 44 years with the LAFD) and Fred Hoeptner, who retired from Public Works, Engineering, in 1996.



Neil Ricci, RLACEI Chairperson for the Health Committee.



John Peebles, 90, Retired from Rec and Parks, where he was the Supervisor of Camping. When he was asked how he looks so fit and young, he said that he attributes it to his awesome wife!



Milton S. Cohen, Retired from Contract Administration Inspector in 1993.



Pam and Dave Wall. Dave retired from Public Works, Engineering, in 1996.



From left: Manuel A. Gabaldon, Retired, LAPD Property Division, 31 years; and Steve Horne, Retired LAPD Property Division, 33 years.



## RLACEI Annual Picnic



Mary S. Castro.



Eva Lopez (far right) and her husband, George, Retired from City Planning in 1985.



From left: Rose and Frederick Hand (Frederick retired from City Planning in 1982 after 17 years), with Shig Arima, who spent 20 years with City Planning, retiring in 1985.



John and Joan Wolsiffer. John retired from Rec and Parks in 1992, and Joan retired from Public Works. (She also worked for Building and Safety.)



From left: Reginald Foster (retired from City Planning after 40 years), Barbara L. Smith (retired from Personnel in 1996 after 13 years) and Martha Harl (retired from Personnel in 1998 after 29 years).

# Del Corazón

## ■ Harbor Dept. fosters area development with Fiesta Corazón del Puerto.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

HARBOR — Fun, games and first-class entertainment were on the program for the first-ever Fiesta Corazón del Puerto July 22-24 in Wilmington.

The three-day event featured carnival rides, games and food booths, live entertainment and information booths for non-profit organizations and Fiesta sponsors.

The big block party fostered community involvement and development of the Wilmington waterfront.

Fiesta Corazón del Puerto was sponsored by the Port of Los Angeles, the Office of Councilwoman Janice Hahn, Wilmington Jaycees Foundation, Wilmington Rotary Club and Wilmington Chamber of Commerce.

Thanks to Margaret Hernandez, Director of Contracts and Purchasing, Harbor Dept. and Club Member for her assistance.



From left: John Arroyo, Lyons Club Wilmington, with Chris Brown, Civil Engineering Associate IV, 5 years.



At the LAPD Explorers hot dog booth were, from left: Officer Domingo Mairena, LAPD Harbor, 8 years; Officer Christy Higuera, LAPD Harbor 6 years; Anthony Lewis, Explorer; Jaime Ibarra, Explorer; Corena Nunez, Explorer; Alex Torres, Explorer; Teri Casey, Sr. Lead Officer, 17 years; LAPD Harbor; and Morgan Casey, daughter.



Victor Medina, Psychology Coordinator, at the Gang Alternatives Program booth.



From left: Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, and Ernie Mistrik, Fire Inspector, 30 years.



Jeanie Kennedy, Volunteer, 3 years, staffs the LAPD Harbor Division booth.



From left: Robert Holquin, Security Officer; 4 months, Club Member; and Michael Patterson, Security Officer, 7 years, Club Member.



From left: Kevin Jennings, Security Officer, 4 years, Club Member; Juan Benitez, Procurement Analyst, Bureau of Sanitation; and Julie Huerta, Sr. MA, Club Member.



Kent Hobbs, Port Police, 23 years, Club Member, stands in front of the Mobile Operations Center.



From left: Officer Ian Schunke, Port Police, Sea Marshall, 5 years; and Sonia Estevez, Sr. Lead Officer, Port Police, 5 years, Club Member.



From left: "Sisters" Evelyn Kelley, Management Analyst II, 10 years, Club Member; and Wanda Solomon, Program Analyst, 16 years.



From left: Ryan Strauss, Sr. Lead Officer, 2 years, Club Member; and Dong Lee, Port Police, 2 years.



At the booth to have their picture taken with Shaquille O'Neal, who is a Harbor PD Reserve Officer, were, from left: Hilda Zavala, POLA Student Worker, and Velinda Meza, POLA Student Worker.



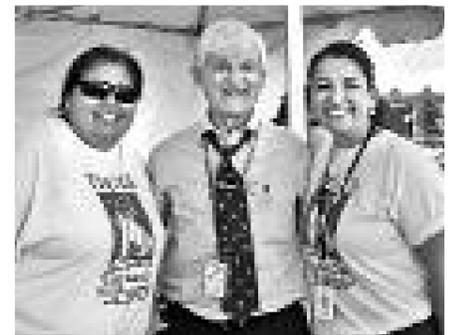
From left: Officer Fernando Martinez, Port Police, 3 months; and Sgt. Aleman, Port Police, 30 years, Club Member.



From left: Beatriz Ramirez, Student Worker; and Ana Peredia, Clerk, 9 years.



Standing next to the Avalon Triangle Park diagram were, from left: Charlie Rico, President of Lyons Club Wilmington for the past 4 years; Frank Herrera, Past President of Lyons Club.



From left: Margaret Hernandez, Director of Contracts & Purchasing, Club Member; David Williams, Postmaster at Wilmington; and Guadalupe Diaz, Management Analyst II.



Jacqueline Hernandez, daughter of Club Member and event organizer Margie Hernandez, enjoys a bumper car experience.

From left: Genesis, 8, standing next to her friend, Jennifer, also 8, as mom Veronica looks on while they fish. They were one of the families from the community who came to the event.



The sponsor banner.



From left: A child looks on as Rica Viola, Sr. Management Analyst I, Club Member, and Rachel Campbell, Public Affairs, point out which fish to catch.

This merry-go-round was one of the many rides available.

# 'Moving Strong as One'

## ■ East, West Valley Sanitation Collection Division come together for second annual picnic.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Service Manager

**PUBLIC WORKS** — The East and West Valley Sanitation Yards came together July 16 to celebrate their collective triumphs over many challenges during the past year, and to remember that they are stronger by working together.

The picnic, the second consecutive year that the two yards came together for a picnic, was held at Stonehurst Park in Sun Valley. The Club donated prizes.

Games including musical chairs and a sack race were enjoyed by everyone. The picnic also featured good food and family.

The picnic was a time for reflection on this past year's challenges, a time for families to gather, a time to celebrate and commemorate the

Division's outstanding employees on their achievements and triumphs. The theme was "East and West Valley Moving Strong, As One."

The City's heavy rainfall over the past year contributed to the Valley Division's many challenges, including street closures, landslides, dump delays, and, at times, the closure of the landfill altogether.

The Bureau also developed and implemented its first-ever Driver Career Development Training Program. The program was implemented in February and is designed to train drivers who wish to be promoted to the supervisory level. The Bureau also hosted a bureau-wide open house. East Valley opened its doors to the public May 14, and West Valley opened its doors May 21. The receptions helped to educate and empower the Bureau's customers.

Both Collection Yards have preserved with the strengths from one another, which provided their customers the top-quality service they deserve.

Congratulations to the Valley Collection Bureau for celebrating its successes at the picnic. And the Club thanks Sal Miranda, Joel Zuniga and Adriana Nunez for their assistance.



A co-ed version of musical chairs.



Hey guys ... hop to it!



Picnic-goers play a children's version of musical chairs.



A tumble to the finish line.



From left: Wilfredo Ortega, RCTO 2.5 years, Club Member, with his wife, Veronica; Maria Mello with her husband, David Mello, RCTO, 16 years, Club Member; and Veronica Cardenas, guest.



Guests Frank and Sherry Castillo with their son, Ben.



From left: Marché Dixon, Asia Dixon and Joshua Webb.



From left: Rolando Benitez, RCTO, 1 year, with his family Amy, Joshua and Brenda Benitez.



From left: Julie and Albert Gerardo, RCTO, 8 months, Club Member, with their kids Kayla and Devin.



It's still anybody's game.



This game of musical chairs was mastered by the girls.



From left: David Cajulis, grandson; Betty Cole; Darla Cole; Bob Cole, STO, 15 years; and Joshua Cajulis, grandson.



Back, from left: Gricelda Jino; Julia Juarez; and Patty Juarez, wife. Seated: Marco A. Silva; Hector D. Juarez, RCTO, 11 years, Club Member; and Ivan D. Juarez, son.



From left: Victoria Vasquez, guest; Bart Trevino, Sheet Metal Worker; Manny Mota, pick-up; and Nancy Palacios, guest.



Back, from left: Alco, Reva and Joe Cole. Front: Nick Cole, Adrianna Cole; Ron Cole, Sr. RCTO, 17 years; Janice Cole; and Elsie Cole.



From left: Lydia Jacobs, spouse; MaKenzie, daughter; Royal, son; Doug Jacobs; RCTO, 4 years, Club Member; Cassidy, daughter; Bailey, daughter; and Waseefa, friend.



From left: Inez Trevino; Felicia Granados; Rocky Granados; Linda Dominguez, Receptionist; and Pricilla Dominguez, Receptionist.



From left: Margaret Gutierrez and Brenda and Jesse Cruz, all family of Jesse Cruz.



Jorge Barajas, RCTO, 8 months, with his family Susana, Samantha and Junior.



Standing, from left: Max Madrid; Anita Madrid; Alex Serna Jr., son of Alex Serna Sr.; Veronica Vasquez; Alex Serna Sr., RCTO, 28 years, Club Member; Deborah Serna, wife; and Robert B. Aparicio Jr. Seated: Paula Hofsommer, Clerk Typist, 15 years; and Richard Alvarez, Retiree.



From left: Jose Luis Chang, representing Council Tony Cardenas, Club Member; Joel Zuniga, East Valley Superintendent, Club Member; Adriana Nunez, Clerk Typist, Club Member; and Sal Miranda, Solid Resource Manager I, Club Member.

## EARN EXTRA INCOME

For more info, please contact:

[www.Bedasa.igi-art.com](http://www.Bedasa.igi-art.com)

Email: [bedasa@adelphia.net](mailto:bedasa@adelphia.net)

Or call Daisy (909) 467-0181

Independent Member

# 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](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com)  
Send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

## Condolences

The Club sends its condolences to the family of **Kevin Alvarez**, who passed away Aug. 1. Kevin worked in Public Works, Sanitation Bureau, at the West L.A. Yard. Kevin was the son of Tony Alvarez, who many of you may remember as "Santa" at many City events. Tony retired from Gen. Services as Parking Manager.



Kevin Alvarez



## In Memoriam

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

### Active

Vikki Graham Ficklin	Public Works	20
Tanin Limrath	Gen. Services	1
Thomas A. Nazareno	Aging	23
Alberto Nubla	Airports	11
Francisco Perlas	Public Works	18
Gerald Smith	DWP	16
Lynn Stewart	Transportation	39
Rogelio Trinidad	Gen. Services	24

### Retired

Ellis Barker	DWP	25
William Brandt	DWP	40
Loretta Brown	Public Works	25
Lamar Calloway	Building and Safety	11
Renaldo Clayton	DWP	23
Lawrence Coffey	Airports	30
Arvid Robert Cook	Airports	33
Samuel Crutchfield	Airports	25
Robert Downing	DWP	33
Odessa Embry	DWP	11
Norman Evans	Airports	19
William Freeman Jr.	DWP	25
Nettie Frishman	Library	32
Judy Fujimoto	CDD	30
David Funk	DWP	25
James Furlong	Public Works	23
William Gilbert	Public Works	31
Herbert Goodman	City Clerk	14
John Gonzales	DWP	22
Violet Graab	LAPD	21
Shirley Green	DWP	35
Fred Harris	Public Works	29
Muriel Henkle	Transportation	8
Damian Hernandez	Rec and Parks	6
Hazel Hielscher	Library	10
Sebastian Iaia	Public Works	31
John Jackson	Public Works	32
Eugene Koffman	DWP	28
William Kyle	DWP	35
Lawrence Landry	Gen. Services	10
Edward Lewis	DWP	20
Ralph Martinez	DWP	21
Williams Mederos	Gen. Services	18
John Merrell Jr.	DWP	32
Cleveland Miles	DWP	39
Mike Montero	Gen. Services	24
Frank Morales	LAPD	25
Glen Morgan	Finance	25
Bill Nishijima	Harbor	30
Billy Nivens	Rec and Parks	16
Patricia Pepper	DWP	17
Leon Pleasants	Gen. Services	10
Marian Reiser	LAPD	10
Richard Ronning	Gen. Services	25
Gene Royle	DWP	38
Arthur Sandin	Public Works	12
George Schaad	DWP	33
Robert Severson	LAPD	12
Elmus Scales Jr.	Transportation	36
Franklin Slade	DWP	26
James Smith	Transportation	26
Barbara Swanson	Library	15
Eldridge Thomas	DWP	34
Abel Tirre	Building and Safety	20
Gourney Turner	DWP	40
Lucia Urspringer	Public Works	28
Lee Wilcott	DWP	21
George Wilson	Transportation	11
Hazel Winters	Rec and Parks	1
Justin Wool	DWP	31
Soda Yonaki	DWP	29

## Retirements

NAME	Title	DEPT.	#Years
Peter Aguilar	Traffic Officer	Transportation	40
Robert Blackmer	Signal Systems Supv.	Transportation	39
Robert Boyd	Custodial Serv. Attn.	Gen. Services	25
Ronald Buffaloe	Security Officer	LAPD	11
Joel Burens	Sr. Electrical Inspector	Bldg. and Safety	17
John Burgener	Wastewater Trmt. Oper.	Public Works	30
Nelson Cabello	Mgmt. Analyst	Airports	30
Clara Calloway	Custodial Serv. Attn.	Airports	25
Rodolfo Calumpang	Sr. Auditor	Convention Ctr.	10
Robert Candelaria	Equip. Operator	Public Works	43
Wing Chan	Detention Officer	LAPD	14
Marjorie Clifton	Librarian	Library	31
Magdalena Contreras	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	31
Edward Dabbs	Sr. Rec. Director	Rec and Parks	32
Charlene Dahlen	Sr. Systems Analyst	LAPD	33
Nellie Deom	Mayoral Aide	Mayor's Office	30
Margaret Donohue	Sr. Clerk Typist	Finance	10
Richard Ellis	Pr. Spc. Ofcr.	Airports	34
Erlinda Fernandez	Clerk Typist	Library	16
Manuel Gabaldon	Property Officer	LAPD	34
Corazon Gacad	Architectural Assoc.	Public Works	32
Abigail Garcia Hidalgo	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	27
Dianna Gonzalez	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	30
James Hahn	Mayor	Mayor's Office	28
Janet Hall	Secretary	Airports	38
Robert Hall	Ref. Coll. Truck Operator	Public Works	17
Michael Hauss	Lot Cleaning Supvr.	Public Works	37
James Heflin	Sr. Systems Analyst	LAPD	31
Steven Horne	Pr. Property Officer	LAPD	33
Rudy Krantz	Asst. St. Lighting Elect.	Public Works	32
Steven Kreynes	Sr. Systems Analyst	LAPD	30
June La Bram	Management Analyst	CDD	13
Edna Lang	Occup. Health Nurse	Personnel	10
Barbara Lee	Exec. Secretary	Harbor	35
Dana Martinelli	Equip. Operator	Rec and Parks	35
Socorro Meza	Crossing Guard	Transportation	14
Luthereen Moore	Police Service Rep.	LAPD	24
Ray Nobuhiro	Improv. Assessor Supv.	Public Works	30
Juarez Orman	Equip. Operator	Public Works	33
Mary Pool	Sr. Data Process Tech.	ITA	19
Joe Reynolds	Animal Care Tech.	Animal Services	24
Franklin Sandoval	Street Lighting Elec. Sup.	Public Works	39
William Schmitt	Automotive Supv.	Gen. Services	31
Robert Sexton	Sr. Forensic Print Spec.	LAPD	30
Sandra Smith	Physician	Personnel	3
Carlos Soto	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	21
Terry Speth	City Planner	Planning	29
Eleanor Stewart	Management Analyst	CDD	31
Gloria Tagle	Sr. Systems Analyst	Harbor	32
Thomas Thomas	Asst. Director	Public Works	45
Ronald Thompson	Air Cond. Mech.	Rec and Parks	25
Teresita Timm	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	LAPD	30
Rochelle Ventura	Council Aide	City Council	6
Edward Verdugo	Sr. Electrician	Convention Ctr.	37
Ernestina Vila	Management Analyst	CDD	28
Michael Woodward	Deputy City Attorney	City Attorney	9
Meiying Yee	Fiscal Systems Specialist	Controller	25
Beatriz Zari	Accountant	Transportation	25

**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!**



## Promotions



**James Ochoa**, promoted to DWP Tree Surgeon Assistant, DWP, from Heavy Truck Operator, Street Services. He has worked for the City for six years.



