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City Employees Club of Los Angeles | Vol. 16 • No. 8 | August 2017

# Alive!

Ontario Fire/Police

## LAST CALL

SEE  
PAGE  
24

Airport Safety Officers, unique in the City, say goodbye to each other and their position as L.A. winds down its service at Ontario Intl. Airport.



At Ontario Intl. Airport's Safety Base are, back row, from left: Airport Safety Officer Robert LeCours; Airport Safety Officer Robert Gates, Retired; Police Sgt. Alex Bernard, Retired; Airport Safety Officer Ronald Monroe, Retired; Fire Capt. Delbert Patschull, Retired; Airport Safety Officer Tony DiGorgio; and Airport Safety Officer Mike DeSouza. Center: Senior-most Airport Safety Officer Joshua Ulatowski; Airport Safety Officer Eric Geihm; Fire Capt. Mike Telles; Airport Safety Officer Patrick McPherson; Airport Safety Officer Rick Montorona; and Airport Safety Officer James So. Front: Fire Capt. Wendell Callaway and Airport Safety Officer Gregory Gladson.

Alive! photo by Summy Lam

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\*\*Please consult your tax advisor.





A Message From the CEO

Friends Matter When  
The Gears Grind Above

by John Hawkins,  
President and CEO, The Club

As careers go, civil service is relatively stable, and this of course is a very good thing. Sure, sometimes situations change when the speed of the world makes things a bit shaky. But overall, serving the City is a rewarding and mostly dependable calling.

But there are exceptions, like the Airport Safety Officers at Ontario International Airport right now. This proud group of men, holding a unique job in being both Firefighters/EMTs and Police Officers at the same time, are losing their footing as you read this. I'm sure you've heard that the City sold ONT back to the locals, and that move made jobs like the Safety Officers' redundant. They're expecting official notice any day now that their days at ONT are over forever, and their unique job classification fades into the sunset with them.

So we spent several hours talking to a group of them. And what did they talk about? Their work family. Their friendships. And the respect they have for one another.

Sure, they also mentioned their uneasy work situation as they wait, and their uncertainty of what happens to them now. They were at times melancholy and retrospective; I know I would be. But here's the thing: They have what's most important. They have the kind of bond that can survive nearly anything. When you spend that much time with people you respect, you grow close. They've been a part of each other's weddings. They've helped raise each other's kids. They've raised money for each other's causes. These guys are tight, and that really matters when things are uncertain.



At the Ontario Intl. Airport Safety Base are Airport Safety Officer Greg Gladson (center), with *Alive!* editor John Burnes (left) and Club COO Robert Larios.

Airport Safety Officer **Greg Gladson** showed his class in a tough spot when he pointed out that LAWA made sure there would be no layoffs. His gratitude was genuine and rich with perspective.

The Retired Airport Safety Officers from Ontario meet once a month for breakfast. And now that group will expand, and will be the last living link to the way Ontario used to work.

They're walking away proud, as friends. Nothing can, nothing will change that. Go with your heads high, Airport Safety Officers. You have done your City, and each other, proud.

A quick note: Thanks to **Lucy Reinhardt-Ulatowski**, Retired, Club Member, who told us about this situation. We were looking to find the right story to tell about the City's pullout at Ontario. This was it.

Moving on ... make sure you check out the photos from the retirement party of Club friend **Larry Fukuhara**, who retired as Program Director of Rec and Parks' Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. The photos are hilarious! He definitely went out in style. Congratulations, Larry, for all you have done to educate the City about how critically important sea life is to us on dry land. (And thanks to **Juliette McAllister** and **Gary Florin** for their assistance.)

I'm honored that **Patty Tate** chose to memorialize her late husband, **John Wayne Tate**, Public Works/Street Maintenance, with a sweet reminiscence here in *Alive!* It was very touching. Thanks, Patty, for sharing that part of your life with us.

Have you purchased your Club polo department uniform yet? **Angel Gomez** here at the Club can barely keep them on the shelves. They're a great idea – we'll custom make a polo shirt for everyone in your department, or unit, etc. Talk to Angel, and he'll take care of you.

August brings our usual assortment of *Alive!* late summer goodies – graduations, travel photos, etc. But don't forget to take advantage of **Mariana Guevara's** awesome Club Store deals and spend time having affordable fun with your family before school starts. August is perfect for family togetherness. You'll remember it forever.

JOHN

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

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Behind the Scenes



Airport Safety Officer Greg Gladson (left) and Club COO Robert Larios are photographed by Club Director of Marketing Summy Lam. .



Alive! Cover



IMPORTANT  
Telephone Numbers

<b>The Club's Main Phone Number</b>	<b>(800) 464-0452</b>
<b>The Club's FAX Number</b>	<b>(213) 620-0398</b>
City Bureau of Sanitation Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(800) 773-2489
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593
Deferred Compensation	(888) 457-9460
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728
DWP Employees Association	(213) 367-3146
DWP Health Plan & Medicare	(800) 831-4778
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361
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DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934
DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1692
Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
LACERS	(800) 779-8328
LA Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
LA Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
LA Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
LA Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
LA Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
LA Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
Local 721	(213) 482-6660
Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 ext. 340
Retired LA City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
Worker Compensation	(213) 473-3400



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*Alive!*

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Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months:

\$4,829,061

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Cancer and Critical Illness Insurance	\$455,450.00

Total claims paid  
to Club Members in  
the last 12 months:

\$4,829,061.34



Cecilia Talbot,  
*Director of Claims,  
Member Advocate*



Monica Zamudio,  
*Claims Coordinator*

You probably won't get to meet Cecilia Talbot and Monica Zamudio very often... until you really need them. That's when their 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.



Club Members' Praise

"Monica (Zamudio) was sincerely appreciated for her calm, quiet, professional manner. She showed respect and was extremely helpful in this difficult time."

– Nelda Ferrell, October 2015

The Club's claims service was "fantastic. The City Employees Club was here for me in my difficult time. The book [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf] was enjoyable. I will let my family read the book."

– Vera Edward, October 2015

The Club's claims service "was great. The claim was handled quickly, and the claim adjustor kept me informed. It helped us with the funeral expenses."

– Gail Matsumura

City Employees Club of Los Angeles

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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.

Email us at: [info@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:info@cityemployeesclub.com)

if you have an event you want covered in the *Alive!* or if you have questions about insurance. Or call us at: (800) 464-0452

Member Experience Team

 Noelle Kauffman Manager of Member Services Ext. 105	 Angel Gomez Mobile Man, Uniforms Guy <a href="mailto:agomez@cityemployeesclub.com">agomez@cityemployeesclub.com</a>	 Noah Badgett Club Mobile Team	 Noah Hawkins Club Mobile Team	 Gedina Bergstrom Member Services Counselor Ext. 107	 Dalila Vielma Member Services Counselor Ext. 137
 Jeanette Gadut Member Services Counselor Ext. 110	 Sophia Hawkins Member Services Intern Ext. 104	 Raul Miranda Salsodo Customer Service Representative	 Heidi Arnest Member Services Counselor	 Randy Budihas Member Services Counselor	 Josh Centers Member Service Counselor
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 Summy Lam Director of Marketing
--

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City Employees:  
Let's Talk

Clear advice from the Club's insurance experts.



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Long-Term Care Insurance protects your hard-earned retirement savings and assets from a long-term illness, injury, or difficulties due to aging.

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- Only a small number of people who need long-term care services live in nursing homes; most live at home\*
- Women are more likely to need long-term care services than men. One reason may be their longer life expectancy; at age 90 and over, women outnumber men by nearly three to one\*
- Women develop chronic diseases, such as arthritis and osteoporosis, more often than men\*

### Did you know?

- Medical insurance and Medicare pay for specific care for an acute condition – not for long-term help with daily living
- In most cases, Medicaid would pay for long-term care only after assets were depleted to welfare levels.

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- It's available to you, your spouse/ domestic partner, parents and grandparents
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- Monthly benefit coverages are available from \$1,000 to \$5,000
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\* A Consumer's Guide to Long-Term Care (California Department of Aging)

Contact the Club's Long-Term Care experts for an application. Phone appointments and walk-ins available.

**(800) 464-0452**



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**Ext. 159**

### Don't forget these BENEFITS (they're really important, too):

Club Life Insurance

Club Long-Term Disability Insurance

Club Critical Illness Insurance



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**Patty Pulido**  
Personal Insurance Agent  
**Aug. 17:**  
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.



**Rosa Calderon**  
Personal Insurance Agent  
**Aug. 3:**  
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
**Aug. 31:**  
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.



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- Group Rated Long-Term Disability
- Comprehensive Long-Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance (\$10,000–\$50,000)
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Identity Theft Plan
- Accident Insurance
- Security Builder Plan
- Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan
- Paycheck Protection Plus

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"Club Discount King"  
Robert Larios



More Tickets and Club Discounts

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## Club Store

# A Beautiful Retirement Gift of Art

Art of Honor's quality keepsakes are now available at the Club Store



Consider an Art of Honor gift for that special retiree or City employee of achievement. They deserve the best.

Imagine a spectacular piece of art hanging in a home or an office of a retiring friend or fellow coworker, a beautiful piece that will be the center of conversation for many years to come. And you will be remembered as the one that made it happen.

There is no better way for a group of colleagues or work associates to recognize a retiring friend than with an Art of Honor gift. All Art of Honor creations are custom designed, handmade and personalized. They are the only gift capable of fully recognizing and paying tribute to a lifetime in public service.

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Visit the Club Store and see first-hand the great quality of Art of Honor – the Club is displaying an L.A. City seal art piece for you to see and inspect. It's just one example of the beautiful art pieces available for you to see in the Club Store showroom.

### You can also see them online at:

[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com) or [www.facebook.com/CityEmployeesClub](http://www.facebook.com/CityEmployeesClub)

A unique selection of City Employees, Police Officers and Firefighters' retirement gifts are now carried at the Club Store. One of our representatives will assist you in ordering your customized piece that you will surely be proud to present.

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And it's a Club exclusive – another unique benefit of Club Membership.

Art of Honor, an L.A.-based company, handcrafts three-dimensional pieces in wood and metal that emulate City, County and State seals, Police and Fire badges, and other government agency insignias. The nation's only traveling Memorial Wall honoring the LAPD fallen officers is an example of Art of Honor's fine work, along with Firefighter Glenn Allen's Memorial in the LAFD Museum in Hollywood.

### One of a Kind

Art of Honor creates art made specifically to recognize individual careers. Every legacy art piece is custom designed and handcrafted, using only the highest-quality materials to memorialize life-changing events. ■



Celebrating the Lives of City Employees





Tell us what you think! [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

# Letters to the Editor

## WWII Neighbors On Different Paths

My wife, Diana, is a Club Member, Retired, so I get to read *Alive!*

In the interview with Sgt. Art Spaulding, he stated he was “Right on the Danube River, downstream of Regensburg, having a hell of a good time,” when the war ended. It turns out, we were in the same area around the same time, under quite different circumstances, and, out of necessity, we stayed much longer in the area than Sgt. Spaulding.

At the end of April 1945, we disembarked in Straubing (downstream from Regensburg) from a train that had left our home country, Hungary, and somehow had managed to get through Allied bombings and strafings on the way west. There we were in Bavaria as refugees, a family of four. I was five years old. We ended up in a village named Rattenberg. I still remember vividly the day, almost immediately after May 8, when American soldiers entered Rattenberg, and my parents were worried about being caught with swastikas and Nazi posters that were on display in the schoolhouse where we had found shelter. It turned out nothing happened! However, the soldiers did confiscate all firearms in the village and smashed them against the cornerstone of a church. Food was extremely scarce for us! We gathered berries and mushrooms in the Bavarian Forest, and we were alerted to watch out for deserter SS soldiers hiding in the forest. My father made trips on a borrowed bicycle looking for work to Cham, Straubing, Bogen, Dingolfing and Landshut. I mention these towns because Sgt. Spaulding said he had served as mayor of a couple of German towns in the area, the names of which he doesn’t remember. Maybe the towns he was mayor of were among those I just mentioned!

— Regards, Stephen Felszeghy

**Art Spaulding responds:** *I do remember Straubing on the Danube, because that is where we were billeted for a week or two at the end of the war. I have no recollection of the others where we were the Military Government, because we were in them for such a short time. It’s an interesting story the Felszeghys tell, but not too surprising because of all the dislocations at that time.*

### Club Car Insurance Really Drives Home the Savings

I signed up for the auto insurance with the Employees Club, and they saved me \$400 a year ... and I received a gas card, too! That’s a lot of savings if you ask me, and I had to write this message so that other employees know that the Club is here for their interest. While I was talking to the representative, I learned that they also offer homeowners, renters and watercraft insurance. It just gets better and better. Oh and the representative was very professional and kind.

– Ken Matthews, General Services

### Club’s Dodger Discount Tix Hit a Home Run for Lorena

I had a terrific time at the Dodger games I went to last month with the family. Our seats were super awesome and at a great price! You can’t beat Field Box MVP seating at less than \$100. I used to be a member of other

organizations but canceled them all once I experienced the way the Club does things. I am so very happy to be part of the Club. Keep up the great work!

– Lorena Martinez,  
Public Works/Sanitation

### *Alive!* Updates on Instagram Are Colorful and Informative

It’s been fun following the Club on Instagram. The postings are colorful and informative. I especially like the updates on the next stories the *Alive!* staff is working on for the newspaper. One thing that stands out to me is how busy you all are trying to make our lives better. That’s impressive and much appreciated. Please know that I will always hold the Club in my fondest of memories as a member of the City Employees Club, especially as I close out my career after 36 years in December.

– Esther Jones, DWP



## Robert’s Question of the Month

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer  
[rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com)  
TWITTER: @robertlarioscoo



Fellow City Employees answer the Question of the Month

### Do you prefer Android or Apple?



“It doesn’t matter! I’m retired!”  
—Yolanda Ramirez

“Nothing  
compares to the  
ease of use with  
Apple!”  
— Sunday Adeoye,  
Airports



“Android all  
the way!”  
—Anna Ruiz,  
LAPD



“I’m with Apple  
and plan to stay  
with Apple.”  
— Linda Brown,  
Harbor



“If you are with  
Apple, go to an  
Android instead  
like me.”  
—Claude Gonzales,  
City Clerk



“Be serious;  
Android is the  
best!”  
—Collin Horsey,  
Airports



“Android for the  
freedom; Apple  
tends to lock you  
in.”  
—Valerie Daily,  
Airports



“Apple! Apple!  
Apple.”  
—Reina Legaspi,  
Airports



“Android is too  
complicated, so  
I use Apple.”  
—Emy Arceno,  
Airports



### CORRECTIONS

**Picture Perfect:** In last month’s “Picture Perfect,” for one of the winning entries, we ran the correct photo but attributed it to the wrong person. The winning photo is reprinted here, and the correct name is Joshua Martinez, Rec and Parks. Congrats, Joshua, and we apologize for the mistake.



“Vasquez Rocks. My son, Maddox, couldn’t get enough of the rattlesnake in the interpretive center.”

— Richard Radmacher, Retired, DWP

**John’s comment:** I love Vasquez Rocks, and that specific formation. It’s where Capt. Kirk defeated that lizard-like bad guy ... but I digress. It looks like both Maddox and the rock in the background are working together, reaching forward and upward in a perfectly coordinated effort. Who knew that rocks could imitate a child? Nicely done!

**Cuba Travel:** Also, in Michael Barnes’ Cuba travelogue on page 11 of last month’s issue, he listed methods that Americans can use to travel to the once-restricted island nation. Just after we went to press, however, President Donald Trump announced that he intended to revise the U.S. Government’s policies for Americans traveling to Cuba. If travel to Cuba interests you, please refer to the State Dept.’s Website for current policies. – Ed.

## SUMMER ROAD TRIPS

Start with sizzling Club deals!

– Go to the Club Webstore for details:  
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Airports

Story by Officer Rob Pedregon, Airport Police  
Photo by CSI Officer Shawn Smith



From left: Lt. Richard Hinkle, Asst. Chief of Airport Police Dan Llorens, Officer Shannon Weathersbee, Asst. Chief of Airport Police John Wallace, and Capt. Tyrone Stallings.

# Guardswoman Is New Officer

## Airport Police welcomes new Officer.

In a ceremony held July 7 at the LAPD Elysian Park Academy, 19-year Air National Guard Veteran Officer Shannon Weathersbee took the oath of service and was sworn in as the newest member of the Airport Police.

Officer Weathersbee and her 48 classmates, which included LAPD graduate Officer Raymond Armenta, brother of Airport Police Officer Xavier Armenta, made up LAPD Academy Class 1-17. Officer Weathersbee, a Security Services Specialist during Operation Noble Eagle, fitness buff and avid bodybuilding competitor, was selected by Class 1-17 as Class Vice President and was presented with the class Humanitarian Award.

Before swearing in the newest Airport Police Officer, Airport Police Assistant Chief Daniel Llorens spoke to Officer Weathersbee and said, “You have my gratitude for your service to our country, your patriotism and for your representation of our Division while in the academy.”

Officer Weathersbee will now begin a six-month Field Training Program specific to aviation law enforcement under the guidance of a field-training officer before being assigned to the Patrol Services Section.

Congratulations, Officer Weathersbee, and welcome to the City!

# JOIN A Toastmasters Group

**Club Members:** Gain confidence in your public speaking and leadership skills; two City Toastmasters groups invite you to join!

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**DWP:**  
The Water and Power Toastmasters Club  
**Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m.**  
111 N. Hope St., Room 1171  
(last Wednesdays in room 1471)

**QUESTIONS:**  
Eric Yoshida (213) 367-3962

**FIRE AND POLICE PENSIONS:**  
The City of Angels Toastmasters Club 251  
**Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
City Hall South Room 103  
111 E First St. downtown

**QUESTIONS:**  
Barbara Nobregas (213) 928-9771  
or (213) 847-4707

Guests welcome!

**PUBLIC WORKS:**  
The Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club  
**Wednesdays, 12:05 p.m.**  
1149 S. Broadway  
6th Floor Conference, Room 6004

**QUESTIONS:**  
Ivan Gerson (213) 485-1169 or  
Dominic Buenaventura (213) 847-0593

**LAPD:**  
The LAPD Code One Toastmasters Club  
**Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
LAPD Communications Building  
100 N. Los Angeles St.,  
third floor media room

**QUESTIONS:**  
(818) 389-0803

# PAYROLL OR PENSION DEDUCTED

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Pasadena, CA

Cabot & Sons  
Pasadena, CA

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Fontana, CA

Inglewood Mortuary  
Inglewood, CA

Akes Family Funeral Homes  
Corona & Riverside, CA

**Getting started is easy. I can help you right away!**

**Tiffany Sy**  
Club Member Services Counselor  
(800) 464-0452  
tsy@cityemployeesclub.com





# Featured Club Businesses

Get your business in front of 30,000 City Employees and their families. The Alive! newspaper is mailed to over 30,000 recipients each month throughout Los Angeles and beyond. The Alive! is also viewable digitally from all over the world. If you would like to feature your business below or anywhere else in the Alive!, contact Summy Lam, Director of Marketing, at [slam@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:slam@cityemployeesclub.com) to start your ad placement right away!

ADVERTISE IN THE ALIVE!  
[AdSales@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:AdSales@cityemployeesclub.com)



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Economic/Workforce Dev.



Photos courtesy of EWDD.

# Happy Anniversary!

**Economic/Workforce Dev. celebrates its fourth birthday.**

On June 22, Economic and Workforce Development (EWDD) hosted a fourth birthday party celebration for the department and its employees with a custom cake, refreshments and a raffle. The party was held to commemorate the effective date of Ordinance 182500, which authorized the creation of the department. EWDD has successfully provided best in class economic and workforce development services for Los Angeles for the past four years, and counting!

Thanks go to Amelia Marucut and Jamie Francisco for inviting the Club.

Economic/Workforce Development General Manager Jan Perry, Club Member, and staff celebrate the department's fourth birthday.



Front, from left: Economic/Workforce Development staff Joanne Lu, May Smith, Jessica Domanay, Daysi Hernandez and Nyssa Buck. Back: Anthony Carrillo and Alex Lakshatnov.



Economic/Workforce Development General Manager Jan Perry, Club Member, and Executive Officer Michael Cole stand with a custom 16-inch in diameter strawberry and vanilla birthday cake baked in the shape of Economic/Workforce Development's logo.



Economic/Workforce Development employees Lance Bailey (left) and Eryn Hillard enjoy the department's fourth birthday party. Lance is sampling a plate of pansit, a Filipino noodle dish served at birthdays to symbolize a long life.



Economic/Workforce Development employee and pastry chef extraordinaire Celena Heredia baked a special 16-inch in diameter strawberry and vanilla cake decorated with Economic/Workforce Development's logo to celebrate the department's fourth birthday.



Economic/Workforce Development employees at the fourth birthday party played a game where they learned interesting facts about new employees. Front, from left: Firdaus Landou, Norman Tanada and Rowena Workman. Back: Jimmy Lee, Chris Rajapaske, Chang Kim and Desiree Guzzetta.



Economic/Workforce Development staff pose with a sign advertising the department's YouthSource Centers, from left: Dennis Parks, Karina Henriquez, Khalid Alia, Tenesha Dorsey, Kenyatta Weaver, Ramon Sierra and Fabre Atkins-Nwadiwe.







# *Alive!* AROUND THE WORLD



## Alaska



**Susan Manzo, LAFD**; husband, Chris Manzo; niece, Jane Girard; and nephews, Sam and Henry Girard visited the port at Ketchikan, Alaska.

## Peru



**Chaplain Timothy J. Cruz Sr., ITA**, and his wife, Maria Isabel Cruz, preached at Praise Chapel Peru in Trujillo, Peru, bringing relief after devastating floods wiped out the church building.

## California Arroyo Grande



*Alive!* editor John Burnes on the vintage bridge across the creek near the main street in Arroyo Grande, along the central coast.

## Mexico



(Right photo) "This round tower at Chichén Itzá, in northern Yucatán, has been called an observatory since 1875, when the idiosyncratic explorer August Le Plongeon described it. He probably was persuaded by the resemblance of the top of the building to 19th-century observatory domes, and Erich von Däniken's pseudoscientific enthusiasm for ancient astronauts in 1970 led him to say the same thing in *Chariots of the Gods?* Of course, the Caracol looks like an observatory because half the tower roof is caved in. Modern observatories have movable domes to allow telescopes to be pointed at selected objects. The 10th-century Maya who constructed the Caracol tower had no telescopes, but they did observe the sky. Astronomically aligned windows in the upper tower of the cylindrical building may suggest Venus was monitored there, and another window may have targeted a symbolically significant sunset."

**Intrepid traveler and teacher Dr. Ed Krupp, Director of the Griffith Observatory, Rec and Parks**, visited Mexico in April to present a lecture and re-examine a few ancient Mayan sites in Yucatán and Quintana Roo.

(Left photo) "Cobà, the ruins of a very large ancient Mayan ceremonial center about 120 miles and three hours south of Cancún, is between 1,400 and 1,100 years old. Its pyramids include this unusual round, or oval, structure at the junction of two ceremonial roads."



## Europe

"We had a wonderful road trip with *Alive!* in my backpack. We traveled from Barcelona to Nice through Girona, Andorra, Carcassonne, and Marseille. Our niece and her family from Germany came to visit us in Barcelona and brought sweet Emilia with them, and that was the real highlight of our trip." – **Sepou Ohanian, Airports**



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- Bring your recent copy of *Alive!* with you when you travel.

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- Attach your picture to an email, and send it to us, and we'll publish it.

Send to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



The Club

The Club's new custom-made department polo shirts use premium-quality materials.



# Polos For All!

Does your department have its polo shirts yet? Order yours today!

The Club offers a long list of departments available for custom-made polo shirts, and the list is expanding all the time. The current list is on page 38. Is your department on the list? What are you waiting for?

This Club-exclusive product is for everyone who is proud of his or her department. Now you can show it!

The reviews are in – the polo shirts are excellent.

And best of all – the Club will come to your workplace to show you samples and organize your order.

**GREAT POLO SHIRTS:** The Club's department polo shirts are first-class all the way. The Club begins with men's and women's premium cotton polo shirts, and then stitches a great City seal patch and the name of your department onto them.

**AWESOME CONVENIENCE:** The Club's Angel Gomez can bring samples to your office so you can see the quality, decide the colors, and so forth. It's even better if your section is having a meeting. Write to the Club, and we'll take it from there.

