

ClubFest 2002 Kicks Off New Era for City Workers



Fantastic turnout at the L.A. Zoo created some challenges – and long lines – but the spirit of togetherness kept the fun flowing.

More than 10,000 City employees and their families turned out at the Los Angeles Zoo Oct. 6 for the first-ever ClubFest, a free, fun-filled family day to mark the official launch of your new City Employees Club.

While the large number of participants created a great boost to the future of the Club, the numbers also created logistical challenges, including long lines for admission, food and activities. Your Club administration already is using your feedback to help design future activities. “We’ve heard from many of you, and we’re listening,” said Chris Hills who produced this year’s ClubFest. “But we’re also glad that so many thousands had a great time, too.”

Participants enjoyed not just a free day and free food at the Zoo, but a host of activities to say “welcome to the Club,” including rock climbing, a zero gravity spin ride, a “Cash Cube” money grab, games, face painting, removable tattoos, prize raffles and live music. The complimentary lunch selection included burgers, chicken, chips and a variety of water and soft drinks.

The Los Angeles Police Department also contributed by providing families with the opportunity to receive all-important child ID cards.

ClubFest was the first social event for the new City Employees Club of Los Angeles. The former Los Angeles City Employees Association (LACEA), which served you faithfully and well for more than 70 years, adopted a new mission and name in September. It’s the same organization – with a new name and a



Just one of many happy families at ClubFest 2002. See inside for tons of awesome pictures

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new purpose. You’ll still get your refund checks, of course, but now there is so much more to offer. ClubFest highlighted those changes.

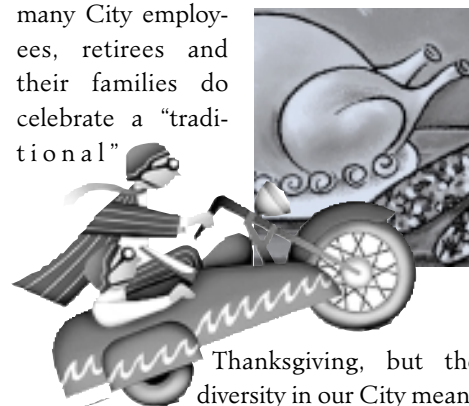
Nathan Emanuel, an automotive dispatcher at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, brought his wife, Dixie, their 4-year-old nephew, Shannon, and one of

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Turkey, Family and...Motorcycles

At Thanksgiving, every family develops its own traditions-within-traditions. Here are some from the Club family.

Turkey and all the trimmings. Delicious pumpkin pie. Football, family and friends. Certainly many City employees, retirees and their families do celebrate a “traditional”



Thanksgiving, but the diversity in our City means plenty of variety in the foods we eat and the ways we enjoy this special day.

With Thanksgiving right around the

November Election: What Issues Are at Stake for City Employees?

Alive! provides an overview of election issues important to you. Remember to vote!

Nov. 5 is almost here – one of the most important election days in city history. Your new City Employees Club hopes this

Voter’s Guide will help you prepare for the election and tap into the resources available to assist you in making the best decisions

for you and your family.

Of course, the hottest topics on the ballot are the secession measures for the San Fernando Valley and Hollywood. For each of the so-called “special reorganizations” to detach the San Fernando Valley and Hollywood from the city, a majority of voters in both the city as a whole and in each of these areas must approve the measure for it to pass.

In addition, residents of the San Fernando Valley and Hollywood will have the opportunity to vote for a mayor and/or council members for the proposed new cities.

See Election, Page 5



City Employees Club
LOS ANGELES
Serving City Employees since 1920 as the Los Angeles City Employees Association

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350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700
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From the President & CEO
Danna L. McDonough

ClubFest Attendance Shows Interest in Club 'Family' Is High

"Thank you. This is the first time anyone has brought City and DWP employees together. It's really wonderful," an employee said. In spite of the crowds, the long lines, too little parking, it was a great day. We couldn't have imagined this many people coming to ClubFest, even though we got 11,000 reservations. Who would have thought there'd be two Sig-alerts on the freeway because cars on the off ramp to the Zoo were backed up onto the freeway? Thanks to all of you for making this a tremendous success. Our sincere apologies to those of you who couldn't get in or those of you in the long cotton candy line.

Next year's ClubFest will be "members only," so we can plan for the crowd. You'll want to become a member to ensure your place at our second ClubFest on October 5, 2003. If you thought the 70-plus prizes were good this year, just wait. There will be even more winners and more prizes next year.

It was great to meet some of you for the first time and renew old acquaintances. There are ideas for other events like a Club day at the races, Lakers Night, maybe a race or walk to benefit a charity or our scholarship fund. Send us your suggestions so we can keep this

"togetherness" going.

Thank you too for your enthusiastic response to our *Alive!* newspaper. You've confirmed our belief that you want a voice. You want to know what's going on and what everyone else is doing. You've provided news, ideas and feedback to ensure that this newspaper belongs to you and your co-workers, the people who make the City work.

Have you taken a look at our Website? For now it's open to anyone but soon you'll use your personal PIN number to access this member-only Club benefit designed specifically with you in mind. Important links will connect you to what's happening around town with tickets, events, product and services information quickly accessible, as well as special discounts on major purchases available only to Club members.

Boy, have you jumped on the City Employees Club idea. While we're doing something new and different, we're still providing the best customer service, and that won't change. You deserve the best. So come in and see us, call or log on to our Website. Our whole reason for being is You and your Family! 📧

Numbers YOU CAN USE

Here's a list of helpful telephone numbers for you:

City Employees Club of Los Angeles	(213) 620-0388	DWP Employees Assn.	(213) 367-3146
City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX	(213) 620-0398	DWP Information	(213) 367-4211
City Employees Deferred Compensation	(213) 485-4846	DWP Paymaster	(213) 367-4423
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 485-2440	DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934
City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200	DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
City Paymaster	(213) 485-5087	Local 347	(213) 482-6660
City Personnel Office	(213) 847-9240	Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690	Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.	(213) 255-9082
		Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825

Have a number you'd like us to include? Send it in: alive@cityemployeesclub.com

Member Benefits

■ As a member of the Club you have access to a host of valuable services and products:

Discount Tickets

- TICKET EXPRESS:
Buy tickets by Phone, Mail, or Website
- Theme parks and attractions (up to 70% off!)
- Movies - all major screens (up to 70% off!)
- Plays, musicals, the arts, sports events

Alive! Newspaper

- Births, weddings, retirements and deaths
- Free Classifieds
- Retirees Corner
- News that matters!
- Department of the Month
- DWP News
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized club information

Club Card

- Show your card and save at hundreds of businesses in L.A. and throughout the country

Group Rated Insurance Products

- Term Life Insurance
- Long Term Disability
- Short Term Disability Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance
- Critical Care Insurance
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance **New!**

Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check"
- Prepaid Legal Insurance
- Pet Insurance

More Benefits

- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Employee-of-the-Year Award

Look for new services and products to be added soon!

Join the Club!

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

To join, call (800) 464-0452.

Enjoy all these benefits for only \$4 per month for active employees, or \$2 per month for retired employees.



For more information go to www.cityemployeesclub.com.



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Wanna be heard?

Write to us! It's **your** page. *Have something to say? Overjoyed about something? Angered? Just have a question?* Here's your chance to get it off your chest... and get it into print. (We'll print what we can. Try to make sure it has something to do with the life of the city.) Share your ideas with your City family. Don't wait! Send them to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Discount Tickets Are Icing on the Club Cake

Congratulations to the City Employees Club of Los Angeles on your newspaper (*Alive!*) and the Website.

I find them both appealing (nice color scheme and format), easy to read, and very informative. Most of all, I like the variety of articles – stories on the work and personal level. I especially like your taking one department and telling about it (with an emphasize on the people). After all, is it not the people that make things happen?

From a retiree perspective, I know I will be looking forward to reading the "Retirees Corner." I know the Foleys and of their dedication to the retiree population. I know they will keep us informed with pertinent material – and in a fun manner.

Oh, and those discount tickets! I have purchased some movie tickets at a price that can't be beat. Now I can go to an evening show without breaking the bank.

Keep up the good work.

Bob Pearce, Retiree, DWP

Free Classifieds Helped Take the Weights Off Her

All I can say about your free classified ads is wow! I've had a set of dumbbells sitting under my bed, and each time I made the bed I managed to stub my tow. Finally in total pain, I decided to sell them and took a chance on using your want ads.

What a response. I sold them the first day! That's just unbelievable. Thanks for having such a great and free service for us. It's really appreciated. *Alive!* is much better than the Los Angeles Times or even a garage sale. Keep up the great work. Love the new format and the newsy articles.

Christiana Hills, Special Events Consultant



ClubFest: Quite a Day!

Computer Analyst Wins Prize, Brings Computer Home

It brought more than 10,000 people to the L.A. Zoo that day, and it was very hot outside. It took us over an hour to get off the freeway off-ramp, and another hour to find parking. Also the lines were very, very long to get inside, but I promised the children that we were going to the L.A. Zoo, so I could not disappoint them. It was their first time at the L.A. Zoo. The children were rented for the day, two teenagers and four young children (my sister's kids).

As a senior systems analyst with the Department of General Services, I provide extensive computer software and hardware support for personal computers and enterprise server applications, but I did not own a home computer. After working on computers all day, I did not want to see another PC when I got home. I would go to the library to access the Internet. However, I was in the process of buying a home computer.

After I won the Gateway computer, it was well worth the effort, and the children had tons of fun. They cannot wait to go back to the L.A. Zoo.

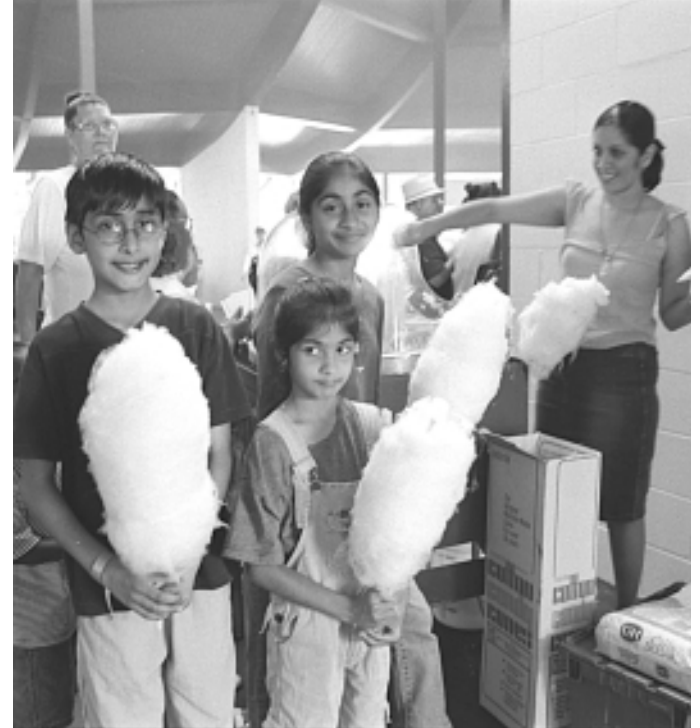
Thanks for the ClubFest.

**Gail L. Brown
DWP**

ClubFest: A Way to Bring City Employees Together

Thank you for discovering a way for city employees to grow together!

**Patricia Valenzuela
DWP**



Buying a GEM Car With Club Discount Changed Her Life

Thursday October 5, a nice glossy flyer from the City Employees Club of Los Angeles encouraged City employees to "Go A Little Wild", and invited all of us to a party [the ClubFest] at the LA Zoo. The reverse side of the flyer pictured the vehicle I have dreamed of, and envisioned, all of my life, since I was 5 years old. Only a week before, a Commuter News letter similarly invited City employees to celebrate California Rideshare Week. An article mentioned our colleagues test-driving Chrysler GEM electric vehicles on their way to car pool, or park and ride facilities.

I looked at the picture and thought, That's it! That vehicle looks exactly like what I need to confront and overcome my aversion to driving. It has perfect visibility in every direction; four wheels instead of two or three; wide wheels so it won't tip over; a seat; storage room; and you do not have to wear a dorky helmet while you operate it. It has none of the confining features of traditional vehicles, in which I feel blinded and trapped trying to operate, and no smelly, messy gasoline. Electricity works like neural firing, the same power as the human brain.