**Paul Langbehn**, promoted to Underground Distribution Mechanic, DWP, from Truck Operator, Street Services. He has worked for the City for six years.



**Robert D. Reyes**, promoted to Systems Analyst, Information Technology Group, LAX, from Systems Aide, Information Technology Operations, Ontario. He has worked for the City for nine years.



**Erika Fields** has just passed her Clerk Typist exam! She works in the Wharfinger's Office, Harbor. Good going, Erika!



## Club Graduations

*Alive!* is delighted to continue publishing graduation photos of Club members and their children. Have a photo of a recent graduation? Send it in to *Alive!* Graduations, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.



**James Michael Baca** graduated June 10 from Highland Academy, Riverside. He is pursuing certification in Cisco networking and an Associate's degree in computer programming at Riverside Community College. He then plans to transfer to the University of Michigan. He is the son of Sandra and James Baca, Harbor Department, Crane Maintenance.



**Shedonna N. Burleson** graduated in June from Alexander Hamilton High School, Los Angeles. Her studies there will contribute to a future career in Health and Human Services. Shedonna's extracurricular activities included Senior Class Secretary, school service and cheerleading. "In the fall I leave home for the campus of Cal State University, Northridge. My love for children has inspired me to join the field of pediatric nursing," she tells *Alive!* Shedonna is the daughter of Sherry Cox, Senior Clerk Typist, and Lewis Cox, RCTO, both of Sanitation, Western District.



**Michelle C. Leites** graduated June 16 from Culver City High School. Michelle is planning to attend Bryman College to become a dental hygienist. She's the daughter of Hugo Leites, Carpenter, Housing, and the step-daughter of Sonia Lajas Leites, Clerk Typist, DWP



## Weddings

**Weddings:** Recently married? Congratulations! Share the news with your City employee family. Tell us the names of the bride and groom, the date and place of the wedding, and the City or DWP job title of the bride and/or groom. (Include a photo, too, and we'll try to print it.) Send it in! Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com).



**Kelli Johnson and Jim Agnor**, March 26 at Torrance Kings Harbor Church, with a reception at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center. The couple honeymooned both in Washington, D.C. (visiting the Smithsonian Institution and the Arlington Monument) and Bora Bora (what a honeymoon!). Kelli is a Senior Clerk Typist, Airports.



**Malena Tharachai and Michael Concepcion** May 7 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Downtown Los Angeles, with a reception at Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park. Malena is an occasional consultant to the Club and Events Guru Michelle Moreno.



## Births



**Joseph Alexander Silva**, born July 29 to **George and Maritza Silva**. George works for Public Works.

**Faith and Ashton Moore**, born July 19 to **Ron and Yolie Moore** July 19. They are the 17th and 18th grandchildren of Irma Muñoz, DWP. There are eight Muñoz family members working for the City: seven for DWP and one for Sanitation.



**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](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com)



## New Members

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

## Welcome New Members!

Rizza Abuan	Kevin Garrity	Wendell Morales
Gladis Aguirre	Lyndon Garvida	Juan Moreno
Cylos Aldana	Nora Gibs	Roderick Motley
Edwin Alvarez	Davore Gilford	Alfred Munguia
James Anderson	Jesus Gonzalez	Azar Nejad
Candice Arnold	Evelyn Gross	Violeta Ocitoa
Gary Arso	Lizette Guerrero	Robert Okuda
Peter Arutunian	Victor Gurguis	Vienna Oliphant
Bruce Autry	Reynaldo Guzman	Maria Orantes
Chris Azevedo	Jacob Haik	Jose Ortiz-Silva
Kimberly Azmi	James Hamilton	M. Parvenu
Samuel Bacon	Timothy Hargrave	Angela Peavy
Arlene Bell	Mary Harrington	Olivia Perales
Frank Borden	Eddie Harris Jr.	Albert Perez
Cheri Brown	Richard Harwood	Isidro Pineda
Gary Buchanan	Larry Henderson	Lynn Qubain
Manicola Calderon	Deby Herdrich	Thomas Reichmann
Daniel Campbell	Theodore Higginson	John Rider
Martha Campos	Rickey Hill	Michael Rios
Ricardo Candiotti	Louis Hoffman	Elsa Rivas
Myrna Carbajo	Richard Hovious	Guadalupe Rivera
James Carlin	Scott Hrebek	Miguel Rivera
Leonard Carter	Franny Huang	Joyce Robinson
Maria Castaneda	Victor Huerta	Henry Robles
Saul Castanon	Luciralia Ibarra	Jesus Rodriguez
Robert Caudillo	Sung Jin	John Roman
Richard Chow	Anthony Johnson	Daniel Romo
Betty Collins	Tracy Johnson	Dora Sanchez
Portia Collins	Charlene Johnson	Veronica Sanchez
Mary Conner	Arthur Juliano Jr.	Jesus Sanchez
Maria Contreras	Sherry Kemp	Brad Sapolsky
Charles Cook	Brad Kirkland	Robert Schmidt
Mark Corral	Charles Kitchens	Caj Scott
Michael Correa	Victor Landers	Jeffrey Sgambellone
Arnold Cruz	Lisa Lane	Derrick Shannon
Oliver Cunningham	Jacob Lara	Angelo Shannon
Justin Dabney	James Lenoue	Patrice Shirley
Kathy Dade	Arturo Loera	Jonathan Silsby
John Dallas Sr.	Clifford Longmore	Mary St Clair
James Daniels	Joe Lopez	Henry Stemmann Jr.
Bobby Darnell	Patrick Lopez	Anthony Stillwell
Tony Davis	Eduardo Lopez	Stuart Susswain
Dawn Davis	Lorena Lopez	Marc Swagler
Brian Davis	Arvin Lopez	Asseged Teshome
Helen Davis	Jorge Luis	Dennis Trent
Titus DeCoursey	Noe Maldonado	Aleksey Tsalolikhin
Verita Dehesa	Christian Malpica-	Peter Van Every
Scott DeLuca	Perez	Miguel Vasquez
Ahmed Dmini	Richard Mares	Erika Velazquez
Richard Ellis	Nicky Martin	Hydee Villarreal
Sam Escoto	Miguel Martinez	George Walker
Maria Esparza	Daniel Matsumura	Alban Waters
Tony Fajardo	William McCaslin Jr.	Leonard Watts
Larry Farris	Tyrone McCoy	Gerald Weitzman
Tim Fehrenbacher	Akiva McGee	Lawrence West
Loren Fletcher	Monika McKnight	Lawrence Williams
Margarita Flores	June Meyer	Belinda Woodruff
Beatrice Fuentes	Gregory Miller	Janet Yamamoto
Eva Galvan	Raul Montenegro	Seung Yi
Jose Garcia	Aristeo Morales	

# History Comes Alive!

Tales From the City Archives



by Hynda Rudd,  
City Archivist (Retired),  
and Club Member

## First CAO Sam Leask Sought 'More Service for Less Money'

From 1951 to 1961, Samuel J. Leask Jr. became the first City Administrative Officer for Los Angeles. But the institution of administrative management for the City began back in September 1916, by ordinance as the Efficiency Commission. With the 1925 Charter, the office became known as the Bureau of Budget and Efficiency. The Bureau was under the direction of a director appointed by the Mayor under the civil service provisions of the Charter.

Formal City management of administrative affairs

dates back to the City's first Charter, mandated by the State in 1878. Two important changes occurred. The first was when the City Auditor became an individual office. Prior to that, the president of the Common Council held those duties. This accounting official, elected by the Council, was in charge of the City fiscal books, countersigned warrants, issued licenses and prepared fiscal estimates for the following year. The second became a reality when department heads were mandated to turn in an annual report of actions occurring within in their domain for the prior year.

Another major step in the management of administration came in the City's first home-rule Charter of 1889. For the first time, department heads were mandated to account for all purchases and expenditures within their offices. Budgeting as a citywide procedure was in its infancy.

In the new Charter of 1925, the term Auditor changed to Controller. Also, the above mentioned Efficiency Commission became The Bureau of Budget and Efficiency. The 1955 Master's Thesis of the future Los Angeles Harbor General Manager, Fred G. Crawford, noted the duties of the Director of this Bureau were "[to] investigate the administration, methods, standards of efficiency, and duties of positions in various departments of the City, and ...to make recommendations to the Mayor and the Council that would result in improved economy and efficiency in the conduct of City government."

In 1928, a Charter amendment added a Special Salary Committee, of which the Director was to become a member. New duties were added to the Salary Standardization Ordinance in 1945, where the Director was to receive copies or recommendations from the Civil Service Commissioners to the City Council. The Director's staff researched the recommendations and reported to Council, as well as any other assignments given by the legislative body.

During that decade other additional duties for the Director included making "an annual survey of salaries and wages paid in a representative sample of business establishments and governmental agencies in the Los Angeles...area" that had comparable positions. Also, an "amendment required requests for new or additional positions to be referred to the Director for report[s] and recommendation[s] to the Personnel Committee of the Council." Other amendments to fine-tune

the Director's involvement with the Salary Standardization Ordinance and the needs of the City Council continued.



Samuel Leask Jr., the City's first Chief Accounting Officer.

But the new decade, the 1950s, abolished the Director position. May 29, 1951, a Charter amendment created the position of the City Administrative Officer. The position duties were elevated to having "administrative and executive ability demonstrated by five years of experience at that level of employment within ten years immediately preceding his appointment." The City Administrative

Officer was appointed by the Mayor subject to the approval of the Council. The duties of the new position were monumental and ever changing. Samuel J. Leask Jr. became the first City Administrative Officer.

When appointed to the new post of City Administrative Officer (CAO) March 14, 1951, by Mayor Fletcher Bowron, Samuel Leask Jr. had accrued a formidable background as a government administrator and business executive prior to his new position. He officially became CAO June 15, 1951, and served in that position until June 30, 1961. His past responsibilities included being Vice President of the May Department Stores from 1938-42; he held the same position for the J.W. Robinson Stores from 1942-51. During that time he was also President of the California Retailers Association. His government involvement included a state appointment to the new Unemployment Insurance Program and a federal position in the Advisory Council of the U.S. Employment Service in the 1930s, and during World War II he was the Southern California Director of Price Administration.

Sam Leask Jr. was born March 5, 1894, in Santa Cruz, Calif. He grew up in a family of retail merchants. His father, Samuel Leask Sr., born in Scotland, was a tradesman in the wool and garment business. Sam Jr. worked for his father from the time he left grammar school in 1908. Leask Sr., who owned a Santa Cruz department store, the Seaside Store, gave Sam Jr. the impetus for his understanding of sustained, proper management skills. The store was so viable it remained in business for 81 years.

Young Sam, under the tutelage of his father and other staff members, was trained to learn the trade of merchandising. From Sam Jr.'s book, *The Work of a Lifetime*, he notes, "In line with his viewpoint on career development, my father decided that it would be good for me to pursue my store training for two or three years before going to high school...he [then] installed me as a Buyer for Linens and White Goods at age fourteen." In 1911, his formal high school education continued at the famed Harvard Prep School in Los Angeles.

After graduation from Harvard School, he attended school in Brussels, Belgium. Then with his dad and brother, Haswell, he toured Europe. The trip was cut short because of the onset of World War I. Upon returning home, Sam Jr. went to San Francisco to train at an upscale store for women. Once again, his mentors provided him with excellent practical knowledge of the trade and management skills. Sam remained at the quality store until his father called him home to solve executive staff issues that were causing major problems in the Santa Cruz operation. Sam Jr., much younger than the staff, was able to ameliorate the problems. Samuel J. Leask Jr. was on his management way. He then entered World War I where he served as a lieutenant in the United States Cavalry.

When Samuel J. Leask Jr. entered the world of Los Angeles city government as the first CAO, he brought varied and extensive management skills that offered the municipal organization new and profound skills to this monumental position.

centralized direction and coordination...necessary to secure upper limit of efficiency and economy of operation." He continued, "Some mechanism had to be devised which would bring the operating departments more fully under central control."

Sam Leask Jr. maintained he was no politician. His primary concern was devoted to providing more efficiency as to more service for less money for the City of Los Angeles and its citizens. With all this in mind, he also claimed that it was imperative "that one cannot ignore the individuals in an organization in an all-out drive for efficiency." He continued that it was necessary for employees to participate in the new provisions. One of his first recommendations was to increase the salaries of policemen and firemen to that of other employee groups within City government.

He also believed in realigning the City's budget system from a "line budget" to that of a "functional budget." The functional budget was broad-based. It would look at similar functions found throughout the City.

For example, swimming pools, where better budget control and planning would become more efficient.

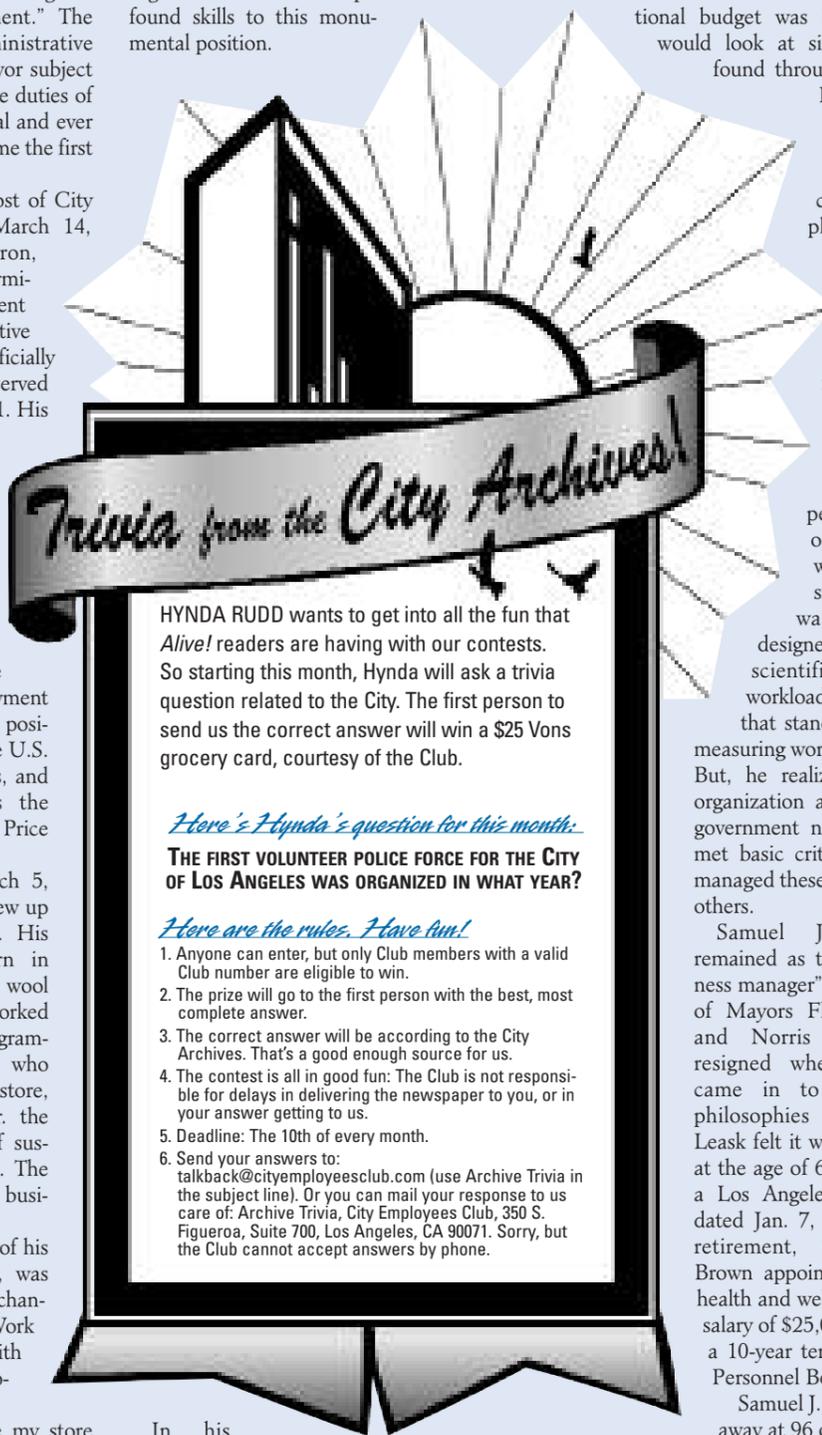
One of the most important issues he dealt with was employee salaries. At that time, 85 percent of the operating budget was dedicated to salaries and wages.