**ORDER FORM:** When you're ready, use the convenient order form, included in the ad on page 38.

*"Thank you so much for my polos – great quality and colors. I am always getting complimented and asked where I got them. I say the Club Store on Second Street! Great prices, too."*

– Cindy Serrano,  
Emergency Management

*Order your department polo shirts today.*

Order form: When you're ready, use the convenient order form, included in the ad on page 38.

## CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues  
sponsored by the City Employees  
Club of Los Angeles • August 2017



# Softball Pushed to Fall

New season expects to start in late fall.

Welcome to the 2017 season of Club softball! Games are scheduled to start in the Los Angeles area sometime in late fall. Stay tuned for field locations and official game schedules.

But for now, go ahead and register your team.

### Who can join?

Managers of teams with at least nine players are welcome to register.

All new players must be Club Members and agree to all regular Club Membership rules and regulations.

### FREE AGENTS: Want to play but don't have a team?

Are you a softball player who's not part of a team but would like to play on one? Contact the Sports Dude at (800) 464-0452 x 134, or via email [rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com)

Players who are not Club Members must join to play in the Club Softball League. Some exceptions might be made for specific relatives of Club Members. Contact the Sports Dude for more information. Club membership fees are \$2.25 a pay period for City and DWP employees and \$2.50 a month for retired City employees. Exceptions to eligibility requirements are offered for relatives of Club members over 18 years of age. Players who are not eligible to play may cause forfeit of games and/or season.

All new players must be City, State or County employees. Exceptions must be approved by the league office.

**This is a co-ed league:  
for both men and women.**

### RETURNING FOR 2017: The Commish, Lady Smith!

Read Lady's comments each month in *Alive!* during the softball season.



## Hoops, Bowling, Softball: Club Sports on the Horizon

The Club Sports Office welcomes all individual players to inquire about the Club's sports leagues. Currently, the Club is coordinating efforts for basketball, bowling and softball. Please contact [rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com) or call the Club at (800) 464-0452 to be placed as a free agent and for more information.

Visit the Club's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts for highlights, updates and other Club Sports news.



**RLACEI**

## CITY RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS

### Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



Ed Harding, RLACEI President  
www.rlacei.com  
Contact him: (800) 678-4145 Ext. 703  
E-mail: edwardjharding@rlacei.com

#### Change of Address?

If you change your address, notify Cliff Cannon, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145, x725, or cell: (310) 218-6646. Or write to Cliff: 1942 Radlett Ave., Carson, CA 90746.

#### Have News About Yourself?

Contact Mary Beetz, call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 711

### Three Retirees Groups Hold Events; Make Sure You're at the Right One

#### RESERVATION LINES:

RLACEI events: (800) 678-4145, Ext. 701

DWP events: (949) 388-1206 (Dolores Foley)

LARFPA events: (888) 288-5063

**AUG. 10:** RLACEI annual corporation meeting, elections and picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge

**SEPT. 6:** LARFPA general meeting and election of officers

**DEC. 7:** RLACEI holiday party and board meeting, Grace E. Simons Lodge

**DEC. 10:** LARFPA Christmas party

#### RLACEI Website

Hal Danowitz asks you to visit the RLACEI Website at [www.rlacei.com](http://www.rlacei.com) to find the latest retirement news. If you find it helpful, or have suggestions for improvement, call Hal at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 707.

#### Contact the LA City Employees' Retirement System

The Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System is at 202 W. First Street, Suite 500, (LA Times Building), Los Angeles, CA 90012. Hours: 8AM-5PM. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans. [www.lacers.org](http://www.lacers.org)

### DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, President  
Phone: (949) 388-1206  
E-mail: [vincedolores@gmail.com](mailto:vincedolores@gmail.com)  
[www.dwpretirees.org](http://www.dwpretirees.org)

### Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



Robert L. Olsen, President  
Phone: (323) 283-4441  
Fax: (626) 285-1461  
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,  
Temple City, CA 91780  
[www.larfpa.org](http://www.larfpa.org)

## Saying Goodbye to Helen, Americo Leaves Openings

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

### President's Report By Edward J. Harding President, RLACEI

I just received sad news. At our July general meeting, Directors Helen Salgado and Americo Garza informed me that they will be retiring from our organization at the end of this year.

Helen and I joined the organization at about the same time 23 years ago. Helen was the Membership Chairman for 21 years and did an excellent job. She states that it is time to pass on the reigns to someone new, bringing new ideas to the organization.

Americo Garza has been in our organization for more than 25 years. He is the Chairman of the Entertainment Committee and continues to do an excellent job making sure everything is done to per-

fection for all our members to enjoy. He is resigning so he can spend time with his family and extended family, and he plans to travel with his wife, Shirley.

Americo and Shirley have been very good friends of my wife, Martha, and me. We are going to miss them very much.

RLACEI and our Members will miss Helen and Americo – they are family!

Their retirement will leave RLACEI in need of two Directors. Those interested in becoming a RLACEI Director, please write to Neil Ricci at 348 21st Place, Santa Monica, CA 90402 and submit a resumé.

On a different note, don't forget our picnic at noon Aug. 10 at Grace E. Simons Lodge. It's coming up fast! ■

## Study: Public Pension Cuts Would Hurt Economy



Michael R. Wilkinson

### LACERS Board Update, By Michael R. Wilkinson

All you hear from the crowd that hates (and secretly envies) public pensions is that we collectively are a bunch of greedy, overpaid public workers who are living high off the hog while our cities and states are being destroyed by our overly generous pensions.

Sometimes I just don't know where to start. They forget that we earned these pensions over many years; we don't get Social Security, and we paid into the pension plan. Further, private industry, not government workers, took the pensions away from the private sector. Why blame us?

Well, here is another interesting bit of information. A study from the National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems shows that continuing to dismantle traditional public employee pensions in favor of 401(k)-type defined contribution plans will hurt not just the retirees but the broader economy.

"Economic Loss: The Hidden Cost of Prevailing Pension Reforms" reports that the rate of economic growth will be hard hit if the cuts to state and local

public employee pension plans continue. A recent study by Pensionomics shows that spending by Retirees stimulates local economies, and defined-benefit pension plans have stimulated as much as \$1.2 trillion in national economic output. The negative impact of pension cuts has an immediate effect, and an even greater multiplier effect as it ripples through the economy. The study estimates that if pensions continue to be dismantled at the same rate experienced over the last 10 years, the national economy will lose \$3.3 trillion by 2025.

On a national level, economic growth is projected to go down from 4 percent to 3.29 percent with the cuts to pension plans.

On the state level, the California rate of growth would decline from 5.02 percent growth to only 3.05 percent. This projects a loss in the California economy by 2025 of more than \$1 billion.

Another untoward result of pension cutbacks is an increase in income inequality, according to a 2016 NCPERS study. The study showed that even single changes to dismantle public pensions in a state have caused a 15 percent spike in income inequality, changing consumption patterns, leading to more inefficiencies in the economy. ■

## Interest Rates at Issue in Financial World Outside L.A.



Michael Karsch

### Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

To most of us, interest is an essential consideration when borrowing money, such as for re-financing our house mortgage. The lower the rate, the better. But interest has other meanings in the financial world, namely how much money a lender can expect to make when extending a loan to someone. To them the higher the interest rate, the better. Once the lender makes the loan, he or she can relax knowing that they will earn a fixed rate of return for the duration of the loan. Many older retirees may have invested in interest-bearing accounts (such as certificates of deposit) for the reliable future to assure a steady income stream, whether they had a public pension or not.

For those without a pension, an interest rate-based investment was good before interest rates began to fall, due to actions by the market and the

Federal Reserve. Now we see the Federal Reserve begin to raise interest rates; it's good for some, bad for others. It's becoming more expensive to borrow, but to those who are lending, they are making more money. Low interest rates may have helped many people to re-finance their home loans, but the economies of many industrial countries showed little growth since 2009 despite low interest rates, so many want to see rates go up in hopes of stimulating more activity. This is what central banks are now beginning to do. Our Federal Reserve has raised the rate several times this year, but the European Central Bank has signaled it is not ready to wind down its large monetary stimulus, "dashing hopes in Northern Europe that the era of ultra low interest rates might be drawing to a close." (*The Wall Street Journal*, May 30, 2017).

The Milken Institute Review notes that in Japan since 1989, their stocks (equities) have performed much worse than in other industrialized countries,



Interest Rates at Issue in Financial World Outside L.A. (cont.)

and their interest rates are below zero or just above zero. The Bank of Canada reported at the end of June that it was considering a raise in the short-term interest rate, due to an excess slack in the Canadian economy. Looking at the Bank of England, the European Central Bank, and the Federal Reserve, a Wall Street Journal report saw a growing debate over raising interest rates to stimulate their economies – was it too early? Low interest rates have been supported by massive bond buying, but it may be time for a change. This “easy money” policy may be showing negative side effects, such as in Japan over the last 30 years. German fiscal officials have complained for some time that low interest rates harm savers and pensioners.

Meanwhile, the San Francisco Civil Grand Jury reported in late June that its retirement system threatens the financial future of the city (San Francisco is a city and county combined, with a Board of Supervisors but no City Council, and a mayor). The

city owes the retirement system \$5.81 billion, which is more than half of the City’s \$8.94 billion budget. The pension system is 77.8 percent funded, which is a lot better than most pensions, but still below what is desirable, usually 80 percent. The underfunding is ascribed to several voter-approved propositions between 1996 and 2008, which caused \$3.5 billion in retroactive retirement benefit increases, while some of the measures reduced some pension liabilities. The Grand Jury report made several recommendations to produce a final report on the pension system in 2018: disclose financial details for any benefit increases; show each component of the debt owed by the city to the retirement system; and establish a permanent retirement system oversight committee to report to the voters in 2018 on how to reduce pension liabilities, including changes to a hybrid Defined Benefit/Defined Contribution plan. ■

Say Thanks to Sam; Retires As Commissioner Oct. 1

LARFPA



Lee Kebler

Legend retires. Fire and Police Pensions Commissioner Sam Diannitto announced that Oct. 1 would be the last date that he would serve as a Commissioner. He served 27 years as an active Firefighter Representative and an additional 17 years when he was elected in 2000, when retirees were authorized to serve on the Board of the Fire and Police Pensions System. Sam was instrumental in many changes and improvements to our pension system that has made it one of the best operated and funded systems in the country. He also had an outstanding 43-year career in the LAFD, rising to the rank of Assistant Chief.

A great round of applause and *thanks* to Sam for all the many, many things he has done for our Retirees.

The latest “Pension Perspective” has an interesting article announcing the coming “Alive and Well Audit.” The pension system’s last audit was conducted in 2012 of 540 Retirees 90 years of age or older. Since that

time, they have developed a procedure that gives them monthly checks on all pension payments to verify that our Retirees are “Alive and Well.” Recent pension fraud cases in New York, Japan and Florida have alerted the board to verify that there aren’t any fraudulent cases in our pension system. They decided to audit the Retirees 95 and older to make sure there are no cheaters in our system.

While we’re talking about age, the oldest retiree in our pension system is Florence Kinney, 105 years young, a police widow. The oldest sworn member is Delbert Jones, 101, a Fire member and only two months older than Lindo Giacomuzzi, 101, the oldest sworn Police Officer.

I’m looking forward to seeing you at our general meeting Sept. 6, at Grace E. Simons Lodge.

Be sure and check out our new Website at [www.larfpa.org](http://www.larfpa.org). ■

Come to the Picnic!

RLACEI



Mary Beetz

LACERS Update By Mary Beetz

The RLACEI will be hosting its annual summer picnic at 11:30 a.m. Aug. 10 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Dr., 90012, by Dodger Stadium. **Cost: Free.**

The gathering will also include a corporation meeting and elections.

We haven’t published directions to the Simons Lodge in quite awhile. And since I want to make sure as many of you as possible come for the fun, here are the directions. **Join us Aug. 10!**

Directions:

- 5 Freeway Traveling North: Exit Stadium Way. Turn left on Riverside Drive. Turn left on Stadium Way. Turn right at the top of the hill to Elysian Park Drive. The lodge is at the end on the right.
- 5 Freeway Traveling South: Exit Stadium Way. Turn left on Stadium Way. Turn right at the top of the hill at Elysian Park Drive. The lodge is at the end to the right. ■

For Retired Club Members

The Best Years

CONTACT THE CLUB:



**Tiffany Sy**  
Club Member Services Counselor, In-house  
(800) 464-0452, Ext. 202  
[TSy@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:TSy@cityemployeesclub.com)  
[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)

RETIREMENT HELPLINE

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Cliff Cannon. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA and LAFCU. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership. Each officer’s extension is listed below.

**Los Angeles City Employees’ Retirement System:** (800) 779-8328

**RLACEI Retirement Counselors and Retiree Helplines** (800) 678-4145

• Mary Beetz	Ext. 711
• Cliff Cannon (membership)	Ext. 715
• Hal Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Michael Karsch	Ext. 704
• Gary Mattingly	Ext. 702
• Phillip Orland	Ext. 709
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714
• Helen Salgado	Ext. 713
• Michael A. Perez	Ext. 705
• Tom Stemnock	Ext. 708
• Michael Wilkinson	Ext. 712
Questions:	Ext. 0
RSVP:	Ext. 701
<b>DWP Retirement Plan Office</b>	<b>(213) 367-1722</b>

RLACEI:

**Officers**  
Edward Harding: President  
Tom Stemnock: First Vice President  
Phillip Orland: Second Vice President  
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer

**Committee Chairpersons**  
Mary Beetz: Publicity  
Cliff Cannon: Membership  
Hal Danowitz: Finance  
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation  
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating  
Michael R. Wilkinson, Legal and Legislative  
Tom Stemnock: Audit and Golf

**Directors**  
Mary Beetz  
Cliff Cannon  
Americo Garza  
Michael Karsch  
Gary Mattingly  
Michael A. Perez  
Neil Ricci  
Helen Salgado  
Michael R. Wilkinson





Retirees, don’t forget this month’s annual RLACEI summer picnic. See you there!

**Almost Picnic Time!**

**Aug. 10, 11:30 a.m. Grace E. Simons Lodge**

Make your reservations now. Call (800) 678-4145 ext. 701.



# The Best Years

## For Retired Club Members

# Food and Fun in New Orleans



Hal and Evelyn postpone a trip to Cabo and start a U.S. road trip from the Big Easy instead. **Part 1.**

2013 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

On May 19, we flew from LAX to New Orleans to begin our two-week-plus road trip adventure. This was an alternative trip because of Hurricane Odile in Cabo San Lucas in September 2014, when we were scheduled to spend a week in Cabo. Our trip was canceled because of the damage done to the area. Our timeshare resort allowed us to bank the week for use later. Two years later, we remembered that we had not used the week and decided to go to New Orleans and then drive back to Los Angeles. We spent five days in NOLA (New Orleans, La.), picked up a car and drove back to L.A. by way of Natchez and Vicksburg, Miss.; Dallas and San Antonio, Tex.; Las Cruces, N.M.; the Grand Canyon, Ariz.; a stop in Las Vegas; and then home. The road trip took around 17 days. We had not been to NOLA since Hurricane Katrina.

New Orleans is situated on a bend of the Mississippi River 100 miles from its mouth. It has been the chief city of Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico's busiest northern port since the early 1700s. Founded by the French, ruled for 40 years by the Spanish and bought by the United States in the 1803 Louisiana Purchase, New Orleans is known for its distinct Creole culture and vibrant history. Significant battles of the War of 1812 and the Civil War were fought over the city.

We landed in NOLA around 3:15 p.m. on American Airlines. We took a cab to our hotel, the Wyndham Avenue Plaza on St. Charles Avenue in the Garden District. We exchanged the Cabo week with RCI (a timeshare exchange company). NOLA was the only place we could find to go that we liked during our time frame. The Wyndham is in a good location, about two miles from the French Quarter and on the trolley line, which combined with Uber made getting around very easy. The cab ride from the airport was a fixed \$36 for two people. We had a nice one-bedroom unit on a corner and it was quiet.

We were meeting friends from Atlanta and L.A. while in NOLA. It was graduation weekend so between the tourists and grad families it was busy.

After we settled in, we took Uber to Cochon (930 Tchoupitoulas St.) for dinner at one of the top places, according to Yelp. We met both sets of friends and had a round table for six upstairs, and that helped with the noise level. The food was Southern reinvented – the barbecue ribs were smoked. Everyone enjoyed the food, and the place had a very good bar. Prices were very reasonable. My drink of Buffalo Trace bourbon in L.A. was \$14; here it was \$8.

After dinner, we walked back to the French Quarter to the famous Pat O'Brien's (718 Rue St. Peter). There were very large crowds, of course, as it was Friday night. We stayed a while and took Uber back to our hotel.

The French Quarter, also known as the Vieux Carré or the Vieux Carré Historic District, is the oldest section of the city of New Orleans. After New Orleans (*La Nouvelle-Orléans* in French) was founded in 1718 by Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville, it developed around the *Vieux Carré* ("Old Square,"), a central square. The district is more commonly called the French Quarter today, or simply the Quarter, related to changes in the city with American immigration after the Louisiana Purchase.

Most of the existing historical buildings were constructed in either the late 18th century, during the city's period of Spanish rule, or during the first half of the 19th century, after U.S. annexation and statehood. The district as a whole has been designated as a National Historic Landmark, with numerous contributing buildings that are separately deemed significant. It is both a prime tourist destination and attractive for local residents.



Dinner on Hal's birthday with friends.



Lafayette Cemetery No. 1.



Evelyn.



The oaks at Oak Alley Plantation.



This is the kind of railcar Hal and Evelyn had to climb through.

The next day's plans were for using the Hop-On Hop-Off bus to see the sights, after coffee and beignets.

The next morning (May 20), we met our friends from Atlanta at Cafe du Monde for beignets and coffee. We took the trolley from in front of our hotel. The regular trolley cost was \$1.25 one-way or \$3 for a day pass. Seniors ride for 40 cents, the best bargain in town. The trolley's last stop on St. Charles at the eastern end is at Canal Street. We then walked about 15 minutes to Jackson Square, where we joined the line to get into Cafe du Monde. It was raining lightly as we waited, and then it started to really pour. We had an umbrella, so it wasn't too bad, and were seated almost immediately. We had four orders of beignets (three fried square doughnuts covered in powdered sugar per order) and coffee for \$24 for the four of us. Yum!

While eating, the rain stopped and we ordered Hop-On Hop-Off bus tickets online because you can save \$10 on the \$49 price. The ticket was good for 24 hours. One complete loop took two hours, and you could get on and off at 18 different stops. Hop On Hop Off buses are a great way to start your trip in any city because they provide a good overview of the attractions, and there is a guide on board to provide a narrative on the tour. We got off to walk through the Garden District and the Lafayette Cemetery No. 1. Because most of NOLA is at or below sea level, people are buried above ground in mausoleums. When the mausoleum fills up, the bottom persons' remains are collected, put in a sack and pushed towards the back of the mausoleum where there is a hole, and the bag is dropped into a space below with a ten-foot pole, hence the term "I wouldn't touch it with a ten-foot pole." From the cemetery, it was a short walk to St. Charles Street for the short trolley ride to our hotel.

That night, we had dinner at Peche (800 Magazine St.), also in the Warehouse District. We used Uber again, which seemed to be the best way to get around, along with the trol-

ley. The restaurant was primarily a fish and raw bar. Evelyn and I had the whole trout. Our friends ordered a chicken dish. There was a mix-up with our order, which delayed us getting our food. While we waited, they brought us a tuna appetizer and then gave us dessert and coffee at no charge. I like to see a restaurant step up and admit a mistake. They handled it very well. The food was very good. You don't stay open in NOLA unless your food is good.

We walked back to Canal Street and spent some time catching up with our friends at their hotel, the Marriott. We had coffee there at \$4 a cup. More than Starbucks! Then we took the trolley back to our hotel.

The third day, May 21, we had breakfast near our hotel at the Trolley Stop Café – great food at very good prices. Ham and eggs went for \$6.50. They were open 24/7, and we got there just before the after-church crowd. There was not an empty table in sight. The biscuits were right out of the oven and light as a feather.

We planned on taking a tour to the Oak Alley Plantation. We'd done this before, but our friends had not. The tour left from the Gray Line station at Jackson Square. The Uber ride there cost about \$8. We had trouble finding the bus – when we got to the right place we couldn't cross the railroad tracks because a very large freight train blocked our path. We didn't have to worry about the bus leaving without us because the freight train was blocking the bus from leaving, too. After we waited about 15 minutes, people started climbing through the train and over to the other side. I wish I had a

picture of Evelyn and I climbing through the end of a freight car (see picture of car), but we made it over to the other side without getting injured. This put us and the entire tour about a half-hour behind schedule, but we had a story to tell.

Weather that day called was for heavy rain, but we seemed to miss most of it on the hour ride to Oak Alley Plantation. The driver was very knowledgeable on the history of southern Louisiana and also on Hurricane Katrina. He didn't take a breath seemingly the whole time it took to get to the plantation.

The plantation is about 50 miles from NOLA along the Mississippi River. You can't see much of the river because of the large levees on both sides to control flooding. The name Oak Alley is because of the quarter mile of 300-year-old Virginia Live Oak trees that lead of to the plantation house were spaced in two long rows, creating a canopy over the long drive. This area of Louisiana has been and still is a significant producer of sugar cane; only in recent years have farmers added soybeans.

The tour included a 40-minute walking tour of the house with a guide. After that there was an unguided walk about the grounds. There were reproduction slave cabins, a blacksmith shop, and a restaurant and gift shop on the 1200-acre still-active farm. The cost was \$69 per person and the total time took about 4.5 hours. The driver took a different route going back so we saw a lot of the wetlands – remember that much of the area is below sea level.

We got back around 5 p.m. and decided to go to dinner. We had a reservation at Dominica (123 Baronne St.) at 6:45 p.m., but they were happy to see us and we got a table early. It was a nice casual Italian restaurant with very good pizza. Italian was a nice change from the previous nights. I have a feeling you can't go wrong in any restaurant in NOLA.

Next month we'll finish our time in NOLA with a visit the World War II Museum. ■



# RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD



Take the Club  
with you,  
wherever  
you go!

Bring your recent copy of ***Alive!*** with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you **holding a copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. **Send to:** [talkback@cityemployees-club.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployees-club.com)



## Central Europe



Budapest, Hungary.



Vienna, Austria.



Wurzburg, Germany.

"The last time I sent pictures from my vacation was in 2000, so I thought it was time again! This year, my wife and I were so thankful to be able to take a Viking River Cruise from Amsterdam through Germany, Austria and Hungary. We are so blessed with our health and thankful to be able to share this vacation with your readers."

— Eleanor and Ernest Alamillo, Retired, DWP

## Greece

**Allene Buchanan, Retired, LAPD**, on a yacht trip to the Greek Islands, stopped first to see the Parthenon and other antiquities of the Acropolis.



"The background is Athens and the theater of Herod Atticus, built by the Romans in 161 AD and still used today for performances."



"Our transportation was the yacht Harmony G, which is 177 feet long and carries a maximum of 40 passengers. Its smaller size allows for navigating into the harbors of, and tying up to, the docks of small islands and beaches. We traveled the Aegean, Ionian and Mediterranean Seas."



"My sister and travel companion, Rose Ann Schwartz, with me on the deck of the Harmony G., docking at Monemvassia. This small ship was half the fun."



"Sightseeing on Mykonos. Other stops/islands included Delos (birth place of Apollo), Santorini, Crete, Kythira (island of Aphrodite), Monemvassia, Mycenae (home to the Cyclops and Agamemnon's tomb), Nafplion, Hydra and Kea."

## Southeast Asia

**Larry Campita, Retired, Controller's Office**, and his wife, Fita, traveled to Vietnam and Bali.



Vinh Trang Pagoda, Vietnam



Tirtha Empul Temple, Bali, Indonesia



Tanah Lot Temple, Bali Indonesia



Mekong River Delta tour, Vietnam

## Northern Italy



Here are **Lana and Bob Perino, Retired, Animal Services**, in Northern Italy. "These pictures were taken in Portofino and the island of Saint Giulio (Isola di San Giulio) on Lake Orta in the Piedmont Region of Italy."



## Cuba



**Thomas Vercher, Retired, Library**, took a bucket list trip to Havana, Cuba. "Lovely people were smiling and dancing," he reports. "The food and food were fantastic. Cuba Libre!"

"I want to return as soon as possible."



## Greece



**Arlette Menard, Retired, DWP (and current Library employee)** traveled to Greece.

"I've finally remembered to send along a travel photo before it becomes ancient history," she writes. "Speaking of ancient history, here I am at Delphi, Greece — famous for the Oracles - at the end of May."