I knew I had to have one, and I found the



The GEM™ Electric Vehicle that Roz Brown purchased with her substantial Club discount.

testimonials from other ridesharing kindred spirits encouraging. The ride-sharing article indicated that people win prizes for this, which struck me as news, because my biggest shame in life and sense of failure ties to my paralyzing fear of driving a traditional automobile. I cannot even balance a two-wheel bicycle, or razor scooter. I feared I had a lifetime position in the

in grants and proposals. I took the 100-foot leap from the ropes course, skied, skated and walked through Central Park at night. Challenges never scare me off, and except for driving, fear has no place in my life.

Relying on the generosity of my daughter to drive me, I hurried on over to the LA Zoo, to see the GEM for myself. The volume of the

Transportation Challenged Hall of Fame.

Mind you, I escaped from Hoboken, NJ, by selling my art work, and came to Los Angeles by bus in 1977. Since that time I have supported myself as a starving artist, earned a master's degree, launched a decent career, bought my own home and secured more than \$10 million

crowd startled me and did not lend itself to overcoming lifelong fears. Undaunted, I turned around and went home, but promised myself to call the City Employees Club first thing Monday, and learn more about the Chrysler GEM.

With the enthusiastic guidance of Chris Hills, and a Goddess of Mobility named Alicia, I discovered the best news in my transportation-challenged life. They told me that the GEM retails for \$7,500, which would not be bad. But even better, members of the City Employees Club can get a 2002 two-seater for \$3,100, plus a \$500 shipping fee, to get them here from Duluth, Minn. Chrysler also makes four-seaters, and two-seaters with long or short utility beds, but the two-seater, in choice of red, yellow, blue, or white, costs the least, and goes the farthest on one charge, due to its lighter structure.

GEMS go no faster than 25 MPH, and a maximum of 35 miles per charge, but a normal extension cord and household outlet permit recharging for a cost of about a penny a mile. Although street legal, they go too slowly to take on the freeway. I considered the limitations of the GEM compared with the limitations of my

Letters

Continued from page 1

fear, and the GEM won out. I have made zero progress since getting my first license 20 years ago. I call the GEM my training wheels.

Chris and Alicia sent me to Center Chrysler Jeep in Sherman Oaks, and I needed every word of information they gave me, including proof of my membership in the City Employees Club, another unbelievable bargain at a mere \$4 per month. The sales rep incorrectly inferred that LA City Club had the same deal as COSTCO employees receive, but that deal costs more for a 2001 model, with a much shorter warrantee. It did not sound right, so I stuck with what I had heard, and before I returned from my test drive Alicia had faxed the sales manager a copy of our superior deal, and I walked out paying no more than Chris and Alicia had prepared me to.

The simplicity of it delighted me, too. While they ran the credit check, I had time to read the entire owners manual, and write down all of my questions, which they gleefully answered to my full satisfaction. For \$3,700 I drove home in a white 2002 two-seater, with a three-year extended warrantee, mud flaps and scuff guards. GEMS do not offer many extras. I put \$1,000 down and I only have to pay \$100 a month.

Because I did not want to begin my maiden voyage with a left turn onto Van Nuys Boulevard, the sales rep rode around the block with me, and I took Magnolia to Sepulveda. I survived my first left turn and another on to Ventura Boulevard. It took all of my courage to do this, but by the time I passed Havenhurst, I found the journey downright enjoyable.

I already knew I could handle speed in excess of 25 MPH if the vehicle could do it, that my fear had more to do with visibility than speed. I knew the skill and confidence I could build from this experience would generalize to



Roz Brown and her new GEM™ Electric Vehicle

really driving a real car in the very near future. It dawned on me that I have not driven solo in 20 years, and until now I had never enjoyed a single drive. For the first time in my life, I put the pedal to the metal, and drove without posing a danger to myself and others.

The next day I had to gather all of my courage all over again. Maybe I always will, but I did it again. For the first time in her life, I took my daughter for a drive, and we laughed! The GEM has a road or turf setting, so you can take it on the golf course and not tear up the grass. We experimented with this and cruised under the wires in a grassy area near our house. This seemed terribly funny for some reason. She wanted to try it too, and said it was cool. She thinks all of her friends will want one. You sure can't beat the cost of fuel or payments, and I can't put a price on the freedom that awaits me as I drive away from the most debilitating fear I have ever had to overcome.

Roz Brown
Rec and Parks

Holiday Traditions

Continued from page 1

corner, your City Employees Club spoke to a number of City employees and asked, "How do you celebrate Thanksgiving?" Here's what they shared.

And however you and your family celebrate Thanksgiving, all of us at your City Employees Club thank you for being a part of our family, and we wish you a joyous Thanksgiving Day and holiday season!

"We Eat Until We're Tired"

Arceo Ramos, Case Manager,
Personnel Department

More than 30 people from Ramos' immediate and extended family in Southern California – with the addition this year of Hailey, the infant daughter of Arceo and his wife, Joy – gather on Thanksgiving for not just one, but two meals – both lunch and dinner. The meals feature traditional turkey, stuffing and the like, plus many Filipino dishes including *lumpia* (like a Chinese egg roll), *pancit* (a noodle dish), *lechon* (roasted pig) and more. Everyone brings a dish, and as Ramos said, "We don't eat until we're full, we eat until we're tired."

The day begins with a special prayer remembering family members who have passed away. Before the day finishes, the group creates a lasting memory with a photo – taken by a camera with a timer so no one gets left out.

A Southern Touch

Terry Rockstad, Branch Office Manager,
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

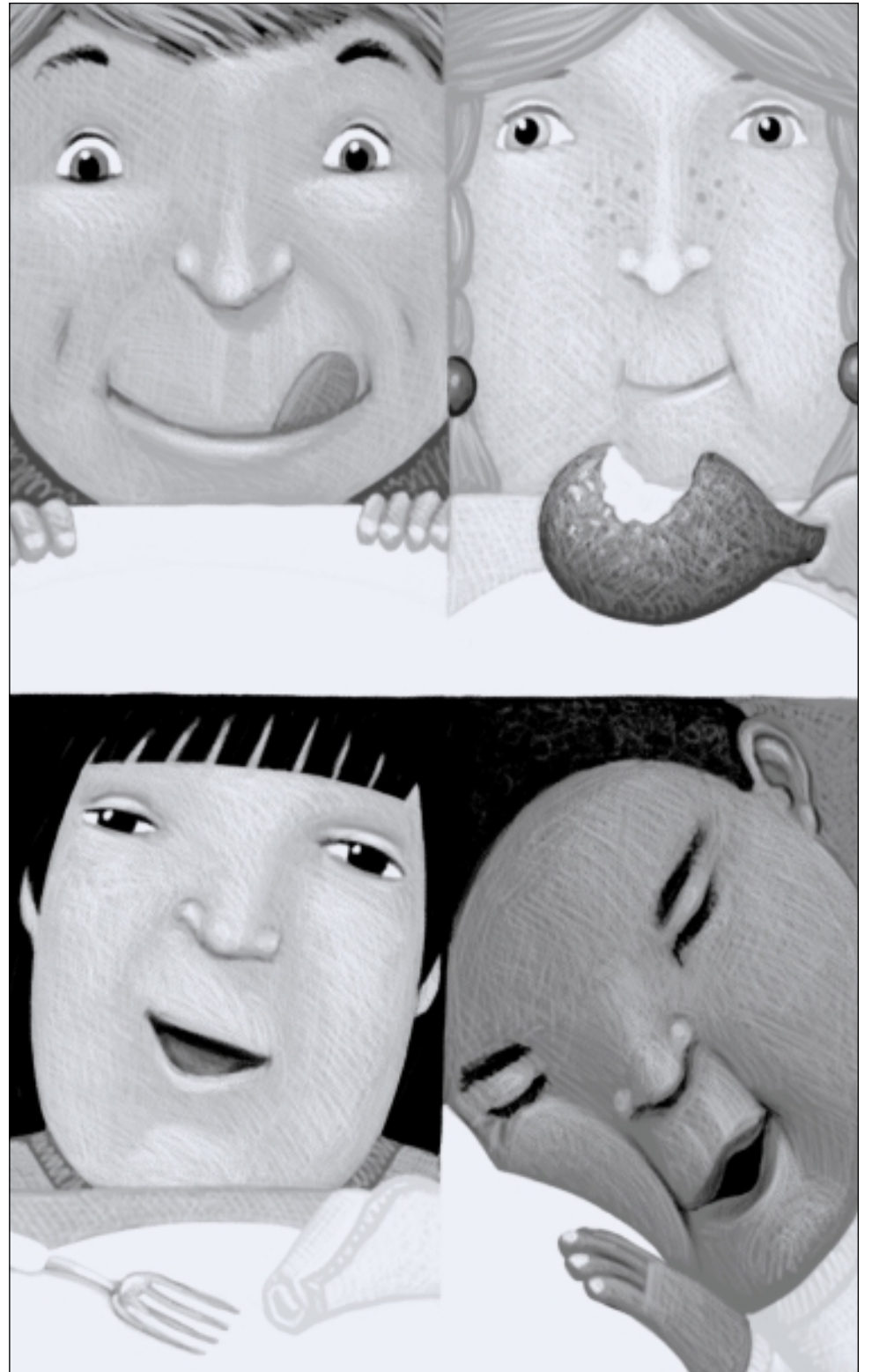
A touch of the South makes Rockstad's Thanksgiving celebration extra special. Using a family recipe, she and her sister, Sharon, get together the day before Thanksgiving to start preparing cornbread dressing, a stuffing made of cornbread, biscuits, turkey broth, vegetables and other ingredients.

On Thanksgiving Day, anywhere from 15 to 35 people gather at Rockstad's sister's house, with everyone bringing food for the potluck meal. The last two years, they've held a fun football quiz, with prizes going to the first person to answer a question correctly. Usually the group gathers again the next day for dinner to enjoy the leftovers.

The Wild West

Jim Mahan, Warehouse and
Tool Room Worker, LADWP

Before 2001, Mahan generally celebrated Thanksgiving with a traditional meal with family and friends. But last year, he and his sons, Justin, 10, and John, 14, joined another family in an outing to Red Rock Canyon (about 100 miles from Palmdale) for some desert motorcycle riding. Mahan said groups of trailers parked together – "almost like the old days with



covered wagons" – and families joined together to cook and then eat under canopies. Before eating, a prayer was held because, as Mahan said, "After all, it's a day to be thankful for."

Mahan said he might enjoy a desert Thanksgiving again this year, and hopes that his wife, Mary, will join him and their sons.

Fun and Games

Irene Castillo, Accounting Clerk,
Department of Animal Services

Castillo always hosts Thanksgiving at her house for some 20 immediate and extended family members, including her husband, Ruben, and their children, Andrew, 10, Oscar, 14, David, 17, and Cassandra, 18. After a dinner featuring turkey (which Castillo fries "just to be different"), homemade stuffing, mashed potatoes and more, not to mention pumpkin pie, the family enjoys a game night playing cards, pool, air hockey and foosball.

Like some other families, Castillo's tries

to make sure it takes a family photo at Thanksgiving. But, she added, "Everybody has to go home early because I have to get up early the next morning and go shopping."

A Family Reunion

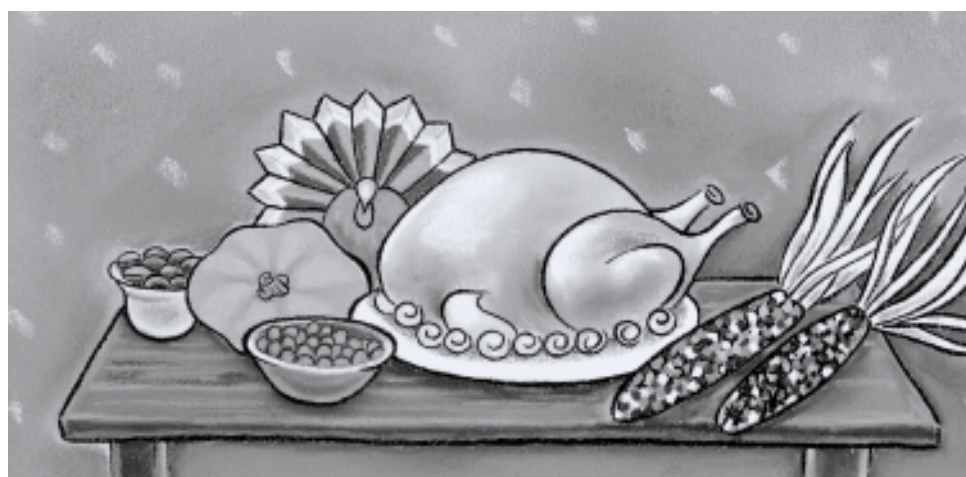
Eva Farlow-Malbrough, Legal Secretary,
City Attorney's Office

With her son Omar, his wife, Lisa, and their 3-year-old son, Khari, usually visiting from Atlanta, Farlow-Malbrough's family makes its Thanksgiving celebration a reunion of sorts. Other participants include Farlow-Malbrough's husband, Bobby, their daughter, Monique, their son Bobby Jr., their son Gregory, Gregory's wife, Tona, and Gregory and Tona's kids, Willie, 14, Shawndra, 10, and Tiana, 6.