He designed a program of scientific appraisal of workloads. He claimed that standards be set for measuring work accomplished. But, he realized that in an organization as large as City government not all functions met basic criterion. He, too, managed these issues as he did others.

Samuel J. Leask Jr. remained as the City's "business manager" under the aegis of Mayors Fletcher Bowron and Norris Poulson. He resigned when Sam Yorty came in to office. Their philosophies differed, and Leask felt it was time to leave at the age of 67. According to a Los Angeles Times article dated Jan. 7, 1963, upon his retirement, Governor Pat Brown appointed Leask to a health and welfare post with a salary of \$25,000, and then to a 10-year term on the State Personnel Board.

Samuel J. Leask Jr. passed away at 96 on May 8, 1990.

He had hoped he would live as long as his father, who passed away at 102. In his obituary it was noted that his proudest accomplishment was helping to bring the Brooklyn Dodgers to the City of Los Angeles.



HYNDA RUDD wants to get into all the fun that *Alive!* readers are having with our contests. So starting this month, Hynda will ask a trivia question related to the City. The first person to send us the correct answer will win a \$25 Vons grocery card, courtesy of the Club.

*Here's Hynda's question for this month:*

**THE FIRST VOLUNTEER POLICE FORCE FOR THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES WAS ORGANIZED IN WHAT YEAR?**

*Here are the rules. Have fun!*

1. Anyone can enter, but only Club members with a valid Club number are eligible to win.
2. The prize will go to the first person with the best, most complete answer.
3. The correct answer will be according to the City Archives. That's a good enough source for us.
4. The contest is all in good fun: The Club is not responsible for delays in delivering the newspaper to you, or in your answer getting to us.
5. Deadline: The 10th of every month.
6. Send your answers to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com (use Archive Trivia in the subject line). Or you can mail your response to us care of: Archive Trivia, City Employees Club, 350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071. Sorry, but the Club cannot accept answers by phone.

In his book, *Leask Jr.* made the observation about his impending responsibilities as CAO. He concluded that City administration had the same problems he witnessed when he joined the J.W. Robinson Company. Both suffered from "less



# Pet Project

## ■ Rec. and Parks holds Pet Fair in Venice.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor,  
Photos by Daniel Wang, Club Intern

**REC AND PARKS** — Connecting pet owners with lots of information that can help make them better caretakers was the reason for Rec and Parks' first Pet Fair, held Aug. 6 in Penmar Park in Venice.

The event, which the organizers hope will be the first of many, was sponsored by Centinela Feed and Pet Supplies. Animal adoption groups were on hand to showcase some of the pets who needed to find their "forever home." Admission was free, and there were plenty of free samples. Prizes were given away, and food and drinks were supplied for both two- and four-legged attendees. There were approximately 15 booths offering anything from holistic/natural pet foods to pet products. Many adoption booths were also on hand.

Representatives from Sanitation's Storm Water program was on hand, providing information on curbing pollution by picking up after pets. Sanitation even provided handy dispensers that can be attached to the dog's leash. This container, filled with disposable bags to be used to pick up after dogs, was a hit.

It was a fun filled and exciting day for all.



Exhausted from all the excitement!



Fina sitting next to the sign informing everyone that dogs and cats could be adopted at the Pet Fair through Pet Orphans of Southern California. Fina is the pet of Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor.



Representatives of Centinela Feed and Pet Supplies, which sponsored the event, from left: Greg Lewis, Manager; Chris Nakagawa, General Manager; Centinela Dog; and Christina Kulkowsky, General Manager of Redondo Beach Store.



Some of the many booths on hand.



From left: Mo English, Management Analyst, Sanitation's Stormwater Program, 14.5 years, Club Member, supplies a container to Gene and Tina, with their three-year-old pug, Max.



Doreen Mallyon, Sr. Clerk Typist, 5 years, Watershed Protection, Sanitation, staffed a very popular booth.

## ¡Zoo Olé!

### ■ Zoo celebrates Latino Heritage Month.

**ZOO** — The L.A. Zoo will be celebrating Latino Heritage Month with various festivities including traditional Latin music and dances, fun crafts for kids, delicious food, handcrafted artwork, keeper talks and a self-guided tour of the animals and plants native to Latin America.

The special events for Latino Heritage Month will take place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 17 and 18.

The Zoo is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 2 to 12. Latino Heritage activities are free with paid admission to the Zoo.

For more information, visit the Zoo Website at [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org), or call (323) 644-4200.



A ballet folklorico group celebrates Latino Heritage Month at the Los Angeles Zoo. Traditional Latino entertainment and animals native to Latin America will be highlighted Sept. 17 and 18.

# The Pet Club



## LA Bans Dog Tethering



The City Council passed a vote that bans tethering in the City of Los Angeles. LA Animal Services has made this a top priority and worked on presenting this to Council for more than two years. Animal Services has seen an accumulation of complaints on dogs that have been tethered inhumanely, and a dog that is tethered is three times more likely to bite than a dog that is not.

"These were unacceptable conditions and bad odds," states General Manager Guerdon Stuckey. "So LA Animal Services set out to pass an ordinance that would ban tethering, and we did."

Such complaints that the Department received for tethering were entanglement; dogs hanging themselves; no access to food, water or shelter; and dogs that had the collars imbedded in their necks that were in need of medical treatment. That's why the Department sought the ban.

The municipal code that was passed clearly defines that a dog must not be tethered. It does have caging requirements if needed. The law also has a provision that you can tether your dog if you are completing a temporary task, like repairing your fence, having a party, giving security for the gardener, etc.

But also is very clear on how to tether your dog. For example, the length of the tether

must be three times the length of the dog and it must be with a body harness, free from entanglement with access to food, water and shelter at all times.

"This is a great accomplishment for LA Animal Services," said Commander David Diliberto.

### Penalties for noncompliance:

A violation of this law may be punishable as either an infraction or a misdemeanor at the sole discretion of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. The maximum penalty for a conviction of this tethering law as an infraction is a fine of \$250. The maximum penalty for a conviction of this law as a misdemeanor is a fine of \$1,000, imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not more than six months, or by both a fine and imprisonment.

## Send Questions

Karen Knipscheer,  
Public Information Officer,  
Animal Services



Karen Knipscheer has worked for Animal Services for 16 years; she worked in the field as an officer, then lieutenant, then captain. She was a district manager and a hearing examiner before recently becoming the public information officer. Feel free to welcome her; write to her at: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Call It Okapi

### ■ The zoo hosts the okapi, the only existing relative of the giraffe, for the first time in the zoo's history.

**ZOO** — A 10-year-old male okapi is the newest inhabitant of the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens. An elusive and solitary animal, the okapi was one of the last of the large mammals to be discovered. Native exclusively to the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa where it was discovered in 1901, the okapi is the only living relative of the giraffe.

With legs striped like a zebra, horns and hooves of a giraffe, a unique velvety reddish-brown coat, big ears, and a prehensile tongue long enough to lick its own eyes, the L.A. Zoo's okapi is a treasured acquisition that took decades. "We've been trying to get an okapi for over 20 years," said Robin Noll, Senior Animal Keeper. "It's very exciting to finally have one in our collection."

The okapi was transferred from Disney's Animal Kingdom in Orlando, Fla., to the L.A. Zoo June 3, and underwent a 30-day quarantine. During that time, renovations to the new okapi habitat were made to facilitate management and husbandry. The Los Angeles Zoo's new okapi made his public debut July 25.

Hidden throughout the deepest forests of the Congo, okapi are respected as a symbol of conservation for the country and are legally protected. Although they are not endangered, they are vulnerable to deforestation of their habitat and poachers who hunt them illegally for their valuable skins. In 1992, the Okapi Wildlife Reserve in the Ituri Forest was created to protect the okapi and its natural habitat.



A 10-year-old okapi, the only living relative of the giraffe, is the newest inhabitant of the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens. Photo by Tad Motoyama/LA Zoo.

# New Board Members

■ Harbor Employees Club has luncheon for incoming and outgoing board members.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

HARBOR — On July 13 at the Macaroni Grill in Torrance, the Harbor Dept. Employees Club (HDEC) had its annual luncheon to thank outgoing Board members and welcome those just joining the Board.

During the luncheon, plaques were awarded to the outgoing HDEC Board and additional certificates of appreciation we also handed out to HDEC members. At the event, 2005-06 HDEC Board members were nominated.

Special guest was Rocki Walker, the founding member of the Harbor Department Employee Club in 1981. Rocki was very instrumental on preparation of HDEC's operating budget presentation to Interim Executive Director Bruce Seaton, according to HDEC President Rene Rodriguez. The generous increase in the HDEC Operating budget was made possible by Bruce Seaton. He is a big advocate of the HDEC.

The Club's Arlene Herrero and Michelle Moreno also received a Certificate of Appreciation from the outgoing HDEC 2004-05 Board.

The Club thanks Rene Rodriguez, HDEC President and Holly Carlson, HDEC Secretary, (both are Club Members) for assisting us with this story — and for the nice certificate!



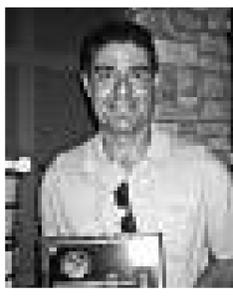
The 2005-06 HDEC incoming Board, from left: Adrienne Fedrick, Vice President (Civil Engineer); Tracey Zuliani, Secretary (Clerk Typist); Kyle Susswain, Treasurer (Management Analyst II); and Mimi Gutierrez, President (CEII), Club Member.



From left, as they proudly hold their Certificates of Appreciation, are Emma Gonzalez; Dave Crisman, Club Member; and Martin Lovato, Club Member.



Rene Rodriguez, HDEC President, and Holly Carlson, HDEC Secretary, call out the names of certificate recipients.



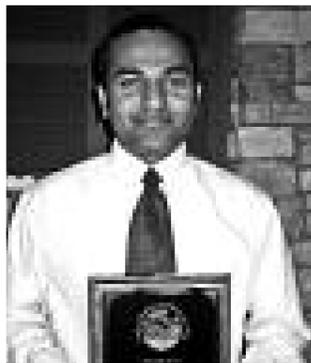
Rene Rodriguez, HDEC President, proudly holds his plaque, awarded in appreciation for his 2004-05 service.



The 2004-05 HDEC outgoing Board, from left: Prashant Konareddy, Vice President, Club Member; Mimi Gutierrez, Treasurer, Club Member; Holly Carlson, Secretary, Club Member; and Rene Rodriguez, President, Club Member.



Standing: Rene Rodriguez, HDEC President, holding his appreciation plaque. Seated, from left: Carlos Baldenegro, Civil Engineer Associate II; and Gabe Silva, Environmental Specialist, with their Certificates of Appreciation.



Prashant Konareddy, HDEC Vice President, proudly holds his plaque, awarded in appreciation for his 2004-05 service.



Pictured with their Certificates of Appreciation are, from left: Earl Moosbrugge and Scott Wilson.



Holly Carlson, HDEC Secretary, proudly holds her plaque, awarded in appreciation for her 2004-05 service.



From left: Rene Rodriguez, HDEC President, Club Member; and Rocki Walker, 1981 Founding HDEC Member.



From left: David Cartwright, Club Member, and Steve Karsten.



Mimi Gutierrez, HDEC Treasurer, proudly holds her plaque, awarded in appreciation for her 2004-05 service.



Rene Rodriguez, HDEC 2004-05 President, offers his thanks to everyone who helped organized the events that took place while he was in office. He also thanked everyone for supporting him.



From left: Prashant Konareddy, Club Member; Lori Gatelum, Club Member; and Adrienne Fedrick.

### THE OUTGOING 2004-05 BOARD OFFICERS:

Rene Rodriguez (President)  
Prashant Konareddy (Vice President)  
Mimi Gutierrez (Treasurer)  
Holly Carlson (Secretary)  
Lori Gastelum (Gift & Flower)

### THE OUTGOING 2004-05 BOARD MEMBERS:

Carlos Baldenegro  
Holly Carlson  
Tom Estrada  
Lori Gastelum  
Steve Karsten

### INCOMING 2005-06 BOARD OFFICERS:

Mimi Gutierrez (President)  
Adrienne Fedrick (Vice President)  
Kyle Susswain (Treasurer)  
Tracey Zuliani (Secretary)  
Emma Gonzalez (Gift & Flower)

### INCOMING 2005-06 BOARD MEMBERS:

Adrienne Fedrick  
Kyle Susswain (HAB)  
Julio Hernandez (C & M)  
David Cartwright (C & M)  
Emma Gonzalez (C & M)



Pictured with their Certificates of Appreciation are, from left: Jessica Bautista, Club Member; Enoch Samuel, Club Member.



From left: Julio Hernandez, Charles Miller and Tom, Club Member.



With his hand raised, Club Member Al Baca requests a nomination onto the HDEC Board.



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Gloria Tagle with granddaughter, Sydney.

# Gloria Sails Away

■ Club Member Gloria Tagle retires after 32 years with City.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, Photos by Kei Wah Chan, Harbor Dept.

HARBOR — Family, co-workers, friends and fellow retirees helped Gloria Tagle celebrate with a luncheon as she “sails” to retirement after 32 years of service. Gloria retired as Senior Systems Analyst I.

The luncheon was held June 30 at Neil’s Restaurant in San Pedro.

Gloria has also been a Club Member since 1985.

For lunch, guest dined on choice of chicken with mushrooms or beef rib-eye steaks. Club Members Erna Madamba and Dora McClendon helped organized the event.

Congratulations, Gloria, and enjoy your retirement! And thanks to Kei Wah Chan, Systems Programmer, Harbor, for contacting the Club and providing the pictures of the luncheon and background information.



Gloria Tagle’s family, back, from left: Aris, Cheyanne, Fred, Francine, Jordyn and Kit. Seated: Sydney and Gloria Tagle, Retiree, Club Member.



From left: Timothy Lee, Systems Programmer III; Rhonda Uyemura, Payroll Supervisor, Club Member; Gloria Tagle, Retiree, Club Member; David Robles, Systems Analyst II; Jan Schiring, Retired; Darleen Davis, Systems Analyst II; Tracy Feria, Accounting Clerk II; Rica Viola, Sr. Management Analyst I, Club Member; and Cheyanne Tagle, granddaughter.