# The Best Years

## For Retired Club Members



## Achieving Stronger Mental Resilience

By Tara Miller, LACERS Well Program Manager



Most of us have experienced a challenging situation that, at the time may have seemed insurmountable and yet, we persevered. But what if we had not, or could not adapt? What determines why some people adjust well to life-changing or stressful situations while others struggle to “bounce back?”

Resilience is the capacity to adjust and cope within a given situation while maintaining a positive outlook and perspective on the future. This mental buoyancy can serve our wellbeing in many ways, such as by transforming unexpected outcomes to tolerable, or even enlightening, experiences. Best of all, resilience is not an inherent trait, but more of a learned behavior. This means that, like a muscle that gains strength over time with the appropriate tools like free weights, good nutrition and regular stretching, one’s mental resilience becomes stronger with focus, flexibility and regular, healthy use.

According to the American Psychological Association (APA), development of mental resilience is not age- or demographic-centric, so anyone, at any stage of life, can foster this life-preserving attribute. As a strategic roadmap, they suggest the following ten ways to build resilience:

- Make connections. Good relationships with close family members, friends or others are important. Accepting help and support from those who care about you and will listen to you can strengthen resilience. Some people find that being active in civic groups, faith-based organizations or other local groups provides social support and can help with reclaiming hope. Assisting others in their time of need can also benefit the helper.
- Avoid seeing crises as insurmountable problems. You can’t change the fact that highly stressful events happen, but you can change how you interpret and respond to these events. Try looking beyond the present to how future circumstances may be a little better.

Note any subtle ways in which you might already feel somewhat better as you deal with difficult situations.

- Accept that change is a part of living. Certain goals may no longer be attainable as a result of adverse situations. Accepting circumstances that cannot be changed can help you focus on circumstances that you can alter.
- Move toward your goals. Develop some realistic goals. Do something regularly, even if it seems like a small accomplishment, that enables you to move toward your goals. Instead of focusing on tasks that seem unachievable, ask yourself, “What’s one thing I know I can accomplish today that helps me move in the direction I want to go?”
- Take decisive actions. Act on adverse situations as much as you can. Take decisive actions, rather than detaching completely from problems and stresses and wishing they would just go away.
- Look for opportunities for self-discovery. People often learn something about themselves and may find that they have grown in some respect as a result of their struggle with loss. Many people who have experienced tragedies and hardship have reported better relationships, greater sense of strength even while feeling vulnerable, increased sense of self-worth, a more developed spirituality, and heightened appreciation for life.
- Nurture a positive view of yourself. Developing confidence in your ability to solve problems and trusting your instincts helps build resilience.
- Keep things in perspective. Even when facing very painful events, try to consider

the stressful situation in a broader context and keep a long-term perspective. Avoid blowing the event out of proportion.

- Maintain a hopeful outlook. An optimistic outlook enables you to expect that good things will happen in your life. Try visualizing what you want, rather than worrying about what you fear.
- Take care of yourself. Pay attention to your own needs and feelings. Engage in activities that you enjoy and find relaxing. Exercise regularly. Taking care of yourself helps to keep your mind and body primed to deal with situations that require resilience.

Additional ways of strengthening resilience may be helpful. For example, some people write about their deepest thoughts and feelings related to trauma or other stressful events in their life. Meditation and spiritual practices help some people build connections and restore hope.

Life seems to suffer no shortage of twists and turns, so learning to recognize when your resilience is going to be called into action can be a helpful tool, as well. By being open to new experiences, both physically and emotionally, we can learn to trust our inner “toughness” with confidence.

How mentally resilient are you? To find out, check out the LACERS Well quarterly challenge at [www.LACERS.org/lacerswell](http://www.LACERS.org/lacerswell) for a self-awareness quiz.

To learn more about how you can gain mental resilience, join us for our upcoming “Be Mentally Resilient” workshop on Monday, Aug. 28 at the California Endowment Center, DTLA.

## Be Mentally Resilient!

**Seniors: Register for a workshop to help you keep your spirits strong!**

Most people have experienced a challenging situation that at the time may have seemed insurmountable and yet they persevered. But what if we had not or could not adapt? What determines why some people adjust well to life-changing or stressful situations while others struggle to bounce back? Join LACERS Well at the California Endowment Center Aug. 28, and learn new ways to be mentally buoyant, courageous and truly happy throughout life’s inevitable ups and downs. This event is open to all LACERS Members and a guest, but registration is required. Lunch will be served.

Presentations include:

- **“Food and Mood: Is There Really a Connection?”** with Elvira Garay, MPH, MCHES, Kaiser Permanente
- **“Resiliency - What It Is and How to Build It”** with Kristie Holt, MPH, MCHES, CLE, ICCE
- **“The Basics of Mindfulness for Self-Care and Stress Management”** with Marvin Belzer, Ph.D. Associate Director, UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center

The workshop is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 28 at the California Endowment Center, 1000 N. Alameda St. downtown.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Register online at [www.LACERS.org/lacerswell](http://www.LACERS.org/lacerswell) or call LACERS Member Services at (800) 779-8328.



## Tech Workshop: Get on the Waiting List

LACERS Well Members: The popular Technology for Seniors workshop scheduled for Aug. 15 is full, but they’re taking stand-by registrations in case space becomes available or more dates are added.

Back by popular demand! The next Technology for Seniors event is set for Tues., Aug. 15, at the California Endowment Center. The workshop is open to all LACERS Members plus one guest.

To register on the waiting list, go to [www.LACERS.org/lacerswell](http://www.LACERS.org/lacerswell).

Aug. 15, 2017

Aug. 28, 2017



Retirements

Here's a listing of all those who retired from the City this month. To all we say, welcome to the Best Years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Anderson, John	Sr. Systems Analyst	Public Works	36	Gaudet, Wayne	Wastewater Treat.			Montgomery, Elizabeth D.	Police Service Rep	LAPD	29
Atkinson, Joseph C.	Sr. Librarian	Library	19		Elec. Supv.	Public Works	26	Moore, Andrea	Management Analyst	LAPD	32
Baliton, Rosemarie Lazo	Accounting Clerk	Public Works	25	Gawith, Keith Edwin	Wastewater Treat. Mech.	Public Works	35	Muniz, Gilberto	Crossing Guard	Transportation	7
Bang, Haesook	Forensic Print Spec.	LAPD	31	Gerold, Peter	Equip. Operator	Public Works	26	Mustafa, Zaki M.	Pr. Trans. Engineer	Transportation	32
Barragan, Alejandro R.	Main. Constr. Helper	Public Works	8	Gilmer, Scott A.	Sr. Manage. Analyst	Housing	29	Obembe, Julius O.	Management Analyst	Public Works	28
Barron, David	Housing Inspector	Housing	17	Grady, Mary Eileen	Exec. Assistant	Airports	15	Papa, Anne Bella	Fin. Manage. Special.	Controller	29
Bates, Robert	Wastewater Treat. Mech.	Public Works	29	Griffin, Ingrid C.	Police Service Rep.	LAPD	34	Park, Jeong S.	Sr. Structural Engineer	Public Works	28
Bayles, Mary E.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	19	Gutierrez, Ricardo E.	Garage Attendant	LAPD	28	Pifer, Gregory G.	Pr. Constr. Inspector	Public Works	43
Becerril, David	Customer Supervisor	Airports	36	Guzman, Dean P.	Construction Insp.	Public Works	30	Prechl, Tanyier Malai	Secretary	LAPD	16
Bilodeau, James	Equipment Operator	Public Works	33	Halfhill, Don J.	Programmer Analyst	ITA	14	Rausch, Honore G.	Secretary	LAPD	13
Brands, Jeannine C.	Trans. Eng. Associate	Transportation	33	Hall, Frederick A.	Tree Surgeon Super.	Rec and Parks	44	Sanchez, Anthony	Property Officer	LAPD	16
Brown, Collen S.	Pr. Accountant	Cultural Affairs	11	Heath, Brian G.	Painter	Airports	30	Schoonover, Russell D.	Building Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	31
Brown, Pamela D.	Police Service Rep.	LAPD	35	Henderson, Roy Lee	Maintenance Laborer	Public Works	9	Short, John	Boat Captain	Harbor	26
Calvo, Richard	Sr. Construction Insp.	Public Works	36	Hernandez, Eddie Ramirez	Equip. Mechanic	Gen. Services	31	Shuter, David V.	Deputy General Mgr.	Airports	10
Cendejas, Luis Vazquez	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	6	Herrington, Carol D.	Airport Guide	Airports	6	Stern, Kamilla B.	Council Aide	Council	6
Centeno, George R.	Chief, Police	Airports	5	Hilson, Rodney Michel	Housing Inspector	Housing	14	Stewart, Candice Y.	Traffic Officer	Transportation	28
Cervantes, Raoul	Construction Insp.	Public Works	9	Hyde, Robert D.	Customer Supervisor	Gen. Services	16	Tajiri, K. Charles	Sr. Auditor	Transportation	42
Chan, Keng Y.	Sr. Comm. Engineer	ITA	31	Kelly, Christy	Sr. Housing Inspector	Housing	13	Trejo, Ricardo	Vocational Worker	Gen. Services	11
Charles, Sandra Gail	Admin. Clerk	LAPD	34	Kishiyama, Greg B.	Equipment Mechanic	LAPD	37	Twu, Mark K.	Graphics Designer	Transportation	30
Core, Russell H.	Personnel Director	Personnel	30	Koumashian, Mary	Exec. Admin. Assistant	LAPD	38	Uyemura, Rhonda	Payroll Supervisor	Harbor	33
Daco, Jose Calonz	Auditor	Housing	16	Kyles, Augusta	Security Officer	LAPD	27	Valdez, Sandra	Accounting Clerk	ITA	36
Daniels, Paula Ann	Mayoral Aide	Mayor's Office	7	Lee, Diane	Accountant	LAFD	15	Vallejo, Victor A.	City Planning Assoc.	Planning	34
Dehaas, Louis Henry	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	6	Lee, James K.	Comm. Engineer	ITA	30	Vo, Honglinh Thi	Dir. of Systems	Controller	27
Del Campo, Phillip M.	Wastewater Treat. Mech.	Public Works	29	Mc Adams, Stephen D.	Painter	Public Works	27	Wahlberg, Eric B.	Surveillance Special.	LAPD	25
Del Castillo, Leonida B.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Public Works	36	McDonnell, Kevin K.	Structural Engineer	Bldg. & Safety	13	Walker, Michael E.	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	1
Edwards, Brenda R.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Public Works	36	McIntyre, Steven	Management Analyst	Transportation	16	Weisenberger, Mark N.	Storekeeper	Harbor	27
Enevoldsen, Mark A.	Welder	Gen. Services	29	McLellan, Robert G.	Delivery Driver	Library	32	Wnuck, William G.	Sr. Comm. Engineer	ITA	26
Fernandez, George L.	Electrician	Airports	30	Menor, Elena	Custodian	Airports	14	Young, Brenda Kaye	Program Aide	Rec and Parks	3
Fukuhara, Larry Y.	Marine Aquarium Prog. Dir.	Rec and Parks	33	Miranda, Cindy A.	Secretary	Harbor	16	Zavala, Vivian Lynn	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Aging	32
Furusawa, Christina M.	Sr. Manage. Analyst	Harbor	31	Mixon, Katherine A.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Public Works	14				
Gallegos, Elsa Rodriguez	Crossing Guard	Transportation	2	Mosqueda, Danny	Custodian	Gen. Services	28				
Garcia, Luis R.	Custodian	Airports	13	Montemayor, Luis R.	Geo. Info. Sys. Chief	Public Works	35				



Show Us Your Grandkids!

**RETIREEES: *Alive!* wants to show off your grandkids! So send in those photos!**

Here's how:

1. Make sure to have the permission from their parents. If you send in a photo, *Alive!* assumes you have already received that permission.

2. Photos with you in them are better,

but if not, that's okay, too.

3. Make sure you list the names of your grandkids.
4. Tell us, in a sentence or two, a little bit about them – their school, their accomplishments, what they love to do, how proud you are of them, etc.
5. Digital photos are best! Send them to: **talkback@cityemployeesclub.com**

Send Prints To: Grandkids

City Employees Club of  
Los Angeles  
120 W. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(800) 464-0452

*If you want the print photo returned, make sure you write your name and phone number on the back.*



Seniors:  
Stay Active!

The LACERS *Well* program sponsors a walking/social event that's perfect for helping you keep in shape and take care of your health.  
For more information on LACERS *Well* events: Tara Miller, LACERS *Well* coordinator: (213) 978-6843 or LACERS.org/lacerswell



Monthly Griffith Park Hike:

- With Commissioner Cynthia Ruiz and LACERS *Well*
- First Friday of every month

• 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.



Monthly Bike Ride

- Wed., Aug. 16 at 11 a.m.  
(third Wednesday of each month)

• Contact Ron Skarin for location: ronskarin@sbcglobal.net



The

BestYears

For Retired Club Members

# Fun on the Links

Retirees Association hosts annual golf tournament.

Some 82 golfers teed it up June 8 for the 39th annual Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) golf tournament.

The fun was held at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course. The day included lunch, raffle prizes and presentations. The Club contributed gift certificates for the raffle.

Lita Payne, LACERS Assistant General Manager, was there with staff members to talk to us about the current status of the LACERS'-managed pension.

The Club thanks Tom Stenmuck and his committee for their efforts in making the tournament a success, and to Ed Harding, Phil Orland, Mary Beetz, Michael Wilkinson and the rest of the RLACEI Directors for their welcome.

Congratulations to the RLACEI for another great golf tournament.



## TROPHY WINNERS:

Member:

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Men, low gross:    | Tony Pratt (72)    |
| Men, low net:      | Michael Perez (68) |
| Ladies, low gross: | Cathy Bushy (110)  |
| Ladies, low net:   | Laura Robles (74)  |

Guest:

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Men, low gross: | Chris Paredes (69)   |
| Men, low net:   | Howard Mitchell (73) |

"Highest Gross" Award:

- |         |                 |
|---------|-----------------|
| Men:    | A.J. Carter     |
| Ladies: | Trinidad Romano |



From left: Al Armijo, Public Works/Street Services, Retired, 26 years of City service; Randy Hee, Transportation, Retired, 35 years; Steve Perez, Public Works/Street Services, Retired, 38 years; and Richard Lopez, Public Works/Street Services, Retired, 37 years.



From left: Ralph Gutierrez, guest; Dominic Rescigno, Building and Safety, Retired, 33 years of City service; Earl Tate, Building and Safety, Retired, 40 years of service; and Dan Dodd, guest.



From left: Brian Jones, 30 years of City service; Richard Telles, Rec and Parks, Retired, 35 years; Greg Telles, guest; and Scott, guest.



From left: Butch Diego, guest; Jose Aguayo, Airports, 27 years of City service; George Campos, Airports, 30 years; and Carlos Herrera, Airports, 21 years.



From left: Joe Kornball, guest; Betsy Melancon, Retired, LAPD, 30 years of City service; Laura Robles, Retired, LAPD, 36 years; and Cathy Bushey, Retired, LAPD, 30 years.



From left: Ed Itagaki, Public Works/Engineering, 32 years of City service; Mason Beasom, Public Works/Engineering, 32 years; and guests David Deninno and Billy Richard.



From left: Gil Garnas, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation, 30 years of City service; Anthony Winston, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation, 35 years; Victor Orosco, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation, 41 years; and Howard Mitchell, guest.



From left: Guests Ken Haywahi and Alan Lau; Walter Naydo, Public Works/Engineering, 39 years of City service; and George Egami, Public Works/Engineering, 34 years.



From left: Joe Kaplan, guest; Julian Campbell, DWP, 27 years of City service; and Ike Yoon, guest.



From left: Tom Stenmuck, RLACEI Director; Gary Mattingly, RLACEI Director; Trini Romano, guest; and Fabian Romano, Retired, Planning, 30 years of City service.



The Club Mobile Team made an appearance. From left: Dylan Noel and Angel Gomez.







From left: Vic Penera, Retired, Building and Safety, 30 years of City service; Rick Okawa, Retired, Building and Safety, 15 years; Ken Ludwig, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation, 31 years; and Rod Kisich, guest.



From left: Chris Myerson, Rec and Parks, 11 years of City service; Art Arellano, Rec and Parks, 11 years; Ralph Esparza, 30 years; and Phil Myerson, Retired, Housing, 24 years.



From left: Bernard Spears, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation, 22 years of City service; George Walker, Retired, General Services, 30 years; Billy Johnson, guest; and Oliver Cunningham, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation, 30 years.



From left: David Carlburg, guest; Edwin Anderson, Retired, Public Works/Engineering, 34 years of City service; and guests Alex and Jay.



From left: Jim Lantry, Public Works/Engineering, 28 years of City service; Tom Iacobellis, guest; Tony Pratt, Retired, Public Works/Engineering, 33 years; and Glen Nave, Public Works/Engineering, 34 years.



Richard Hovious, Retired, Building and Safety, 27 years of City service, wears a Club hat.



From left: Dough Bohlmann, Joe Mundine, Steve Fan and Jordan Siplon.



From left: J.R. Gomez, grandson of RLCEI President Ed Harding; Chris Paredes, guest; Steve King; and Michael Perez, RLCEI Director.

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– Cindy Serrano, Emergency Management

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**ORDER FORM:** When you're ready, use the convenient order form, included in the ad on page 38.

The Club's new custom-made department polo shirts use premium-quality materials.



## CITY DEPARTMENT Polo Shirts

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# John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO



"Santa Monica Beach."

— Charlotte Williams

**John's comment:** Sometimes the California experience is called Endless Summer ... and that's what I could title this photo, Charlotte! With those bronze colors, and the outlines of the palm trees and volleyball nets, it's truly evocative of a whole attitude of fun and warmth. Let it never end! Thanks!



"It has been a long time since photographing Catalina green! This was one of the crystal clear mornings on Catalina. You can also see how rugged the island is."

— John Nance, Retired, DWP

**John's comment:** That's exactly what I was thinking, John – driving around the state visiting Club Members, I see evidence of our recent rains everywhere. This nice photo brings that perspective, with its shades of moss green and the long lens to pull it all together. Nice job!

"The USS America leaving Long Beach, where it was docked during Fleet Week. It's the first American-class amphibious ship for the Navy."

— Victor Ladd, LAPD

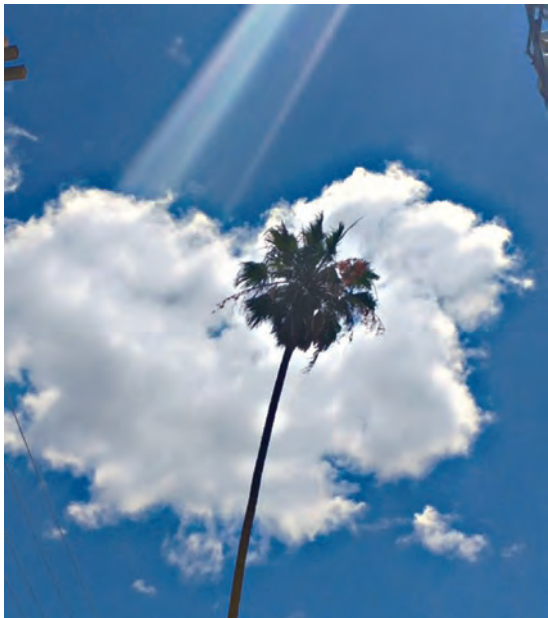
**John's comment:** Ah, you've discovered my weakness, Victor – I love ships, as I'm a Navy veteran myself. But what I like about this in particular – the angle is stark and straight-on, not usually seen with gigantic ships, giving the ship a dominant but composed air. But secondly, I love that every time I look at this shot, I notice something else: the Vincent Thomas Bridge in back, with its cars; then the Harbor patrol boat in front; then the Osprey on deck; then the deckhands. I wonder, if I keep staring at the picture, whether my old submarine will appear in the water!



"I photographed the Temple of Poseidon during our amazing 14-day Mediterranean Princess cruise and four days in Athens, Greece. On a rocky peninsula that projects into the sea, I saw a navy ship sail by Poseidon with all hands on deck!"

— Ken Kochakji, Retired, Transportation

**John's comment:** Can you imagine what it must have been like to see this high atop a cliff 450 years B.C., sailing for days (or longer) in rough seas and finally knowing that your port is near? You've captured that possibility well here, Ken, with the temple standing tall and proud ... and I like how you've saturated the colors, too. Cool shot!



"I took this photo over South Pasadena in May. It was windy and a bit rainy but the combination formed a heart-shaped cloud with the sunrays spotlighting it. It lasted long enough for me to take the picture."

— Alicia Pinedo, LAPD

**John's comment:** Wow, so peaceful, Alicia! That streak at the top intrigues me ... from here it could be that sunray you mention, or a jet contrail, or heaven reaching down, or really anything that comes to the imagination. This composition captures the different dimensions (front, far away) very well, too. Thanks for giving me something to ponder!



"This picture was taken at Point Lobos Reserve in Monterey, Calif."

— Jose Jimenez, LAPD

**John's comment:** This photo fooled me at first – the water you've photographed is so inviting, I wanted to drop my feet in, kick back and relax. But then, as my eyes drifted deeper into the picture, I realized ... whoa, this is huge! The pine trees on the right are a really nice foreground touch, and the peninsula in the deep background drew my eyes nearly into infinity. Really nice, Jose!

## 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, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- When you send digital photos through the Internet, please send the full, original digital file yourself, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print.
- We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: pictureperfect@cityemployees-club.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.



# BEASTLY BOOGIES CONTINUE

Zoo’s Roaring Nights after-hours concert series concludes with Sept. performance.



Roaring Nights at the L.A. Zoo, a summer music series, open to guests 18 and up, concludes Friday, Sept. 15, with a 1980s-’90s “Battle of the Decades.”

Roaring Nights evenings include a live band, DJ dance party, food trucks, full-service bars, pop-up zookeeper talks, animal encounters, visits to Zoo animal habitats and an “Animal Artistry Paint Party” for guests to paint a favorite animal (or whatever inspiration strikes them) on a small canvas to take home as a souvenir.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens marks its 50th anniversary with a yearlong “ZooLabration” of its Nov. 28, 1966, opening that spotlights not only its key role as a world-class destination and an important community asset but also its critical successes in conservation, quality of life and premier care for animals.

Roaring Nights take place after the Zoo closes for the day and will require an entrance

fee separate from the regular Zoo entrance fee.

The Los Angeles Zoo is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027. Free parking is available.

**Information: (323) 644-6001, or [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org)**



Roaring Nights returns for second year!