Farlow-Malbrough and her two daughters-in-law cook a variety of dishes, including turkey and ham, and try to make plenty of desserts like potato pie, chocolate cake and banana pudding. After eating, the group of 15 to 20 (which includes extended family) plays board games, cards and dominoes. The adults also pull names to determine whom they will buy gifts for on Christmas, and everyone talks about plans for Christmas and the upcoming year. To commemorate both Thanksgiving Day and Christmas each year, Farlow-Malbrough buys a photo album in which to keep pictures from these special family days. 📷

Wanna be heard?

Every culture celebrates this special time of the year in its own ways. How do you and your family celebrate the holidays? Tell us, and we'll print them in next month's *Alive!* Send them to:
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Elections

Continued from page 1

(The San Fernando Valley proposes to have a mayor and 14 council members, allocated by districts, while Hollywood proposes to have five council members.) And, those in the Valley also will weigh in on their preferred new city name should secession pass. (For the record, the choices are Camelot, Mission Valley, Rancho San Fernando, San Fernando Valley, and Valley City.)

Text about the San Fernando Valley and



Hollywood secession measures is available at www.lalafco.org.

Remember that every vote counts, so make a difference and exercise your right to vote in November! 🗳️

Voting Guide

Other City and County Measures

■ **Measure K:** Los Angeles Unified School District voters also will decide on Measure K, which provides for the issuance of \$3.35 billion in general obligation bonds for specified district improvements. The district indicates that this measure will allow for building new neighborhood schools, repairing aging and deteriorating classrooms, improving early childhood programs, expanding public charter schools, and more.

■ **Measures A & B:** Throughout Los Angeles County, voters will decide on both Measure A – the Earthquake and Fire Safety Bond, and Measure B – the Preservation of Trauma Centers and Emergency Medical Services; Bioterrorism Response. Each measure requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

According to the League of Women Voters of California's "Smart Voter" Website, Measures A and B ask the following questions:

Measure A: "To ensure that the Natural History Museum and other County Museums meet strict earthquake and fire safety standards, generate at least \$250 million in private donations for these facilities, provide 50 percent more free admissions for student groups and children, and assure fire and earthquake-safe science and arts education facilities, shall the County issue up to \$250 million in bonds on the condition that the private donations be received first, with review by an Independent Oversight Committee?"

Measure B: "To avoid the life-threatening shutdown of Los Angeles County's trauma network, maintain and expand the trauma network countywide, ensure more timely response to critical and urgent medical emergencies and respond effectively to biological or chemical terrorism, shall all property owners pay an annual tax of 3 cents per square-foot of improvements (buildings) on developed property?"

State Propositions and Decisions

Of course, this year Californians also will vote for governor, plus a number of other elected offices. Seven statewide propositions also are on the ballot:

- **Proposition 46:** Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2002.
- **Proposition 47:** Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002.
- **Proposition 48:** Court Consolidation. Legislative Constitutional Amendment.
- **Proposition 49:** Before and After School Programs. State Grants. Initiative Statute.
- **Proposition 50:** Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects. Coastal Wetlands Purchase and Protection. Bonds. Initiative Statute.
- **Proposition 51:** Transportation. Distribution of Existing Motor Vehicle Sales and Use Tax. Initiative Statute.
- **Proposition 52:** Election Day Voter Registration. Voter Fraud Penalties. Initiative Statute.

Your Voting References

To find out more about the election, check out these resources:

- **California Secretary of State:** www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections.htm. (Click on the *Voter Information Guide* icon for details on all of the state propositions.)
- **The League of Women Voters of California's Smart Voter Project:** www.smartvoter.org.
- **The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk:** www.lavote.net. (Click on "November 5th 2002 Election" on the third red bar down for details. This site also includes information on ballot measures for other cities in the greater Los Angeles region.)
- **The Los Angeles City Ethics Commission:** www.lacity.org/eth/. (Look under the "Secession" section for information on candidates and fundraising for the proposed San Fernando Valley and Hollywood cities.)
- **The Los Angeles Unified School District, District B:** www.lausd.k12.ca.us/district_b/resources/.
- **The Office of the Los Angeles City Clerk:** www.lacity.org/clk/election.

Wanna be heard?

Let us know what you think about this article, or about the November elections in general: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Political Forum



Visiting L.A.'s Past, Present, Future

by Mayor James K. Hahn

Thank you, City employees past and present, for your continued commitment to the City of Los Angeles.

Last month, I was pleased to join many of you in ceremonies across the city to commemorate the terrorist attacks of September 11. Your participation in "L.A. Remembers" helped show our nation what a truly world-class city we have. I want to extend a special thanks to the members of the Los Angeles Fire Department who built a special Wall of Remembrance that included poems, photos and well-wishes from hundreds of Angelenos.

I also want to thank those of you who joined me at citywide celebratory events for Latino Heritage Month. It was also great to see many city employees at the 11th Annual Festival of Philippine Art and Culture. One of our greatest strengths is our diversity, and I am proud that our city employees reflect Los

Angeles's diversity.

Finally, I want you to join me in welcoming a person whom I expect to quickly be confirmed by the City Council as our newest general manager – my nominee for the Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department, William Bratton. Reducing crime, restoring community policing, improving recruitment, and bringing real reform to LAPD are my top priorities. I know that that William Bratton is the right person for the job. Bill Bratton served as the top cop for the New York Police Department and brings to the LAPD immense experience fighting crime and managing large police organizations. When you see him, please welcome Bill Bratton to the city family. 🗳️

Wanna be heard?

Tell *Alive!* what you think about the mayor's thoughts: alive@cityemployeesclub.com



LA Workforce Can Set Civic Standard

by Wendy Greuel
Councilmember, Second District

Election season is upon us and I want to encourage all City employees to get out and vote this Tuesday, November 5. This is your opportunity to exercise your right to vote and help shape your community on a local, statewide and national level. Many important races and initiatives are on the November ballot – including election of the governor and other statewide offices, propositions, bond measures, congressional races and citywide measures.

Recent elections have sent a clear message that every vote counts. We all remember how the outcome of the 2000 presidential election came down to a few hundred votes in a few local communities. My own City Council race in March was decided by just 212 votes.

Unfortunately, the number of citizens turning out to vote continues to decline. Americans are becoming less engaged and less active with their government. Here in Los Angeles we can buck this unhealthy national trend – not only by turning out to vote – but by participating in our communities.

I encourage those of you who live in the City of Los Angeles to take an active role in your neighborhood. Our growing system of

neighborhood councils provides city employees with additional tools to engage local communities.

During my first six months in office, I have seen first-hand the extraordinary synergy that takes place when neighborhood residents and our City workforce join together to tackle community problems. In July of this year, an army of community volunteers and Bureau of Street Services staff teamed up to identify and repair 747 potholes and other road damage in a single weekend. On a single Saturday in September, Department of Transportation staff worked with neighborhood volunteers to tow, ticket or mark nearly 300 abandoned vehicles blighting the North Hollywood community.

Community-based service delivery is an effective tool to address quality-of-life issues in our neighborhoods. Staff can tap residents' knowledge to focus City efforts while local residents are able to see the high standards and extraordinary dedication of our city workforce in action. With continued emphasis on community participation – in the voting booth and on and off the job – the LA City workforce can set the standard other cities should follow. 🗳️

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

ClubFest

2 0 0 2

ClubFest 2002

Continued from page 1

Shannon's friends to ClubFest. "Since this is the first ClubFest, I wanted to get in on the ground floor," Emanuel said, attributing the outstanding attendance to the family-oriented nature of the event. "People are looking for something wholesome."

Vinh Nguyen, an LADWP water operator, and his wife, Truc, a senior management analyst at LAPD, enjoyed the day with their children, Vincent, 8, and Tiffany, 2. Vinh noted, "This is a very nice get-together for the family and for the people who work for the City." Finishing lunch as her kids showed off their tattoos, Truc added, "[The City Employees Club] put together a great show. This is great."

The allure of free admission to the Zoo, especially for those with

children, brought many City employees out for the day. "I haven't come to the Zoo in quite a few years," said Aleta James, a city planner in the Planning Department, with her 10-year-old son Tyler and his friend. "It's a chance to enjoy the Zoo and see what this new club is all about."

For April Perez, an LAPD clerk typist, the event "sounded fun for the kids." Taking a break with 1-year-old Haley and 5-year-old Mia, she said, "I thought it was a nice thing for the [City Employees Club] to do for employees and decided to participate to reciprocate."

Even though, according to City Employees Club president and CEO Danna McDonough, the event "went beyond anyone's expectations," she said, in the spirit of the Club, "We'll do an even better job next year!"

Wanna be heard?

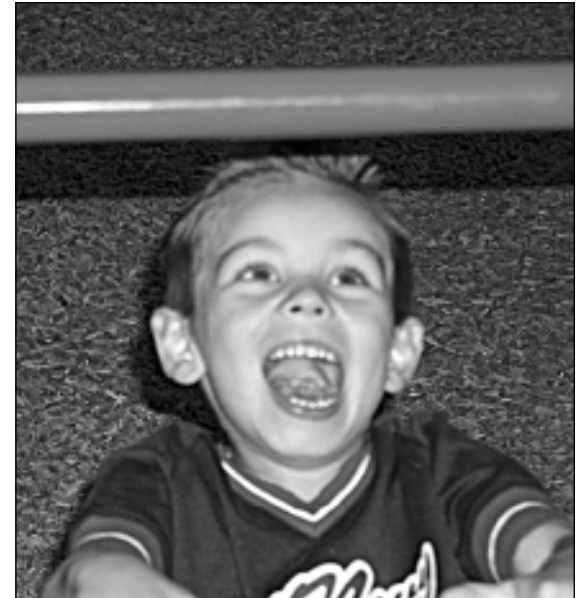
Let us know about the great time you had at ClubFest. Contact us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com





ClubFest

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And the Winner Is... Well, There Are Dozens of Them



■ Congratulations to all the prize winners whose names were pulled near the conclusion of ClubFest 2002. There were more than 100 great prizes.