From left: Michael Durk, Consultant; John Burkett, Consultant; Gloria Tagle, Retiree, Club Member; Tracienne Allmon, Wharfinger I; Becky Andrade, Wharfinger I; and Libby Revell, Wharfinger I.



From left: Teddy Fernandez, Management Analyst II, Club Member; and Helen Crist, Sr. Management Analyst I.



From left: Linda Haynes, Accounting Clerk II; Ingrid Kremasky, Computer Operator II, Club Member; Ikeba McDaniel, Systems Analyst II; Kei Chan, Systems Programmer III; Gloria Tagle, Retiree, Club Member; Ivonne Savone, Information Systems Operations Manager II, Club Member; Robert Medina, Systems Analyst II; Cheryl Louis, Sr. Systems Analyst, Club Member; and Dora McClendon, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member.



Standing, from left: David Lo, Programmer Analyst IV; Kelvin Wei, Programmer Analyst V; Gloria Tagle, Retiree, Club Member; Derek Wu, Systems Programmer III; and Jill Jeffries, Programmer V. Seated: Desmond Huang, Systems Programmer III; Grace Su, Database Architect; and Don Ikeda, Programmer Analyst IV.



Back, from left: Gloria Tagle, Retiree, Club Member, and Danny Caballero, Retired. Front: Win Tyler, Retired; Margaret Tyler, Retired; Lonnie Tang, Traffic Manager; Queta Caballero, Retired; and Shirley Robinson, Retired, Club Member.

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# Picnic for 911 Crew



Children line up for their turns on Cameron the Caterpillar.

## ■ LAPD Communications hosts family picnic.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor  
Photos by Daniel Wang, Club Intern

**POLICE DEPT.** — The LAPD Communications Division held a family picnic Aug. 14 at Calamigos Ranch.

Guests enjoyed the following menu: barbecue chicken and beef ribs, seasonal fruit salad, vegetarian chili, potato salad, garden salad, rolls and butter.

Some of the activities included air pillow, pic-

nic games, bingo and prizes, hayride, Cameron the Caterpillar, human spheres, swimming, sand volleyball, basketball, tetherball, ping-pong, miniature golf, merry-go-round, and a children's canoe ride.

And if you think that was fun, make sure you come back Oct. 2, for the Club's ClubFest, which promises to be even more fun! (A registration form is in this issue.)

The Club donated prizes for the Boot Camp Challenge, a weight-loss contest for LAPD Communications employees.

The Club thanks Holly Tufts, Yvonne Thompson, Yolanda Bunn and Capt. Sharyn Buck for their assistance.



From left: Diana, sister-in-law; Marlo Jones, PSR, 11 years; Gerald, son, 2; Lee, husband; and Devon, son, 5.



From left: Chris, spouse; Gwen, daughter, 2; and Desiree Tobin, PSR, 7 years, Club Member.



Back, from left: Juan and Penny Suvia, PSR, 2 years. Front: Children Gabriel, 10; Marinna, 9; and Gino 2.5 years old.



From left: Jim Buck, spouse, Retired LAPD; and Captain Sharyn Buck, Commanding Officer, Communications Division.



Back: Jeff Ramsey, Sanitation, 18 years. Front: Ana Assaf, guest; Marisa Assaf, PSR, 15 years; Carlos Assaf, guest; Anthony Moreno, PSR III, 20 years; and Victor Moreno-Robles, son, 10.



Club Member Sgt. Doyle's children enjoy their turns in the human sphere.



From left: Officer Jennifer Grasso, LAPD Newton Station, 10 years; Officer David Dilkes, spouse, 5.5 years, South West Station; and Margie Dilkes, PSR, 8 years, Club Member.



Back: Kelli Whitaker, PSR, 1.5 years. Seated, from left: Ara, guest; and David Nunez, husband of Kelli Whitaker.



From left: Naj Baker, PSR 2 years, Club Member; Orahrian, 5 months old; Teresa Jones, PSR, 4 years; Jonnell, son, 5, covers his eyes for the picture; and Cheymyla Hardy, PSR, 4 years.



From left: Holly Tufts, PSR, 31 years, Club Member; Norma Nichols, PSR, 8 years, Club Member; Jazmin, daughter; and Phil, spouse.



Back, from left: Jordan Price, Sanitation, 12 years; and Mari Price, PSR, 9 years. Front: Children Jacob, 6; Jordie, 7; and Kennedy.



From left: Beverly Calhoun and Leatha McCoy enjoy the tasty ribs. Beverly and Leatha were guests of PSR Marlo Jones.



From left: Carlo, son, 13; Lourdes Varas, PSR, 16 years, Club Member; and Xenia, daughter, 9.



From left: Captain Sharyn Buck, Commanding Officer, Communications Division; Jim Buck, spouse, Retired LAPD; Marilyn Ludwig, spouse; and Lt. Stan Ludwig, Club Member.



Standing, from left: Marissa, daughter, 4; and Julie Warren, PSR, 12 years, Club Member. Seated: Jessica, daughter, 6; and Daryl, spouse.



From left: Emiliza, daughter; Evan, son, 3; and Emmy San Diego, PSR, 10 years.



Don't be afraid to catch the water balloon!



From left: Giselly, guest; Lori Powell, PSR, 7 years; Alayna, daughter; and Gabby, guest.



The water balloon toss.



From left: Mariah, daughter, 12; Breanna, daughter, 10; Kim Gallardo, PSR, 5 years, Club Member; and Louis, spouse.



Back, from left: Arthur, son, 9; and Blair, family friend, 11. Seated: Charles Bunn, Retired Housing Authority Police; Austin, son, 2; and Yolanda Bunn, PSR, 11 years, Club Member.



From left: Carol Schott, Sr. PSR, 17 years, Club Member; Deputy Chief and former Communications Captain Keith Bushy; and Cathy Bushy, Sr. PSR, 26.5 years, Club Member.



From left: Marcus, son, 11; Jeff, spouse; Ezett Smith, Sr. PSR, 16 years; and Malcolm, son, 8.



From left: Iver, husband; Jacqui Dreben, PSR, 4 years; and Ellen, cousin.



From left: Nina, daughter, 11; and Sgt. Greg Doyle, 14.5 years, Club Member.



From left: Chris Najjar, PSR, 5.5 years, Club Member; and John Craig, PSR, 3 years, Club Member.



Guests of PSR Marlo Jones: Anthony Calhoun (standing) and Bern Calhoun.



From left: Kathy Kravits, PSR, 4 years; Jeff, spouse; and Jonah, son.



James Sumbi, who lost 72 pounds, was the winner as Captain Buck hands him his prize.

### Boot Camp Challenge Winners

Here's a list of everyone who took part in the Boot Camp Challenge to lose weight. You're all winners!

- James Sumbi, 72 pounds lost
- Susana Robinson, 31 pounds lost
- Andres Mendoza, 31 pounds lost
- Yul Johnson, 25 pounds lost
- Kim Fairfax, 23 pounds lost
- Irene DiGiorgio, 21 pounds lost
- Lisa Hadsell, 21 pounds lost
- Sophia Thomas, 20 pounds lost
- Alisia Bealey, 19 pounds lost
- Krishanda Wallace, 19 pounds lost
- Verlene Triplett, 18 pounds lost
- Jean Sarfaty, 17 pounds lost
- Kim Gallardo, 16 pounds lost
- Shawnie Livera, 15 pounds lost
- Laura Cruz, 15 pounds lost
- Theresa Meadows



Participants in the Boot Camp Challenge were, from left: Andres Mendoza, PSR, 11 years; Susan Robinson, PSR, 7 years, proudly holding her IPOD donated by City Employees Club of Los Angeles; and James Sumbi, PSR, 2 years, who lost 72 pounds ... the most weight lost during the challenge.



Yvonne Thompson and Yolanda Bunn, who helped organize the Boot Camp Challenge, surprises 16 additional participants with prizes.



Andres Mendoza, who lost 31 pounds, receives his gift and congratulations from Captain Buck.



Captain Sharyn Buck announces the winners of the Boot Camp Challenge.



From left: Cynthia, guest of PSR and Club Member Norma Nichols; Tasha, daughter of PSR & Club Member Norma Nichols; and Joe and Casey, both guest of PSR Norma Nichols.



From left: Garry, spouse; Leslie Allen, PSR III, 20.5 years, Club Member; Isaiah, family friend, 13; and Tyler, daughter, 13.



Back, from left: Teddy Grant, spouse; Teddy Grant Jr., son. Middle: Mary Derby-Grant, PSR, Club Member; Emma Mac, great-grandmother; Jamie Grant, daughter; and Belinda Grant, daughter. Front: Tennyson, grandson; Annakah, granddaughter, 4; Aurora, granddaughter, 4; and Ashlee, granddaughter, 11.



Back: Carlos Mejia, PSR, 4 years, Club Member. Middle: Bianca, daughter, 10; Norma Chacon, friend; and Carlos Mejia, son, 14. Front: Emily, 7, and Bryant, 12.



From left: Yvonne Thompson, PSR, 16 years; and Patrick Thompson, Sr. Detention Officer, LAPD 77th Jail, 8.5 years, Club Member.



From left: Rachel, niece, 8; Annie, sister; and Sue Le Pre, PSR, 20 years.



From left: Roni Lopez, guest, with Shawnie Livera, PSR III, 11 years, Club Member.





Hector Huezo, MA, 10 years

# Hector Hit The Bool

■ **Hector Huezo leaves Airports to pursue a career in law.**

*Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor*

**AIRPORTS** — Family, friends and co-workers threw a farewell party at the LAX Administrative Building Aug. 4 for Hector Huezo, who is leaving to pursue a career in law.

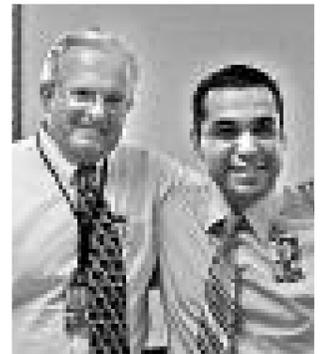
Hector started his career with the City as a professional student worker at the Van Nuys Airport in 1995 in the Noise Management Section. He was hired full time in 1997 as an Airport Operations Coordinator at the Ontario Airport. Hector transferred to LAX Airfield Operations in 1998, where he continued to work at the level of an Operations Coordinator. In 1998, Hector decided to change career paths and enter into the Management sector. He was promoted to Management Assistant with Long Range Planning in 2000. Hector was promoted to Management Analyst II with LAWA's Business Development Division in 2002; and transferred to LAWA's Rates and Charges Unit in 2004.

In 2000, Hector decided to pursue his Master's degree and earned it from the University of Southern California (USC) in Winter 2003. While pursuing his Master's, Hector decided that he wanted to continue his education and pursue a law degree. Hector began his preparation for law school immediately after earning his Master's degree. Hector applied to several top-ranking law schools in the nation including Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Los Angeles, Georgetown, and others. He was accepted at all. After much thought, Hector decided to attend Boalt Hall School of Law.

Hector has definitely been a significant asset to the department. He has always been a polished, diligent and conscientious employee and has truly been an inspiration to all in the department with his positive energy and wonderful personality. He has always carried out his tasks with great deal of confidence and integrity. He will be greatly missed as he embarks on his new venture. Hector has definitely made his LAWA family proud.



From left: Larry Low, Program Analyst, 20 years, Club Member; Minerva Gutierrez, MA, 17 years, Club Member; Sally Domingo, Secretary, 8 years; and Michael Kim, MA, 5 years.



From left: John Kantz, Financial Manager, 5 years; and Hector Huezo, MA, 10 years.



From left: Rita Palanco, Accounting Clerk II, 4.5 years; Angie Hu, MA, 6.5 years; Evelyn Quintanilla, Associate, 5 years, Club Member; and Herbert Glasgow, Sr. City Planner, 28 years.



From left: Linda Rufin, Sr. Accountant, 5 years; Silveria Silva, Principal Account, 2 years, Club Member; and Wayne Yokum, Specialist, 28 years.



Rufino, Principal Account, a Plata, Fiscal Systems Member, 16 years.



From left: Ramon Olivares, Sr. MA II, 15 years; Hector Huezo; Wayne Yokum, Specialist, 28 years; Ulises Aguirre, Sr. MA II, 16 years.



From left: Hector Huezo; and Gloria Plata, Fiscal Systems Specialist, Club Member, 16 years.



From left: Herschell Warlick, Financial Analyst, 2 years; Judie Worthen, Principal Clerk, 9 years, Club Member; and Esther Lee, Auditor, 8 years.



From left: Ray Jack, Chief of Operations, 12 years; Hector Huezo; and Reno Cervantes, Law Clerk, 2 years, Club Member.



From left: Mark Tullai, MA, 12 years; Gracela Bui, Sr. MA, 12 years; Hector Huezo; and John Kantz, Financial Manager, 5 years.



From left: Paula Mchargue, Supervisor Transportation, 22 years; Hector Huezo; and Kathy Van Ness, Financial Manager, 13 years.



From left: Herbert Glasgow, Sr. City Planner, 28 years; Evelyn Quintanilla, Associate, 5 years, Club Member; Hector Huezo; and Ross Vitale, MA II, 7 years.



From left: Valerie Hunter, Sr. MA, 13 years, Club Member; Cairo Hunter; and Hector Huezo.



From left: Rita Palanco, Accounting Clerk II, 4.5 years; Hector Huezo; Renee Little, Executive Administrative Assistant, 6 years; Bernadette Reyes, Secretary, 9 months, Club Member; Allison Kalenga, MA, 14 years, Club Member.



From left: Jamille Smith, MA, 7.5 years, Club Member; and Pam Cruz, MA II, 18 years, Club Member.

# Help a City Employee in Need



Esther Goree, Sr. Management Analyst I, Public Works, was catastrophically injured June 6 and has been hospitalized at Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena. At press time, she is on life support. **There is a great need for financial contributions for immediate and ongoing critical care. This very costly care is not covered by her insurance. Please give as much and as often as you can.** She can no longer receive flowers, as they interfere with her respirator, and inhibit breathing, but she truly enjoys all the cards and letters! Please keep sending them.

**Her family has set up an account for contributions:**

Marie Esther Goree Benefit Fund  
15445 Ventura Blvd, Box 180  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

Checks should be written to:  
"Marie E. Goree Benefit Fund"

**You can either mail your contributions, or give them to one of the following:**

- **Sanitation** – Lynette Howlett, Cris Villorante (WCSD), Tina Navarro (WESD), Noel Williams (Hyperion)
- **CDD** – Maureen Brown, Mimi Donlin
- **LAFD** – Kathy Dade
- **Convention Center** – Rachel Griffin
- **Personnel Department** – Patrick Delahanty
- **Office of Management/Employee Services** – Cynthia White, Debra Maldonado, Tonja Bellard

**Please direct all calls to Debra Maldonado, Public Works, at (213) 359-0359.**

Your ongoing help, generosity and prayers are truly appreciated by her family.

## Thank you.

# Hispanics in the Civil War



LACECA First Vice President Carlos Portillo holds a copy of *Vaqueros in Blue and Gray* by Jerry D. Thompson.

## ■ LACECA co-sponsors event honoring Hispanics in the Civil War.

LACECA — On Saturday, Sept. 17, in honor of September being Latino Heritage Month, the Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) will co-sponsor the dedication of an exhibit at the Drum Barracks Civil War Museum. The exhibit will illuminate the role that Hispanics played in the Civil War.

The event will include historical lectures, printed copies of Spanish-surnamed muster rolls from the National Archives, dedication of a photo exhibit, Mexican/Spanish folk dances, Civil War soldiers in bivouac and participation by local chapters of veterans groups. Guests will be taken by horse-drawn trolley from the nearby Banning Mansion to the Drum Barracks Civil War Museum.