The Club



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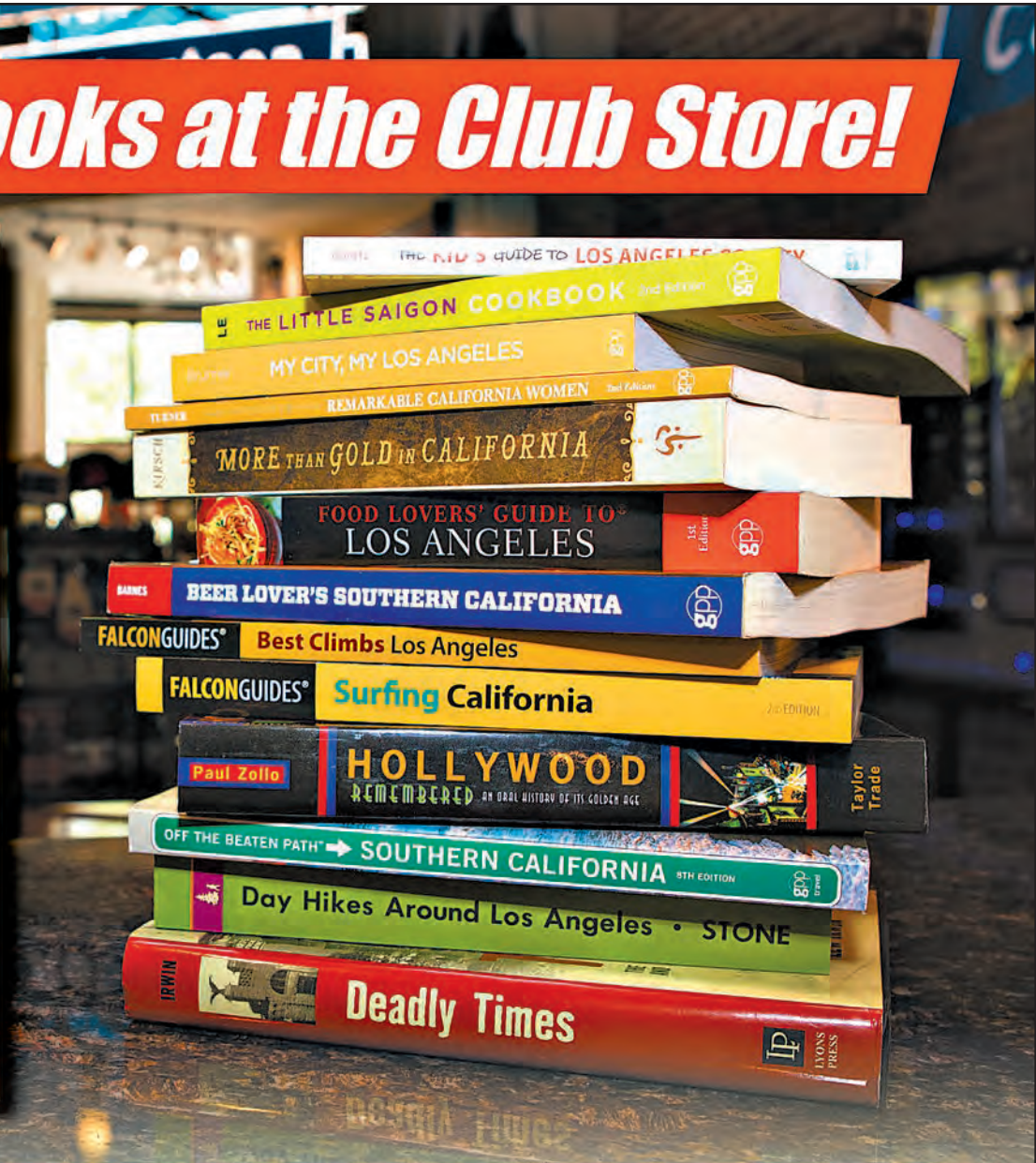
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Angel Gomez, the Club's Mobile Man

# Angel's Be Alive!

## Cave of Munits

24501 W. Vanowen St.  
West Hills, CA 91307

**Difficulty:** Easy, moderate, and then steep  
**Distance:** 2.6 miles (round trip)  
**Elevation gain:** 722 feet – steady increased incline

**Time:** 2-3 hours (depending on your speed)  
**Parking:** Street parking is available.

Aden keeps himself hydrated by drinking water throughout the hike.



# Cave of Munits

– West Hills

### Hello again! Happy August!

This month, we travel just north of Los Angeles to West Hills. The Cave of Munits is a wonderful trail that is well hidden in a residential neighborhood. You can park next to the entrance for free. The trail was very easy to follow and the challenge is going up to the cave. If you like hiking, this is one for your bucket list. Let's begin!

**HISTORY:** The area was formerly the home to Native American tribes. This actual cave, the Cave of Munits is believed to be the home of a mythical Chumash Shaman – his name was Munits. Legend says he was killed by an eagle after murdering the son of a Chumash Chief. This cave was near Hu'wam.

During the Spanish and Mexican era, this area was part of the Mission San Fernando Rey de España. Later, this area became Owensmouth, which was renamed Canoga Park in 1930. Then the area was given the name West Hills in 1987.

**TRAIL:** The trail starts very flat, and that's always a good sign for people who need extra time to wake up. The trail literally begins right off the curb – you can park on the street free and the entrance has a big sign that reads El Scorpion Canyon Park, City of Los Angeles. Go through the fence and take a right, and you will see a line of trees and a leaning side of the hill to your left – keep walking on this road. The trail will begin to bend to the left and you will have a nice view of the hills ahead. The trail will get very thin – only one person can go at a time through a small section. Once you pass the smaller section you will see a big tree on the road; that's when you will come to a Y in the road. Go left! If you go right, it will look like you are going closer to the mountains, but you will be

greeted by a dead end (you will have to turn around). So remember, keep going left! You will see another big tree and an informational sign – please read this.

Once you read the sign, go back a few feet and turn left going toward the mountains. Now the fun part begins!

The incline was fine, but climbing from the base of the cave and going up was the second most difficult part of the hike. The most difficult part was coming back down. Be very careful! Once you are up on top looking out into the valley, enjoy that moment and relax. Take 10 minutes to enjoy the view.

Now, be ready for the harder part of the trail – coming back down. This is the moment for bringing some good hiking shoes or shoes with good traction; it would have helped.

I really liked this trail, and the cave was amazing!

Once you're in the first cave, be sure to look up – on your right you will see another opening. Use that way to go up farther. You will get a better view and be standing on a small balcony of rock. If you really want to, you could still go up one more level. Look to the left and see more of the gorgeous valley.

I would advise anyone who's adventurous to try this hike. The distance is very short but the cave is really cool.

If you get there before 7:30 a.m., you will be fine – no crowds. If you get there after 9:30 a.m., there will be lots of people. This is a must-see location!

Don't forget to pack your sunscreen and snacks and most importantly, bring lots of water.

**Be safe and "Be Alive!"**

Angel



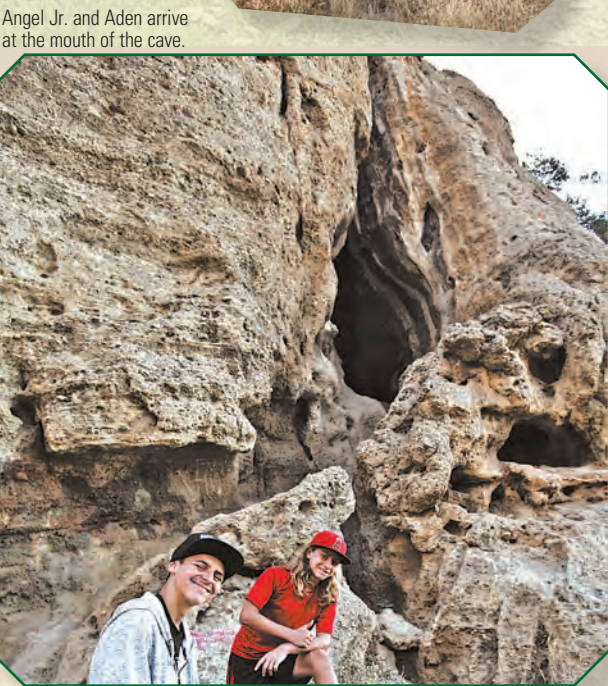
Aden finds his way into the cave.



The trail gets smaller in some areas.

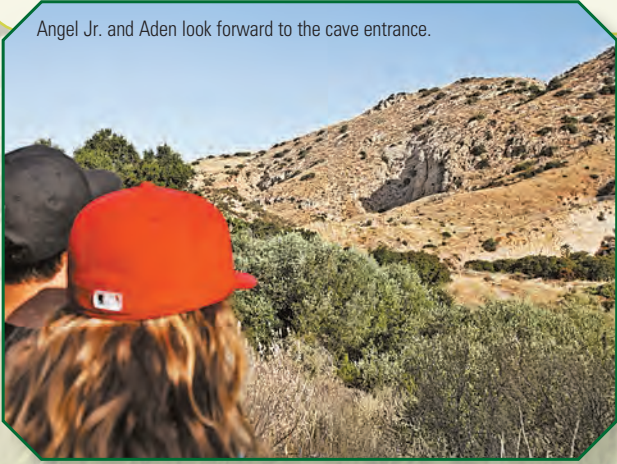


Aden and Angel Jr. climb up to the base of the cave.



Angel Jr. and Aden arrive at the mouth of the cave.

Angel Jr. and Aden look forward to the cave entrance.



Beware of big hole to your left as you climb up.



Ontario Intl. Airport Fire/Police

# END OF THE LINE

Goodbyes are rarely easy. But for a few years at Ontario International Airport, the end of their employment at the S... no longer controlled by LAWA ... but a career, a craft, a way of life. The u... position, unique in the City in that it c... functions, is about to land for the final... And that has the remaining Airpor... at the reality they face but thankful... service and the experiences that have... Active and Retired Airport Safety... down their operations for several mo... bye barbecue in June and reminiscin... final notices, which may have been se... Their time is growing short.

The *Alive!* Interview

## SAYING GOODBYE

On June 22, Club COO Robert Larios and *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewed the following active and retired employees of the City's joint Fire and Police service at Ontario Airport:

**Ron Monroe,**  
Airport Safety Officer, Retired, 1985-2014

**Patrick Owen McPherson,**  
Airport Safety Officer, 1990-present

**Wendell "Woody" Callaway,**  
Sr. Airport Safety Officer, 1988-present

**Delbert Patschull,**  
Sr. Airport Safety Officer, Retired, 1980-2007

**Sgt. Alex Bernard,**  
Airport Police, Retired, 1995-2003, and Director, L.A. Airport Peace Officers Association

**Greg Gladson,** Airport Safety Officer, 1997-present, and Director, L.A. Airport Peace Officers Association

**Robert Gates,**  
Airport Safety Officer, Retired, 1990-2015

**Josh Ulatowski,**  
Longest Serving Airport Safety Officer, 1986-present.

Thank you all for joining us today, to talk about this unique position – a combination of fire and police – that will be ending soon. It's an important moment. Who wants to tell us about the uniqueness of the ASO (Airport Safety Officer) position, because it really is unique in the City?

**Patrick McPherson:** It started as an experiment in 1970 when Los Angeles obtained the airport, and they just kicked it around and they thought, "Hey, let's just try this. Since the airport is so remote, let's have them do both police and fire in the same day and see

what happens." So they got a Battalion Chief from the LAFD who had just retired, David T. Nave, and he retired on a Friday. He started the Safety Officer program on the following Monday, and obviously the experiment worked really well because here we are 47 years later, although we're going to be an extinct species. We always got the job done and it's just been an awesome experience, a great job.

How did the training work?

**Patrick McPherson:** Usually they took a Firefighter and made him a Police Officer. We've had a few Police Officers become Firefighters, but as a rule you would start from being a Firefighter and up until – I can't remember. Up until a certain year you had to have crash experience – aircraft rescue

firefighter experience – to have even been hired, and the only people who have that were the military. I can't remember what year that they just started taking regular Firefighters.

**Robert Gates:** I believe that was like 1990 when the 18 of us got hired in to go to the Rio Hondo academy because I know that I had Alex Castanon call me and he said, "Hey, you have to have military crash firefighting experience or two years structural experience."

**Patrick McPherson:** That was the first year then.

**Robert Gates:** Well, I had all that, so I put in for it.

**Delbert Patschull:** Chief Naves retired 30 years from the LAFD on a Friday and that following Monday he started at the Ontario Intl. Airport and worked another 30 years. He worked for the City for 60 years.

Sixty years?

**Delbert Patschull:** Sixty years. He was 82 years old when he retired.

Wow.

**Josh Ulatowski:** Everybody here is post certified for police duty as well as FAR-139, which is airport regulations for crash firefighting. And another thing, probably 80 percent of the membership of the officers here are former military. And state fire marshal certified.

**Robert Gates:** You basically have three doctrines that you have to uphold, minimum, with as many as five. Greg is the master here. He covers five. He's our terrorist liaison. He's a Hazmat technician. He's a Fireman. He's a policeman.

**Josh Ulatowski:** And EMT.

BELOW: During the *Alive!* interview in the Ontario Airport Safety Base (firehouse), clockwise from bottom left: *Alive!* editor John Burnes; Ron Monroe, Airport Safety Officer, Retired; Patrick Owen McPherson, Airport Safety Officer; Delbert Patschull, Sr. Airport Safety Officer, Retired; Josh Ulatowski, Sr. Airport Safety Officer; Club COO Robert Larios; Sgt. Alex Bernard, Airport Police, Retired; Greg Gladson, Airport Safety Officer; and Robert Gates, Airport Safety Officer, Retired. Not pictured: Wendell "Woody" Callaway, Sr. Airport Safety Officer.

Inset: Wendell "Woody" Callaway, Sr. Airport Safety Officer.





**Alive! Feature**

Photos by Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing; John Burnes, *Alive!* editor; the Mayor's Office; and courtesy Ron Monroe, Retired, Airport Safety Officer

## **Airport Safety Officers, unique in the City, say goodbye to each other and their position as L.A. winds down its services at Ontario Intl. Airport.**

A unique group of City employees at the Ontario International Airport, it's a double whammy – the end of the line for the unusual Airport Safety Officer position, which combines both Fire and Police functions, never to take off again. For the friendships, the civil service jobs that shaped their lives. Airport Safety Officers have been winding down their duties for months now, hosting a big goodbye party with *Alive!* while awaiting the time you read this.

On Aug. 6, 2015, after years of disagreements, bickering and legal action with the city of Ontario, the City of L.A. announced that it had agreed to sell Ontario International Airport, which it had operated since 1967 and owned since 1985. The City Council approved the sale in December 2015, and Mayor Eric Garcetti officially handed over the ownership Nov. 2, 2016 to the Ontario International Airport Authority, a joint-powers body between the City of Ontario and San Bernardino County.

Since then, the City has been removing its employees and assets from the airport. The sale stipulated that no City employee would lose their job during the transfer.



L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti handed over ownership of Ontario Intl. Airport to the Ontario Intl. Airport Authority Nov. 2.

Reportedly, the City had fewer than 200 employees at Ontario when the sale was announced. That number has dwindled to perhaps less than 100 at press time.

Thirty-nine of those employees, possibly the largest group in one department still remaining, are Airport Safety Officers. The dual-function position was rare when it was established, and it will fade into the City sunset over the next several months.

The remaining Airport Safety Officers are unsure of their final date of separation, but whether they retire or transfer to LAX, their dual responsibility will be over – those who remain will transfer as Airport Police Officers, and not maintain their fire or EMT functions.

It's the end of the line for Airport Safety Officers in L.A. In this issue, read about their history, their memories, their friendships, and what they value most.



At Ontario Intl. Airport's Safety Base are, back row, from left: Airport Safety Officer Robert LeCours; Airport Safety Officer Robert Gates, Retired; Police Sgt. Alex Bernard, Retired; Airport Safety Officer Ronald Monroe, Retired; Fire Capt. Delbert Patschull, Retired; Airport Safety Officer Tony DiGorgio; and Airport Safety Officer Mike DeSouza. Center: Senior-Most Airport Safety Officer Joshua Ulatowski; Airport Safety Officer Eric Geihm; Fire Capt. Mike Telles; Airport Safety Officer Patrick McPherson; Airport Safety Officer Rick Montorona; and Airport Safety Officer James So. Front: Fire Capt. Wendell Callaway and Airport Safety Officer Gregory Gladson.



# END OF THE LINE

Alive! Feature

## The *Alive!* Interview

— continued from page 24

**Robert Gates:** An EMT, and there are certifications for all those. Basically he has five to six doctrines he has to maintain annually.

### Is there anybody else in the City like that?

**Greg Gladson:** No. Nobody does dual functions certainly. There are some in Sunnyvale.

**Robert Gates:** Ridder Park, in the Bay Area ...

**Woody Callaway:** Chattanooga, Tenn.

### These are programs with dual functions like yours? Are you talking city systems, or at airports?

**Woody Callaway:** Chattanooga is airport-based. Ridder Park is city-based.

**Greg Gladson:** Dallas/Fort Worth Airport did it. They had similar programs but kind of a hybrid system. But we do it every day. Right now I'm wearing a police uniform. When I come back in eight hours I'm going to be wearing the same uniform Pat's wearing [a Firefighting uniform], and he's going to be wearing this police uniform.

### So literally you each have two uniforms?

**Greg Gladson:** Yes.

### So your schedules aren't both — your services are separated, sometimes as a Police Officer, and sometimes as a Firefighter.

**Greg Gladson:** Yes. We work a 48/96 schedule, which is 48 hours on, 96 hours off.

### You're never both at the same time? You're on different shifts covering different responsibilities?

**Greg Gladson:** Well, yes and no. When I'm in my Police uniform, when we get a medical aid call specifically, generally the Police Officer's on scene before the fire station is because they have to respond from here [the south side of the airport]. Police Officers are stationed over on the north side of the airport, but I will generally be at

the emergency quicker and start rendering aid or make sure the scene's safe until I get relieved by the Captain and the Firemen responding.

### You're not going to go and change the uniform to save somebody's life.

**Ronald Monroe:** When a Police Officer goes on scene to render medical aid, he's right there with an AED medical kit. He's able to render aid right there on scene. He's able to give a breakdown as to what's going on, give the Fire guys a heads up, and coordinate all the medical care up until the point when fire gets on. In addition, they're also coordinating the traffic control as well when the paramedic units come out. So, when the Police Officer comes on scene he's doing three or four things at the same time — patient care, crowd control, everything.

**Woody Callaway:** Being a Captain, one of the things I've been most proud of is that our save ratio with the AEDs [defibrillators] is the highest in the nation. We save more people than anybody else per run, and one of the reasons why is because the Police Officers are also EMTs. Our response times to get to the patient in that critical moment is that we're there in a minute or two. When an AED is used in the general population, the crew might not show up for four or five minutes. We're almost always having an AED on within one or two, which increases the survivability rate. The public gets a better quality of care.

The main reason why it's not used everywhere is because once you get a certain population size, the Police need supersedes the Fire need, and it's not balanced. It's good for small or medium hubs, but it's not good for large cities. Basically it loses its cost effectiveness.

### How did you gentlemen become Airport Safety Officers at Ontario? How did the dual training function work?

**Greg Gladson:** Like Pat said earlier, most of the guys here came from the military because they had the experience required, and the job flyer when I started said you had to either have been a Firefighter for two years or paid law enforcement for two years.



So most of us came from the military or industry. A lot of guys were laid off from Lockheed and General Dynamics and Boeing and Hughes. So they all have this experience, and when you came on they sent you to the full police academy. We were at the full Rio Hondo or LAPD Police Academy with the normal cadets, and generally our officers come out number one in the class either academically or overall number one in shooting, physical, running and all that. Our officers always shine. Sometimes it was difficult taking off the Fireman hat for the Police hat but you learned how to do it.

### How did your spaces work? The fire function and police function are in separate locations.

**Josh Ulatowski:** When I came here pretty much our whole function was based out of the old terminal. The Chief had an office over on that side. The Dispatchers had an office with a public counter. It was a lot smaller operation than it is today. Of course over the years the police function started outweighing the fire function just because of all the security measures that had to be put in place with aviation. So over the years we had to

have a secure building for the dispatchers and the Police Sergeants. We grew so we had to expand and split apart, but the core of the guys, all the manpower that went out or staffing levels that went out and actually did the mission, were based out of here [the Airport Safety Base building south of the runways].

**Greg Gladson:** I want to add that we use the word "guys" a lot to describe ourselves, but we had one woman Airport Safety Officer, Sue Wilkinson. She worked from 1990 to 1995, and she's retired. And we have a female Police Sergeant now. She's transferring to LAX next week.

## Cost-Effectiveness

### Let's talk about cost effectiveness of this model.

**Delbert Patschull:** Well, back in the older days when the program first started, the Sr. Airport Safety Officer was on duty — only one Sr. Airport Safety Officer. He was in charge of Police and Fire.

So what happened is, you have an incident hap-

— continued page 27

## AIRPORT SAFETY OFFICER:

# A UNIQUE DUAL POSITION

The following explains how the Airport Safety Officer Position at Ontario Airport worked. It was written before the announcement that the City was selling Ontario Airport to the local authority, which made the Airport Safety Officer position no longer necessary.

**By Robert Mainwaring,  
Airport Safety Officer**

When it comes to maintaining public safety, the LA/Ontario division of the Los Angeles Airport Police Dept. takes an approach that's unique among airports in the region: In addition to being sworn Peace Officers, its members are also fully trained and state-certified as Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians. These multitasking airport safety officers (ASOs) maximize their manpower to protect the airport, its personnel and travelers both efficiently and effectively.

Airports assumed responsibility for operating LA/Ontario

Airport (ONT) in 1967, using its clout to bring in more airlines and

flights to help the small, struggling facility expand into a regional — and eventually international — airport serving the Inland Empire. One consideration involved in this growth was finding the best way to address the airport's increasing safety and security needs. In 1970, a few days after retiring as a Battalion Chief for the LAFD, David T. Nave became the first Chief of ONT's new ASO program, which he would lead for the next 30 years. Under Chief Nave's direction, the program combined daily police and fire functions to respond to any airport or aircraft emergency.

In addition to its many security regulations, the FAA mandates Airport Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) operations at all U.S. airports that serve passenger air carriers. The ASO program meets these requirements in the most economical way possible by providing both services at once. While the model is distinctive in Southern California, it is or has been used by many other airports across the country, including Dallas/Fort Worth, Anchorage and Newark. Not only is this approach cost-effective, but it also offers great flexibility. Cross-training all on-duty officers to handle a variety of roles makes the most of a smaller force. Once ASOs arrive on the scene of an incident and evaluate the resources needed, they can deploy additional fire or law enforcement personnel accordingly, quickly adapting to the situation at hand.

From its initial staff of eight, the force has now grown to 43 ASOs — 40 performing dual

duty and another three assigned as K-9 handlers. They operate around the clock every day of the year, working 24-hour shifts 10 days a month on one of three platoons. A typical day consists of 16 hours in the fire station and 8 hours on police watch, rotating about once a month between day, swing and grave shifts.

Not surprisingly, fulfilling so many different responsibilities in the course of a single day requires a high level of expertise. When the program began, ASOs attended only a Level 1 policing course, but they now complete the police academy as well as the fire academy, required emergency medical training, annual qualifications and on-the-job training to maintain their proficiency in all areas. In addition, many ASOs are certified in hazardous materials and urban search and rescue, and others are certified and deployed as explosives-detection K-9 handlers. Retaining all this knowledge and practicing the entire range of duties effectively can be challenging, so it takes a special type of individual to succeed as an ASO. The complexity of the job also means a steep learning curve for management, whose ranks tend to come from police backgrounds and are less familiar with fire operations.

Despite the difficulties inherent in dual-duty work, ASOs have proven themselves up to the task of safeguarding the airport against a wide range of threats. This program has worked well for more than 40 years and continues to work, given the proper management knowledge and understanding. The program also saves a lot of money; it would require double the budget to provide the same level of service with two separate entities. Nearly every cop is a firefighter and every firefighter a cop at ONT. ■







From left: Sgt. Alex Bernard, Airport Police, Retired; and Greg Gladson, Airport Safety Officer.

From left: Delbert Patschull, Sr. Airport Safety Officer, Retired; and Josh Ulatowski, Senior-Most Airport Safety Officer.



The Airport Safety Building, on one of the last weekends of service under the auspices of the City of Los Angeles.

pen on the airport. He goes to the incident command post with the Ontario City Fire Dept. and Ontario City Police Dept. He's got to have his mind open to running both functions. He's in charge of Police and Fire at the airport. Just think about how hard it was back in the olden days until they split us. They split the supervisor function to make it so you'd have more people at the incident command post and have more things and cover the jobs better than what it was by a single person.

**Woody Callaway:** As it stands now, they are getting coverage 24 hours a day – they're getting a Policeman for 24 and then a fireman the other 16 hours of a shift. If you look at your staffing, basically you're getting an equivalent of 16 hours' work but you're paying for less because of your staffing models.

Our budget here was \$7 million a year. Now that the organization's being taken over by two other organizations, their cost is going to be \$21 million, and they've already exceeded that and it's probably going to be \$25 million by separating them.

#### Because of more people?

**Woody Callaway:** Yes, it's more people. You're paying insurance, you're paying all the other things.

#### Right.

**Woody Callaway:** Versus somebody that does 16 hours of work but he only has eight hours of work and benefits, in reality.

**So just for my understanding, you're saying that, as you understand it, the Ontario Airport Authority will now separate the duties into two different functions?**

**Woody Callaway:** Yes.

### Winding Down

**You're winding down your service here at Ontario. Who wants to talk about the current status?**

**Greg Gladson:** I will. I'm one of the LAAPOA directors as well. Basically there's an agreement between the Ontario International Airport Authority and LAWA [L.A. Airports] that once they decide that our job is no longer needed we will be issued redundancy notices, which have a 60-day notice – all City employees at Ontario are subject to these, so it's not just us.

#### Right.

**Greg Gladson:** Anybody being transferred to LAX will be issued a redundancy notice saying you have 60 days. Then you report to LAX once those 60 days are up. Currently we have not been issued those redundancy notices. We were told in January when we started this whole thing, to look for July ... and it's not going to happen in July. So

Once they decide that our job is no longer needed, we'll be issued redundancy notices.