Following is a listing of the prize, the winner, their department (where appropriate) and photos of them picking up their prize:

GEM vehicle

#1: Ralph Johnson (Airports)

Gateway Computers

#1: Bhavin Patel (ITA)
#2: Gale L. Brown (MIS)



Gale L. Brown (MIS), winner, Gateway Computer

Compaq IJ 300 Color Printer

Marguerita Chenier (Animal Regulations)

Four Seasons Hotel

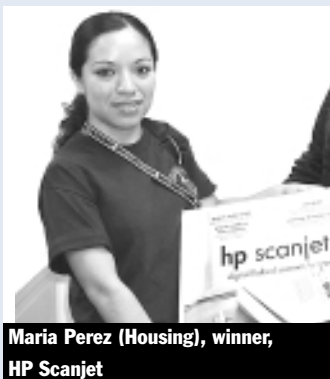
Steven Klubnikia (DOT)

HP Photo Smart printer

Javad B. Keshavarz (DWP)

HP Scanjet

#1: Maria Perez (Housing)



Maria Perez (Housing), winner, HP Scanjet

#2: M. D. Chavez (Harbor)

Halie's Restaurant, Pasadena

#1: Stuart Honda (Airports)
#2: Greg Pomish (GSB)
#3: George Pardo (Street Maintenance)

Home Depot

#1: Thu Van Le
#2: Felix Ceballos (Street Services)
#3: Robert Dang
#4: James Hodges
#5: Charlie Yu (Hyperion)

JVC 20" Television

Sal Mancilla (DWP)



Sal Mancilla (DWP), winner, JVC 20" Television

Nintendo Game Cube

Ngo Thu (Street Services)

Office Depot

#1: Sandra Humphries (Bureau of Engineering)
#2: Danny Sambrano
#3: Mai Yi Ng
#4: Isabella Rodriguez (ITA)
#5: Virginia White, retired
#6: Terra Jones (General Services)
#7: Linda Kubo (DWP)
#8: Emily Lau (Environmental Affairs)
#9: Bien Ogan (DOT)
#10: Ben Attai (Sanitation)
#11: Julio Sevilla
#12: Eva Chan (Street Services)
#13: Albert Moreno (DWP)



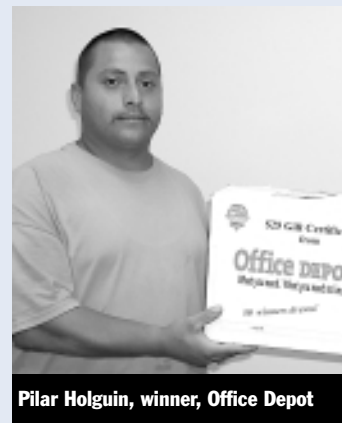
Albert Moreno (DWP), winner, Office Depot

#14: Ramon Puga
#15: Rosa Williams (Personnel)
#16: Greg Anderson (DWP)
#17: George Lim (DWP)
#18: Rachel Martinez (DWP)
#19: Linda Rorex (Personnel)
#20: Robert Rodriguez (Personnel)

#21: Rick Lucian (DWP)

#22: Jose Castillo

#23: Pilar Holguin



Pilar Holguin, winner, Office Depot

#24: Walton Frets (DWP)
#25: Kesavan S. Korand
#26: Olivia Figueroa (Controller)
#27: Matteo Rosales (DWP)
#28: David Gabaldon
#29: Frank Abel (LAPD)
#30: Daisy Cheung (DWP)
#31: Lewis Lozano (DWP)
#32: Eddie Dalcour (DWP)
#33: Tanya Bellard (Street Services)



Linda Rorex, winner, Office Depot

#34: Yi Bing Sun (Engineering)
#35: Philip Davidson (DWP)
#37: Melinda Chou (Personnel)
#38: Van Luu (DWP)
#39: Mary Choto (DWP)
#40: Aleta D. James (Planning)
#41: Jon Lin (Engineering)
#42: Rosie Sandoval (DOT)
#43: Patrick Stevens (ITA)
#44: Cecilia Rivas (General Services)
#45: Jim Iwaki (CDD)
#46 – #50 awarded at ClubFest

Palm i705

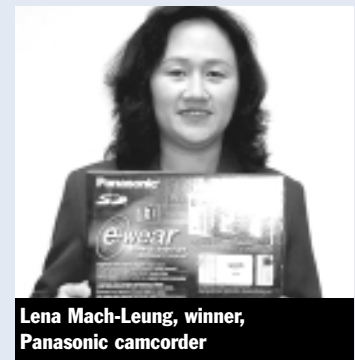
Don Netzel (DWP)

Palm Springs Wyndham Weekend

Ken Murray (BOSS)

Panasonic e-Wear Camcorder

Lena Mach-Leung



Lena Mach-Leung, winner, Panasonic camcorder

Samsung/Sony DVDs

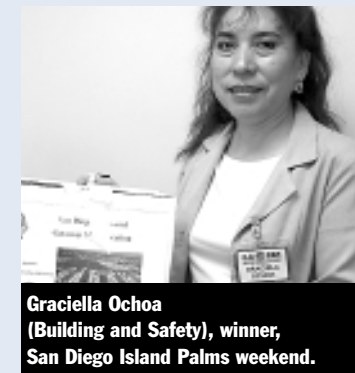
#1: Samsung: Rachael Padilla (DWP)
#2: Sony: Cherry Gardener (Rec and Parks)

San Diego Mission Valley Hilton

Larry Miller (Sanitation)

San Diego Island Palms Weekend

Graciella Ochoa (Building and Safety)



Graciella Ochoa (Building and Safety), winner, San Diego Island Palms weekend.

Sony Cyber Shot digital camera

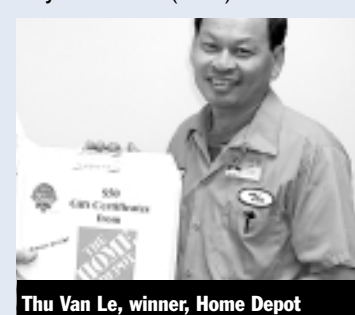
#1: Michael Gray (DWP)
#2: Frank Godarti

Sony Play Station

Kenneth Mak (DWP)
Brenda Mitchell (DWP)

Southwest Airlines Tickets

#1: Deborah Martin (Engineering)
#2: Jewel Nevels (DOT)



Thu Van Le, winner, Home Depot

ClubFest

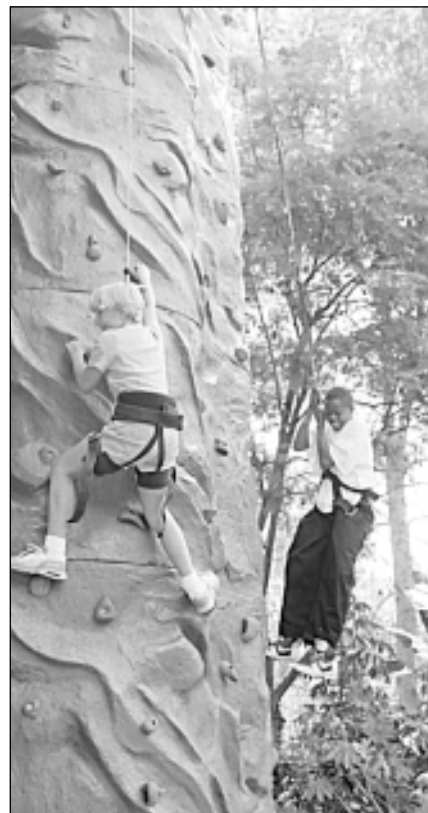
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ClubFest

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Thanks to Our Sponsors

The Club wishes to thank these sponsors who supported ClubFest. Their generous contributions made ClubFest a great success!





Praise From the People

When it comes to insurance and retirement benefits, things can get complicated, especially in stressful situations. These Club members had great things to say about working with the City Employees Club.

“Under very difficult stress during the Christmas holidays, I was treated with **superior professional courtesy**. Polite and kind. I recall when I had to make a panic telephone call to your office, paperwork was immediately faxed during the phone call and the receipt of the fax was verified before hanging up. The staff is very experienced and informed... I think the service was exceptional.”

Grace Williams

“One hundred percent! Everyone I spoke to was **wonderful, kind, considerate** and very patient with me. I'm 77 years old, and they all listened and explained what to do. I'm very satisfied with all the paperwork and other things I had to do. I want to thank you all for your concern and help.”

Alice Hawkins

“I found your service to be very good. Due to your **excellent** checking into a matter on my behalf, it has helped me out at a very difficult time.”

Helen S. Yoshino

“Excellent. Your staff is **efficient, compassionate and knowledgeable**. Every aspect of the claim was explained thoroughly and the paperwork was handled in a timely manner. Both Navin and Cecelia have excellent people skills. They made me feel comfortable and reassured. My son and I are grateful for the way this difficult time for us was handled. Thank you.”

Magdalena Chan

Bratton Named New LAPD Chief

■ **Mayor Hahn picks former New Yorker to head LA's police force.**



Bill Bratton

William Bratton, former head of New York City's police force, was named late last month as the next chief of the Los Angeles Police Department.

The announcement came at the culmination of a months-long search by Mayor James Hahn to replace former LAPD chief Bernard Parks.

Bratton, who led the NYPD from 1994 to 1996, is credited with helping lower New York City's crime rate during that time. Serious crimes – murder, rape and robbery – dropped by nearly a third under his watch, although some cite economic and demographic changes as contributors.

Bratton, 54, wrote a book, *Turnaround*, about his tenure atop the NYPD. He also spent a year on the team overseeing the LAPD's compliance with a federal consent decree. He left that board when he decided to apply for the LAPD chief's job.

In introducing the new chief to the city at a press conference at the North Hollywood LAPD station, Mayor Hahn said of his nominee:

“Our proud department has faced many challenges: the Rampart scandal, the implementation of a federal consent decree, low morale, high attrition and poor recruitment. Community policing was largely dismantled, while crime has continued to rise.

“But we are beginning to see positive changes at Parker Center, and the luster is being restored to the LAPD badge... We must continue our progress. Under the leadership of William Bratton, and a talented and committed Police Commission, and with the cooperation of the terrific men and women who serve in the LAPD, we will continue this progress and will chart a new course for the LAPD.

“William Bratton is the right person at the right time to lead the LAPD into a new era. William Bratton best embodies the leadership qualities needed to make Los Angeles the safest big city in America.

“William Bratton's experience and record as a crime fighter are unparalleled. He has led five police organizations, including serving as Police Commissioner for both Boston, and most recently the City of New York.

“He has the skills Los Angeles needs... put simply, there is no candidate in the nation more qualified than William Bratton to lead the LAPD.”

Wanna be heard?

What do you think about the naming of William Bratton to head the LAPD? Share your thoughts: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

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A Club discount!



HydroBikes®

Club members get a hefty discount when they purchase a HydroBike.

Introducing the HydroBike, the most fun you can have on the water. Available in three models, Hydrobikes are quiet ... smart ... portable ... ecological ... and tons of fun. And healthy for the whole family!

CLUB MEMBERS:

Take advantage of a great discount opportunity.

\$500 OFF
the regular price.
Order one now!

www.hydrobikes.com

Worried About Market Volatility?

Seek Participation In Some Of The Stock Market's Upside Potential With A Five-Year Guarantee



The U.S. stock market has often rewarded long-term investors with above-average returns. However, continued market volatility has heightened many investors' concerns. If you would like the potential for some capital growth but are uncomfortable with exposing your portfolio to loss,* you should consider investing in the **Smith Barney Capital Preservation Fund II**.

Please call Eric Garcia, Financial Consultant at (626) 683-4621 for more information.

He can provide you with a free prospectus that contains more complete information, including charges, expenses and risks. Please read it carefully before you invest or send money.

*Smith Barney Capital Preservation Fund II protects your investment from loss for five years. When you hold your investment until the end of the five-year Guarantee Period, on the Guarantee Maturity Date your account will be worth no less than your initial investment (less sales charges) at the end of the Offering Period, minus any redemptions, dividends and distributions you have received in cash and certain Fund expenses, such as interest, taxes and extraordinary expenses. If you choose to redeem your investment on any other day than the Guarantee Maturity Date, the amount returned could be less than that invested. If you sell your shares during the Guarantee Period, shares are redeemed at the current NAV, which may be more or less than your original investment. The guarantee is based on the amount invested as of the first day of the Guarantee Period and does not apply to any earnings realized during the Guarantee Period. Use of the fixed income component during the Guarantee Period could be significant and will reduce the Fund's ability to participate in upward equity market movements and therefore represents some loss of opportunity, or opportunity cost, compared to a portfolio that's more heavily invested in equities. There will be times during the Guaranteed Period when the Fund's allocation of assets to equities may be substantially limited or entirely precluded. Your ability to receive the Guaranteed Amount depends on the financial condition of the Fund and Ambac Assurance Corporation. Please keep in mind that the Fund's NAV will fluctuate. During both the Offering Period and the Post Guarantee Period, your investment will not be protected by the guarantee and will be subject to possible loss of principal. See the prospectus for more information on risks associated with the Guarantee and Ambac.

Investment Products: Not FDIC Insured • No Bank Guarantee • May Lose Value

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Department of the Month

Department of Transportation

A Message From the General Manager

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation has the national reputation as being one of the premier transportation organizations in the country. It is well deserved. Since its creation in 1979, the Department and its members have distinguished themselves in many areas. Its engineers have been leaders in the development and deployment of advanced traffic management systems to combat congestion. They have been at the cutting edge in using technology to move buses quicker in the enormously successful rapid bus lines.