The Drum Barracks Civil War Museum is at 1052 Banning Blvd. in Wilmington.

It is a little known fact that Hispanics played a significant role in the American Civil War. From the Mexican-Americans of the First Battalion of the Native California Cavalry who served the Union, to the Tejanos of Confederate Texas, to the Spanish-Americans who served in militias in New Mexico and Louisiana, it is estimated that as many as 9,500 men of Hispanic heritage served and fought in the American Civil War— in both blue and gray uniforms.

Guests are encouraged to arrive in Civil War-era attire—men in either Union or Confederate uniforms, or vaquero and frontiersman apparel. Women may wear any style dated from the 1860s.

LACECA is seeking co-sponsors to make this special event a success. For further information contact Carlos Portillo, LACECA First Vice President at (310) 547-4610 or email at portillo2339@sbcglobal.net

# PREPARE TODAY FOR YOUR NEXT JOB INTERVIEW

A practice interview will help you get the job you want. Your interview skills will improve and your confidence will increase. So will your score!

Contact: Retired Senior Personnel Analyst Bob Cutler, of the Department of Public Works, for cost and details at (310) 937-5678, or e-mail BC510@aol.com today.

# Haven House

Helping battered women and their children on their way towards a life free of violence.

We need your help to help save lives. You can help in so many ways – cash donations, clothing, food, volunteering. Every little bit helps more than you'll know. Every donation is greatly appreciated – no matter how much. Contact us today at 626.564.8880 to find out how you can help.

For more information on how to donate, please visit our website at [www.havenhousela.org](http://www.havenhousela.org) or call us at (626) 564-8880.

If you or someone you know needs help, call us now at our **24-Hour Hotline – 1-323-681-2626.**

Haven House is the oldest shelter of its kind in the United States, founded in 1964 to shelter families of violent alcoholics.

Our services include counseling services for women and children in residence and counseling for community clients who are not residents of the shelter.

- Emergency shelter, food and clothing
- Bilingual counseling services for both adults and children
- Assistance with finding permanent housing
- Assistance with finding employment
- Court and social services advocacy
- Assistance with getting welfare
- Legal assistance (TRO's etc.)
- Medical Services



**CLUB PHOTO FEATURE**



Eric Williams is a Class-4 Cook stationed in Iraq, out of Norfolk, Va. He's the son of Club Member Hubert Williams Sr., RCTO, Sanitation South L.A. District. Our hearts are with you, Eric.

# The Club in the Armed Forces

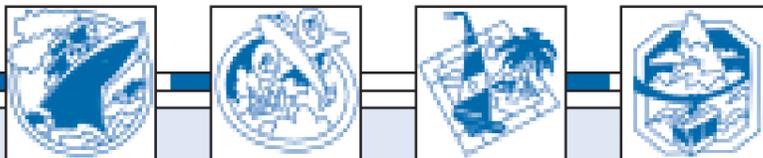
If you have a family member in the military and would like to honor them in **Alive!**, please send in a photo and include their name, their branch of military service, where they're stationed, your City department, and any other information about them that you would like to include, to:

**Alive! Military Service Recognition**  
**City Employees Club**  
 350 S. Figueroa St. Suite 700  
 Los Angeles, CA 90071

*Honor Those Who Serve*



**OFFICIAL CLUB PARTNER**



# Travel Talk

by Tony Adler, President,  
 Cruise and Resort, Inc.  
 Club Travel Partner

## The Pros and Cons Of Holiday Travel



Tony Adler

First there's Thanksgiving, then H a n u k k a h , Christmas and New Year's. To many people, these are the best times of the year for a resort or cruise vacation. To others, it is completely unthinkable to leave home over the holidays.

There is a certain comfort of being home with family on Thanksgiving, but we personally love to have traditional Thanksgiving dinners with our kids in non-traditional places. Over the years, we have had amazing turkey at various hotels in Hawaii, Orlando and San Diego, on cruises to the Caribbean and Mexico, and at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas. One of the advantages of this is no choosing between my in-laws and my own extended family. By leaving town, we upset both sides of the family equally! Another advantage is that it is really nice to have someone else do all the cooking. Finally, we have enjoyed establishing our own tradition for Thanksgiving, where we give thanks for all we have, but we try to do so in a different place each year. We also try to get an early start to our trips, departing on the Tuesday (or earlier) before Thanksgiving. The Wednesday traffic, even to the airport, can be just too aggravating!

Christmas, Hanukkah and New Year's frequently mean extra days off for employees. With the kids out of school, travel over this time period can be as easy for a family as traveling during the summer. We do a fair amount of big family-reunion trips over these holidays where people from various parts of the country get together at a single resort or on a ship. The downside to travel during the Christmas and New Year's periods is that it is often more expensive due to the increased demand. Of course, we try to find our clients the best deals possible.

The spirit of the holidays can make travel even better. Everywhere my family has traveled, people have been especially nice. Hotels have been extra accommodating. This sets the whole tone for the trip. When we went to Disney World during December a few years ago, we were welcomed by hotel clerks in holiday costumes. The decorations throughout the theme parks were incredible, and they were even roasting chestnuts in front of our hotel! Disney has a way of making everything magical. We've sent many happy vacationers to London over the holidays. While it can often be on the rainy side, we have had nothing but glowing reports from the Harrods' shoppers. Getting rooms at the best hotels in Hawaii can be challenging, but we can usually make good things happen. Soaking up the sun in paradise can make for a very festive holiday!

Most cruise lines have cruises that are considered either Christmas or New Year's cruises. Unpacking just once and seeing many places has a very strong appeal. Our

most popular floating resorts during the holidays visit Mexico or the Caribbean. Some of the Mexico cruises depart from Los Angeles, making for a very easy vacation for local residents. If you have more flexibility on when you travel, be aware that early December departures could save you a lot of money!

Trips to Las Vegas and the local deserts are also booked heavily. The Palm Springs and Palm Desert areas offer great golf and relaxation. They are calm compared to the fantastic fireworks show Las Vegas has on the strip to bring in the New Year. If you don't mind the crowds, the Las Vegas street show is a blast you will always remember. If you are bothered by wall-to-wall people in various stages of intoxication, stay away from Vegas over New Year's!

Here is a list of some of our favorite spots for the Holidays. If you are interested in traveling to these places or any others, please call your club representatives as soon as possible so we can get you confirmed. Last-minute planning rarely works for Thanksgiving and Christmas getaways.

The Best Holiday Vacations:

- Disney World (great for families and Disney fanatics)
- A Princess, Carnival, Holland America or Radisson Seven Seas Cruise
- A week in London. Enhance the experience by dividing your time between two of our top hotels
- Hawaii. Spend a week on Maui or Kauai. We recommend the Grand Wailea, Four Seasons, and the Grand Hyatt Kauai
- Golf in Palm Springs/Palm Desert. Ask us about availability at the Westin Mission Hills or the Hyatt Grand Champions.
- A romantic weekend up the coast to Monterey. Splurge and stay at The Inn at Spanish Bay.
- New Year's in Las Vegas. (What happens in Las Vegas stays in Las Vegas!) Make sure you want to be around a lot of people before choosing this one.

Remember that we can book your member reservations at any hotel or resort that you choose. Your Club membership means you never pay extra for this service. Most of the time, you will enjoy the additional Club benefits offered by the various properties and cruise lines, along with superior pricing.



## AAAW's Fundraiser Stateline Turnaround!

Saturday, October 22, 2005

Join your friends for a day of fun at three lively casinos in Pomona, Nevada. Enjoy fine buffet dining; shopping at some of the best outlet stores anywhere, including Old Navy, Guess?, Neiman Marcus, Coach, Nine West, BCBG Max, Tommy Bahama, Mikasa, Williams-Sonoma, and many more.

**PLAY, SHOP, ESCAPE**  
**\$20 PER PERSON**

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- Bus fare on luxury, air-conditioned motorcoach
- Continental breakfast with eye-opener drink, plus snacks
- On-board movies, games, and raffle
- Free Buffet Lunch included
- Free shuttle service to Outlet Stores and Casinos

**DEPARTURE TIME:** Downtown from DWP building 6:00 A.M.  
 111 N. Hope Street – Park in the Customer Lot

**Extra pickup:** Fairplex (Park & Ride in Pomona) 6:30 A.M.

**RETURN TIME:** 11:00 p.m.

RSVP by October 12, 2005  
 (213) 847-2229 and press 4



Call your Club representatives at  
**(888) 652-6400**

Julie, David or Kristy – to talk about any travel destination. Be sure to mention that you are a Club member for your maximum discounts. We value your business and look forward to the opportunity to assist you.

# Ontario Summer Fun

## ■ Ontario Airport AAE hosts annual summer picnic.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor, Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

**AIRPORTS** — Ontario Airport held its annual Employee Summer Picnic Saturday July 9 at Red Hill Park in Rancho Cucamonga.

Airport employees invited their friends and family to enjoy a day at the park. Volunteers barbecued hot dogs and hamburgers for everyone, and lots of games were on hand for both the adults and children.

No one went home empty-handed at the end of the day because hundreds of raffle prizes were given out. The AAE committee, which included Leatrice Pickens, Lori Coleman, Stephanie Martinez and Elaine Hatcher, devoted many hours organizing the event and helped make it a big success. Congratulations to all of you, and thanks for inviting the Club to this fun event.



The women get ready for the tug-of-war competition against the men.



The women defeat the men in the tug-of-war.



Who's going to win the potato sack race?



Parents and children team up for the games.



The kids get together for a picture with the clowns.



From left: Jesus Galvez, Adolph Shari, Miguel Parra, George Hernandez, Ricardo Jimenez, Fred Gallegos and Jimmy Serrano.



Front row, from left: Mary Medellin, Brittany Johnson and Becky Magdelse. Back: Mike Guidi and Ryan Medellin.



Front row, from left: Roberto; Dania; Xavier; and Yalitz. Back: David Deanda; Monica Hernandez; Margarita Ortiz, Club Member; Debbie Ortiz; and Diane Ronero.



Back row, from left: Greg Schreyner, Club Member; Lettie Cadena; James Cedena; and Anthony Cadena. Front row: Lisa Yancey, Club Member; Jalene; Carlos Cadena, Club Member; Susie; and Daniel Roldan.



From left: Katarina and Victoria Fajardo with and Matt Kyin.



From left: Jordan; Trenay, Pride Pickens and Diamond.



From left: Cynthia Mendez, Yolanda Mancilla and Yolanda's baby, Aaron.



From left: Cordela Coleman, Anthony Nettles and Valerie Coleman.



From left: Barbara Mazzio and Jimmy Sparks, AAE President.



From left: Nahiyeli Torres, Elena Torres and Ivan Torres, Club Member.



From left: Melinda Adams and Stephanie Martinez, Club Member.



From left: Maribel and Ulises Aguirre, Club Member.



The clown entertains the kids.



Lazarus Gomez wins a raffle prize.



From left: Haidee, Ricardo and Luz Jimenez.



The kids have fun jumping around.



The barbecue men take a break for a quick photo.



The kids play games, hoping to win a prize.



The kids enjoy free video games at the picnic.



Melvin Wells — "The Fish Man" — and his partner.



From left: Jeanette McGraw, Liz Simmons, Doug Donovan and Brenna Simmons.



From left: Ofelia Ascencio, Alexandra, Cole and Alberto Ascencio, Club Member.



From left: LaTanya Hypolite, Club Member; and Bridgette Barnes, Club Member.



From left: Jeff Mararac, Jeff Jr., Raydeen Mararac, Leah and Berto.



From left: Angie Gallegos; Lazarus Gomez; Genie Gomez; and Fred Gallegos, Club Member.



Back row: Jackie Jimenez. Front row, from left: Ricardo Jimenez, Club Member, with Marilyn and Luz Jimenez.



Lori Coleman helped organize the AAE Employee Picnic.

# A World of Music

## ■ Cultural Affairs to host first World Music Forum.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS — Cultural Affairs was selected to host the first World Forum on Music, a global dialogue on music from commercial, technological, cultural, political and social perspectives, in partnership with the International Music Council and Cultural Engineering LLC.

The International Music Council, based in Paris and founded in 1949 at the request of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), represents 75 countries on all continents and 34 member organizations representing the entire field of music activity.

Cultural Affairs General Manager Margie J. Reese, also a board member of the International Music Council, accepted the invitation to collaborate on this unprecedented, international dialogue, as both a prestigious honor and an incredible opportunity for the Los Angeles community.

The first World Forum on Music will be held Oct. 1 - 5, in several locations in Hollywood. Log onto [www.worldforumonmusic.com](http://www.worldforumonmusic.com)

Reese will chair the International Planning Committee and oversee an Honorary Committee, currently being established.

"The Cultural Affairs Department looks forward to hosting this unprecedented discourse on music, including current issues which revolve around digital advancements and the livelihood of artists," says Reese, who was previously the Director of Cultural Affairs for Dallas, Texas, prior to being selected to lead Los Angeles' Cultural Affairs Department.

The World Forum on Music is being mounted as a global knowledge platform on music and society in the 21st Century. It provides innovative opportunities for government officials, industry executives and professionals, scholars, artists and students to engage in serious debates on current key issues. First of its kind, it seeks synergies across different sectors and societies, thereby exploring and effectively integrating different perspectives. The World Forum on Music will address issues relating to music and social change, music education and training, technology and public access, and copyright and the livelihood of music makers.

The International Music Council (IMC), a non-governmental advisory body on music, considers the experience of music and music making a vital part of the everyday life of all people. The International Music Council monitors the availability of access to music for all; it informs widely about music and the right to it; and it exercises advocacy when needed.

Kifah Fakhouri of Jordan, President of the IMC Executive Committee, remarked in his invitation to Margie Reese and the City of Los Angeles, "The rich cultural diversity and the creative energy of Los Angeles, as well as the dynamism of your city's Cultural Affairs Department, have captivated the attention and imagination of many of our members."

Cultural Engineering LLC, based in New York City and Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, works with policy-makers, cultural institutions, managers, entrepreneurs, and the public in their efforts to create and sustain an enabling environment for cultural stewardship and sustainable livelihood. Cultural Engineering aims to help stimulate creativity and enrich lives through innovative cultural programming that links arts, media, and cultural initiatives to socioeconomic development. Cultural Engineering works to build knowledge, unleash talents, enhance professional development, promote cultural tourism, broaden cultural engagement, and help sustain cultural vitality.

Most recently, the International Music Council and Cultural Engineering, LLC have been in partnership to present Hip Hop World Summit: the Rise of a Global Cultural Movement, a three-day multidisciplinary and international program of hip hop activities, to be held at IMC in Paris Nov. 12 - 14.



# Win \$200!

# The Amazing Club Race



## ■ Running, Swimming, Eating, Gathering Clues.

At ClubFest 2005, Oct. 2, two-person teams will try to be the first to find clues and perform various tasks to win \$200! Do you have what it takes? Sign up now! Only 20 teams will be accepted to participate in the Amazing Club Race.

- Teams will consist of two adults (18 and older).
- At least one team member must be a Club member in good standing.
- Please note that there will be swimming, running and eating contests involved.
- The race will be 45 to 60 minutes long.
- Teams will be given tasks to perform.
- The first team to finish wins \$200.
- Check-in is at 10:30 a.m. Race will commence at 11 a.m.
- Participants will be given a complimentary ClubFest shirt after the contest.
- Participants must purchase tickets to attend ClubFest. There is no extra fee.
- Note: Due to physical activity involved, participants will be required to sign a liability waiver at ClubFest.

# Win!

# The First AMAZING RACE!

Running  
Swimming  
Eating  
Gathering clues  
Win \$200



Do you have what it takes?

At ClubFest 2005, Oct. 2

## Sign up now!

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- Participants must purchase tickets to attend ClubFest. There is no extra fee.
- Note: Due to physical activity involved, participants will be required to sign a liability waiver at ClubFest.