— Greg Gladson

I say probably the end of the summer – August or September is when the program will cease.

**It's possible by the time this story comes out you will have already received those.**

**Greg Gladson:** We had the barbeque a couple of weeks ago [see related story in this feature]. I don't know if you've seen photographs, but we started planning for that back in February because we thought we were going to be gone in July. So we started planning that event and got everything done and ready.

**The Ontario Fire Dept. as we speak is training here today with you.**

**Greg Gladson:** Yes, and the Ontario Police Dept. already integrated with us on the police side months ago. So they're working here. And

we're working. We're working side by side with Ontario Police Dept.

**How long have you known this was coming?**

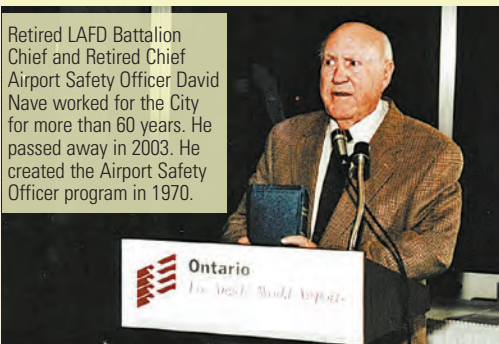
**Greg Gladson:** Two years in August.

**Patrick McPherson:** In seven weeks we're going to celebrate our two-year anniversary of being in limbo. It's been – I believe the right word would be challenging at best.

**Greg Gladson:** There are still 100-plus LAWA employees here currently at the airport in various positions. Janitorial is all contracted out now. Admin has been cut down real small. The maintenance facilities are still here but we're seeing a lot of the same faces – OIAA is hiring some back.

Ontario's been paying the bills for a while, but I think July 1 they're coming off the checkbook

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Retired LAFD Battalion Chief and Retired Chief Airport Safety Officer David Nave worked for the City for more than 60 years. He passed away in 2003. He created the Airport Safety Officer program in 1970.



Chief Airport Safety Officer David Nave (right) with Sr. Airport Safety Officer Charles Woods (left) and Airport Safety Officer Frank Costigan (center). This photo is from 1972, just two years after the ASO program began at Ontario.



Airport Safety Officers, dressed here for police duty, circa late 1970s.



Airport Safety Officers trained frequently on crash procedures in San Bernardino. Photo undated.



Airport Safety Officers in a group shot during training, 1980s.



Airport Safety Officers pose with a government limo from Washington, D.C., date unknown.



Airport Safety Officers, circa 2006.



# END OF THE LINE

*Alive!* Feature

## DISPATCHED

Retired Dispatcher/Administrator recalls building the dept.



Lucy Reinhardt-Ulatowski

Lucy Reinhardt-Ulatowski joined the Airport Safety dept. at Ontario in 1989 as a Dispatcher and transferred to help build the police division under then-Chief Charles Woods. She transferred out of the Division in 2000 before retiring in 2016.

"In the beginning, we dispatched for everything – police, fire, operations, maintenance, the whole bit," she recalled. "If it was going on, we dispatched it. In those days, we wrote everything down in a big logbook."

Then in 1992 she transferred to become the secretary for Chief Woods, and together the two of them built up the police function at Ontario. "I managed their certifications, got everybody official. I did the HR issues, the budgets, the police records, the background checks ... I wrote the security reports, I took the fingerprints of all the airport employees. The Chief and I basically did everything, until they brought a few more people in. It was just the two of us."

"We were all one big family," she recalls. "We worked very closely together. The guys did both functions – police and fire – so it was a tight-knit group. We depended on each other to make that airport run efficiently."

And she met her husband there, Airport Safety Officer Josh Ulatowski. They married in 1991.

She's proud of her time, and the dedication of everyone at Ontario – the ASOs, the Dispatchers, and the police/fire administrators.

"These guys did it all," she says. "Everybody was a part of it. We worked closely with Operations and Maintenance, and everybody was on the same page. We pretty much held the airport together. It was one big system."

"It makes me really sad that the ASO classification is going away," she continues. "It's like it's blown away in a puff of smoke. They spent a lot of their lives together."

"Ontario was a division of LAX, which was the godfather. It should have been a department of its own. But despite all that, we still made it work, and I'm proud of that." ■

## The *Alive!* Interview

– continued from page 27

and they're going to have to start fending for themselves.

### Any idea when the final City person will pull out and it'll be clean?

**Greg Gladson:** Well, yes. The original agreement between LAWA and OIAA was January of last year and was going to last 21 months. So August of next year [2018] would be the last date anybody would be here.

### So it's winding down. It's not quite the end but it's pretty close.

**Greg Gladson:** It's getting close, yes.

### And how many are still in the Airport Security Officer section?

**Greg Gladson:** Thirty-five. We have four Captains. So we have 39 people.

### Is that the biggest City group left in one unit?

**Greg Gladson:** I would say yes, unless you include all of maintenance.

**Josh Ulatowski:** I don't think they have many people.

**Greg Gladson:** I don't want to leave them out, but this also affects our Police Sergeant, our Supervisor. Capt. Patschull mentioned that when you are promoted you basically become a Fire Captain or Police Sergeant. So the transition is also going to impact the Sergeants and the four canine Officers we still have here, too.

### For those who are still active: What are your plans from here? Are you going to retire? Are you going to LAX?

**Patrick McPherson:** I'm going to attempt to stay at Ontario as one of the last rats to leave the ship. I'm hoping to stay here until January 8 so I can retire. That's my plan. If I have to go to LAX I have to go to LAX, but I would really like to hang on here because this is my home.

### You've been here for a long time.

**Patrick McPherson:** Twenty-seven years, yes.

### Josh?

**Josh Ulatowski:** Ditto what Pat said. I've been

here going on 31 years, so I hope I'll be able to make it to January. I was told last year that July's guaranteed, just like Greg was saying. So I figured May 1 everybody was going to get their notices, but that came and went and we're still hanging here by our fingernails.

Nothing's set in stone. They're working through it.

**Greg Gladson:** I basically have 20 years. With military buyback I have 24 years. So basically I've got about two-and-a-half years to go, but I will be transitioned to LAX whenever that axe falls.

For the majority of the Safety Officers doing dual function, that's going to end probably this summer.

### The dual function will end?

**Greg Gladson:** Yes. There still might be Safety Officers hanging on. Pat lives in Oceanside. He's our farthest guy away. I don't think he wants to drive to LAX every day.

**Patrick McPherson:** No.

**Greg Gladson:** Josh is number one in seniority. Pat's number two. These are your senior guys right here. But the majority of the officers are going to transition to LAX.

## Milestone: 9/11

### Tell me about the 9/11 emergency here at Ontario, and how that came down. That had to be memorable.

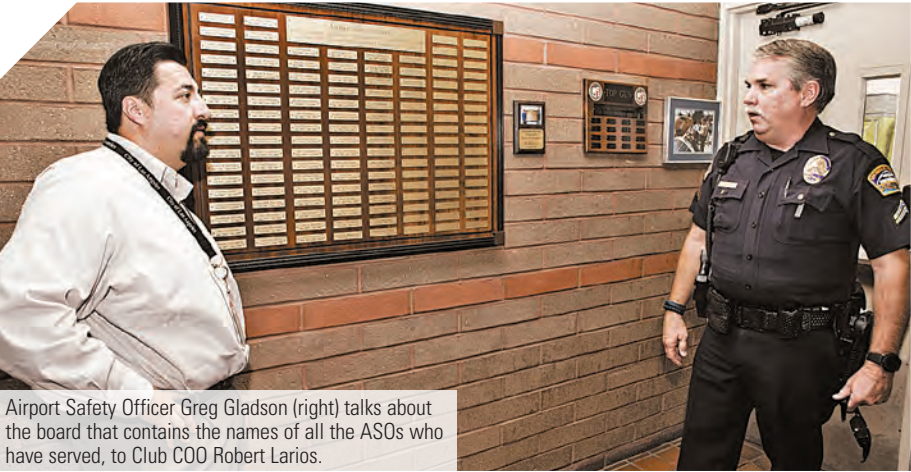
**Ronald Monroe:** The biggest memory for me working here was during the 9/11 attacks. I was working graveyard police duty so it really affected me. I was on patrol. I went to Terminal 2 because I was supposed to back up the officer there, and all hell broke loose. I wrote a little Facebook article on that, and that's when the department in my opinion really, really came together. Everybody was held over. We thought we were going to be attacked because three out of the four planes were headed to the West Coast.

We had this incident, and the guys who were on duty remember this. A United Airlines flight came in and did not have any contact with the tower. Officer Scott Clark and I were on Terminal 2, and he was evacuating one part of the terminal. I was evacuating another part of the terminal. We got all the people down. We went with our guns drawn over to Gate 1 because the pilot wasn't talking. They had called out the station because we thought the terrorists were right there. We thought they were going to blow up the terminal, and that really put things into motion. We went from having two officers to having 14 or 15 officers with guns on the outside. That was an awesome feeling to have that backup instantaneously. Despite all the

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[9/11] brought everyone together ... it changed everything. It brought us to a higher level.

— Ron Monroe



Airport Safety Officer Greg Gladson (right) talks about the board that contains the names of all the ASOs who have served, to Club COO Robert Larios.



In a bay at the Ontario Safety Base are (from left) Airport Safety Officer Greg Gladson and Club COO Robert Larios.



This long slide, used instead of a traditional fire pole, is still in use today.



work, it brought everyone together because it really tied into the importance of what we do. It just changed everything. It just brought us to a higher level.

**Josh Ulatowski:** I was in the Fire Station that morning. I was in bed, and our old captain, Capt. King, came on the PA and said, “Hey, everybody get up. Look alive. Get downstairs. One of the towers had been hit.” Before we got down there, the building collapsed. We stood there in the kitchen and watched it. Everybody was in a circle and then the Alert Two came out about the United aircraft here at Ontario without radio communication with the tower. It was like Ron said. It was kind of a hairy moment there for a minute because the pilot turned off on a high-speed taxiway and he just was barreling towards Terminal 2, but then we came to find out he probably didn’t hear it. He was talking to his operations.

It was a scary moment because we were sitting there thinking, “Well, should we ram the plane and not let them get up to the gate?” All kinds of things were going through our minds.

**Ronald Monroe:** We were thinking, “Do we shoot the first person coming off the plane?”

**Josh Ulatowski:** That was just our little bit of it. It was kind of creepy for a second, and then the four days after 9/11, there was nothing in the air at all. There wasn’t an airplane turned up on a ramp. You’d walk out back at the terminal. You could drop a pin. That’s how quiet it was. That was pretty spooky.

**Robert Gates:** It was. I just remember that the next day they sent half of us back and others stayed on. I was on police duty, and I remember it was just weird going out there, silent as can be, with no planes in the air. And then of course we had somebody driving the wrong way down Terminal Way, and everyone converged on this guy, with guns and everything else, and this guy said, “Well, I don’t know what’s going on,” and we just looked at the guy like, “Have you been watching the news at all?” It was very, very tense.

**Who was that person?**

**Robert Gates:** A limo driver. Driving the wrong way down Terminal Way. We had cones out blocking the entire Terminal Way and he drove down there. Everybody was on edge, so everyone converged on this guy and it was just unbelievable.

But the other thing, too, was just the dedication of the group we have here. They would stay all hours, 24 hours, 72 hours, or whatever you asked them to do. The dedication of this group is just fantastic.

**Alex Bernard:** It was a very tough time, 9/11, for the Police Sergeants. I was the AM Watch Commander, and I remember going home. I got a page to call work. I called and I was told I was on 12 hours a day, 7 days a week indefinitely, and that went on for more than two months. It was really tough working that long, and a lot of Sergeants were really getting tired, but we all stood together; Safety Officers supported us. It was a good time to remember. It was a tough time, but we all worked together and got the job done and kept Ontario Airport safe.

**Ronald Monroe:** It was just total dedication of everybody here. It was phenomenal.

**The Best of Times**

**Talk about your other memories. Tell us your best memories about working here at Ontario. What are you most proud of?**

**Ronald Monroe:** Wow. The holidays, the celebrations we had here. I live nearby and I have two young daughters. We did birthdays here. We did Christmas and Thanksgiving here. We’d open up the curtains in the training room. All the families would come by. The food was always incredible. I really miss that.

**Patrick McPherson:** I’m proud to be a part of this group. It’s my family. We’re losing not just a job. It’s been an adventure.

[Laughter.]

**Josh Ulatowski:** We did more before nine o’clock today, buddy!

**Patrick McPherson:** We’re a family. We’re a small department, and when I got out of the Marine Corps I was in the area for a year and a half after I settled down. I always felt like an outsider until I got here. I’m from Minnesota, and when I got here I became a part of a family. I was taken in and no longer an outsider. I belonged finally, and this has just been the best job with the best group of people, and it’s just been a lot of fun. We are dedicated, but we have so much fun. We live together. We eat together. We sleep. These guys knew more about me – when I got married my wife thought, “I should only know those things about my husband.” They know all of my idiosyncrasies, every one of them, and it’s just been great being a part of this and a lot of fun.

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# The Goodbye Grill

**Airport Safety Officers host barbecue as final official event in their 47-year service to Ontario Airport.**

On June 10, Airport Safety Officers both active and Retired came together for perhaps the last time as a group for a “last call” barbecue at the safety building south of the Ontario Airport runways.

LAFD/Ontario Airport Battalion Chief Antoine McKnight hosted the event. Airports Dep. Executive Director of Security and Public Safety Patrick Gannon and Airport Police Chief Dave Maggard attended, along with dozens of active and Retired Airport Safety Officers from all three platoons, and their families. Awards and honors were presented.



LAFD/Ontario Airport Battalion Chief Antoine McKnight hosted the barbecue.



The Airport Safety Officer barbecue offered plenty to eat!



Active and Retired ASOs attended the barbecue with their families.

Airport Safety Officers serve both fire and police functions. Their vehicles, on display at the barbecue, reflect that.



Both Airports Dep. Executive Director of Security and Public Safety Patrick Gannon and Airport Police Chief Dave Maggard spoke at the barbecue.



The barbecue provided the opportunity for final photos next to City equipment before it is handed over to the Ontario Airport Authority.



Plaques were awarded to all active Airport Service Officers.



# END OF THE LINE

Alive! Feature

## The *Alive!* Interview

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### What are you most proud of?

**Patrick McPherson:** That we accomplished both missions. We never really had any bad things happen out here. I'm proud that Supervisors elsewhere, when they came out here, they realized we're a mature group of people. We're always going to be where we're supposed to be, and we're always going to respond and do what we're supposed to do. We run ourselves. On an emergency everybody knows what to do. The Captain may tell us where to spot, but we already know where to spot. Everybody is self-operating, and I'm proud of that.

**Delbert Patschull:** Probably the last 10 years of my life, I was a Sr. Airport Safety Officer in the Fire Station, and I was in charge of the hiring process. I must have hired most of the young guys around here right now or the people who have only been here for 10 years. You go through their backgrounds, you look at their military training and other kinds of things. I'm proud I hired the people I hired. And I started a lot of programs here when I first started. Back in the old days Ontario did our booking [arrests] for us. I started the booking process for our guys. We learned. And I'm the one who worked with LAX with the AED program [defibrillators]. I'm the one who picked the locations for all the AEDs in the terminals.

Working with these people, you've got to know what it's like because back in the old days we had muster brigades [fire competitive exercises/games]. Weekends we'd go competing against other fire departments on muster drills with the bucket brigade — you'd have a bucket on one side of water and transfer buckets to each guy and then move those up first. The ball comes out. That's who wins.

It's a family. That's what I'm going to miss, and what I'm glad I accomplished.

**Josh Ulatowski:** To begin with, Delbert and Ron were the only two guys here when I came. So that shows you how long I've been here. I was 24 years old. I'm 54 years old now. When I came here we had 24 guys, correct? Eight guys per shift. The guys who were hired and I made eight guys per platoon. So 24 people. We were at the old station — a small operation, and like Delbert said it was like a family. We sat a table this size for dinner and I met my wife here.



I'm proud of being with these people who are good people. You pass through time, and I think my time here has been very enjoyable.

### Were there any incidents of saving lives?

**Josh Ulatowski:** We all have lifesaving medals, the majority of us do here. It's just part of the job. I think we did save a life here with the first one with the AED. How many years ago was that? There are a lot of things that we implemented here, and I'm just proud of this organization. It's a shame that it's going away. It's just fading out.

### Any way to quantify how many lives you've saved?

**Josh Ulatowski:** I don't know. I think I've got two life-saving medals, but that's really nothing to brag about. That's just what we do.

But it's something to be proud of. It's the mission we accomplished.

### How about you, Alex?

**Alex Bernard:** I have a little different experience. I worked at LAX. I worked at Van Nuys, and I worked at Ontario. It's where I retired from. So I have a perspective as a Police Supervisor that I really enjoyed working at Ontario. As everybody's said, it's a family out here. When I first came out here there was a little apprehension about Police Supervisors coming out there because it's always been Airport Safety Officers and Sr. Safety Officers, and I was one of the first Police Sergeants to come out here. It was an experience. We got used to each other and we all worked well together. I was on the AM Watch, the graveyard for most of my career out here.

I got to work with all the Safety Officers and they were really a good group of guys. This is the best family. The guys are closer out here at Ontario than any other airport, and it was really a pleasure to work with them.

**Greg Gladson:** Ron mentioned the families and the birthdays. Most of us came here. We might have had a small child but by the time guys left we sat through births, high school graduations, college graduations, weddings. We've got some grandpas here. I think we might have a couple of great grand-

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The fire station's weight room. The equipment that is owned by the City will be transferred to LAX; the privately owned equipment will be donated to a local high school.



The City's Airport Safety Base at Ontario International Airport will soon be transferred to the Ontario Fire Dept. The City Seal will not be on the door much longer.



The fire station's roll call and training room.



Hangers at the hangar — fire gear ready for any emergency.

I'm proud to be a part of this group. It's my family. We're losing not just a job.

— Patrick McPherson



### INCIDENT: MAY 2010

Airport Safety Officers attend to an incident when a United Express aircraft landed without its front gear descended. No one was reported injured. From May 2010.

Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) turnouts.





pas. Josh found his wife here. When this goes away we'll still be a family. These Retired guys get together monthly.

**Really?**

**Greg Gladson:** Yes. They're going to have more guys to add to it in the future.

I'm also proud of the reputation our department has. We have to have the required training. We've gone to San Bernardino. We've gone to Utah. We've gone to Reno. These other agencies respect our group with our training and experience and knowledge. Most of these places where we train, they say, "Why aren't you guys teaching the classes?," because we have that much of a reputation.

America West Airlines – this tells you how long ago it was – they had a standard where if they had an emergency in the air they would try to divert to Ontario. They would try to divert to Ontario because of our training and our level of expertise. They wouldn't try to go to Vegas. They wouldn't try to go to Phoenix. They'd try to get here.

**Wow.**

**Greg Gladson:** The pilots told us this.

**No higher praise.**

**Patrick McPherson:** We have one of the longest runways in the Western United States, but pilots also know amongst themselves that we had a dedicated crash unit here for aircraft that was fully staffed, and they knew that amongst themselves. I'm pretty proud of that, that they would want to come here if they had trouble.

**Josh Ulatowski:** Originally the requirement here was to have two years of crash experience, which is not very common anymore.

**Robert Gates:** I think some of the guys here have said it pretty well. I got married here and I had three guys from this station in my wedding. It just shows you how close we really are. You eat and sleep and everything here together. Some of us have gone on vacations together. For the guys who are going to LAX, I hope they still stay in touch with each other because I don't want them to sit there and drift apart. Let's keep those memories together.

I just love my experience here. It's the best I've ever had. I loved the firefighting, and I'm really surprised I enjoyed the Police bit as much as I did. Everything about this place has been great, not to mention the supervision I've had here. We didn't always agree on everything, but I have the utmost respect for them all.

**End of an Era**

**And now this dual function is going away, as the City is going away from Ontario. It's the end of an era.**

**Robert Gates:** It leaves a knot in your gut. I'm retired now. I love retirement, but the idea that this isn't going to be here anymore with these guys, it just puts a knot in your gut. I hate it, but they're going to be fine. Their character is unquestionable to me.

**Greg Gladson:** It sucks.  
[Laughter.]

**Greg Gladson:** I'm not as poetic as Pat, but it just sucks. I look at this as a career. This is a job. I enjoy coming to work. We fight like cats and dogs but at the end we get the job done. We'll go have a beer afterwards and that's just the way this place is. We work and train with other outside agencies and they're not like we are. But we've got to make the best of it – I've got two and a half years before I retire. It's going to be challenging for the guys that have more time. Two years ago we didn't think this would ever happen.

**Alex Bernard:** It's sad that it's the end of an era. It was a program that worked well out here and I feel bad for the Airport Safety Officers who have to go to LAX. Most of them live out in the Inland Empire and it's going to be a big commute, and it will be an adjustment for them. They will survive. They'll do well, but it was a really great place to work and I hate to see them have to leave here.

**Josh Ulatowski:** I'll put it in my perspective. I'm kind of a history nut so I'll read the obituaries here and everybody thinks I'm morbid or something, but if you read the obituaries of some World War II vet and see what he did, that's history. Now he's dead. That story's done. The book's slammed shut. You can't go back there, and that's pretty much what's happening here. The story's over, the book's closed, and we can't go back.

**Obviously you guys have a lot of life left, but at the same time the position and what you did in this building and at this airport is**

**coming to an end in kind of the same way.**

**Delbert Patschull:** What's bad is two years from now it's not going to be remembered. People might say, what are Safety Officers at Ontario?

Some of us older guys who retired come back here during the week and visit the station. We come out here and have lunch with you guys and stuff and do things with the guys. Well, we won't be able to do it anymore. They'll be gone. These guys in the station supported me on my garage sales. My son had Hodgkin's lymphoma, and I belong to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. People donated things for garage sales. Since 2007 all of my garage sale money goes to donations. We're up to \$52,000 raised. I really appreciate the guys donating and it's helped the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and it's going to be missed. We're not going to be able to see each other anymore except at the retirement breakfasts once a month.

**Patrick McPherson:** Our job is not only gone but the station's gone. Our history will be gone. What about all the artifacts here? Where will they go? That's what we've been talking about. It's just junk to anyone else except for us. It's kind of like being snuffed out, and it hurts.

We've been misunderstood for a long time. Police Officers don't understand what we do. Firefighters don't understand what we do and how we can do both. I remember giving a class to second graders and I remember telling a little girl how we do both Fire and Police and we have one locker, two uniforms and two functions. When I was done giving the class, she raised her hand and asked, "Do you get two paychecks?" and I said, "No, but you're going to make somebody one heck of a great wife."

**Ronald Monroe:** How do you top that? It's a big void for me personally. It's not like high school. I worked in three other departments before this. I can't go back. I can't walk through these gates and through these doors and say, "Hey, remember me?" "Who are you?" they might say. "You're not allowed here. You're trespassing." This will be a completely different building for all of us. We can't go back.

We've had a lot of memories here. Robert was the best man at my second wedding, my roommate for 20-something years. You can't replace those memories. The guys who are going to LAX or Van Nuys, my heart really goes out to them. They will never be Airport Safety Officers again. They'll transition into the Airport Police Officer classification. It's the end of an era. That's an understatement.

One thing we didn't talk about was the support staff, and I wanted to bring that up. The support staff really made us. It took a lot of people to support this mission, and we need to give credit to our support people.

**Josh Ulatowski:** Ron's correct. You always knew your time slips were done correctly. You didn't have to worry about that because we could always depend on our stuff being correct. If we needed something, they'd take care of it for us.

**Greg Gladson:** No one's getting laid off. A lot of us got laid off before we joined Ontario. I got laid off from Lockheed in the '90s. Robert worked for General Dynamics.

**Robert Gates:** I had left already.

**Greg Gladson:** Pat worked for McDonnell-Douglas. A lot of us got laid off, so at least that's the one advantage LAWA is trying to do for the employees. I will give them props. They've allowed a leave of absence of up to three years, which nobody does that, but the Ontario employees only get a three-year leave of absence if they want to leave and go journey out into other jobs.

**Patrick McPherson:** We call that the parachute clause.

**Well anyway, thank you very much, gentlemen, for this. Thank you for letting *Alive!* be a part of your farewell. It's sad, but it's also something to be incredibly proud of, what you've all accomplished here for the City of L.A. Thanks for letting us come in and talk to you.**

**Greg Gladson:** Sure. Thank you.

**Delbert Patschull:** Before you leave, I challenge you as you walk through the hallway to look at Chief Dave Naves' picture up on the wall. Lock eyes with him, and he'll follow you all the way through the hallway.