On the streets, one of the country's largest team of traffic officers facilitates the flow of traffic and enforces a wide range of parking regulations. A special operations unit manages traffic associated with hundreds of events including the Academy Awards and the Los Angeles Marathon. The transit staff manages the popular community DASH and commuter express lines and specialized senior transit services that are used by 25 million passengers annually. Investigators regulate the massive taxicab industry and the medical transportation companies that serve Los Angeles. Members of the Department operate more than 100 parking facilities and manage the Metrolink transit stations in Los Angeles.

In concert with the community, the DOT staff works hard to develop and implement solutions to mitigate the negative impacts of traffic and to ensure the safe access to nearly 1000 schools. In partnership with other agencies, both inside and outside the City, DOT staff work to plan, fund and construct freeway improvements, rail lines, parking facilities, transit stations and street, bicycle and pedestrian projects. In accordance with the requirements of the Department, private developers fund needed transportation improvements.

The success of the Department is largely the result of the dedication and talents of its 2000 members. They are transportation planners, accountants, auditors, technicians, hearing officers, investigators and engineers. They

serve in a wide variety of maintenance and construction professions. They are traffic officers, analysts, clerks, secretaries, communications operators and adult crossing guards. They are some of the very best in public service.

There are extraordinary examples of that service. Last year Janie Tandy, a veteran crossing guard, broke up an attempted abduction of a fifth-grade student. This year, Traffic Officer Barbara Hartsfield saved the life of a motorist who had suffered a heart attack. There are many other efforts by individuals who go beyond their required duties, to do whatever is needed to meet and exceed the expectations of their customers. Their efforts reflect a genuine love for the City of Los Angeles and respect for the people whom they serve.

Through the collective efforts of its members, the LADOT enhances public safety, reduces congestion, provides for a stronger community and promotes a better economy. As the General Manager of the LADOT, my job is to help my colleagues succeed in their endeavors. I cannot imagine a better job. 🍌



Wayne Tanda,
General Manager,
Department of
Transportation



Loading thermoplastic raw material for another day of striping.



Earl Brown, Traffic Painter Sign Poster III -16 years.



Bob Blackmer,
Senior Systems Supervisor -37 years.



Carlos Henriquez,
Signal Systems Electrician -5 years.



L-R Gilbert Vasquez, Mechanical Repairer II -15 years;
Frank Aguilar, Mechanical Repairer II -12 years;
Angel Oligane, Mechanical Repairer II -16 years.



FRONT ROW, L-R: All Traffic Painter and Sign Posters:
Mike Prado -30 years;
David Roble -19 years;
Charles A. Coleman -18 years.

BACK ROW, L-R:
Curtis Ambrose, T.M.S. Superintendent -37 years;
Scott Kramer -18 years;
Herbert A. Orso -14 years;
Robert E. Jackson -15 years;
Kevin E. Duncan -15 years;
Ronald E. McCollum -18 years.

A Day in the Life of the Department of Transportation



Traffic officers take to the streets.



Phan Vuong, Senior Clerk Typist -15 years;
Edna Alba, Clerk Typist -1 year.



John E. Fisher, Assistant General Manager -30 years.

Department of the Month

Thermoplastic Operators striping the street.



Imelda Perez, Sr. Clerk Typist -20 years;
Nini Moore, Sr. Clerk Typist -18 years.



A traffic officer in control, near City Hall.



Carlos E. Ojeda,
Signal Systems Electrician
-22 years.



At the AT-SAC —

FRONT ROW, L-R:
Transportation Engineering Associates: Vivian Lu -10 years; Saif Rahimuddin - 5 years.

BACK ROW, L-R:
Transportation Engineering Associates: Kartik Patel -8 years; Larry Nelson (Signal Systems Electrician) -18 years; Daniel Mitchell (Transportation Engineer) -6 years; Jason Samonte -12 years; Steve Rostam -3 years.



Anthony Bova, T.M.S. Superintendent -22 years;
Robert Quezada, T.M.S. Superintendent -28 years.



Crossing guards and traffic officers keep pedestrians and traffic moving — safely.



14. Clovis McKenzie, Parking Meter Technician - 22 years.

James Okazaki,
Assistant General Manager -30 years.



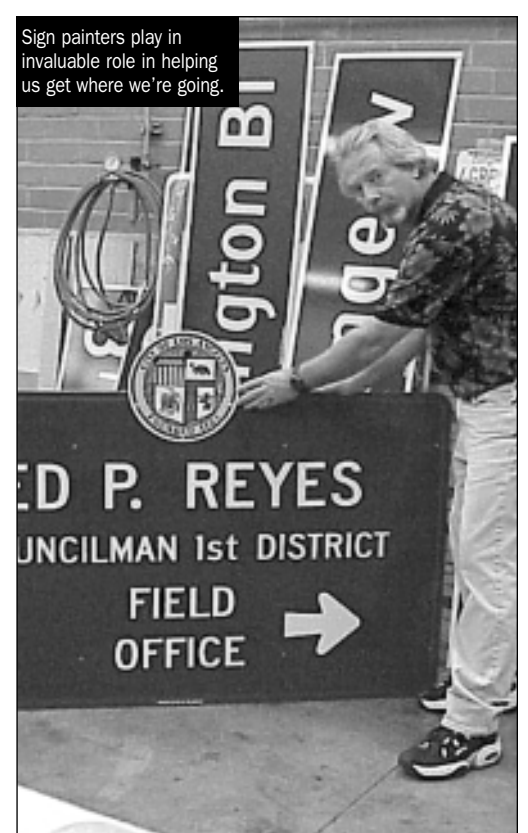
Craig Nelson, Sign Painter -4 years;
Nicholas Bautista, Sign Painter -4 years.



Arlecia Maroney, Sr. Clerk Typist -7 years;
Margie Oliva, Clerk Typist -2 years.



James Lefton,
Chief of Transit
-13 years.



Sign painters play in invaluable role in helping us get where we're going.



Jeff Leong, Signal Systems Electrician -17 years.



Mary Hartley,
Management Aide -12 years.

Department of Transportation: PROFILE

Executive Management

- Wayne Tanda, General Manager
- John Fisher, Assistant General Manager
- James Okazaki, Assistant General Manager
- Rita Robinson, Assistant General Manager
- Diane Cunningham, Parking Administrator

Mission

- To provide for the safe, reliable, convenient, accessible and efficient delivery of transportation services in a balanced manner that enhances Los Angeles' economic and quality of life goals.

Annual Budget

- More than 1500 full time and 500 part-time

Number of Employees

- More than 1,800 regular employees

Awards

- John F. Kennedy School of Government Innovations in State and Local Government Award
- California Alliance for Advance Transportation Systems Best California Public Innovation
- Public Technology Outstanding Project
- California Transportation Foundation Tranny Award
- American Public Transit Association Ad Wheel Award
- California Legislative Assembly Certificate of Recognition
- Propane Exceptional Energy Fleet Award

A Day in the Life of the Department of Transportation



Department of the Month

Department of Transportation: Moving L.A. Forward

■ Few cities in the world move at the speed of Los Angeles: What makes it work?

L.A.'s Department of Transportation is but one of the entities that keeps the city on the go. But it's one of the largest – and most important.

More than 2,200 employees make up the department. Although 400 to 500 are stationed at the department's headquarters downtown, the remainder is spread out among 23 different locations.

And while you might encounter the department's representatives at times of duress – think parking enforcement – the Department of Transportation goes much deeper than that. (But while we're on the subject of parking enforcement – those offices play a vital role in keeping Los Angeles moving. So give 'em a break.)

Any virtual tour of the department must stop in the Automated Traffic Systems and Control (ATSAC) center, deep in the basement of City Hall East. There, dedicated men and women control 2,600 of the City's 4,300 traffic signals via a state-of-the-art facility.

The Department also developed and patented software that figures out optimal traffic signal settings. Other metropolitan areas are now using this cutting-edge software.

Signal-maintenance and sign making are two more significant functions. In fact, the Department is believed to be the only one in the country to own its own thermoplastic formation equipment. (The machine costs \$250,000, according to General Manager James Tanda, making its functionality usually provided by contractors.) LADOT is the only city large enough to enjoy having its own thermoplastic formation equipment in house.

And then there's the traffic and parking enforcement officers (numbering about 600),

who write more than 3.2 million citations per year. "It's important to focus attention on these officers," Tanda says. "They try to gain an adherence to regulations that promote safety (red curbs), promote economic development (parking time limits), promote neighborhood liveability (permits) and combat congestion (towing vehicles in traffic lanes). They also assure that the disabled have a place to park, and they enforce regulations regarding vehicles on private property.

"They are seldom recognized for the important job they do."

The Department also manages liaisons with contractors, including for the localized DASH bus service.

And then there's the department's watchdog function over franchises, including taxicabs, ambulances, pipelines and other services. "They're out there doing great work," Tanda said of those making sure the cab and ambulance drivers are licensed and legitimate.

Project managers and planners work with other agencies to help build and maintain freeway interchanges, light rail inspections and the like.

Have a complaint? You'd probably want to talk to district operations, which deals with constituent concerns (that means people who have a beef or need a traffic condition dealt with). District operations handles more than 17,000 requests per year, requests to address speed limits, safe access to schools, localized congestion, etc.

Finally, there are the support services – info tech officers, personnel, budgeting, accounting, clerical, purchasing and the like.

It takes most every one of them to keep L.A. moving. 🚗



L-R Helene Jacobs, Supervising Trans. Planner -21 years; John Fong, Supervising Trans. Planner II -34 years; Maryann Delkhaste, Mgmt. Analyst II -13 years.



BACK ROW, L-R: Mars Castillo, Senior Auditor -13 years; Bernardo Tumbucon, Accountant II -11 years. FRONT ROW, L-R: Danny Marilao, Accountant II -5 years; Estella Rodriguez, Accountant -16 years; Maria Apusen, Accounting Clerk II -14 years; Cathy Lee, Accounting Clerk II -2 years; Jenny Pilotin, Senior Accountant II -17 years; Vi Mugol, Senior Accountant II -12 years; Hope Shaffer, Accountant II -12 years; Milagros Lumbang, Accounting Clerk II -8 years.



Patricia Currie, Accounting Clerk -26 years; Cynthia Lundy, Accounting Cler -15 years.



L-R: Chris Nelson, Clerk Typist -1 year; Rhoma Moore, Sr. Clerk Typist -18 years; Donald Mansion, Chief Transportation Investigator -29 years.



Valerie Pryor, Chief Management Analyst -14 years.



L-R Guido Marucut, Principal Accountant II -17 years; Marilu De Vera, Senior Accountant II -17 years; John Afford, Chief Accountant -34 years; Yolanda Huang, Senior Accountant II -11 years.



Parking regulation officers ensure a smooth flow of traffic.



L-R Transportation Engineering Associates Ricardo A. Rivera -8 years; George Zordilla; Ina Van Der Laan (Transportation Engineer) -37 years; Christopher Hy -3 years; Aziz Mashian -18 years.



L-R Mark Nakata, Senior Personnel Analyst -12 years; Wayne Garcia, Senior Management Analyst -15 years; Lupe Sandoval, Public Safety Coordinator -6 years; Dick Wong, Senior Management Analyst I -13 years.



Bea Zari, Accountant -23 years; Purita Averia, Accountant II -5 years.



Transportation engineers ensure a smooth flow of traffic during special events.



L-R Linda Evans, M.P.A., Trans. Planning Associate -15 years; Mary Rodriguez, Clerk Typist -12 years; Luz Echavarria, Trans. Planning Associate -12 years.



L-R Eileen Hunt, Trans. Eng. Associate -8 years; Jeannine Brands, P.E., Trans. Eng. Associate III -18 years; Greg Clark, Commission Executive Assistant -13 years; Azar Nejad, Trans. Eng. Associate -3 years. **SITTING:** Jeanne Rogers, Sr. Mgmt. Analyst I -37 years.



L-R Reginald Pilotin, Temporary Worker; Yin Woo, Accounting Clerk -18 years; Janice Macoy, Temporary Worker.



L-R Tom Jones, Senior Transportation Engineer -38 years; Tim Conger, Transportation Engineer -11 years; Steve Gaur, Transportation Engineering Associate -2 years.



L-R Michelle Sambile, Acct. Clerk -15 years; Victoria Lim, Acct. 1 -1 year; Linda Granados, Acct. 1 -1 year.