## Entry Form

We are up to the challenge! Enter us for the First Amazing Club Race, as part of ClubFest 2005.

## Register Today!

MAIL THIS FORM TO: Michelle Moreno  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Name of Team: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member #: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City Dept.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second Team Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City Dept. (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I will be required to sign a physical activity liability waiver.  (check box)

# ClubFest Bands Add a Fun Feel for Grownups

■ **ClubFest to feature bands with a City connection.**

Essential to the festival atmosphere of ClubFest 2005 is music — almost continuous music by three consecutive live bands, each one featuring at least one City employee in its lineup.

It's something the Club hopes its members can really appreciate.

## ClubFest 2005: Schedule of Bands

### 10:30 a.m. – noon: The Latin Gents



The Latin Gents play a variety of Latin, swing, oldies but goodies, rock and roll and country. They have something for everybody. They have been playing in the Los Angeles area for about seven years. They originally started out as a trio and over the years added an additional three musicians. All together, there is a pianist, trombonist, saxophonist, guitarist, bassist and a drummer. They all are able to beautifully sing and harmonize together, making the group very versatile.

Leading the Latin Gents is Ralph Ronda, an elevator mechanic for the DWP, and Carlos Montejano. Ralph plays the drums and Carlos plays bass. The other members are Billy

Ahlswede on keyboards, Rudy Roman on sax, Hirth Martinez on guitar and Paul Costellanos on trombone.

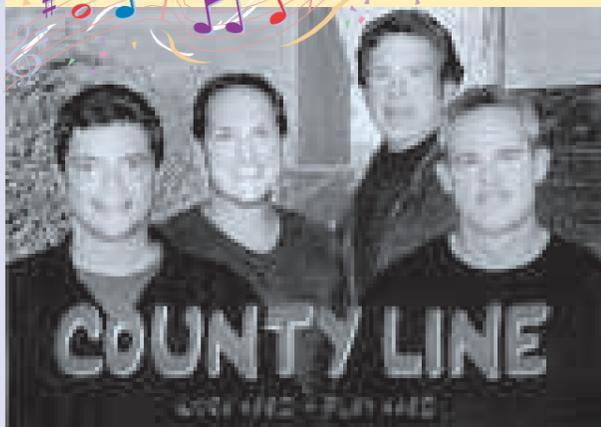
These men are not just musicians but good friends who enjoy what they do. "Music is a universal language that everybody enjoys, and those who have heard the us always have a great time listening and dancing to tunes they enjoy," Ralph says. Ralph would also like to thank all those at the DWP who have supported them over the years.

### 12:30 – 2 p.m.: County Line

County Line is your all-around rock and roll classic kind of band. From the sounds of Steve Miller to Mick Jagger, they play rock and roll the way it should be played, with enthusiasm and attitude. Three of its four members are City employees. Gary Arso, drums and vocals, and Brad Haynes, guitar and vocals, work for Rec and Parks. Tom Cotter, bass and vocals, works for Public Works. Mark Tomorsky plays guitar and sings.

County Line hails from four different counties in four different states. Mark is from Detroit (Wayne County), Brad is from Los Angeles County, Tom is from Chicago (Cook County), and Gary is from Brooklyn, N.Y. (Kings County).

While growing up in different parts of the country, they each have influences from the local music scenes. They all have one thing in common: driving rock 'n' roll. When you hear them play, you know why collectively they have worked on countless studio gigs, along with live shows at Staples Center, Lincoln Center, CBGBs, the Roxy, the Whisky, Cozy's Blues Club and endless others.



### 2:30 – 4 p.m.: The Kahunas



The Kahunas play classic surf sounds of Dick Dale, the Ventures and the Beach Boys. The trio also embraces the grunge and alternative rock sounds as well. They have loads of fun on the stage and the crowds love them.

On the bass guitar and vocals is fellow City employee Charlie Bragg. Charlie was born in New York and raised in Southern California and works for the DWP as an Electric Service Representative. Bragg's musical interest range from '60s surf, '70s glam, punk rock and '80s new wave.

The band was founded by David Dupuis. Davis is on lead guitar on vocals. He plays those classic surf instrumentals and his vocals include the high

falsetto that is classic to the Beach Boys and Jan and Dean songs. David was born in Detroit, but quickly took to the beach environment and surfing.

Backing the group on drums is Chris Young. Chris was born in England and has played in groups ranging from country to rock-a-billy. Chris brings the steady beat that all surf bands need, not to mention his backing vocals and "rhythms and roll."

# Music-Filled ClubFest Almost Here

■ **Music will give event a festival feel that's perfect for adults and kids. The event is fast approaching, so hurry and buy your tickets.**

**THE CLUB** — Tickets are on sale now for the best ClubFest ever. The event is selling fast, so don't wait!



ClubFest is set for Sunday, Oct. 2, at Calamigos Ranch in the hills overlooking Malibu. ClubFest is co-sponsored by AIG and Office Depot.

Tickets will not be sold at the door, so you must purchase them now.

Club Members who have already bought their tickets to ClubFest 2005 are telling us that they are excited about the newest addition to ClubFest: an afternoon of almost continuous music, by three really fun bands with City connections (see related story). Now everyone — including those who might not be as interested in the games or the activities — have a great reason to come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon in a terrific location.

Get your tickets now! Fill in the registration form in this issue of Alive!, and then fax or mail it in to the Ticket Guy, or drop by the Club Headquarters, at 350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, in the World Trade Center downtown.

"We wanted to make ClubFest as exciting for adults as it is for kids," says Club CEO John Hawkins. "So we added lots of fun music. We have something for adults as well as kids."

Three bands are scheduled to play almost continuously from start to finish, one at a time. Check out the related story for information on the bands.

ClubFest tickets are limited to nine tickets per each Club member. Tickets are available only to Club members and their families.

In addition to the music, there is another cool new feature: the first Amazing Club Race. You and your team members could win \$200! There is still room for your Amazing Club Race team. See the separate registration form for more information about the Amazing Club Race.

The new features and the new feel of ClubFest 2005 are in addition to the usual great ClubFest features:

- great food, including shredded beef, beans, corn, salad, potato salad, and all the trimmings
- hot dog carts and unlimited ice cream treats and soft drinks
- fun booths, including a dunk tank, a moon bounce, a water slide, etc.
- raffles
- bingo
- pony rides and hayrides
- face painting

Ticket prices for ClubFest 2005 are \$15 for everyone. That's a savings of more than \$30 per ticket off the actual cost of the event. That's a huge savings for you, courtesy of the Club!

"We have something for everyone this year, with the festival feel," Hawkins said. "Bands, food, fun, and the Amazing Club Race. Don't wait; get your tickets now, and see you there!"



**The new features and the new feel of ClubFest 2005 are in addition to the usual great ClubFest features:**

- great food, including shredded beef, beans, corn, salad, potato salad, and all the trimmings
- hot dog carts and unlimited ice cream treats and soft drinks
- fun booths, including a dunk tank, a moon bounce, a water slide, etc.
- raffles
- bingo
- pony rides and hayrides
- face painting

**Ticket prices for ClubFest 2005 if you buy them by Aug. 30 are:**

- \$10 for members
- \$7 for children
- \$15 for nonmember adults (13 and older)
- Free for those 3 years old and younger



On Sept. 1, prices rise to \$15 for everyone. So save money and get your tickets now! Remember that the actual retail cost of these tickets is \$48 each, so that's huge savings for you, courtesy of the Club!

**To get your tickets, use the order form on page 57.**

**WIN**  
**4 free**  
**tickets to**

**UNIVERSAL**  
**STUDIOS**  
**HOLLYWOOD**

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 fun picture, have an adult send it in, and you could win four free tickets to UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD!**

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 Universal Studios Hollywood 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:

**Oct. 10, 2005**

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!**





# Where in LA?

## WIN \$50 Vons Gift Certificate

**New Photo ... New Great Prize**

**Get ready for another great contest.**

**We wish you could all win!**

For September, we're offering a great prize: a \$50 gift certificate for Vons. All you have to do is send in a correct and substantial answer (in your own words) to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com, and you could win!

**What is this?  
Where is this?**



**The Club member who gives us the most complete, detailed description of the object related to the City of Los Angeles wins the great prize!**

- This month's deadline: September 12. See complete list of rules.
- Thanks for playing, and good luck!

Send your response along with your Club card number by e-mail (whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com), by fax (213-620-0398) or by surface mail (350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, Los Angeles 90071).

**The winner of last month's contest is:**

**Ken Moody, ITA**

**Here is his response:** The photo in the August issue of *Alive!* is Hanger #1 at LAX. It was built in 1929 at what was at the time named Mines Field. It was the first structure at the airport. It is now used as a cargo handling building with 10,497 square feet of handling space, with 6,540 square feet of office space and 25 auto parking positions. Mines Field was dedicated and opened as the official airport of Los Angeles in 1930. When Mines Field was opened it covered 640 acres.



The name was changed to Los Angeles Airport in 1941 and to Los Angeles International Airport in 1949. The current airport covers 3,425 acres, and is the third busiest airport in the United States. Hanger #1 is located at 5701 W. Imperial Hwy. It was designed by the architectural firm of Gable & Wyant. It was declared historic cultural monument #44 on Nov. 16, 1966.

**This month's runner up was submitted by Marviana Jones, Clerk Typist, Public Works.**

**Thanks Ken and Marviana!**

**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 eligible for the winning prize.)
2. Responses can be delivered by mail, fax, e-mail or in person (phone responses will not be accepted).
3. Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
4. The contest is all in good fun! The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

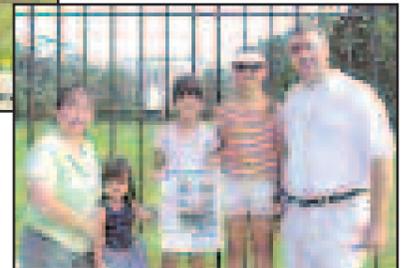
## Alive! Around the World

Take the Club with you, wherever you go! Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a photo with you holding a copy, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

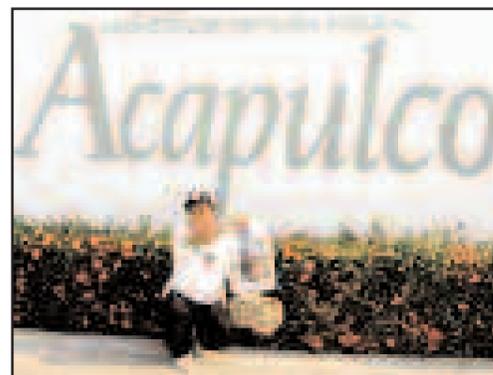


The Alecxih family in Hershey, Penn., in July.

The Alecxih family has been busy! Don Alecxih, DWP, and Lu Alecxih, Airports (Ontario), took their daughters Elizabeth, Sarah and Kristen to two spots this summer, and brought their *Alive!* newspaper with them! Glad you had such a good time traveling East.



The Alecxih family in front of the White House, Washington, D.C., also in July. (The heat apparently made things fuzzy!)



Club Member Pablo Ninofranco Jr., Retired, Harbor, even spends his vacation near the water. Here he is temporarily on dry land at the Port of Acapulco, Mexico, during a 15-day Panama Canal cruise in May, 2005.

**Congratulations, Alecxih Family & Pablo!**



Save up to 20% with your eyes closed.

How about an affordable vacation?

Saving is so easy with the Best Western Member Value Program, you can do it with your eyes closed. Simply call the MVP reservation number below. Mention the City Employee's Club MVP number 00150810, and save up to 20% at more than 4,000 Best Western hotels worldwide. Have a safe trip.



MVP reservations 1-800-441-1114

Each Best Western hotel is independently owned and operated. Tariffs vary by location and time of the year. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts, promotions or special offers. Not applicable to group travel. Black-out dates and other restrictions may apply. Rooms are limited and subject to availability. Advance reservations are required. Reservations must be made by calling 1-800-441-1114. ©2005 Best Western International, Inc.

# All That Jazz

## ■ Public Works is on display at recent jazz festival.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor, Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

**PUBLIC WORKS** — Staff from Public Works was on hand to help promote the department at the two-day 10th annual Central Avenue Jazz Festival July 30 and 31. The festival took place from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., each day, along Central Avenue, between 42nd and 43rd Streets, near the historic Dunbar Hotel in South Los Angeles. The event was free to the public. The Office of the City Councilmember Jan Perry, Community Redevelopment Agency and the Cultural Affairs Department sponsored the event.

Public Works personnel staffed a display and distributed information on free City services including Public Works and Frequently Asked Questions brochures, and a special report called "A 10-Year Look into the Future of Our City."

Information on bulky item collections, community cleanups, graffiti removal, tree planting, and used oil collection and recycling was also distributed.



Festival street signs.

City officials and festival sponsors pose for a photo.

One of the many bands performs.



City Employees meet and greet guests.



The audience listens to the sounds of jazz.



Two cooks prepare their delicious treats.



Performers entertain the crowd.



From left: Councilmember Jan Perry and Barbara Jones, volunteer.



From left: Javier Magallon, Cultural Affairs Clerk; Ellyse Rodriguez; and Lupe Terronez, Cultural Affairs Retiree.



From left: Estella Martinez; Monica Reyes; Councilmember Jan Perry; Eva Kandarpa, Press Deputy; and Joe Gamez.



From left: Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager, with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.



Ron Masterson, LAPD, 10 years.



Two jazz performers mingle with the crowd.



The friendly mascot stops for a photo.



Art vendors display their merchandise.



From left: Sergeant Paulson, Mark Wilson and Captain McNamara.



From left: Jeffrey Childers, DWP Account Manager; Terry Takeda, DWP Utility Marketing Representative; and Nissan Kazman, DWP Management Assistant.



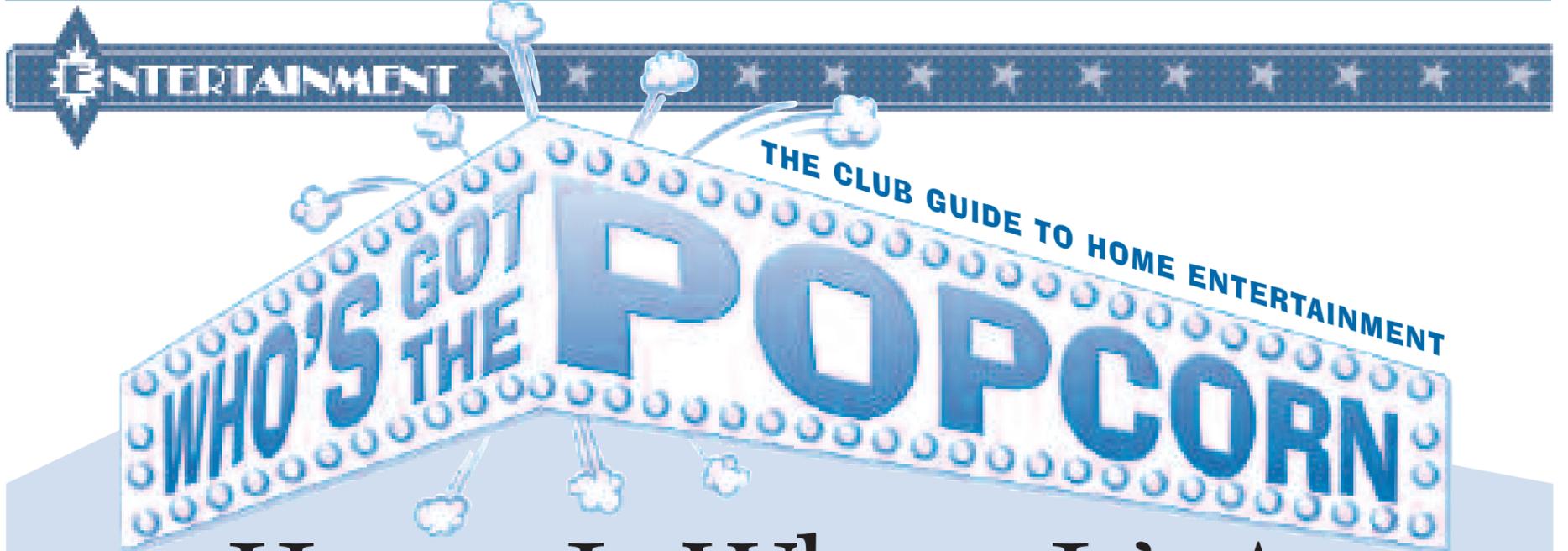
From left: Norma Ruiz, Department Secretary, 20 years, and Martha Estrada, Community Affairs Specialist, 23 years.