That is a haunted picture. It's creepy. Go ahead.

**Does he follow you into retirement?**

**Patrick McPherson:** I hope not! ■



**The Smart Move**

*BY PATRICK MILLER, CBLIFE,  
The Club's Insurance Partner*

**Supplementing Your PENSION**

The uncertainty of surviving our golden years with enough money to live on can be a bit scary. One of the reasons we choose to work in the public arena is the lure of good pensions, but there are a couple of scenarios where your pension can come up short. One example is that you have to retire early because of health issues. Or you got started late in to public service and won't have enough years to build up your pension. According to Investopedia, there are a few ways to supplement your pension income.

**Work Two or Three Part-Time Jobs**

These jobs are usually minimum wage, require only a few hours a week but give you many opportunities to try different occupations. These part-time jobs also give you the option of working as many or as few hours as you want. They also don't require the same time commitment as a full-time job, and give you flexibility to do other things.

**Be a Consultant**

You've probably worked at several occupations over the course of your working career. Use that accumulated knowledge to your advantage. One of the first places you might look for opportunities is the company you retired from -- they now have an opening. You might suggest to them that you'd like to return to the company as a consultant on a contract or part-time basis. You are already familiar with the company, its product and its operations, so you'd be a perfect consultant.

Consider working for a start-up company. Many young entrepreneurs just starting their companies are in need of your vast business experience. While many couldn't hire you full-time, they can use you as a consultant on an "as-needed" or freelance basis. The opportunities to use your work experience are varied. You just have to take a few minutes to consider all the ways where you could find a niche and market those skills.

**Temporary Agencies**

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, temporary employment accounted for 3.1 million jobs in 2008, and that number is expected to rise. Traditionally, when the economy sees resurgence, corporations hire temporary workers first, and then create permanent jobs when their confidence in the economy rises. This is also a great place for retirees to find jobs. Temporary agencies receive requests for hundreds of different occupations. Many agencies specialize according to employment field, so you may have to research them to find a good fit with what you are looking for. This could be your best opportunity to "re-enter" the job market after retirement. It is flexible -- you can choose the type of job you want and decide if you want it to continue to be only temporary or if you'd like additional hours.

**Health, Childcare and Social Services**

These are booming fields and always in need of good, caring workers. If you're a retired nurse or healthcare worker, chances are your skills are still needed. Consider returning to work on a part-time basis or if money is not an issue, as a volunteer. Childcare workers are in huge demand, and most retirees have children and grandchildren that have provided you with years of experience. Opportunities can be found at YMCAs, childcare facilities, churches and after-school programs that provide care for working parents

**Fun Hobby Jobs**

Remember when you were working and your mind would wander to the golf course, the ski hills or the campground? Remember how you wanted to just run out of the door and hit the links? Consider making your hobby a retirement job.

Teach kids to play golf at a community golf club. Do you like to fish? Ask at the marina if they have any part-time jobs like a harbormaster, fuel attendant or boating safety instructor. If you have a RV, consider being a campground host for a summer.

Perhaps you like basketball, hockey, football or tennis. Is there a sports center or arena near you? They have jobs like a ticket taker, event planner or host for incoming sports celebrities. These can be perfect jobs for retirees that are looking for part-time income, and a chance to watch their favorite teams.

**The Bottom Line**

Whether you need to work to supplement your retirement income, just want to have fun or you are enthusiastic about a second career, the opportunities are there. Many times it just takes a dash of imagination, a positive attitude and sometimes just asking for an opportunity to get the job you are seeking.

You have a wealth of life skills to offer the workplace. Many leading corporations are seeking older workers for their knowledge and their work ethic. So, have fun and enjoy another career.

**CBLife** is The Club's partner for four areas – life insurance, critical illness insurance, retirement income and accident medical expense insurance. Currently the Club offers three CBLife products: the Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan and the Accident Medical Expense Plan. Ask your Club Counselor for details.

**You can contact CBLife at  
(888) 443-8829.**

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cityemployeesclub.com**



{ Who are the people you see every day? }

No. 60 in a series.



# People We See

PEOPLE WE SEE  
**CLASSIC**  
FROM SEPT. 2013

in downtown Los Angeles.

## Meet Alberto Padilla Alvarez.

**AGE:** "I'm 63."**BIRTHPLACE:** Havana, Cuba.**MARITAL STATUS:** "I have a wife but I'm not married."**FAMILY:** "I have brothers and sisters in Miami and New York as well as a niece in Chicago."**EDUCATION:** "I went to high school in Cuba, and then to a small university in New York."**MILITARY SERVICE:** "Yes, in Cuba."**WHERE DO YOU LIVE?** "My mail still goes to a place where I used to pay rent on S. San Pedro Street, but I am just here and there."**FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY:** "West Hollywood and Pasadena."**WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES?** "Back in 2003. Before that I lived in New York since 1980."**WHY DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES?** "To start fresh with life and see new things."**RELIGION:** "Catholic."**MEDICATIONS:** "None."**SPORTS IN HIGH SCHOOL?** "Baseball, swimming and boxing."**TROPHIES/AWARDS:** "I was awarded a military rifle."**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Anything with Charles Bronson or Steven Seagal."**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "*Sin Censura*, *The Ricki Lake Show*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and *The Jerry Springer Show*."**FAVORITE ACTOR:** "Charles Bronson, of course."**FAVORITE ACTRESS:** "Julia Roberts."**FAVORITE CANDY:** "I don't have much candy, but when I do, I will have a Hershey bar."**FAVORITE FOOD:** "Cuban food."**FAVORITE MUSIC:** "Gladys Knight and Chaka Khan."**LAST BOOK READ:** "*Fools Die* by Mario Puzo."**LAST JOB:** "I've had a lot of jobs, but the last one was at the Mission food factory, making tortillas."**DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS?** "Sure, everyone knows me. They say, 'It's Alberto from Cuba!' But I don't have any close friends."**FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:** "Leaving school early to go play baseball with the other kids. Good times."**LAST THING EATEN:** "I had breakfast. It was eggs, potato hash and French toast."**MOST HELPFUL ORGANIZATION:** "Midnight Mission."**POSSESSIONS:** "My duffel bag and clothes."**FAVORITE POSSESSION:** "My watch."**IF YOU WERE MAYOR, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR SOLUTION?** "Give more to those who need help and have nothing, instead of giving more to the rich."**WHAT HE WOULD DO WITH \$1 MILLION:** "Get out of here! Get a business and a house."**MAKE A WISH:** "Have a place to live."**ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:** "Just be happy and don't have stress."**WHERE WILL YOU BE IN FIVE YEARS?** "I will have an apartment by then."

*The Club gave Alberto a Bucket and a Blanket, a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, band wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.*

*The interview took place Aug. 26 on the City Hall lawn downtown. Photos by Summy Lam.*

{ In this monthly feature, the Club introduces you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell. }



Airports

Story and photos courtesy Harold Johnson, Airports, Club Member

# Spring Job Fair

**LAX Community Relations brings together hundreds of job seekers, employers.**

Close to 1,000 job seekers from communities surrounding LAX attended an LAX Spring Employment and Resource Fair in Inglewood May 17. The job and resource fair was organized by LAX’s Community Relations Division and Business and Job Resource Center (BJRC) to introduce job opportunities.

“At LAX, we take great pride in providing resources and job opportunities to our airport community,” said Trevor Daley, Airports Deputy Executive Director of External Relations. “It was inspiring to see our staff and so many employers working hard to create new opportunities for those in and around LAX.”

Although aviation-related careers were the main focus of the job and resource fair, other airport-related businesses participated including construction companies presenting apprenticeship program opportunities, and police and fire departments. Community resource organizations offered employment-related services to job seekers such as resume writing and critiquing, job training and apprenticeships,

and exploring education options. In addition to publicizing open positions, employers were also informed about the benefits of hiring workers with vision disabilities in a presentation by Junior Blind of America.

The event was organized by Jobs@LAX, a program managed by LAWA’s First Source Hiring Program (FSHP) at LAX. FSHP provides job seekers with job opportunities at LAX. For more information, please visit <http://www.jobsatlax.org>.

“There is a strong need for entry-level and professional employees in the aviation industry,” said Jobs@LAX Coordinator Sontue Beacham. “By bringing together more than 50 employers, the LAX Spring Employment and Resource Fair presented a wealth of opportunities for job seekers to start exciting careers.”



At the spring job fair presented by LAX.



At the spring job fair presented by LAX.

Rec and Parks, Cultural Affairs

# Final Performances in August

**Annual Shakespeare by the Sea program returns to San Pedro, Woodland Hills.**

L’s Shakespeare by the Sea theatre troupe, funded partially by Rec and Parks and Cultural Affairs, celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2017.

This year’s season features a comedy, The Taming of the Shrew, and the classic tragedy Macbeth. The productions continue with final City performances in August. Admission is free.

**The City portion of the program’s schedule is:**

**The Taming of the Shrew**

- When rebellious Katherina stands in the way of her younger sister Bianca’s marriage, fortune hunter Petruchio is enlisted to “tame” the elder daughter, freeing a path for Bianca’s motley suitors. From their first meeting, sparks fly and the ultimate battle of the sexes ensues – leaving us to wonder, who is taming who?
- At Pt. Fermin Park: Aug. 19
- At Warner Center Park: Aug. 3

**Macbeth**

- Seduced by supernatural prophecy, Macbeth and his Lady embark on an ambitious quest to win the Scottish throne. In the aftermath of their success, we glimpse a world torn apart when a volatile, paranoid tyrant becomes king.
- At Pt. Fermin Park: Aug. 18

This year, the company will deliver approximately 40 performances in more than 20 locations, beginning and ending with its hometown crowd at Pt. Fermin Park in San Pedro. The tour



Parolles (Cylan Brown) and Diana (Kristina Teves) in Shakespeare by the Sea’s 2013 production of All’s Well That Ends Well, directed by Patrick Vest. Photo: Mickey Elliot.

has become a much-anticipated event each summer, drawing an audience of more than 20,000 to enjoy Shakespeare under the summer sky each of the past several years.

Founded in 1998 and funded entirely by donations and grants, Shakespeare by the Sea brings contemporary and classic works to underserved, culturally diverse audiences to ignite imagination, promote literacy and encourage artistic expression. This season’s San Pedro performances are made possible in part by the City’s Cultural Affairs and Rec and Parks Depts., and funds to support the tour have been committed from the Orange County Community Foundation, Los Angeles County Arts Commission and Supervisor Don Knabe.

Bring your friends, pack a picnic and settle in under the stars this summer for Shakespeare’s classic plays. It can get chilly by the sea at Pt. Fermin, so dress accordingly. Bench seating is available, but you are welcome to bring chairs or blankets.

The two productions play for ten weeks in more than 20 venues. For more information and the complete schedule, go to:

<http://www.shakespearebythesea.org/>

**Point Fermin Park**  
807 Paseo del Mar, San Pedro.

**Warner Center Park**  
5800 Topanga Canyon Blvd.,  
Woodland Hills

# Larios in the City

BY ROBERT LARIOS,  
Chief Operating Officer  
[rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com)  
TWITTER: @robertlarioscoo



**Robert Larios, the Club’s Chief Operating Officer, honors these Club member with the coveted Club Retirement Plaque.**



**Victor Vallejo**  
Retired from Planning with 35 years of City service.



**Yolanda Ramirez**  
Retired from Airports with 34 years of City service.



**Rogelio Dimaano**  
Retired from LAPD with 31 years of City service.

*Congratulations!*

# THE CHEAPEST

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**Call or Text 213.448.4979**

Zoo

Photos courtesy Fresno Chaffee Zoo

# Trunk Show

Zoo welcomes female Asian elephant.

In the early morning hours of June 27, the Zoo welcomed 46-year-old female Asian elephant Shaunzi from the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. Shaunzi traveled 215 miles from Fresno, in a specially designed elephant crate and was accompanied by a team of curators, animal keepers and veterinarians from the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. Shaunzi will be quarantined at the Elephants of Asia exhibit until this month so she can slowly get to know her new home and its current residents, Billy, Tina and Jewel.

Shaunzi was born in Thailand in 1971 and spent much of her youth in the Cristiani Bros. Circus. She arrived at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo in 1983 alongside fellow Asian elephant Kara. The two females spent every day together as companions until Kara's death earlier this month on June 7 due to a significant decline in health. Not wanting Shaunzi to remain alone, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo asked the Los Angeles Zoo to provide the female elephant with a home, and the L.A. Zoo wholeheartedly agreed.

"We didn't hesitate when asked by the Fresno Chaffee Zoo to provide a home for Shaunzi," said John Lewis, Zoo Director. "This is an Asian elephant that recently lost her life-time companion, and we are able to provide her with socialization, excellent care and a state-of-the-art facility where she can live out the rest of her years."

The Los Angeles Zoo is excited to expand the size of its herd and believes the addition of Shaunzi will add flexibility to the group dynamic and provide more social options among the elephants. Furthermore, the Los Angeles community has the unique opportunity to welcome and observe another majestic Asian elephant through rich, inspiring experiences that the Zoo hopes will familiarize guests with the challenges Asian elephants face in the wild.

Staff from the Fresno Chaffee Zoo will remain in Los Angeles to work with the L.A. Zoo animal care staff to ensure a smooth transition for Shaunzi.

Shaunzi should be available for public viewing by the time you read this.

Zoo admission is \$20 for general admission (ages 13 to 61); \$17 for seniors (ages 62+), and \$15 for children (ages 2 to 12). No ticket is required for children under age two. Admission for Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association members is free.

**The Los Angeles Zoo is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027. Free parking is available. For additional information, contact (323) 644-4200 or visit [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org)**

Shaunzi.

Let the Club family celebrate with you...

# Put your graduation photo in *Alive!*

**CLUB MEMBERS:** Have you had a family member graduate from elementary school... high school... or college? 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  
120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles CA 90012

*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.*


**Congratulations, GRADUATES**



**Rec and Parks**

# Shark Week!

Aug. 6-12, 2017



*Photo by Gary Florin, Rec and Parks*

**Cabrillo Marine Aquarium hosts fun week featuring the feared sea creatures.**

Coinciding with TV’s week of sharks, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium presents its own Shark Week from noon to 4 p.m. Aug. 6-12. Shark Week features special shark crafts and activities each day.

**Daily Activities**  
(all event times noon - 4 p.m.)

*Exploration Center*

- Invites kids of all ages to participate in an exciting shark egg case craft that they can take home. Plus, learn why sharks are so important for our marine eco-system and how we can help protect them from extinction.

*Marine Research Library*

- Will have special shark videos, Shark Week books, and exciting shark word searches and puzzles to solve.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Collections will also have a shark specimen display, featuring real shark egg cases, shark skin and shark jaws.

Other daily activities include a Shark Week fact scavenger hunt, special Shark Week photo opportunities and a special Shark Week auditorium presentation about the different sharks that live in our oceans and how humans are impacting their populations and environments.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is at 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. in San Pedro on the shores of Cabrillo Beach and is a Rec and Parks facility with support from Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Public hours are Tuesday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Mondays. For Shark Week program schedule or further information, please call (310) 548-7562 or visit [www.cabrillosmarineaquarium.org](http://www.cabrillosmarineaquarium.org).



A juvenile great white shark.



Cabrillo's shark room.

**Rec and Parks**



## Banning Seeks Volunteers

The Banning Museum seeks volunteers and plans to host two “Get to Know Us” receptions on Fri., Aug. 25 and Sat., Aug. 26 from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The receptions will be held in the conference room at the Banning Museum, 401 East “M” Street, Wilmington.

Volunteers at the Banning Museum attend a training course to gain the background necessary to offer public tours and special group tours of the interior of the museum, Stagecoach Barn and grounds. Once the training course is completed the volunteers are able to participate in a full range of museum programs such as conservation and maintenance of antiques, participating in decorative arts exhibitions, special events, Museum Shop assistance, lecture and discussion committees, volunteer activities, Living History Program and School Program.

The Museum’s School Program introduces fourth grade students to local cultural and historical heritage and may require additional training to familiarize new volunteers to the program details.

For additional information or to RSVP for one of the receptions above, please contact the Banning Museum, (310) 548-7777.

The Banning Museum is a Rec and Parks facility and is operated in cooperation with Friends of Banning Museum.



THIS  
MONTH  
AT THE



# Griffith Observatory

## Sunset Walk

**Wed., Aug. 2**  
**7:35 – 8:35 p.m.**

The Observatory offers a sunset walk led by a Park Ranger and a museum guide. The easy walk starts on the Observatory’s West Terrace, proceeds up the Charlie Turner trail to the Berlin Forest on the hill just north of the Observatory, and then returns to the West Terrace. The distance covered is about half a mile over the course of an hour at a very moderate pace with stops along the way to discuss the highlights and history of Griffith Park, and objects visible in the evening sky.

NOTE: The Charlie Turner trail is a moderately steep earthen trail. The Observatory recommends footwear appropriate for hiking.

**FREE!**

*Information:*

[griffithobservatory.org/  
programs/programs.  
html#walktalk](http://griffithobservatory.org/programs/programs.html#walktalk)

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[www.friendsoftheobservatory.com](http://www.friendsoftheobservatory.com)

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# Life's Important Moments



## New Members

### Welcome New Members!

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

#### Airports

Bennetta Alexander  
Morenike Animashaun  
Kyle Banks  
Jacob Brosseau  
Oneal Buncom  
Ferdinand Castillo  
David Ellis  
Jeovanny Gallardo  
Julio Gonzalez  
Juan Gracian  
Leonard Gutierrez  
Roderick Hammer  
Lamont Haynes  
Charla Hill  
Jelani Holland  
Hector Medrano  
Salih Mohammed  
Daniel Ponce  
Katrina Prince  
Brian Reidy  
Maurice Robinson  
Kevin Singleton  
Michael Tawagon  
Sammie Thornton  
Shantil Turner  
Travis Warren Sr.  
Erinn Wilkes

#### Animal Services

Kathleen Dawson  
Jennielee Greslie

#### Building and Safety

Jonathan Castillo  
Joshua Diaz

#### City Clerk

Frederick Chung

#### Department on Disability

Rosemarie Punzalan

#### General Services

Alexander Anderson  
Yerchanik Bedrosian  
William Chinberg  
Robert Orozco Jr.  
Oscar Sanchez  
Kenneth Tafoya

#### Harbor

Ryan Combs

#### Housing

Andrea Arredondo  
Russell Bonvouloir  
Cynthia Montano  
Nicholas Sanchez

#### ITA

Rolando Ibarra  
Lina Mach-Leung

#### LACERS

Veronica Flores

#### Library

Elizabeth Churchville  
Thomas Cruz  
Chandra Jackson  
Donald Lowery  
Cory Milsap-Harris  
Caitlin Quinn  
Holly Rutan  
David Thomsen

#### LAFD

Kasra Davar  
Dennis Lefevre  
Patrick Tamrazian

#### LAPD

Kimberly Allen  
Joseph Armstrong

#### Gilbert Cabrera Jr.

Pedro Candia  
David Carbajal  
John Casselberry Jr.  
Jennifer Ceballos  
Michael Cormier  
Francisco Deven  
Iliana Dircio  
Ashlee Dotson  
Alexander Elias  
Paola Enriquez  
Nadezda Ferrer  
Douglas Gamez  
Tamara Hersey  
Apryl Huerta  
Alexander Hyun  
Stephen Johnson  
Marla Kiley  
Sharon Lee  
Esther Lee  
Bryttani Lewis  
Oscar Lopez  
Maria Lozano Corral  
Herman Lucas  
Jonathan Maldonado  
Kalikalakshmi Malik  
Susana Miles  
Nancy Morales  
Luis Nunez  
Christiane Okafor-Ize  
Maria Padilla  
Frank Pazasis  
Robert Peters  
Brinette Pickett  
Diana Pique  
Siriboto Rareba  
Carmencita Reyno  
Jose Rodriguez  
Pamela Saguiguit  
Erika Sanchez  
Edelicia Schueller  
Andy Soto-Fraire  
Bonnie Staley  
Jennifer Steed  
Cristian Valenzuela  
Andrea Vasquez  
Daniel Vidal  
Henry Wang

#### Mayor's Office

Melody Valenzuela

#### Personnel

Russell Escueta

#### Planning

Eduardo Ramirez

#### PUBLIC WORKS

#### Contract Administration

Michel Valdivia Santana

#### Engineering

Serjhik Hartounijahanians  
Patricia Julia  
Euisin Kim

#### Rec and Parks

Karen Arevalo  
Ricky Chapin  
Oscar Duran  
Edna Hernandez  
Robert Marquez  
Danny Marti  
Joseph Martinez  
Ruben Morales  
Erick Palencia  
Nestor Rodriguez  
Alfred Ruiz

#### Sanitation

Wei-Kang Chiu  
Christine Courtois

#### Rene Flores

Joe Gomez  
Ulises Julio  
Alfonso Martinez  
Sandra Morales

#### Street Lighting

Franklin Garcia

#### Street Services

Angel Cabrera  
Arturo Fariaz  
Ronald Fischer  
Madaline Nevarez  
William Olano Deras  
Albert Ramirez  
Samuel Robles  
Michael Thomas  
Danny Valles

#### Transportation

Nadim Bakhos  
Mobile Man 1  
Sheronda Mitchell  
Juan Montano  
Keyvan Shahrour  
Thongchandra Song

#### DWP

Narbe Aghagarian-Zarneh  
Matthew Ake  
Oscar Arias  
Andrew Askins Jr.  
Elvis Ayala  
Frankie Baiza  
Daniel Baiza  
Andrew Bordenave  
Jonathan Chamberlain  
Simon Chong  
Matt Devore  
Michael Diggin  
Patrick Evans  
Juan Gallegos II  
Darryl Henry  
Brenda Hernandez  
Robert Khachikyan  
Houtan Khadjehnouri  
Raymond Kuok  
Bradley Lewis  
Ricardo Magana  
Adrian Mancera  
Andrew Martinez  
Andrew Martinez  
Hector Munoz  
Jaime Perez  
David Prosur  
Francisco Ramirez  
Francisco Rodezno-Marmol  
Raul Rodriguez  
Raymond Roldan  
Richy Shimazu  
Jason Slattery  
Mark Torres  
Raul Valdovinos  
Reynold Wong

#### Other

Vincent Carlander  
Pablo Centeno  
Cecilia Garver  
Scott Girard  
Natalia Guevara  
Edward Guill  
Dylan Herrero  
Gary Kilgore  
Eddie Lopez  
Kenton McGowen  
Carlos Paniagua  
Jeffrey Sutherland  
Albert Van Stryk  
Rogaciano Velasquez  
David Wells

## Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? Get a promotion? We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and high resolution photos with the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) or send paper notices and print photos to:

**Alive!, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012**

## In Memoriam

### A Remembrance

by Patty Tate

John Wayne Tate went to be with the Lord June 24.



John Wayne Tate

1946-2017

Public Works/  
Street Maintenance

I lost the love of my life, best friend, husband and father of our precious sons, Darin Tate and family of Mishawaka, Ind.; Kevin Tate and family of Simi Valley; and Devin Tate of Colton. Johnny was also a grandfather to our grandkids and great-grandkids. He also leaves a sister, Pat Delgado in Hanford, Calif.; a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Jim and Nancy Roberts in Granada Hills; a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Les and Pam Barkley, in Lake Mary, Fla.; and numerous wonderful nieces and nephews.

Johnny was a great guy with a sweet and warm personality and a sense of humor that was wonderful! Even on his worst days, he tried to cheer me up, which is what we tried to do with each other.

Most of all he loved his family; his boys were the best thing he ever made, he would say. They were his best buds.

He worked for the City for almost 40 years and retired in January 2010. When he retired, he worked ran a jackhammer in Special Projects/Street Maintenance. He brought many laughs to his crew with his many jokes and antics before, during or after the safety meetings. It made the day start on a lighter note – like when his boss had accidentally hit an older man in the head with a golf ball, while playing a round of golf (after work). The next day Johnny cut a golf ball in half, stuck it to his forehead and walked into the meeting with eyes crossed and fell down to his knees. Everyone

knew what he was joking about! He always got just as much work done, or more, as everyone else, but made it more enjoyable.

He was also called on to do special, serious things – like when there was a murder investigation in North Hollywood, they called on Johnny to dig up the body, which was cemented under a floor in an office building. He was precise enough to do that, without disturbing the body. He also had to help bring the body out of the hole.