L-R Gerald D'Agostino, Transportation Investigator -31 years; Constancio Abracia, Jr., Transportation Investigator -16 years; Robert Camou, P.E., Sr. Trans. Engineer -3 years.



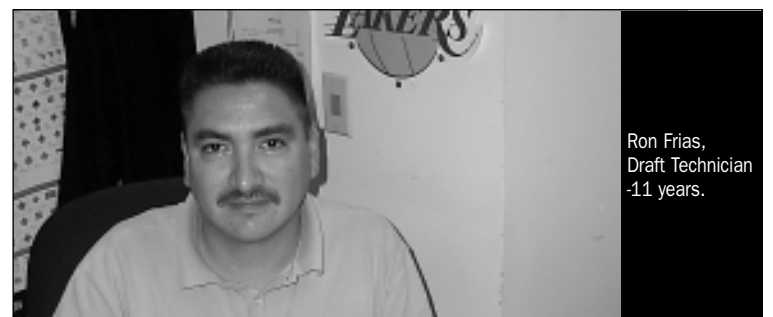
L-R Clive Grawe, Transportation Engineering Associate -8 years; Mike Moshksar, Transportation Engineering Associate -4 years; Jesus Avina, Drafting Technician -13 years; James Gonzalez, Transportation Engineering Aide.



Nancy Wagstaff, Sr. Clerk -15 years; Yvonne Coleman, Sr. Clerk -3 years.



Chuck Hammerstein, Trans. Planning Assoc. II -5 years

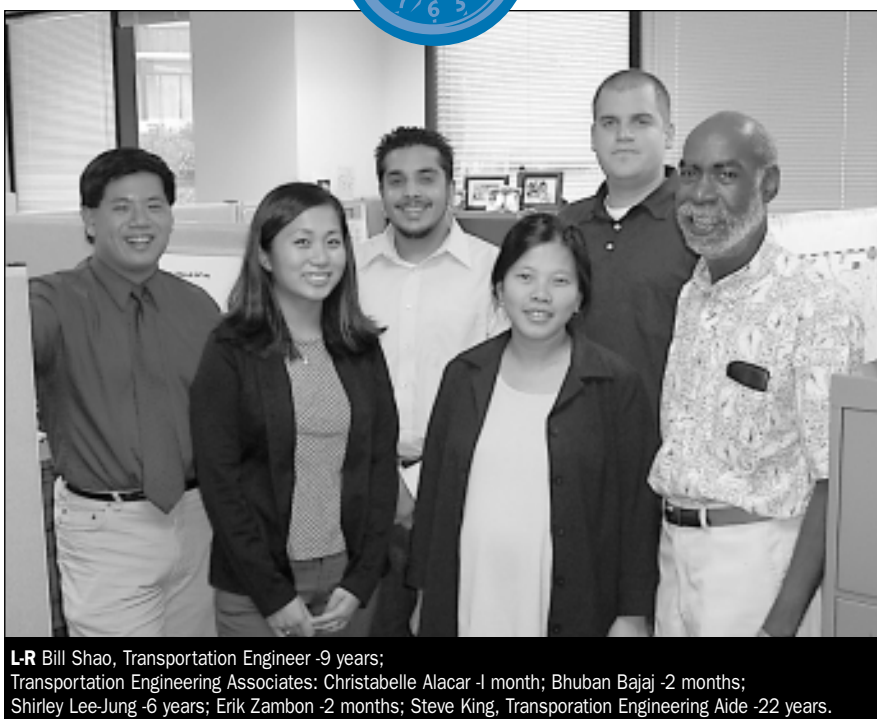


Ron Frias, Draft Technician -11 years.

A Day in the Life of the Department of Transportation



Mat Eftekhari, Transportation Engineering Associate -11 years; Harry Spilman, Transportation Engineering Associate -32 years.



L-R Bill Shao, Transportation Engineer -9 years; Transportation Engineering Associates: Christabelle Alacar -1 month; Bhuban Bajaj -2 months; Shirley Lee-Jung -6 years; Erik Zambon -2 months; Steve King, Transportation Engineering Aide -22 years.



Management Analysts Richard Flores -25 years; Paul Lobato -31 years.



Retirees Corner

Write to us at
retirees@cityemployeesclub.com

Retiree Hotlines

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

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

City Retirement Counselors:

• Walter Couchman (626) 355-7942	• Edward Harding (805) 584-9417
• Phil Skarin (818) 784-0130	• Larry Jones (213) 255-9082
• Irvin Walder (626) 289-2511	• Charmaine Hidalgo (213) 258-0547
• Robert Wilkinson (818) 886-1000	• Helen Salgado (213) 728-4930
• Jerry Bardwell (818) 782-5568	• Americo Garza (562) 928-2051

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

Thinking About Elective Surgery?

Here Are Some Things to Know

One out of ten Americans will become a hospital patient this year. More than ever, patients need to know what to expect and how to cope with a hospital stay. The health care industry is in a period of transition, and soaring costs have forced many mergers. The new consolidations are forced to lay off nurses and other aides. Meanwhile, HMOs are calling for fewer medical tests and shorter hospital stays.

The first step is to get over the awe we have for the medical profession, and become a smart consumer. Make believe you're buying a new car, and approach your hospitalization as a customer who knows what you want and what you expect to get.

Following is a checklist of things to do before you enter a hospital:

✓ **Is Your Hospitalization Necessary?**

- Always get a second opinion. Many procedures that once required hospitalization can now be done on an outpatient basis – for instance, cataract surgery.

✓ **Meet Your Surgeon Ahead of Time**

- Insist on a personal meeting with the surgeon far ahead of the surgery. When you meet with the surgeon, take notes. Better yet, take a tape recorder.
- Get a commitment that your surgeon will perform the entire surgery, and not simply get it started and turn it over to an assistant surgeon to complete the operation.
- Make sure the surgeon who will perform the surgery is board-certified.
- Remember, it's your right to have confidence in your surgeon.

✓ **Choosing the Hospital**

- Your doctor and/or surgeon will want to send you to the hospital where they are

on staff. Your HMO may want to send you to a hospital that charges the least. Some hospitals are better than others in terms of their medical record. Check out the hospital's reputation any way you can.

- Don't be shy about visiting the hospital in advance of the surgery to see the patient rooms and meet the staff. Always know who will be in charge of your hospital stay at every stage.

✓ **Meet the Anesthesiologist and Discuss Your Medical History With Him/Her**

- Ask what type of anesthesia will be used and its after-effects. Inform the anesthesiologist of any allergic reactions you may have.

✓ **Don't Sign Any Forms Until You Completely Understand What the Forms Are For and How They Will Affect Your Treatment Options**

- When you arrive at the hospital, you will be presented with a variety of forms to sign on the spot. Take the time to read them carefully. Also, put any personal treatment decisions in writing. Give the hospital a signed copy of your "living will," which tells the hospital what steps to take regarding life-support measures.

✓ **Plan for Your Hospital Departure and Recovery Before You Go to the Hospital**

- Make arrangements for transportation back home.
- Arrange in advance for special in-home medical equipment (walkers, hospital beds, etc.) or home health care professionals (nurses, therapists, et al.)
- Ask what danger signals to look for in your recuperating process.

✓ **Finally, Don't Sign Your Hospital Bill Without Examining It**

- Hospitals make many mistakes on bills. You are certain to find charges on your bill for services or supplies you never received. ☹

Be Wary When a Telemarketer Comes Calling Over the Phone

When it comes to telemarketers, it's important to know the difference between legitimate offers and fraudulent ones. Beware of an unknown caller who:

- Says you've won a prize but asks you to send money first.
- Says you have to act right away.
- Instructs you to wire money.
- Offers to have someone pick up a payment from your home.
- Says he or she is a law enforcement officer who will help you – for a fee.

Follow these guidelines to protect yourself:

- Don't assume a friendly voice belongs to a friend.
- Never give your credit card, checking account or social security number to an unknown caller.

If you think you've been a victim of fraudulent telemarketing, call toll-free: (877) 987-3728. ☹



In Your Corner

by Dolores and Vince Foley

3 Retirees Groups Now Working Together for Strength in Numbers

Retiree groups from City, DWP, Fire & Police band together.

We are going to try our best to hold up the Retirees Corner, so that it meets the high standards already set in this publication and also meets your expectations of education and entertainment.

Next month we hope to have some cards and letters to report. So make sure you send in your questions and ideas. Just like *Alive!*, we're here for you.

This month, we wanted to let you in on an exciting development for City retirees. Dolores Foley (DWP), Ed Harding (City) and Lee Kebler (Fire & Police), presidents of the associations that represent all retirees of the City of Los Angeles, met recently to discuss areas that are of mutual interest to our associations. This meeting was initiated by Dolores, and was prompted by the issue of secession and how that could affect retirees of the City.

At the conclusion of the meeting, they agreed that the association presidents would

meet quarterly to discuss issues that affect us all. Recognizing that each association has unique regulatory arenas in which they operate, there still may be situations where a united message and the power of numbers would be beneficial to all our retirees, individually and collectively. We also felt that we could learn from one another, since our common goal is the physical and financial well-being of our retirees.

As to the question of secession, they agreed that the unanswered questions related to separation of services, finances and infrastructure would be bogged down in the courts for years to come, and the millions that will be expended by both sides would be better spent on us rather than on attorneys! Secession provides no upside for our collective well-being.

What do you think about that? We're pretty excited about the three groups coming together. Drop us a line and let us know. Until next month, have fun! ☹

Wanna be heard?

Send a comment or question to Vince and Dolores Foley: retirees@cityemployeesclub.com

The Lighter Side

Comments from actual employee evaluations:

- Sets low personal standards then consistently fails to achieve them
- This employee is depriving a village somewhere of its idiot
- Takes an hour-and-a-half to watch *60 Minutes*
- A gross ignoramus — 144 times worse than an ordinary ignoramus
- Wheel is turning, but the hamster is dead
- It's hard to believe he beat out 1,000,000 other sperm



- If brains were taxed, he'd get a rebate
- Some drink from the fountain of knowledge; he only gargled
- A room-temperature IQ
- Got into the gene pool while the lifeguard wasn't looking
- I would not allow this employee to breed
- Has delusions of adequacy
- Since my last report, this employee has reached rock bottom and has now started to dig

Remind you of anyone you worked with (or for)? ☹

Newsbriefs

SMART CROSSWALK

A new SMART crosswalk was installed at the intersection of Beverly Boulevard and Vendome Street in Los Angeles.

- The intersection has a long history of accidents and near-accidents. A fatality was recorded at that intersection in August 1999.
- SMART crosswalks have underground sensors that know when pedestrians are waiting to cross the street, and the signal is triggered.

PICO-UNION LIBRARY

Officials broke ground in September on the soon-to-be Pico Union Library, in the 1000 block of Alvarado St. in Pico Union.

- The 12,500-foot facility will be equipped with an array of services, including computer terminals, multiple

database access points and a community meeting room.

- It will become the first library branch in the Pico-Union area.

CANOGA PARK LIBRARY

A contract was let for the construction of a new Los Angeles city branch library at 20939 Sherman Way in Canoga Park.

- The site for the library is vacant.
- The Canoga Park branch library is one of 33 planned new libraries funded as part of a \$178 million bond issue, passed in 1998.

YOUTH WEBSITE

Mayor James Hahn introduced a Website he helped create that identifies youth-related programs and activities in Los Angeles.

- The Website is part of the Mayor's Los Angeles Safe Neighborhood Action Plan.

- The programs highlighted on the site include traditional after-school recreational sports, homework assistance, specialized leadership training and art and science-related programs.

- Click on the site:
www.lacity.org/mayor/youth/set1.htm

NEW MAP WEBSITE

The City of L.A.'s Information Technology Agency has released a comprehensive map and information page on the City of Los Angeles.

- There is a wide range of maps and information available at the site.

- Click on: www.imapla.lacity.org

Around the City

JOB WELL DONE

LAPD officer Brian McClary, of the Valley Traffic Division, was recognized by Councilmember Jack Weiss for making more than 1,000 DUI arrests in McClary's career with the department.

- "Officer Brian McClary has made the streets safer," Weiss said. "On behalf of the City Council, I would like to thank him for all his work."

- "Thank you so much, but it's just my job," McClary said.