From left: Darnel Wade, LAFD, 17 years; John Hall, WLCAC; and Al Perez, LAFD, 17 years.



Vendors display their merchandise.



# Home Is Where It's At

■ **Back to school is the theme for this month, as Alive! introduces a new monthly column focusing on home entertainment.**

By *Ticket Guy (Navin Cotton) and Events Guru (Michelle Moreno)*

"Of all the gin joints in all the towns in all the world, she walks into mine." And of all the pages in this newspaper, you had to stop at ours.

Cool!

Welcome to Who's Got the Popcorn, a unique (we hope) monthly column on home

entertainment that looks at past films of cinematic history, ranging from Oscar winners to "Why in the world is this on the shelf?"

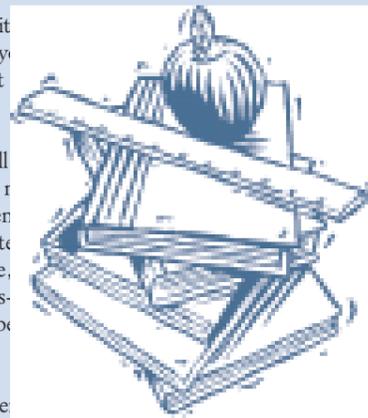
With digital cable, high-def, TiVo, movies on demand, pay per view, rentals from down the street and rentals through the mail, home entertainment is just as big as going out to the movies. Maybe even bigger. We want to have fun with it.

We are your hosts, TG (Ticket Guy, Navin Cotton) and EG (Events Guru, Michelle Moreno). Together, our mission isn't to be the next Siskel and Ebert (oh wait, it's now Ebert and Roeper), but to present a light-hearted look at great film classics including *The Godfather*,

*Gone With the Wind*, *Titanic*, *Where's My Car?* As you can tell, we don't discriminate.

We want you to join in so much that we'll be offering contests with little prizes for you to see in your own favorite movies on a theme, answering trivia questions, etc. So don't be shy. Get in on the fun!

Every month we'll have a theme and invite members



descriptions of a film related to our theme. For September, we have chosen "Back to school" as our theme. We'll be reviewing the first time, but we encourage you to send them in, too.

We highly encourage Member participation, no matter how absolutely horrible the public may think your choice film is.

So, enjoy the reviews, enjoy the movie trivia, enjoy our Movie of the Month, and pay special attention to next month's theme.

This is TG and EG saying, "You're welcome!"

## This Month's Theme: Back to School

### Movie of the Month:

#### Old School

A comedy about thirty-something-year-old men trying to relive their youth by creating a fraternity. Rated R.



**TG:** This was a funny flick, but but without Will Ferrell, this DVD would be a coaster at my place. **I give it a 3** (it lost a point because of Luke Wilson).

**EG:** Coaster? Geez, that's a bit harsh. But I do agree that without Will Ferrell, this movie would be average. I mean, c'mon, Will Ferrell gets hit with a tranquilizer dart – that's too funny. "You're crazy man. You're crazy. I like you... but your craazy." **I give it a 5.**

## Capsule reviews of other movies to watch this month:

### Events Guru:



#### Never Been Kissed

Drew Barrymore goes back to high school to try to get an undercover story for her newspaper. Unfortunately she runs into some problems because 1) she was and still is a nerd in high school (something I can relate to) and 2) she falls for her English teacher. This movie is pretty funny and is overall a cute film. **My score: 4.5 (out of 5)**

### Dead Poets Society



"Oh Captain, My Captain" is what you'll be uttering for a while, after you've seen this great drama. Robin Williams stars as a literature professor trying to teach his students to think for themselves and learn to live life to the fullest. *Carpe Diem* – Seize the Day – is the first lesson he

shares with his students, so you can kind of see where the plot is headed. This is an incredibly great film with some incredible acting.

**My score: 5 (out of 5)**

### Ticket Guy:



#### The Breakfast Club

This is an '80s classic. Five (supposedly) teenage kids stuck in detention on a Saturday (who has Saturday detention?). Somehow being stuck together brings them all together. Believable or not this is still a classic. If you haven't seen it, pick it up. It will have you reminiscing.

**My score: 4.5 (out of 5)**

## Next Month's Theme:

### Horror Films

In celebration of Halloween, next month's theme is horror films. It's gonna be great! Please submit reviews of your favorite horror films (not in theatres) to popcorn@cityemployeesclub.com (see item #1 in the Join in the Fun Box below).

## TRIVIA CONTEST

Answer these questions correctly, and win a prize! See the details in the "Join in the Fun" box on next page.

1. What are the two films that we quoted in the beginning and end of our introduction?
2. Robin Williams won an Oscar for what film?
3. Who is Drew Barrymore's famous director godfather?
4. Who were the 8 actors that made up the 1980's "Brat Pack"?
5. What famous live TV series was Will Ferrell a part of?

## Join in the Fun

Ticket Guy and Events Guru want you to join in the fun. If you do, you could win a prize! Here are the details:

1. Submit a review (100 words or less, with a rating between 1 and 5) of a fun movie (either because it's really great or really bad). Make sure it's on next month's theme. If we print your review, we'll send you a \$25 Blockbuster gift certificate. Send reviews to popcorn@cityemployeesclub.com
2. Answer the trivia questions. The first to answer correctly (and in the spirit of fun, so make your answers creative!) will win a \$25 Blockbuster gift certificate. Send your responses to popcorn@cityemployeesclub.com
3. Anyone can respond, but only Club Members with a valid Club membership number are eligible to win.
4. The feature is all in good fun: The Club is not responsible for delays in delivering Alive! or in the transmission of replies.



"TG" The Ticket Guy  
Also known as Navin Cotton

"EG" The Events Guru  
Also known as Michelle Moreno



# IN THEATERS

Movie Reviews by Fellow Club Members



## Batman Begins

Rated PG-13

Adults and adolescents

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This is a leaner, darker and more human version of the Caped Crusader. Christian Bale plays a tormented Batman, struggling to overcome his fears to bring justice to Gotham City and the memory of his murdered parents. Bale is great as the dual personalities of a spoiled rich heir and masked crime fighter. Michael Caine is brilliant as the funny, sensitive and supportive Alfred. As Bruce Wayne's childhood sweetheart, Katie Holmes does fine in a new demanding role. Great to see veteran actors in supporting roles are Liam Neeson, Morgan Freeman, Rutger Hauer, Tom Wilkinson and Ken Watanabe.

— Dan Basiglio, LAPD



## War of the Worlds

PG-13

Adults and adolescents

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

It's like watching a two-hour Raid commercial, except it's the human race that's being exterminated. Based on the H.G. Wells novel that became a radio play in the 1940s and a classic science fiction film of the 1950s, *War of the Worlds* stays true to the original but in contemporary form. Director Steven Spielberg pulls out all the stops. It is a scary ride from start to finish. The storyline is simplistic; the effects are the star here. It will keep you on the edge of your seat despite the story's weakness and contrived ending. May be too scary for your young ones.

— Dan Basiglio, LAPD



## The Island

PG-13

Adults and adolescents

My Score: 4.5 (out of 5)

I had heard a lot of negative things about this movie, but I love movies set in the future, so I thought I would check this movie out for myself. And I am glad I did, I thoroughly enjoyed the movie. It reminded me a little of the movie *Logan's Run* in the beginning, but overall it's totally different. The story itself held my interest and the chemistry between Ewan McGregor and Scarlett Johansson was very good. The chase and action scenes were first rate.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

## The Island

My Score: 4.5 (out of 5)

What a great story! At first you can sit back and relax and get into the story. Then you are on the edge of your seat with a faster-moving story and action scenes. My whole family enjoyed the movie, including my two teenage sons.

— Brenda Mitchell, DWP



## The Dukes of Hazzard

PG-13

Adults and adolescents

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Jessica Simpson basically shows off her body and has some goofy lines. She shines in the role! Maybe there will be some Oscar buzz! Okay, enough bashing; I actually loved watching *The Newlyneds* (her TV show). Jessica always cracked me up.

The movie is actually not bad. Johnny Knoxville and Seann William Scott are adorable as Luke and Bo Duke. They still have some high-speed chases in the General Lee, although I was hoping for a more souped-up car. Willie Nelson was perfectly cast as Uncle Jesse. And I was surprised that I liked Burt Reynolds as Boss Hogg.

— Patty Saucier, DWP

## The Dukes of Hazzard

My Score: 2.5 (out of 5)

The Dukes are back! Johnny Knoxville and Seann William Scott were perfectly cast as Bo and Luke. The action scenes were reminiscent of the original TV show, which was the problem with the movie. It was too much like a television show and less like a movie. It was enjoyable but I could have waited to see it on HBO!

—Debbie Winger, DWP



## March of the Penguins

G

General Audiences

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

For those of you who enjoy the National Geographic documentaries, this one is for you. It is an incredible look into the hard life of the Emperor penguins, in the freezing Antarctica. It is amazing that we were able to get this footage! I did find it a little too long, so I am deducting a point.

— Brenda Mitchell, DWP

## March of the Penguins

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This is a must-see for nature lovers. Not only is the story itself remarkable, but so too is the fact that human beings braved the extreme conditions of the Antarctic to film a year in the life of the Emperor penguins. This truly beautiful film required months of patient and meticulous observation under the harshest of conditions, but the result is one of the most entertaining and heartwarming films that I have ever seen. The film is funny and sad, educational, and awe-inspiring. I highly recommend seeing this film while it is still in theaters.

— Kimberly Azmi, Gen. Services

## Must Love Dogs



PG-13

Adults and adolescents

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Major disappointment! This movie reminded me a little of, because this is another romantic comedy where you really don't have that many scenes with the main couple together. Although this movie did have several more scenes than the other movie, thankfully!

It is a nice romantic comedy with a lot of cute scenes, but save your money until it comes out for rental.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

# 100 Words or Less!

## Introducing new review rules. Keep it short!

To all our loyal movie, book and theater reviewers: We're changing the rules. We've been getting so many reviews that we don't have room for all of them.

### So here are the new rules:

- Keep it short! 100 words or less. Hence, the new name of this page!
- Don't waste words giving us a plot summary. Just tell us what you think. Your own comments, not a summary.
- New scoring scale: 1 to 5, instead of 1 to 10.
- So, make it:
  - Name of movie/book/theatreshow
  - My Score: X (out of 5)
  - Make sure to give us your name and dept.
  - Have fun!



## Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

PG

Family

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

This is the famous tale of the dangers of excess, directed by the bizarre Tim Burton. Johnny

Depp's Wonka has deep psychological problems caused by childhood trauma. Freddie Highmore gives an enduring performance as the neighborhood kid who finds the fifth ticket. It's fun to see the characters make it to the factory and meet Wonka ... but tedious as each kid meets his/her own demise. The techno music also sets a little monotonous, as it is difficult to hear the lyrics. There is a sufficiently happy ending and moral message to the story. But it is a strange world in the Chocolate Factory, and Depp's portrayal of Wonka is just plain "eeeww weird." You may just lose your taste for sweets.

— Dan Basiglio, LAPD



## Wedding Crashers

R

Over 18

My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)

This film has a very simple plot; it is about two womanizing men who crash weddings to meet girls. It is rolling-in-the-aisles hilarious. Of course, the writers more often than not went for the easy laughs, but even so, if funny is what you are looking for, this is it. However, this movie is not really for kids as the comedy is blatantly raunchy. Owen Wilson is reliably entertaining in almost every film, and his portrayal of John Beckwith is no exception. Vince Vaughn as Jeremy Grey gives his funniest performance to date. This is a consistently amusing film, highly entertaining but far from intellectually stimulating.

— Kimberly Azmi, Gen. Services

## Wedding Crashers 5/5

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

I laughed so hard, I almost ... well, let's move on. Although if it were any funnier I would have needed some Depends. I never intended to see the movie because I thought it looked stupid when I saw the trailer in the upcoming attractions . But a friend dragged me to it. What a funny, funny film! I cannot believe I laughed so much.

— Patty Saucier, DWP

## Wedding Crashers

My Score: 4.5 (out of 5)

I really enjoyed this hilarious film. Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson make a great comedy duo. I really enjoyed the performance by Jane Seymour; she was great as a Mrs. Robinson-type character. I was laughing from beginning to end and would highly recommend this movie to anyone who enjoys a good comedy.

— Debbie Winger, DWP



## Four Brothers

R

Adults Over 18

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Four orphaned brothers come together after the death and funeral of their adoptive mother in search for answers to the unsolved mystery that left their beloved mother murdered in cold blood. This movie is action-packed, hilariously funny, and also manages to jerk a few tears here and there. Touching on the inevitable reality of revenge, this movie gains not only sympathy for the death of a nice and generous old lady, but also sympathy and support for the vengeance claimed victoriously by her sons. I was literally at the edge of my seat from beginning to end.

— Faith Maulupe, Building and Safety

# —Theater—



## Radio Golf

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

August Wilson's drama is his tenth and final play chronicling the black experience in 20th-century America; it takes place in prosperous 1997. Realtor Harmond Wilks is on the verge of becoming Pittsburgh's first black mayor and is spearheading a redevelopment program to tear down an apparently abandoned home. But things are not always what they seem. This play covers sensitive issues; characters are at the crossroads of the future and the past. Veteran stage actors Rocky Carroll, Anthony Chisholm, James A. Williams, Denise Burse, and John Earl Jelks give powerful performances. Plays through Sept. 18 at the Mark Taper Forum.

— Dan Basiglio, LAPD

# ENTERTAINMENT

## CRITICS CORNER

# Book Reviews

Book Reviews by Fellow Club Members



**Love You Forever**  
Robert Munsch  
Firefly Books  
28 pages  
Children  
**My Score: 4.5 (out of 5)**

It's the story of how "a mother held her new baby and very slowly rocked him back and forth, back and forth, back and forth. And while she rocked him she sang: I'll love you forever, I'll like you for always, As long as I'm living, My baby you'll be."

Throughout the years she sings this to him, sneaking in to hold him while he sleeps, even when he drives her crazy with all the things children do on their way to adulthood. It is a very loving book, almost a little sad, too, I think.

It comes full circle when she is old and sick and he has his own family.

— Barbara Johnson, Personnel



**The Paper Bag Princess**  
Robert Munsch  
Annick Press Ltd.  
24 pages  
Children  
**My Score: 5 (out of 5)**

A sweeter book I have never seen, with charming illustrations by Michael Martchenko. This story asks why princesses always say yes to the princes.

Princess Elizabeth is going to marry Prince Ronald. "She lived in a castle and had expensive princess clothes." Then a dragon smashes her castle, burns her clothes and carries Prince Ronald off. With only a paper bag to wear, Elizabeth chases after the dragon to get Ronald back. Ronald tells her, "...Come back when you are dressed like a real princess."

Elizabeth tells him, "Your clothes are really pretty and your hair is very neat. You look like a Prince, but you are a bum." They didn't get married after all.