When they were investigating some of the old Spawn Ranch for bodies from the Manson murders, they called on him to dig up where the cadaver dogs caught a scent. They found nothing, but it was interesting.

When Johnny and I were planning on getting married, we found out that guys had to be 21 or have a guardian to sign for them. His parents were both deceased (girls had to be 18, like I was). Johnny was only 19. So we had to go to court to get a guardian to sign the marriage certificate. My older brother became his guardian so we could be married. The judge had a good laugh on that one! So my brother is also my “father-in-law,” uncle to my children and grandfather to my kids! Going around the City yard, my brother, Jim Roberts, and Johnny would say, “Hi, Dad,” and my brother would call him “Son.” My brother was only three years older than Johnny! Life has been a trip; life with “Tater” or “Tater Head” was never dull!

I was blessed to have this wonderful man as part of my life as long as I did, and we were together a little more than 52 years. I let him know that every day, as he did with me. The “I love yous” were heard many times a day in our house. We fought like every married couple but got over with it quickly.

He lost his battle Sat. June 24. He was so tired and worn out from eight heart attacks, all the dialysis (four times a week, four hours each time) and hospital stays – heart, kidney, diabetes, etc. took their toll. He tried to be up and fight to live, but everything started shutting down. I will love and miss this man forever till we meet again in heaven.

The nature lover that he was, I can just imagine the enjoyment that he is experiencing now.

His favorite things were camping, fishing, casino gaming and all of nature – all of the outdoors.

He loved adventures, like taking off (sometimes in the middle of the night) just to go where the road would lead us! We had so much fun and enjoyed each other more than anyone will ever know. It was even more fun when family could come with or join us somewhere. All who knew him knows how he loved to entertain us all.

Johnny was born in Orange May 15, 1946, to Joe Willie and Emma Lou (Arnold) Tate. He was the youngest of three children. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Dean. All of us who had the privilege to have him in our lives will miss his sweet, loving presence, but we will see him again, later.

I love you, my Johnny, till we meet again, Sweetheart, in paradise. All my love to you, forever.



## Graduations

Maury Camarena graduated from Cal State, Fullerton, with a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice.



Bryan Camarena graduated from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet in Wilmington.



Erika Camarena graduated from Wilmington Park Elementary School. They're the family of Beverly Monroy, DWP.



Kevin Andrew Garcia graduated from Stanford University 2017, with Bachelor's and Master's degrees in classics. He hopes to continue in a doctoral program. He is the son of Martha Hernandez, DWP, Retired, and Uriel Garcia.



Daniel Kelly graduated magna cum laude from Bishop Montgomery High School in Torrance. He plans to attend Cal Poly Pomona in the fall and major in civil engineering. He is the son of William, Sr. Water Utility Worker, DWP, and Kymberlee Kelly.



Lorenzo Marsh graduated from St. Catherine Catholic Military Academy in Anaheim. He plans to attend St. Anthony High School in Long Beach in the fall. He's the grandson of Sgt. Alden Marsh, Transportation. "Congrats from all of us!"



Emilio Moran graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology, majoring in civil engineering. He will continue living in Rochester, N.Y. and working for Labella and Associates Engineering. He is the son of Horacio and Angela Moran, DWP. "We love you, Elmo!"



William Eric Newman graduated from Loyola Law School in New Orleans, La. He plans to take the bar and practice law in California. He's the son of Alvin Newman, CAO, and Debra Newman, Personnel.



Mary Ellen Skramstad graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, majoring in environmental sciences. She has begun her first position as a staff scientist. Her short-term goal is an environment position in a City Planning or other government agency, or in Europe. She is the granddaughter of Allene Buchanan, Retired, LAPD.



Lamar Williams graduated from Little Shepherd's Learning Center Pre-K in Porter Ranch. He plans to be a Police Officer when he grows up. He's the son of Det. II Martin L. Williams, LAPD.

## In Memoriam

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the following current and retired City employees who have passed away. The number after the name indicates years of service.

### It's Time to Tell Their Story

Every month, *Alive!* publishes the names of those current or retired City Employees who have died.

But who were they? Did you know them? If you worked with any of these people, knew a story or two about them or were related to them, consider writing to *Alive!* and letting us know. *Tell their story!*

- Write a few sentences or paragraphs
- Send in a photo, if you have one
- Let us know your name and connection to the deceased
- Send your memories to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com).  
**Subject line:** Tell Their Story

DEPARTMENT			YEARS OF SERVICE		DEPARTMENT			YEARS OF SERVICE	
Active									
Applewhite, Anthony			Public Works	3	Hernandez, Arturo			DWP	20
Broer, Kelly Ann Baca			Airports	9	Hinchen, Goveree			Public Works	31
Lopez, Armando			Animal Services	2	Ingram, John			Public Works	26
					Isbell, Charles			DWP	30
					Juarez, Jess			Public Works	42
					Kellogg, Garth			DWP	28
					Kellogg, Lawrence			Building and Safety	19
					Kelly, William			DWP	18
					Kim, Lawrence			Public Works	34
					Hill, Raymond			Personnel	38
					Kolyer, Valda			General Services	15
					Lewis, Donna			Rec and Parks	15
					Mabrie, La Suere			DWP	32
					Macias, John			General Services	25
					Meacham, Dolores			City Attorney	16
					Morris, Henry			City Attorney	37
					Newman, Johnny			General Services	34
					Odil, Jesse			LAPD	34
					Orellana, Oscar			Rec and Parks	28
					Quon, Peter			Rec and Parks	26
					Parker, Eloise			DWP	31
					Rogers, Douglas			Public Works	21
					Rutledge, Sharon			City Attorney	37
					Sahabian, Nadia			LAPD	19
					Shira, Creatis			Rec and Parks	10
					Smith Jr., Stanford			DWP	25
					Swinney, Thomas			DWP	34
					Tate, John			Public Works	36
					Tyus, Lois			Housing	25
					Villard, Vincent			DWP	37
					Wall, Carl			Rec and Parks	16
					Warren, Beatrice			DWP	29

## Share Your Life's Moments

### Everyone reads Life's Important Moments in *Alive!*

Share your news... and send in a photo! Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.

### Send digital photos to:

(as high a resolution as you can send)

**[talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)**

OR send paper photos to:

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- LA City Zoo
- LA Zoo
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- 311 Call Center

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Home Phone: ( )  Cell Phone: ( )  City:

Email Address:  State:  Zip:

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------	------

Department	Color	Gender	Size	Qty	Retail	Member	Total

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+ Sales Tax

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Address

State  Zip

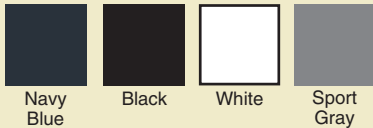
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[uniforms@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:uniforms@cityemployeesclub.com)

Once your order is received, we'll contact you for  
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Polo Shirt Colors & Sizes

Available Colors



Available Sizes

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Women: Small - 3XL

\* 3XL - 5XL (Add \$3.00)



Airports



Yolanda "Yolie" Ramirez, Retiree, with Club COO, Robert Larios.

# Ramirez Retires

**Yolanda Ramirez retires from Airports after 34 years of City service.**

A reception was held July 7 for friends, family and coworkers to say goodbye to Yolanda Ramirez, Club Member, who retired from Airports after 34 years of City service.

The reception was held at La Feria Mexican restaurant in Inglewood.

Special thanks go to Michelle Acquah, Reina Legaspi and Bertha Vega for their assistance.

Congratulations, Yolanda, on your retirement!



Yolanda's mom, Eva Griego, with Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree (right).



From left: Sunday Adeoye, Internal Auditor IV, Airports, 21 years of City service; and Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.



From left: Michelle Acquah, Revenue, Audits and Payroll, Airports; and Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.

Yolanda's brother, Louie Griego, with Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.



From left to right: Valerie Dailey, Accounting Clerk; Collin Horsey, Admin Clerk; Yolie Ramirez, Retiree; Nadine Ang, Accounting Clerk; Jessie Fuentes, Payroll Analyst I; Joel Chairez, Accounting Clerk. Back row left to right: Idella Charles-Banks, Payroll Supervisor I; Rene Alexander, Accounting Clerk; Stella Mendoza, Payroll Supervisor I; Julie Cabana, Accounting Clerk; Reina Legaspi, Accounting Clerk; Emy Arceno, Departmental Chief Accountant IV; P Michelle Acquah, Accounting Clerk



From left: Emy Arceno, Chief Accountant IV, Airports, 28 years of City service; with Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.



From left: Claude Gonzalez, Accountant II, City Clerk, 16 years of City service; and Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.



From left: Amanda Dyson, Director of Internal Audits, Airports, 20-plus years of City service; and Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.



From left: Collin Horsey, Administrative Clerk, Airports, 11 years of City service; and Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.



From left: Valerie Daily, Accounting Clerk, Airports, 26 years of City service; and Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.



From left: Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree; and Reina Legaspi, Accounting Clerk, Airports, 17 years of City service.



From left: Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree, with Linda Brown, Payroll Supervisor, Harbor, 28 years of City service.



From left: Yolanda's sister, Anna Ruiz, Administration Clerk, LAPD, 35 years of City service; and Yolanda Ramirez, Retiree.

## Rest Insured

BY JEFF GELINEAU  
Vice President of United Agencies,  
The Club's Auto and Home Insurance Partner

### Insuring the College Student

As an insurance brokerage, we sometimes get asked the question, "Is there anything I need to do about my insurance when my child goes to college?"

Yes.

The parents of college students moving to on-campus or off-campus housing should review their insurance policies to make sure their children's personal possessions are covered while they are away at school.

Before a child heads off to college we recommend taking the following steps:

- Create a "dorm inventory" - a list of items the student plans to bring to school, along with its estimated value. To make this process easier, you can use the free Web-based software, available at KnowYourStuff.org. Be sure to note specific high-value items, including a computer, camera or musical instrument, and scan receipts into the system to document their retail value. Having an up-to-date inventory can help determine how much insurance to purchase and get insurance claims settled faster in the event of theft, fire or other types of disasters.
- Contact your insurance agent or company representative - college is a major life event that may trigger the need for changes in insurance coverage, so ask about the insurance implications of a son or daughter becoming a full-time student and determine if supplemental insurance is needed. And don't forget to ask about discounts or ways to reduce costs.
- Some homeowners' and/or renters' policies include protection for a college student's personal possessions (e.g., a TV, clothing and furniture) away from home, if they live on campus and the student's property is stolen or damaged. Other policies may limit the amount of coverage for a college student's belongings to 10 percent of the total amount of a policy's overall coverage for personal possessions. So if parents have \$100,000 worth of personal possessions insurance for the family's primary residence, for example, only \$10,000 would be applicable to possessions in their youngster's dorm room. In both cases, the student's possessions would be covered for the same disasters that are in a standard homeowners' or renters' insurance policy. These perils would include, fire, theft, vandalism and natural disasters, including a hurricane. The student would not be covered for typical college type mishaps, including accidentally spilling coffee on an expensive electronic device.

Items including jewelry and musical instruments may be subject to dollar limits under a standard homeowners' or renters' policy. If these limits are too low, parents may want to consider buying a personal property floater or an endorsement to their homeowners' or renters' policy. This provides a higher amount of insurance and broader coverage. Most jewelry floaters, for instance, include additional coverage for "mysterious disappearance."

It may make sense for students to leave expensive jewelry at home or store it in a safe deposit box. Floaters for storing jewelry in a safe deposit box are generally less costly, and many insurers will let you take jewelry out and wear it if you let them know in advance.

Parents may want to look into acquiring stand-alone policies for desktop computers, laptops, tablets and iPads, and other electronics, as they may provide coverage against accidental damage, liquid spills and other events not included under a standard homeowners' or renters' policy. Keep in mind that if you are using a credit card to buy such items, some insurance protection may also be available through the card itself.

Students who live off campus may not be covered under their parents' homeowners' or renters' policy and may need to purchase their own renters insurance coverage.

#### Other Coverages to Consider

**Auto Insurance:** If the student has been driving the family car and will now be away at college at least 100 miles from home, make sure you let your insurance company know. You may be eligible for a discount on your auto insurance. If your son or daughter has their own car, it is very important to let your insurance company know if the car will be at school or left home, as the cost of the insurance will be based on where the car resides. Many auto insurance companies will also give a discount to students who get good grades at school.

**Tuition Insurance:** This coverage refunds a significant portion of semester tuition and on-campus room and board when a student withdraws at any time during a semester due to a covered medical reason, including emotional, nervous or mental disorders or the death of the student. There is no coverage if the student voluntarily withdraws from school. Student loans used to pay for college costs can also be covered by the policy. Tuition insurance is available to students through participating colleges and universities, including some graduate programs, and is provided by third-party insurers; these policies cost anywhere from one to three percent of tuition per semester. The average tuition cost for U.S. private schools in 2010 was \$27,293 per year, according to the College Board, a nonprofit organization that keeps track of higher education information.

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Check out the City Employees Club page on the United Agencies Website: [www.ua-insurance.com/city-club](http://www.ua-insurance.com/city-club)

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Rec and Parks

Photos by Gary Florin, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, and by the Club



From left: Jim DePompei, Aquarium Educator; Larry Fukuhara, Retiree; Matt Christopherson, Programs Assistant; and Mike Schaadt, Aquarium Director.



At Larry Fukuhara's retirement party.



Larry Fukuhara arrived in style at his afternoon retirement party.

# Larry Sails Into the Sunset

**Cabrillo Aquarium Program Director Larry Fukuhara retires after 35 years of City service.**

Staff, friends and coworkers held two retirement lunches for Larry Fukuhara, Program Director, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Larry retires after 35 years of City service.

The first event was held for City co-workers May 1. His final party, for staff, community members, docents, family, and others, took place on Larry's last day, May 5. At that Cinco de Mayo celebration there were cervezas, margaritas and Mexican-inspired food for the day.

The retirement photos accompanying this article are from the first retirement event May 1.

In our March 2009 cover story on Larry and Cabrillo's whale-watching program, *Alive!* estimated that Larry helped educate more than 100,000 people each year on the aquatic sciences of Southern California. Over his career, that would total more than 3.5 million people.

We hear that Larry's been fishing a lot in his retirement, and is trying to find the time to do everything he's wished for.

Larry, congratulations on your great career at Cabrillo, and thanks for everything you've done for the Club.

*Alive!* thanks Juliette McAllister, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, for her assistance.



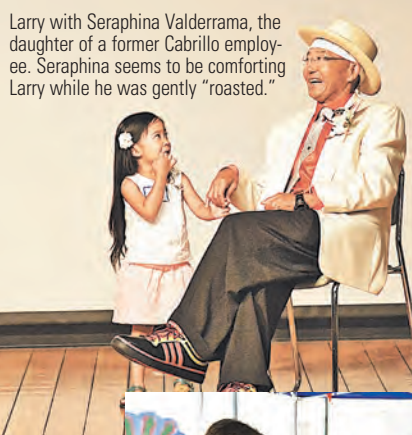
From left: Jim DePompei, Aquarium Educator; Larry Fukuhara, Retiree; and Matt Christopherson, Programs Assistant.



From left: Larry Fukuhara, Retiree, and Mike Schaadt, Aquarium Director.



Tom Tran, Aquarist.



Larry with Seraphina Valderrama, the daughter of a former Cabrillo employee. Seraphina seems to be comforting Larry while he was gently "roasted."



Larry Fukuhara, Retiree, and Caroline Brady, Executive Director, Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

## Larry in the Pages of *Alive!*



March 2009: Club CEO John Hawkins (right) chats with Larry Fukuhara (center) and Cabrillo Whalewatch Certified Naturalist Bobbie Hedges.



March 2009Cabrillo Program Director Larry Fukuhara on a whale-watch trip with the Club.



March 2009: Larry Fukuhara educates two whale-watch guests on what to look for.



From left: Michael Sanborn, Director, Banning Residence Museum, and Larry Fukuhara, Retiree.







# Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios

Photos: Patty M. Larios



## SHRIMP PAD THAI

Here is a Thailand-inspired dish – Shrimp Pad Thai. It is the first one I have cooked since I started the cooking column in 2002. That's a long time to wait but better late than never, as they say.

You will enjoy this one for its wonderful collection of flavors and texture. You may add more heat by adding more chili flakes

and add Sriracha once the pad Thai is plated. Most recipes call for peanuts to be added, but cashews have been substituted here. You are free to use one or the other or a mix of both. It was originally created by Chef Justine Kelly, executive chef of Sun Basket. I thank her for making it available because it is delicious. Enjoy!

*iBuen provecho! Chef Larios*

### Shrimp Pad Thai

Serves 2

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- ¼ pound flat rice noodles
- 1 or 2 shallots
- 4 cloves peeled fresh garlic
- 10 ounces wild Gulf shrimp
- 2 organic eggs
- ½ teaspoon chile flakes (optional)
- 1 ounce bean sprouts
- 2 tablespoons Nam Pla (a fish sauce)
- 3 scallions
- Fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons roasted cashews
- 1 lime

#### Cooking TIDBIT

If you cannot find a bottle of Nam Pla, you may substitute a combination of rice vinegar, fish sauce and brown sugar. Also, feel free to use Sriracha to spice it up further.

#### DIRECTIONS:

**1** Set the rice noodles in a large heatproof bowl. In a small saucepot, bring 1.5 quarts of water to a boil. Pour the boiling water over the rice noodles and let soak until just tender, 6 to 7 minutes. Drain the noodles, then toss with 1 to 2 teaspoons oil to prevent sticking. While the water heats and the noodles soak, prepare the pad Thai.



**2** Peel and thinly slice the shallots. Finely chop, press or grate enough garlic to measure 1 teaspoon. Rinse the shrimp, then drain on a paper-towel-lined plate and pat dry. Crack the eggs into a small bowl. With a whisk or fork, lightly beat until just blended.



**3** In a large frying pan over medium-high heat, warm 1 tablespoon oil until hot but not smoking. Stir in the shallots and garlic, season with salt, and cook until beginning to soften, 1 to 2 minutes.

Add the shrimp and as many *kimchi* chile flakes as you like. Cook, turning once or twice, until the shrimp are firm and cooked through, 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in the rice noodles, eggs, bean sprouts, and pad Thai sauce base and cook, stirring, until the eggs are cooked and the noodles are well coated with the sauce, 2 to 3 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper. While the pad Thai cooks, prepare the remaining ingredients.



**4** Trim the root ends from the scallions; finely chop the scallions. Coarsely chop the cilantro. Coarsely chop the cashews for garnish. Cut the lime into wedges for garnish. Remove the pad Thai from the heat and stir in the scallions and cilantro. Transfer the pad Thai to individual bowls, garnish with the cashews and lime wedges. Serve and enjoy!

#### [ Food Lover's Dictionary: ]



#### Pad Thai:

Thailand's most well known noodle dish, pad Thai combines rice noodles, tofu, shrimp, crushed peanuts, Nam Pla, bean sprouts, garlic, chiles and eggs, all stir-fried together.

© Barron's Educational Services, Inc. 2009 based on *The Food Lover's Companion*, 2007 by Sharon Tyler Herbst and Ron Herbst.

### Food Quote

"The secret of success in life is to eat what you like and let the food fight it out inside."

– Mark Twain



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Rec and Parks

Story and photos courtesy Banning Museum

Banning Birthday BBQ

Banning Residence Museum to host 9th annual barbecue/concert fundraiser.

Friends of Banning Museum plans to celebrate the birthday of the "Father of the Los Angeles Port" Phineas Banning with a special evening of barbecue, music and dancing. The evening is set for 5 – 8 p.m. Aug. 19.

In the spirit of the Rancho-period of the Banning property, guests will be treated to a Western-themed evening with live music provided by local favorite, "JB and the Big Circle Riders;" free line dance instruction; country style dancing; and a good old fashioned barbecue buffet provided by Southland Favorite, the Outdoor Grill. Country-Western attire is admired but not required.

There are two levels of participation: The "picnic" option costs \$10 for general admission, (free for Friends of Banning Museum members). With this option, guests bring their own dinner and beverage and a blanket/low chair to enjoy the concert. They will be treated to complimentary birthday cupcake, line dance instruction and dancing on the front lawn of the mansion.

The higher level – "VIP" – costs \$45 and includes on-site BBQ buffet dinner prepared by the Outdoor Grill with a birthday cupcake, line dance instruction, reserved seating and gated parking. Guests are welcome to bring their own wine or beverage.

*Reservations required for all guests. The Banning Museum is at 401 East M St., in Wilmington. For more information or to reserve your ticket, call (310) 548-2005.*

*The Banning Museum, a facility of Rec and Parks, is operated in cooperation with Friends of Banning Museum, a nonprofit corporation.*



At a previous Banning barbecue.



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	Auto Club	\$929
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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## Members Marketplace

### New Ads This Month!

**For Sale:** Cemetery plots. 2, side/side, on hill. Rose Hills Whittier, Garden of Comfort lot 1844, graves 3/4. Approx. value \$12,000. Asking \$3,000 each/OBO. Jackie, jmccl@pacbell.net 8/17

**For Sale:** Cemetery plot. Rose Hill, Garden of Benevolence. 1 single. Asking \$3,000. Carrie B. Wilson, (323) 751-3498 or (323) 610-6205.