- He is a fifth-generation LAPD officer. His father was an LAPD detective for 25 years, and his mother worked as an LAPD police service representative for 37 years. Members of the McClary family have served in LAPD since 1901.

- Recent statistics from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), show that, nationwide, 17,448 people were killed last year in alcohol-related traffic crashes. In California, of 3,753 total traffic deaths, 1,401 were alcohol related (37.3%).

OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP

The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Operation Clean Sweep Division granted 184 projects and disbursed close to \$900,000 in funding this past year as part of the Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) project, Board of Public Works President Valerie Lynne Shaw announced today.

- "We want people to start thinking now about neighborhood improvement projects that can be undertaken next year utilizing the Neighborhood Matching Fund," she said.

- The Neighborhood Matching Fund program is a partnership between the City of Los Angeles and neighborhood-based organizations. The program provides cash grants to neighborhood groups that undertake local improvement projects. For every dollar requested through the fund, the community group must provide a comparable match.

LUCKY NUMBERS

On August 21, the LADWP Customer Call Center team of lottery players successfully hit 5 out of 6 numbers, including the Mega number! Each of the 18 people listed split a \$1,420 jackpot. And no, we're not telling you who they are.

SEE THE LIGHTS

The Department of Public Works Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL), in conjunction with Councilmember Tom LaBonge (Council District 4), are scheduled to activate a new street lighting system in Spaulding Square October 26, in conjunction with the Spaulding Square Neighborhood Association's Harvest Festival.

- "The Bureau worked diligently with the community to see this come to fruition, including installing the lights with our own crews," said Board of Public Works Commissioner Janice Wood. "This is a good example of what can be achieved when communities partner with the City of Los Angeles."

- The project includes installation of 34 ornamental historic streetlights to complement and enhance the existing modern streetlights. The benefiting property owners agreed to pay the full cost of installation and increased maintenance to enhance the aesthetics of their neighborhood. The lighting system is bounded by Sunset Avenue to the north, Fountain Avenue to the south, Fairfax Avenue to the west, and Stanley Avenue to the east. Construction costs totaled \$140,000.



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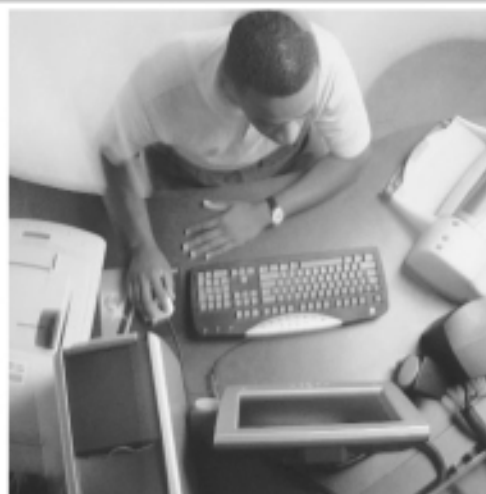
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Club Members Can Save When Purchasing Gateway Computers

Attention Club members: Are you in the market for a new Windows-based computer (who isn't)? Well, then, you can take advantage of a great new promotion the Club has arranged for you, via Gateway computers.

Club members can receive a five percent discount on select Gateway consumer computers.

Don't know what you want? Gateway customer reps can help. There are three ways to get in contact with this great offer:

- by phone: (877) 485-1462
- by Internet: go to <http://esource.gateway.com/LACEA> (use program code BEPU20160)
- visit your local Gateway store.

You must have a valid membership card to take advantage of this offer.

Rules and regulations apply. See the Gateway ad elsewhere in this news paper, or talk to a representative at the above phone number.

Happy computing!



CLAIMS UPDATE

Apply for Disability Insurance Now, Before It's Too Late

Hi! It was good to see so many of you at the ClubFest last month!

This month, I want to present a good case study about how disability claims work – and don't work.

Peter is a husband and father of two beautiful children. He doesn't want to even think about signing up

for disability insurance because he thinks he'll never need it; he sees a physician occasionally and he ultimately feels he is in good shape. Suddenly he starts encountering symptoms, and his health deteriorates. He realizes that maybe he will need disability insurance after all. So, he applies for disability insurance, and when he completes the medical questionnaire on the insurance application he tries to ignore his symptoms.

Luckily, Peter's application is approved. Now he is insured. During several months of taking his physician prescribed medication, the doctor puts him out on disability. Now that Peter has disability insurance, he files a disability claim without knowing of the pre-existing conditions insurance clause in his policy.

All disability insurance plans contain a pre-existing condition clause. It means that if you are injured or if you become sick and you received medical treatment during the six months before you became insured, you are not eligible for disability benefits.

In our disability plan, if total disability is due to a pre-existing condition, you may be still eligible for benefits if:

- Your first 12 months of insured, you do not require any form of treatment or medication for the pre-existing condition, or
- Your total disability begins after 24 months of the date you became insured by this plan.

BOTTOM LINE:

Apply for Disability Insurance while you are healthy.

Wanna be heard?

Ask Cecelia a question, or send a general comment to the editor: claims@cityemployeesclub.com

Claims Paid Out through September 2002*

Type of Insurance	2002		2001	
	Number of Claims	Year-to-Date	Number of Claims	Year-to-Date
Life insurance	59	\$2,386,756	74	\$2,802,168
Disability Insurance	76	\$557,286	85	\$880,287
Long Term Care Insurance	5	\$23,950	3	\$21,033
Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance	3	\$63,655	18	\$596,336
GRAND TOTALS	143	\$3,031,647	180	\$4,299,825

* May not include claims in process, or to be verified.



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(818) 248-6144 fax

Your referrals are also greatly appreciated.



A message from the Club!

How do you celebrate the holidays?

Alive! wants to know!



Many cultures have special celebrations this time of year. What's yours? Do you spend the holidays with family and friends? Quietly, or with lots of parties? Do you travel? What special treats do you eat? What's your favorite part of the holidays? What are some of your more unusual traditions? The funnier and more unusual, the better.

Let us know, and we'll print as many as we can.



**Happy Holidays from Alive!
and your City Employees Club.**

Send your holiday traditions by **November 21, 2002**
to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
(or fax to [213] 620-0398).

\$\$\$

Minding Your Money

Nichole Baker, Certified Financial Planner™

Be Thankful, But Take Action, Too!

■ 10 Things You Can Do to Protect Those Things You Value



Nichole Baker, CFP
Polaris Financial

Before I get started with this month's column, let me just take a moment to say that it was great to meet so many of you at the ClubFest party held at the LA Zoo in early October! I am really looking forward to helping you and your families identify and reach your financial and life goals.

As Thanksgiving approaches, we all tend to think back over the course of the year and reflect upon those things for which we are grateful. Among the items on that list are usually things like health, happiness, family and friends.

However, it is important to not only take the time to remember those things for which we are thankful, but also to take the steps necessary to protect those sources of happiness. Below is a brief list of things you may want to do to help safeguard the important things and people in your life:

Health

1. Maintain proper diet, nutrition and exercise.
2. Remember to take time to relax and de-stress. Mental well-being is linked to physical well-being.

Health and Home

3. Be sure that you have adequate homeowners or renters insurance. Check to see if you are covered for fire, flood and earthquake damage.
4. Establish safety measures and take necessary precautions, including placing fire extinguishers, radios, flashlights, water and first aid supplies in pre-determined locations throughout the house.

Kids

5. Decide who you'd like to have raise your minor children if anything should happen to you – then get a will or trust.
6. Ensure that you have enough life insurance (in the event of your death or disability) to provide for their education, health, welfare and maintenance.

Parents

7. Confirm they have long-term care insurance that will help to provide for them should they have difficulty taking care of themselves as they age.
8. Encourage them to meet with their financial planner to discuss how best to transfer assets at the time of their death, and to minimize the stress on family members at that difficult time.

Career

9. Assess the benefits available to employees through work, and make sure that you are maximizing your options. Check to see if there are expenses that you are currently paying out-of-pocket that could be paid through a tax-savings account at work.
10. Save enough for retirement, and invest appropriately! Verify that you will have enough money to live as you like during retirement. It seems simple enough, but many times it is hard to gauge, so take some time to either do a little research, or talk to a professional.

Although this list is brief, perhaps it will get you to start thinking about the things that you need to address. This is a great time of the year to handle such issues – and it's easy: Simply call our office to schedule a free initial appointment. We can talk about anything from your insurance needs to investment choices in your retirement account to the potential benefits of setting up wills or trusts. The important thing is that you take the first step to make certain that what you value is properly handled.

In closing, I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. We all have much to be grateful for. Personally, among many other things, I am thankful that Los Angeles has such committed and competent employees with whom I am privileged to work.

And remember, I will address specific issues in this column that you request – so be sure to e-mail us with your question or topic.

To get a copy of
our easy- to-understand
Choosing a Planner
information kit and checklist
call our office and we'll mail
one out to you FREE:
(626) 441-0838.



If you have questions or would like to meet with a financial adviser for a personal consultation, contact Nichole at (626) 441-0838, or through the Club e-mail: nichole@cityemployeesclub.com. Nichole is a principal at Polaris Financial, investment advisers and financial planners. Registered representatives offer advisory services through National Planning Corporation (NPC), member NASD/SIPC, a registered investment adviser. Polaris Financial and NPC are separate and unrelated companies. Polaris Financial provides discounted services to Club members.

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Cooking with the Club by Robert Larios

Welcome to *Cooking With the Club*. This column will give you a glance at some of the favorite and most delicious recipes from city employees as well as tips on how to get around the kitchen, from proper cleaning of the cutting board and ways to reduce food poisoning, to some innovative ways to make pizza. More importantly, it gives those of us who are novices in the kitchen a chance to keep from burning dinner!

By the same token, some of us actually do know how to make the most amazing dishes. Some are such experts that they should teach classes at the Le Cordon Bleu Culinary School!

Be part of the Club Cookbook coming in 2003

Send in your recipes to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Orange Cranberry Turkey Sandwiches

INGREDIENTS

- (1) medium-size sweet onion (such as Maui), thinly sliced
- (3) tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- (2) tablespoons chopped fresh dill
- (2) teaspoons sugar
- (3/4) cup canned whole-berry cranberry sauce
- (1 1/2) teaspoons grated orange peel
- Salt and freshly ground pepper (to taste)
- (8) slices whole grain bread, toasted
- (8) ounces thinly sliced turkey breast
- (1) bunch watercress, thick stems trimmed

DIRECTIONS

- Mix onion, apple cider vinegar, dill and sugar in medium bowl. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Mix cranberry sauce and orange peel in small bowl. (Onion mixture and cranberry mixture can be prepared 1 day ahead. Cover separately and refrigerate.) Place all bread slices on work surface. Spread cranberry mixture over slices, dividing equally. Top 4 bread slices with onion mixture, then turkey and watercress, dividing equally. Top with remaining 4 bread slices, cranberry side down, and serve.

Makes 4 servings

Roasted Garlic-Parmesan Bread

INGREDIENTS

- (1) head garlic, cloves separated but not peeled
- (1) tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- Parmesan cheese (preferably not pre-grated; get the real stuff!)
- (2) 1/3-inch-thick 5 x 3-inch French bread slices
- Extra Virgin Olive
- Dried rosemary, crumbled
- Sea salt and freshly ground pepper

DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 350°F. Toss garlic with 1 tablespoon oil, salt and pepper in small baking dish. Roast until soft, about 30 minutes. Release garlic from peels into small bowl. Mash with fork.
- Preheat broiler. Toast 1 side of bread under broiler. Brush second side with oil. Grate Parmesan cheese and sprinkle with rosemary, salt and pepper. Broil until golden brown. Spread with garlic. Serve hot.

To get things started, I have a few recipes I'd like to share with you. The tasty **Orange Cranberry Turkey Sandwiches** can be a tasty quick fix for those taste buds; the **Roasted Garlic-Parmesan Bread** is a treat during the holidays; and I'll give you a way to turn those turkey dinner leftovers into a gourmet delight with **Very Simple Pumpkin Soup**.

And make sure to share with the rest of the members of the City Employees Club your holiday recipes! Write to us and send us your recipes or kitchen tips.

Don't wait. Take these recipes and start cooking. And send your favorites in, too, for our next column. 🍴

Very Simple Pumpkin Soup

Try serving a Chardonnay with this. It's really good. If there are kids at the table, offer them apple cider.