— Barbara Johnson, Personnel



**Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day**  
Judith Viorst  
Simon & Schuster/Aladdin Paperbacks  
28 pages  
Children  
**My Score: 4 (out of 5)**

Alexander is having a bad day. Living with his family, Alexander responds to each situation, "I think I'll move to Australia."

It starts one morning with, "I went to sleep with gum in my mouth and now there's gum in my hair... tripped on the skateboard... dropped my sweater in the sink..." and continues throughout with cute and plausible situations. From getting "scrunched" and "smushed" in the car pool, to singing too loud in class and having to wear "my railroad-train pajamas," Alexander endures the horrible day. In the end, though, Alexander tells us, "Some days are like that. Even in Australia."

It is a cute book, well written, and fun!

— Barbara Johnson, Personnel



**The Man Who Kept His Heart in a Bucket**  
Sonia Levitin  
Puffin Pied Piper Books/Penguin Books  
29 pages  
Children  
**My Score: 5 (out of 5)**

The love story weaves its tale so gently you hardly realize you are at the end. The book has wonderful watercolor pictures by Jerry Pinkney with an old-world feel.

"Jack kept his heart in the bucket because his heart had once been broken." He takes the bucket with him to find work as a blacksmith, but finds no pleasure or delight in the "payments" from the baker, musician, and the fisherman's baby, until the beautiful maiden steals his heart. She tells him he must solve a riddle to get it back. In solving the riddle, Jack begins to feel again.

My explanation does it no justice. It is a very sweet tale.

— Barbara Johnson, Personnel



## HOT CLUB OFFER!!

*The Dodgers welcome you to:*

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The Dodgers are offering half-price tickets in select areas for to LA City Employees Association Nights, meaning you can save as much as \$11.50 per ticket!

#### LA CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION NIGHTS

DATE	OPPONENT	PROMOTION
9/12	Rockies	Tote Bag
9/13	Rockies	GM Drive 'Em Home Tuesday
9/27	Diamondbacks	GM Drive 'Em Home Tuesday

#### TICKET PRICES

LOCATION	REGULAR PRICE	LA CITY EMPLOYEES PRICE
Field	\$23	\$11.50
Infield Reserve	\$17	\$8.50
Lower Reserve	\$12	\$6.00
Reserve	\$10	\$5.00
Pavilion	\$6	\$4.00
Top Deck	\$6	\$4.00

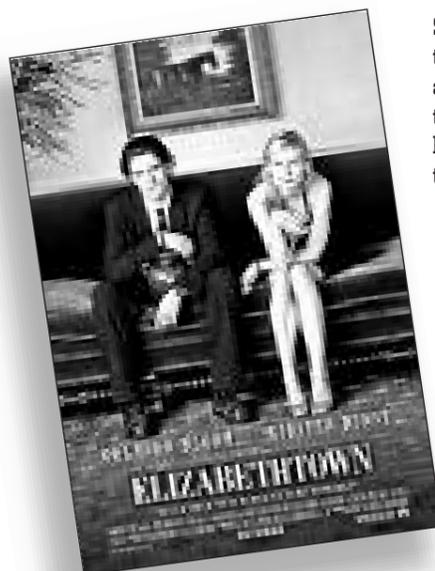
Go to [www.dodgers.com/lacea](http://www.dodgers.com/lacea) to purchase tickets. Click on the green "T" button next to the game date you are interested in and enter the password "LACEA" in the "Promotions and Special Offers" box on the order page.

For an individual to purchase 30 or more half-price tickets together on behalf of a group, please call Robert Thacker at 323-224-1565.



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**Elizabethtown**

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\*The credit union membership of LAFCU is available to all City employees. LAFCU is not a bank and does not accept deposits, and is not a business of the City of Los Angeles. City employees should contact LAFCU for more information. LAFCU is not a bank and does not accept deposits.

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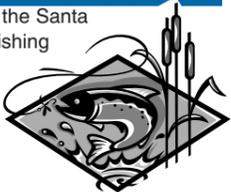
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## CLUB CORNER Join These Groups

### Fly Fishing Enthusiasts

A club is forming in the Santa Clarita area for fly fishing enthusiasts with all levels of skill. Call Theodore J. Aquaro, (661) 513-1595.



978-3004 or write to P.O. Box 53389, Los Angeles, CA 90053.

### Association of City Employees with Disabilities

The Association of City Employees with Disabilities (ACED) is committed to the recruitment, employment, retention and promotion of persons with disabilities. Also, ACED counsels and represents employees faced with discrimination on the job. Call Joe O'Toole at (213) 847-9213.

### Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel

The mission of the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP) is to motivate, encourage and educate individuals to realize their dreams and move forward in their career within City government. Contact Steve King at (213) 580-5387 or write to LAABP, P.O. Box 53822, Los Angeles, CA 90043-0822.

### Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA)

The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) was established in 1971 and was the first City recognized employee Affirmative Action Association. Membership is open to anyone interested in supporting the goals and objectives of the



Jackie Zarate, President

organization. LACECA is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities in our workplace, City government and community. It sponsors and supports a variety of training events and seminars to assist employees in their career development. Meetings are usually held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Personnel Department

Alive! offers this space every month for Club members to invite other Club members to join their group. It could be work-related, or social, or all about your hobbies. Whatever it is, send us a notice at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com, and we'll post the notice free ... as a service to our members!

Building, 700 E. Temple Street. Contact Carlos Portillo, (310) 547-4610, email portillo2339@sbcglobal.net or write to LACECA, P.O. Box 53590, Los Angeles, CA 90053.

**Note:** On Saturday, Sept. 17, in recognition of Latino Heritage Month, LACECA will co-sponsor the dedication of an exhibit at the Drum Barracks Civil War Museum that will illuminate the role that Hispanics played in the Civil War. Look for more information on this excellent event in this month's *Alive!*

### Affirmative Action Association for Women

Established by the City Council as the official representative for female City employees, the Affirmative Action Association for Women (AAAW) has been representing women for more than 25 years. The AAW is an employee advocate organization that gives particular attention to the advancement of women and minority employees of the City of Los Angeles. Its members, both male and female, serve on association, department, and Citywide committees that focus attention on personnel policies and practices and support a continuing commitment to equal employment opportunities as a basic principle of the City's merit system. Call (213) 847-AAAW, write to AAW, P.O. Box 53488, Los Angeles, CA 90053, or visit the Website at www.la-aaaw.org.

### Los Angeles Municipal Accountants and Auditors Assoc.

LAMAAA is a professional organization of municipal and local government accounting, fiscal and auditing practitioners with a membership of more than 300. The conference was a City-sponsored event. All those who participated were either City or DWP employees.

#### THE GROUP'S MISSION IS:

- To develop members and assist them acquire the necessary skills to promote themselves towards better positions and responsibilities.
- To promote and perpetuate the prestige

- and professional status of municipal accountants and auditors.
- To assist each other and develop professional camaraderie, team spirit and cooperation among its members.
- To develop and improve educational techniques in management, commercial, proprietary, governmental accounting and auditing.

#### IT ACCOMPLISHES ITS MISSION BY:

- Present experts as guest speakers at monthly meetings.
- Host trainings, seminars and other educational programs.
- Publish online newsletters and other informational materials.
- Provide opportunities for members to know and network with their colleagues in other agencies and departments.

#### BE A MEMBER:

LAMAAA membership is open to all current employees of the City who are either performing accounting, auditing or fiscal functions or have the required educational background or degree in accounting but are in a different job classification. Applicants must fill out a membership application form and submit it with a \$10 donation to the LAMAAA representative in his/her department.

### The British and Dominion Social Club



Michael Barnes, President

Anglophiles, unite! Join President Michael Barnes (who works for Harbor Dept.) in celebrating all things British, with fun social events and networking. "We do all kind of different things, from watching live soccer, playing cricket and teaching Highland dancing, to name a few." The Club

meets in Garden Grove. Go to www.britclub.org for more info.

### LA City Employee's Asian American Association

Established in 1971, the Los Angeles City Employees Asian American Association (LACEAAA) was formed to represent employees of Asian/Pacific Islander descent and assist in protecting them from discriminatory acts in their application to, and employment, with the City; and advance employment, education, economic, and social concerns of Asian/Pacific Islanders in City service; and resolve unique work-related problems of any Association member. Call (213) 847-2229 or write to LACEAAA, P.O. Box 86323, Los Angeles, CA 90086 or visit us at www.laceaaa.org.



Douglas Shur, President

### Los Angeles Filipino Assoc. of City Employees

In 1980, the Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE) was organized to serve as an advocate to the fast-growing number of Filipinos in City service. Its primary goal is to promote the general advancement of Filipinos in the City. LAFACE works cooperatively with other minority groups in promoting equal employment opportunities in the City. LAFACE does not limit its function to assisting Filipinos in acquiring employment, promotion, and passing examinations in the City, but also to promoting the economic, educational, social, and cultural advancement of Filipinos in the community. Contact Caroline Lorenzo (213)

# Cooking with the Club

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) 620-0398 or e-mail us at [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com).

### 50 Yard-Line Jalapeños

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1/4 lb. ground beef
- 10-12 popper-size jalapeños
- Small onion
- 1 lb. bacon
- 12 oz to 1lb. Monterey Jack cheese w/jalapeños



#### DIRECTIONS:

Chop onion and brown in small amount of oil. Add hamburger and brown and drain. Grate cheese and mix with hamburger. Cut top of jalapeños and core out the seeds. Slit down to 1/4 inch from bottom. Stuff with hamburger mixture. Wrap slice of bacon around popper. Stick with toothpick if necessary. Grill over coals until done.

### Sun Devil Refried Bean Dip

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 package taco seasoning
- 1 can refried beans
- Tomatoes and scallions, chopped
- Shredded cheese (such as cheddar)



#### DIRECTIONS:

- Mix together taco mix, sour cream and mayonnaise.
  - Add layers (in order from bottom to top):
  - Refried beans
  - Taco mix
  - Shredded cheese
  - Chopped tomatoes and scallions
- For larger gatherings, double the recipe.

**Hint:** when spreading the refried beans in the bottom of your serving dish, you may find this hard since it's just out of the can. Try spooning the beans into a bowl first, then microwave for a short time. This will soften the refried beans, making it easier to spread in your dish.

### Stadium-Grilled Bratwurst

#### INGREDIENTS

- 6 each bratwurst sausages
- 1 chopped onion
- 6 rolls
- Your favorite mustard



#### DIRECTIONS:

Combine the sausages, beer and onion in a saucepan. Simmer for 30 minutes. Drain well and grill for 10 minutes, turning frequently, or until browned on all sides. Serve in rolls with your favorite mustard.

### Trojan Steak

#### INGREDIENTS

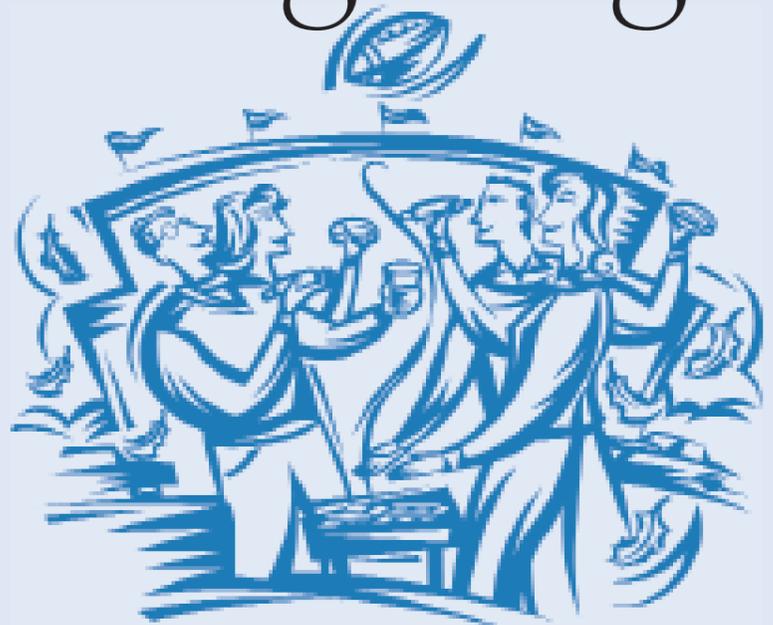
- 2 flank steaks about 2 1/2 lbs.
- 2/3 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup hot pepper sauce
- 1/3 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 4 tbsp dry red wine
- 4 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 2 1/2 tsp dark brown sugar
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 2 tbsp A-1 steak sauce



#### 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 (save the marinade) and grill over hot coals till done, about 5 minutes a side. Meanwhile, bring to a boil and reduce the marinade in a saucepan by about one-third. Let the steaks rest 10 minutes or so. Cut on the grain and serve with reduced sauce poured over.

## Friends + Food + Games: Tailgating!



When you combine families, neighbors and fans with game day (that means pre-game, halftime, and post-game), what do you get? Tailgating!

With football, tailgating is the name of the game. It is as if the football forefathers created football holidays just for us – which requires us to make great football food.

Where did tailgating begin? It would seem that our tailgating forefathers had their first tailgate during the first college football game between Rutgers and Princeton in 1869. Others would argue that Yale had the honor. Or maybe tailgating first happened at other locations around the country. But really, what true tailgater would rather waste time arguing history instead of enjoying a deliciously grilled brat or hot dog?

Here are a few recipes that will do well while you cheer on your favorite team. Take, for instance, the Sun Devil Refried Bean Dip. It is a simple recipe that calls for several ingredients and then mixing them together in a bowl. If you are looking for a low-fat version, substitute non-fat sour cream, low-fat mayonnaise and low fat cheddar cheese. That way, you can reduce the fat content by as much as 60 percent without affecting the flavor.

Trojan Steak is a recipe that requires a marinade; it's necessary that you mari-

nate it for 24 hours. Once the 24 hours are over, it is time to grill it on the barbecue. Believe me, this is a recipe that is up for a national title!

50 Yard Line Jalapeños is another stellar recipe. After grilling, you will be surprised how the jalapeños have mellowed and have a slightly sweet taste.

A tailgate cannot be called as such without the all-important bratwurst. It is the right of passage for diehard football fans. Brats are best cooked on the grill but they can be boiled or sautéed on a pan, too. I personally prefer the grill because I like the slight crispiness that develops on bratwursts when grilling them. After you cook them, it is important to find a mustard variety that you like. Try Stadium-Grilled Bratwurst;

you will want more than just one.

To wash down all of your tailgate favorite dishes, make some of Marviana's Party Punch. From the looks of her beverage recipe, tailgaters everywhere will be making hundreds of gallons of this delicious drink.



### Marviana's Party Punch

By Marviana Jones, Public Works, Sanitation

#### INGREDIENTS

- 4 cups or 4 scoops of lime sherbet
- 2 liters 7-Up or Sprite
- 2 cups crushed pineapples
- 1 jar of maraschino cherries



#### DIRECTIONS:

In a large punch bowl, scoop sherbet in bowl. Add pineapples. Pour soda over sherbet. After glass is filled with party punch, top off with generous amounts of cherries.







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- Plays, musicals, the arts, sports events

### Alive! Newspaper

- Births, weddings, retirements, deaths
- Free Classifieds
- Retirees Corner
- Department of the Month
- DWP news
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized Club information
- Cooking Recipes

### Group Rated Insurance Products

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#### Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check"
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### More Benefits

- Free Notary Service
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## Meet the Club Team

These are the faces behind the Club. Our staff is dedicated to helping our members receive the maximum benefit from their membership. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions about your Club, our counselors are ready to help.

### Need help? Find your Counselor

When contacting the Club, ask for the counselor that handles your department.



**Beverly Haro**  
Member Services Counselor

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**Liz Montes**  
Member Services Counselor

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**Arlene Herrero**  
Member Services Counselor

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Michelle Moreno  
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Sara Fama  
Claims Assistant

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