**For Sale:** Laptop computer. Windows 10, big screen. Fairly new; 18 mos. left on extended warranty. Bought new April 2016. \$200, cash only, no checks. Gary, (818) 988-6713 8/17



**For Sale:** Motorcycle. Harley-Davidson, 2006. Road King Classic. 10,000 miles. Black/chrome. Windshield, cover, saddlebags, exclnt. cond. Rarely used. \$10,000 OBO. Tony, (562) 274-6251. 8/17

#### Transport



**For Sale:** Car. 1993 Toyota Camry LE, approx. 250,000 miles. Passed emissions Aug. 2016. Cat. converter replaced. New tires, radiator, water pump. New front lower left and right control arms included in trunk. Asking \$1,000. Valerie Brown-McCain, (323) 377-6241. 7/17



**For Sale:** 1939 Hudson Utility Coupe. Only '39 known! \$33,333 OBO. Paul Thomas (909) 233-4420. 8/17



**For Sale:** 2005 Harley-Davidson Screaming Eagle Fatboy. 23,000 miles. Exclnt. cond. Vance and Hines exhaust. Windshield, cover, travel bags. \$9,500 OBO. Text/call John Long, (909) 837-8347. 8/17



**For Sale:** Pickup truck. Ford F-250 XLT. 2003. Very good cond. V10. 111,000 miles. Good tires. \$10,500 OBO. Text/call John Long, (909) 837-8347. 8/17



**For Sale:** ATVs (2). 2013 125cc Coolster; 2003 ex 400 Honda. \$2,000 for the set. Roy Ponce, rewroy.rp@gmail.com 8/17



**For sale:** Chevy El Camino. 1982, ruby red. New engine under 8,000 miles. Interior, paint redone. Automatic, A/C, clean. Must sell. \$23,000 OBO. Rudy, (310) 626-0255. 3/17



**For sale:** Pickup truck. GMC Canyon. Metallic green. 2WD. SLT. 3.6L V6. Crew cab, long box. 3/17

Leather. 3,456 miles. \$28,000 OBO. Alejandro, (562) 665-7127. 3/17



**For sale:** 2008 Harley Rocker FXCWC 3,200 original miles, always garaged, custom fishtail pipes, S&S 510 G cams, Windvest detachable windshield, 6 speed, 16" Chubby apes, custom seat. \$14,000. 3/17



**For sale:** RV trailer. 2007 Thor Tahoe Light Hauler. 19 ft. Cover, TV. \$5,500. Contact Barbara: bebrunt@yahoo.com 1/17

**For sale:** Motorcycle. 2008 Harley-Davidson Rocker, FXCWC. 3,200 miles. 6 speed. Garaged. Custom fishtail pipes, S&S 510 G cams, Windvest detachable windshield, 16" Chubby apes, custom seat. \$14,000. Danny, (323) 605-8405. 1/17



**For Sale:** Delivery truck. Ford Vanette, 1955. Original engine, solid body, new brakes, suspension. Could be your next food truck or rat rod! \$6,500. (951) 532-5766. 12/16



**For Sale:** Motorcycle. 2003 chopper. Black cherry. Special construction 8UP, four visor handlebars, 4 back. 113CC. \$24,000 OBO. Camilo, (310) 670-8525, flow-n-arts@mail.com 11/16



**For Sale:** 1967 Chevy Camaro convertible. Original everything. Perfect project car. Must offer. \$25,000 OBO. (310) 753-9522. 11/16

**For Sale:** SUV. Range Rover HSE, 2003. Green. Cream leather int. 180,000 miles. Well-maintained family vehicle. \$7,200 OBO. (424) 477-9694, ray-proca@gmail.com 9/16



**For Sale:** 2015 CAN-AM Turbo side by side. Like new only 20 hours. Good Condition. Really fast and recently serviced. FOX adjustable suspension. Only \$17,500. Can deliver to serious buyer. Additional pic avail on request. Contact John 661 857 1396. 9/16

**For Sale:** Toyota Corolla, 2010, gray. 22,000 miles. In Montebello. \$10,000 OBO. Delia, (208) 262-8031. 7/16

**For Sale:** RV trailer. 2003 Wanderer, fifth wheel, model 367TB. Onan generator, 12-ft. garage, power hitch, fuel station. AM/FM CD stereo, super slide. \$10,000 OBO. Mike, (661) 557-0975, maddad111@yahoo.com 3/16



**For Sale:** 1980 Cadillac, red, white int., immaculate. New tires, gas tank, fuel pump, stored since 2010. 91,400 miles. \$9,495. (805) 649-1940. 3/16



**For Sale:** Cadillac Brougham, 1989. Leather interior. Very good shape. 77,000 miles. \$4,000 OBO. (626) 797-8328. 12/15

**For Sale:** 1984 F-150 - w/camper shell and carpet kit. As is. \$1100 OBO. Call 310-764-4478 9/15



**For Sale:** 1963 Corvair, convertible. Good cond., runs great. Light green ext./int., white top. \$9,000 OBO. Alex, (323) 691-0872. 8/15



**For Sale:** Watercraft, his and hers, '93 Bombardier Seadoo, '91 Waverunner w/trailer. Great condition. Jackie, (626) 383-1708. 7/15



**For Sale:** 2003 Harley "ROAD KING" Davidson (100th anniversary edition) motorcycle, 5087 miles, stage 1 with detachable windshield, passenger back support, hardbags, battery charger, black and chrome, hardly ridden, always garaged, 1 owner only. \$10,000.00 OBO. Please call 818-366-3273 John or text 818-633-4164. 7/15



**For Sale:** Motorcycle, 2007 Kawasaki, like new/15 hours ridden, runs great, must see. \$3,000. Robert, (661) 964-7837 bet. 2-7 p.m. 7/15



**For Sale:** RV trailer/toy-hauler, 2006 Forest River Sierra Sport, 29 foot. Very good cond., new tires, new roof, 4,000 onan generator, low hours. \$15,000 OBO. Call/text John Long, (909) 837-8347. 7/15

**2005 Honda Civic Si:** Hatchback, manual, 2-door, sun roof, power windows, security system, XLNT running condition, tan color, 68K miles. \$10,500 OBO. Info @ (310) 642-0522. 10/14

**1993 Infinity Q:** Automatic, 4-door, power windows, XLNT running condition, green color, 125K miles. \$3,000 OBO. Info @ (310) 642-0522. 10/14

**5th Wheel Trailer:** 2010 Cougar High Country, excellent condition. Sleeps 4. Slide outs, awnings & full bath. All accessories & new 5th wheel hitch can be towed by ½ ton truck, it's ready to go. \$32,000 or TOP. Ken Hawkes @ (310) 505-5733. 8/14

#### Cemetery Plots

**For Sale:** cemetery plot. 1 single. Rose Hill, Garden of Benevolence. Asking \$3,000. Carrie B. Wilson, (323) 752-3498. 7/17

**For Sale:** 4 cemetery plots. Rose Hills, Whittier. Greenwood Gardens, side by side. Valued at \$12,000, nego. Gregory, (909) 520-8053. 3/17

**For Sale:** Plot, Inglewood Park Cemetery. Double grave F, Lot 38, Park Terrace. \$8,600. JoAnn, (805) 238-6929. 11/16

**For Sale:** Cemetery plots. Rose Hills, Whittier. 4 plots side/side. Lot 858 Memory Lane. Valued at \$18,000. Sell for \$12,000 H. August, (208) 949-9858, 11/16

**For Sale:** Double cemetery plot. Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, Section Tenderness, Lot 2127 Space A, B. Valued at \$13,000, asking \$11,000 OBO. Robert, (626) 899-2174. 7/16

**For Sale:** Cemetery plots. Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills. Valued at \$13,000. Asking \$10,000 OBO. Robert, (626) 899-2174. 3/16

**For Sale:** Burial plots, 4 (spaces 1, 2, 3, 4), Forest Lawn Cemetery, Cypress. Lot 1187, Constant Love section. \$4,100 each OBO. Michelle, (310) 648-5506. 2/16

**4 Cemetery Plots:** Cemetery plots, 4, side by side on the hill at Greenwood Gardens, Rose Hills/Whittier. Approx. value \$18,000, selling \$12,000, or trade cemetery plot for pickup truck of equal value. Cortez, (323) 382-2405. 2/15

#### Furniture



**For Sale:** baby grand piano. Sherman Clay. Black, very gently used. Purchased 1993; good cond. \$2,000 OBO. (562) 276-3677. 7/17

**For Sale:** Bed frame. Antique Cal-king. heavy iron/brass mixture. \$150 OBO. (626) 260-3787. 11/16

**For Sale:** Grand piano. Yamaha C3 Conservatory. Like new. Humidifier. Cover. Concert bench. Internal felt dust cover for soundboard. \$17,000 OBO. Victor Vallejo, (323) 356-7595. 8/16



**For Sale:** cabinet. Vintage, blond oak. Great condition. Glass shelves, mirror back, interior light. \$450 OBO. (626) 359-0023 5/16

**For Sale:** Furniture. Oak. King size bedroom suite; china cabinet; dining room table, six chairs; more. \$2,000 OBO. Vic, newtvic@gmail.com 3/16



**For Sale:** Bedroom set, 5 piece, cherry wood. Good cond. \$650 OBO. (818) 281-1488. 10/15

**For Sale:** Crib, cream colored, designer style. Good cond. \$350 OBO. (818) 281-1488. 10/15

**For sale:** Sofa and chair, great condition, leather/upholstered, "reversible" pillows/cushions. Carved wood, unique design, nail heads. \$600 OBO. Charlene, (661) 916-2970. 5/15



**Dining table:** w/leaf, 6 chairs, \$300 obo. Jackie, (626) 383-1708. 4/15

**Mattress:** Beautyrest Black (Alexia) queen size, extra firm, new mattress, \$600 obo. Responsible for own pickup. Dwain, (323) 754-8382 or dnrhenry@yahoo.com 4/15

**Ping Pong Table:** 5 x 9, fold-up & roll-away, \$75. Joe @ (310) 323-4940. 2/15

#### Homes/Rentals/Land

**For Rent:** Timeshare. Cancun Sunset Club. 7 days Sat-Sat. Studio w/kitchen. Sleeps 4. \$500. Gina, (818) 395-3552. 8/17

**For Sale:** Ranch land near Victorville CA. 10 acres appraised @ \$16,000 160 acres appraised @ \$160,000. MAKE OFFER. Call 310-488-6140 or emailbarrysylvan@live.com 8/17



**For Rent:** Big Bear Lake 3 bedroom, 2 bath house located in the village of Big Bear Lake, California. Fully furnished located near the lake. Contact John Long at 909-837-8347 8/17

**For Sale:** Farmland. Rural, upstate New York. 118 acres. Assessed at \$150,000, make offer. Ray, (310) 710-9871, ray1269@gmail.com 5/17



**For sale:** home. Bishop, Calif. Single family, 5 bd/3 bath. 2,900+sq. ft. Creek in backyard, view of Sierras. 2 garages. \$590,000. Patty, (661) 965-9457. 3/17

**For Rent:** Atwater Village. 2 bed/1 bath, 1 car garage, 1 pkg. spot. Hardwood floor, appliances, window A/C. No pets. \$2,300/month. John, (619) 207-0939. 4/17

**For Rent:** condo, Las Vegas. Vacation rental. 1 bd. Tahiti Village Resort, Bora Bora room. 3-, 4- or 7-nt. stay, starting \$150/night. Days avail. May-Dec 2017. Javier, (323) 547-5449, call or text. 4/17

**For Rent:** home. Covina. 3 bd./1 bath. New paint. Laundry inside. Front/backyards. Patio, carport, 1-car garage avail. Photos. \$2,000/month. (626) 482-0460. 4/17

**For Rent:** 1 bd/1 bath. Inglewood. Upstairs. Kitchen, living room, dining room. 1-car garage. New paint, hardwood, fixtures, double-glazed windows, granite countertop. 82nd/Crenshaw. \$1,350/month. (323) 292-9989. 12/16

**For Sale:** Undeveloped ranch near Victorville. 10 acres appraised at \$16,000; 160 acres appraised at \$160,000. Make offer. (310) 488-6140, or barrysylvan@live.com 12/16

**For Rent:** Vacation rental. 1 bdrm. suite, WorldMark San Diego Mission Valley. Nov. 26-Dec. 1. 5 nights, \$350. Charles Ella, (818) 212-0198.. 11/16



**For Sale:** Home, 3 bd/2 bath. 1,308 sq. ft. Chatsworth. Cul-de-sac. New A/C. Secure. Recessed lighting. Remodeled. Nearby shopping, restaurants, schools. Tenant pays utilities. No pets. \$2,500/month. (818) 472-6896. 9/16

**For Sale:** Home, Big Pine, Calif. 3 br., 1 3/4 bath. Outdoors activities near. Description, photos avail. \$195,000. bigpineproperty@gmail.com 9/16

**For Rent:** House, 3 bd./2 baths. Near Manchester/Broadway. Garage, laundry room, handicap access. No Section 8. (323) 971-1042. 8/16

**For Sale:** House, 2 bed/1 bath, remodeled, Bakersfield. Investment property, rented month/month (\$750/month). Large cleared lot, secure. Listed at \$94,000. Sold as-is, seller selects services (title, escrow). tisdaseason2468@outlook.com 11/15

**For Vacation Rent:** Condo, 2 bd./2 bath, beachfront, Puerto Nayarit, Mexico. Private pool on balcony. April 1-8, 2016. \$1,000. Jessie, (323) 893-6570. 11/15

**For Sale:** Timeshare. Pacific Monarch/Diamond Resorts. One full week, two bedrooms. Don't buy direct. \$2,000/obo. Elizabeth, (909) 772-4087. 9/15

**For Sale:** Home/studio apts., three sep. units sold as one package. Bakersfield. Front home: 2 bd., needs work (in progress), flippable. 2nd bedroom rentable. 2 studio apts. in back, rentable. \$110,000 total. Sold as-is; seller selects title/escrow co. Email: tisdaseason2468@outlook.com 8/15

**For Sale:** Townhouse. Las Vegas/Chinatown, near Strip, behind school, near major streets. Has rental tenant. \$85,000, HOA \$100/month. Sold as-is; seller selects title/escrow co. Do not disturb tenant. Email: tisdaseason2468@outlook.com 8/15

**For Sale:** Timeshare, Puerto Vallarta 1+1, 1/2, sleeps 4, beachfront Playa del Sol Costa Sur Resort. Asking \$1,800, extended thru 2030. Jennifer, (818) 517-3675. 8/15

#### Household Items



**For Sale:** Lamps. 2. Tiffany style. 1 12-inch wide, 1 24-inch wide. Both are green. \$30, \$60. (626) 664-2172. 8/17

**For Sale:** stovetop/oven. GE, 1950s. Pink. Hood. Great condition. \$200 OBO. (818) 865-8104, leave msg. 5/17

**For Sale:** vacuum cleaner. Kirby. Works xlcnt. \$200. Margaret, (909) 460-9092. 5/17

**For sale:** audio speakers. Pair. Sanyo. 28x19x11, good condition. \$45. (323) 754-8926. 1/17



**For Sale:** exercise equipment. Chair Gym, w/ mat, twister, ball, instructions. Open box, never used. \$150. (818) 242-8644. 5/16



**For Sale:** Exercise equipment. Ab-Doer Twist Ex. Abdominal workout machine. DVD. Exclnt. cond. \$125. (818) 242-8644. 5/16



**For Sale:** Fitness equipment. Back2Life back relief machine. With a/c. Exclnt. cond. \$75. (818) 242-8644. 5/16

**For Sale:** Kitchenware. V-Slicer Pro Mandoline by Swissmar/Borner. New. \$25. (213) 792-3130. 3/16

**For Sale:** Light meter. Gossen Luna Pro SBC. New condition. Manual. \$45. (213) 792-3130. 3/16

#### Miscellaneous



**For Sale:** 4 rims. Pacer chrome. 24-inch, universal holes. With 305/35R/24 tires. Were on Chevy Avalanche. \$1,550 OBO. Katrina, kfrink05@hotmail.com 8/17

**For Sale:** Collectibles. Lighthouses, including 1 16-inch alabaster lighthouse. Pigs, owls, salt/pepper shakers. Beverly, (562) 943-0930. 8/17

**For Sale:** pool table. Brunswick. Heritage. Approx. 9'x5'. Good condition. Includes cue, rack, light. \$800. Louis Radosevich, (818) 360-3687, watermaker@juno.com 5/17

**For Sale:** Portable generator. Honda 5000. Wheel kit, electric starter, shop manual. Avail. from noon - 8 p.m. \$1,000. (818) 893-1805. 11/16

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Sept. 2017 issue of *Alive!*:

## 8/18/17

**For Sale:** Vintage magazines. Architectural Digest. 150 issues dated 1981-82, 1991-99. Well kept. 25 cents each, \$25 all. Don, (818) 780-7788. 11/16

**For Sale:** treadmill. Sears Crosswalk. \$200. (818) 893-1805, noon-8 p.m. only. 9/16

**For Sale:** Turtles, fresh water, 3, 10 yrs old, w/ large aquarium. \$100 OBO. George, (818) 308-7644 or george.pardo@lacity.org 3/16

**For Sale:** Board games. Trivial Pursuit. Master Game Genius Edition and Silver Screen Edition. \$15. (213) 792-3130. 3/16

#### Travel/Timeshare

**Timeshare:** Welks Resort, San Diego, CA. For Sale. \$20K. Cherrmaine @ (661) 547-6707. 1/15

#### Wanted

**Wanted:** Baseball teams to join Saturday league. Recreational level. Tony, (310) 764-1792 11/16

**Wanted:** Riders for van pool, Lomita to Lincoln Heights. Leaves Lomita @5:40 a.m., BOA Carson @5:45, JFB @6:10, Main St. @6:15, arrives Artesian St. @6:20. Return to Lomita by 5 p.m. James, (310) 626-7169 or (213) 354-4790. 7/16

**Wanted:** I buy all kinds of collectibles: crystal, Disney, fishing gear, military items, musical instruments, pocketknives, gold & silver, Radko, WDCC. Michael @ (626) 592-2929. 11/12



Rec and Parks

Photos by JuanCarlos Chan, Rec and Parks

# Lotus Festival Blooms

This year's festival paid tribute to Bangladesh.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Lotus Festival, one of the signature cultural celebrations in the City, took place July 15-16 at Echo Park.
- Dates coincide with the blooming of the lotus flower. Admission was free.
- The festival attracts an estimated 100,000 people.

This year's 37th annual Lotus Festival celebrated Asian Pacific cultures with two days of attractions and entertainment in scenic Echo Lake Park. The weekend kicked off with an opening ceremony, continuing with live music, cultural performances and more. There were martial arts demonstrations and dance showcases, both traditional and contemporary. Each year, the festival focuses on a different ethnicity within the Asian Pacific region. This year, the festival honored the culture and traditions of the Bangladeshi community. The event made its debut in 1972 as the "Day of the Lotus" and takes place in July to coincide with the blooming of the lotus flowers that are cultivated in the lake beds by City crews. The celebration was designed to pro-

mote awareness of the contributions by Asian Americans in our local communities. In 2012-13, the Lotus Festival was placed on hold while the City embarked on a major Prop O stormwater improvement project, as detailed in the August 2013 edition of *Alive!* The voter-mandated restoration helped protect water quality, enhance the Los Angeles River watershed, and maintain flood control functionality. According to the Echo Park Lake Historical Society, the Echo Park Lake lotus beds are considered to be the largest in the Western United States.

The Lotus Festival is a program of the Los Angeles Lotus Festival, Inc., in collaboration with Rec and Parks.

This year's festival focused on the culture of Bangladesh.



The Lotus Festival celebrates Asian culture.



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Small Drink	\$5.00	\$4.00
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3 Hour Unlimited Wristband - (Norwalk Location)	\$30.00	\$16.25
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AUGUST 2017

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Adult	\$46.99	\$27.99
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Adult	\$48.00	\$32.00
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Season Pass	\$36.99	\$29.99
SPLASH KINGDOM		
Adult	\$32.99	\$19.00
	Child	\$18.99
WET N WILD		
Adult/Child	\$38.99	\$23.00
WILD WATER		
Adult/Child	\$34.99	\$24.99



Los Angeles Public Library

# Library's TOP 10

Here's what LA was reading, watching and listening to in June.

Lists are courtesy Los Angeles Public Library, Central library downtown and 72 branches combined.

Books loaned

1. *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*, J.D. Vance
2. *The Wrong Side of Goodbye*, Michael Connelly
3. *The Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood
4. *The Hidden Oracle*, Rick Riordan
5. *The Black Book*, James Patterson
6. *16th Seduction*, James Patterson
7. *Golden Prey*, John Sandford
8. *Thirteen Reasons Why*, Jay Asher
9. *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*, Rick Riordan
10. *The House of Hades*, Rick Riordan  
*Changed Our Minds*, Michael Lewis

DVDs loaned

1. *Doctor Strange*
2. *Arrival*
3. *Hidden Figures*
4. *Logan*
5. *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*
6. *Moana*
7. *La La Land*
8. *Split*
9. *Assassin's Creed*
10. *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*

Books downloaded  
(e-books)

1. *The Other Einstein*, Marie Benedict
2. *The Girl on the Train*, Paula Hawkins
3. *The Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood
4. *Into the Water*, Paula Hawkins
5. *The Wrong Side of Goodbye*, Michael Connelly
6. *The Underground Railroad*, Colson Whitehead
7. *Night School*, Lee Child
8. *Big Little Lies*, Liane Moriarty
9. *The Whistler*, John Grisham
10. *Commonwealth*, Ann Patchett

Download-and-Keep songs \*

1. "Something Just Like This," The Chainsmokers & Coldplay
2. "Malibu," Miley Cyrus
3. "Me Enamoré," Shakira
4. "Crying in the Club," Camila Cabello
5. "Down," Fifth Harmony feat. Gucci Mane
6. "Chantaje," Shakira feat. Maluma
7. "Sign of the Times," Harry Styles
8. "Run," Foo Fighters
9. "Say You Won't Let Go," James Arthur
10. "Feels," Calvin Harris feat. Pharrell Williams, Katy Perry & Big Sean

Hero stories from the LAPD files



# LAPD Above and Beyond

Every fall, the LAPD honors its bravest with the Purple Heart and/or the Medal of Valor. Here's one of those stories.

## Ran Down by Car

In the early morning hours of July 30, 2011, Mission Division Officers Mark De La Torre and Francisco Rubio were working the perimeter of what was originally a 415 Gang Fight at the scene of a party when Officer Rubio saw headlights approaching them at a high rate of speed. He immediately grabbed Officer De La Torre by the back of his collar and started dragging him as he ran away from the nearing car.

Just as Officer Rubio was jumping toward the sidewalk in an attempt to get out of harm's way, he threw Officer De La Torre as far as he could and screamed to alert other officers of the danger. The oncoming vehicle struck Officer Rubio's black and white, which sent it into a 180-degree spin and caused it to hit Officer De La Torre. Officer Rubio was also struck, sending him more than 15 feet into the air, through a wooden fence and dense brush, causing him to land on the back of his skull nearly 50 feet from the original impact point.

The black and white went on to strike two more officers, all of whom were taken to a hospital. Both Officers Rubio and De La Torre underwent many surgeries and had to take more than six months off of work. Officer Rubio sustained a severe brain injury in addition to bone injuries, and Officer De La Torre suffered from a multitude of bone injuries and muscle damage.



Officer Mark De La Torre, Purple Heart



Officer Francisco Rubio, Purple Heart (also Medal of Valor)

## Nearby Fight



Sgt. William Schmidt, Retired, Purple Heart

In the late evening of Aug. 25, 1970, Rampart Division Sgt. William Schmidt was flagged down and advised of a fight nearby. Sgt. Schmidt immediately responded to the area and encountered the suspect walking quickly away from him. Sgt. Schmidt exited his vehicle and ordered the suspect to stop. Instead, the suspect broke into a run and turned and fired several shots at Sgt. Schmidt, striking him in the right bicep (severing the artery) and the chest.

Despite being critically injured, Sgt. Schmidt returned fire and wounded the suspect, leading to his quick arrest by responding units.

Sgt. Schmidt spent more than a year recovering from his injuries before returning to duty. However, he was forced to medically retire in 1973 due to the nerve damage to his right arm and hand caused by the gunshot.

**Sgt. Schmidt received the Medal of Valor in 1971 for his actions during this incident.**

## Suspect With Shotgun

On April 8, 1982, 77th Street Division Officer Peter Hunter and his partner were on patrol when Hunter's partner observed a man with a shotgun. The officers drove past the suspect and called for backup.

After exiting the vehicle and taking cover behind a telephone pole, Officer Hunter deployed his duty shotgun in case the situation escalated and deadly force was needed. He ordered the suspect to drop his shotgun and walk toward the officers. The suspect ignored Officer Hunter's commands and put his finger on the trigger.

Additional officers arrived on scene, and the suspect ran towards a building and out of sight. One of the officers peered around a corner and was struck in the head by a bullet from the suspect's shotgun. Officer Hunter returned fire, wounding the suspect in the leg. Seeing his fellow officer hit and lying in the line of fire, Officer Hunter tried to drag him to safety. As Officer Hunter was assisting the officer, the suspect fired another round, striking him in the head and eye.

Officer Hunter underwent surgery to remove shattered buckshot pellet from one eye and was forced to take a medical retirement nearly a year later.

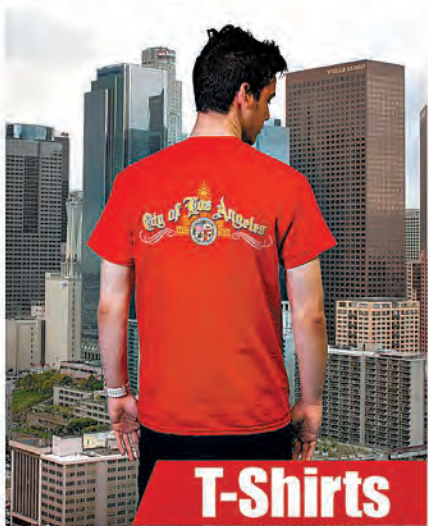


Officer Peter Hunter, Retired, Purple Heart



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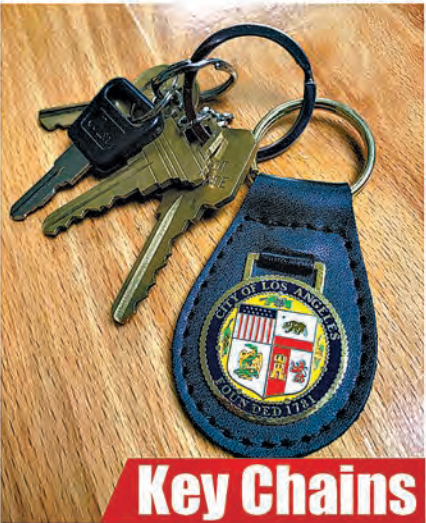
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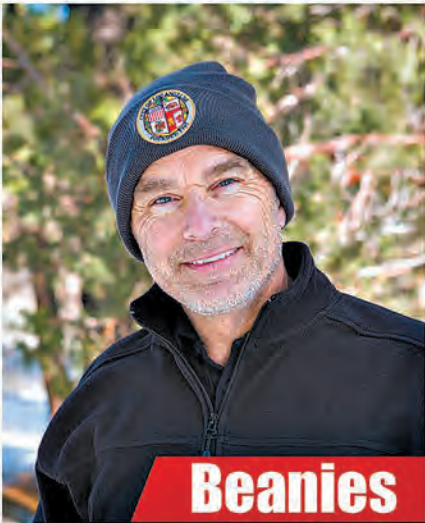
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