INGREDIENTS

- (2) 15-ounce cans pure pumpkin
- (4) cups water
- (1) cup half and half
- (1) garlic clove, pressed
- (1/4) cup pure maple syrup
- (4) tablespoons unsalted butter
- (1/2) teaspoon Chinese five spice powder (a blend of ground anise, cinnamon, star anise, cloves, and ginger available in the spice section of most supermarkets)
- (4) ounces fresh mushrooms (any edible kind is okay), stemmed, sliced

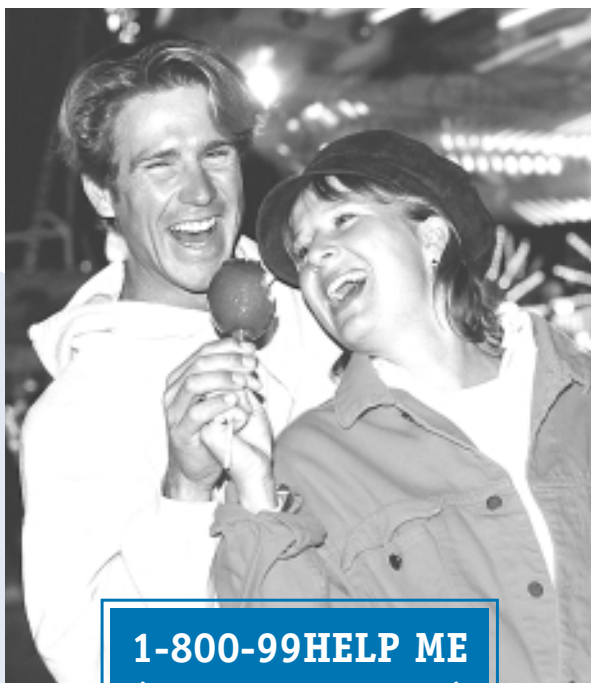
DIRECTIONS

- Bring first 4 ingredients to simmer in large saucepan over medium-high heat, whisking often. Whisk in syrup, 2 tablespoons butter, and five-spice powder. Simmer soup 10 minutes, whisking often. Season with salt and pepper. (Soup can be made 1 day ahead. Chill until cold, then cover and keep chilled. Bring to simmer before serving.) Melt remaining 2 tablespoons butter in heavy medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add mushrooms; sauté until tender, about 10 minutes. Divide soup among 6 bowls. Sprinkle soup with mushrooms, dividing equally. If you have pumpkin oil, give your soup a drop or two to intensify the pumpkin flavor; serve.

Makes 6 servings

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Hobby Club Corner

Wild for birds?
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Everyone has a
hobby.
What's yours?

Alive! introduces the Hobby Club Corner, a **free listing** of meetings, displays and/or any general information on any hobby club you've already formed, or clubs that you want to form.

Send in the details, and we'll run the notices starting next month.

- Sample: Model train club meeting, first Thursday, etc. Contact: (etc.)
- Sample: Club forming: Macintosh computers. Contact: (etc.)
- Sample: I am looking to join a gardening club in Asuza. Contact: (etc.)

Don't just sit there. Have fun!

Send notices to hobby@cityemployeesclub.com

Click on the Club!

■ **Get connected to the Club online! It's just for you.**

Have you visited the Club's new website? It's just for you.

Check it out: www.cityemployeesclub.com

As functional as it is attractive, the new Club Website puts lots of great Club features right at your fingertips, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For example, check out all these things you can do at the Website:



- Get up-to-the-minute news on Club events
- Get the latest list on vendor discounts (show your card and save)
- Buy discount tickets
- Read *Alive!* online
- Research the Club's insurance products
- Enjoy a special area for retirees
- File an insurance claim
- Contact the Club

So bookmark the Club's Website in your computer's browser. Come by often. It's one of the many ways your Club is reaching out to you... to keep you connected and in touch with your world. Take advantage!

Wanna be heard?

Love the new Website? Have a suggestion for making it better? Let us know: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

www.cityemployeesclub.com

Alive! Members Marketplace

Art

- 7" resin griffin, Greek mythological statue.** \$5. (310) 832-0511
- Original unframed DeGrazio painting,** 2 feet by 3 feet. (310) 832-0511
- Handmade Indian bowl.** \$15. (310) 832-0511
- Four 8 x 10 original Mexican paintings on bark.** \$20 each. (310) 832-0511
- Slightly used 10" Asian meditation rock waterfall.** \$30. Comes complete, including pump and rocks. Only used once! (310) 832-0511

Autos

1988 Ford Econoline E-150 van. 127,000 miles, V8 engine. Very clean. Red-E-Camp van. Like new, runs good. 4 Captains chairs, high ceiling, bench/bed, AM/FM cassette, A/C, TV, VCR, drink caddy, ice chest, twin gas tanks. \$5,000 or best offer. (818) 361-3444.1

Bicycles

- Cannondale mountain bike,** model Jeckell 3000; 2002 model. \$2,000 (originally \$3,800). Call Larry Romasanta: (818) 266-1583
- Bicycle pannier.** Eclipse, red. For front handlebars. \$10. (818) 832-5522

Books

- Self-improvement collection,** \$2 each. bobpearce@earthlink.net
- First edition of Sports Illustrated.** Perfect condition, still in large mailing envelope. Make offer. superhawks@msn.com

DVDs

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

Furniture

- 19th century Dutch glass-doored cabinet** (original rolled glass). Excellent condition. \$235. Call or e-mail Rod: (310) 458-2019, roduth@adelphia.net
- Industrial desk:** 60" length, 33" width, 33" high. \$15. bobpearce@earthlink.net

Table - kitchen: Hardwood, round. Comes with 4 chairs. Practically new. \$400 firm. superhawks@msn.com.



FREE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

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

You can fax to (213) 620-0598 or email to classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com.

We'll run your ad in the next available issue. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness. Thanks and happy selling!

Household Items

- 1970s-era cassette tapes.** (310) 832-0511
- Assorted carry-on travel bags.** In excellent condition. Best offer. (310) 832-0511
- Five-piece set of aluminum cookware.** Brand-new, never-been-used. \$25 E-mail: seascape00@juno.com
- Mechanic's roller.** \$15 or best offer. E-mail: seascape00@juno.com
- Fitted picnic basket.** hardly-used. \$10 or best offer. E-mail: seascape00@juno.com
- JuiceMan juicer.** Practically new. \$15. superhawks@msn.com
- Blender - needs glass -** \$5. superhawks@msn.com
- Rowing machine.** One of the original "Concept Iis" — needs a little cosmetic work but is ready to use. \$100 firm. (818) 832-5522
- Turnaround trips to Ensenada, Rosarito Beach, Laughlin, Las Vegas.** Three-day trips to San Francisco/ Yosemite, Grand Canyon/Las Vegas ... below cost! Call Gina Caguat (818) 265-5940 after 7 p.m.

Miscellaneous

Jazzy Power wheel chair. Model 1100. 6 wheels, seat fully reclines, very little use. \$2,000 obo. (818) 361-3444.

Timeshare

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

Tools

Drill press, Craftsman. Very old yet very heavy and sturdy. Stands about 4 feet tall. With motor. \$60. (818) 832-5522

Vehicles

2000 blue Harley Davidson Sportster. Larger-sized engine, less than 5,000 miles. Extra chrome, way too much to list. \$8,900. Cheryl Power: (818) 830-0747

Collectibles Wanted

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

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Show the Card and Save!

Here's just a sampling of where you can save by using your Club Card!

- ★ Gold's Gym
- ★ Hamburger Hamlet
- ★ McCormick & Schmick's
- ★ Checker's Restaurant
- ★ Milano's Italian Kitchen
- ★ California Brain Freeze
- ★ Midway Car Rental
- ★ The Brasserie
- ★ Round Table Pizza

For specific locations and discount offers, go to:
www.cityemployeesclub.com
and click on Club Discounts.



A message from the Club!



Step up to the stove ...
gather at the grill ...
cozy up to the crock ... and

Get cooking with the Club!

Introducing *Cooking With the Club*, a new feature of *Alive!*, the monthly newspaper for City employees.

And announcing the *Club cookbook*, brimming with your favorite recipes, to be published in late 2003.

For both the column and next year's cookbook, we want your favorite recipes. Quick snacks ... healthy eating ... gourmet dining ... whatever you love to make, share your favorite recipes.

Send them in ... and get cooking with the Club today!

Send your favorite recipes to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



WORLD'S LARGEST MOVIE STUDIO AND THEME PARK™

HAVE A HOLLYWOOD HOLIDAY!

The celebration begins November 29th!

- Universal's Holiday Parade
- Santa Kong in the Snow
- The Blues Brothers® Holiday Revue
- CityWalk® ice skating rink

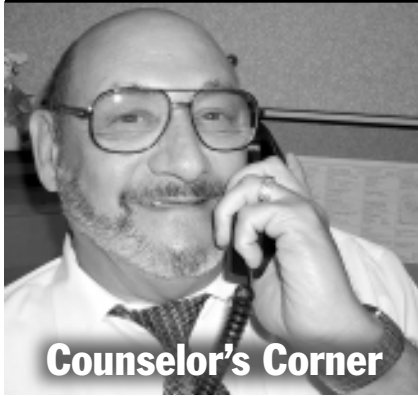
1-Day Admission valid
November 1st, 2002 thru January 31st, 2003

ONLY **\$28***

Order your discount tickets from: City Employees Club - Navin Colton - (213) 620-0388



*Price does not include ice skating. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. This special rate is not available at Universal Studios Hollywood Box Office. Offer is subject to change without notice. This offer cannot be combined with other offers or with per capita sightseeing tours. Offer valid only on regular one day admission at Universal Studios Hollywood. The Blues Brothers ©2002 John Belushi Estate under license authorized by Curtis Management Group, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202. ©2002 Universal Studios. All Rights Reserved. 02-LOC-852



Understanding Your Benefits

by Howard Pompel,
Member Services Counselor

Counselor's Corner

These Tips Can Make Your Retirement Transition Easier

Hi! I'm sure many of you know me – I was the one handing out the prizes at the ClubFest last month (that was fun, wasn't it?). But my regular job is working for the City Employees Association of Los Angeles (the Club) as a benefits counselor.

I love answering your questions on benefits. Heck, I do it every day. So we figured we should have some space in *Alive!* to answer your very general questions. Insurance benefits can get confusing and complex with the multiplicity of procedure and regulation placed on them. So, submit your questions on benefits so that we can all understand how to make sure we are protected.

If you need a more personal answer, please don't hesitate to write or call me.

So, let's get started.

Question:

Do I need to do anything with my insurance benefits with the City Employees Club when I retiree from city service?

Answer: Yes. There are a few details that retiring city employees must follow to avoid delays and even loss of coverages. When you know your retirement date from city service, call the City Employees Club to receive your retirement packet that includes the Retirement Options Forms. The packet asks for information that allows you and your spouse to continue benefits with the City Employees Club. If you are going to retire, or have retired, call me.

Question:

Can I just call the City Employees Club to adjust my benefits over the phone?

Answer: No. It is important to note that you must inform the City Employees Club in writing that you will continue with your benefits. Without the Retiree Options Forms and proper insurance benefit applications, you and your spouse's benefits will end after 31 days from your retirement date. After 31 days, you and your spouse must re-apply for insurance benefits and may take (at best) 6 weeks for a decision to occur. It may take longer if the insurance carrier requests health and medical information.

Question:

Can I still have benefits with the City Employees Club after 31 days of my retirement?

Answer: You and your spouse may apply for benefits and you may be subject to a review of your health and medical information.

Question:

What if I retired from city service but I have never had benefits from the City Employees Club of Los Angeles?

Answer: Once you submit an application for membership to the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, you are then eligible to apply for plans such as life, accidental death and dismemberment, auto, homeowners, and longterm care insurance.

Question:

Can I request changes and information on my insurance benefits with the City of Los Angeles Benefits Office or Retirement System at the Club phone number?

Answer: No. You must call the City Benefits Office or the City Retirement System. The number for the City Benefits Office is (800) 778-2133; the number for the Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is (800) 779-8328.

Thanks for reading! Send in those questions for next time.

Wanna be heard?

If you have benefits questions, call Howard at (800) 464-0452, ext. 30, or write to him: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

CLUB CARD DISCOUNTS

Club Partners: A Highlight

Here's a sampling of some of our partners, check our website for full listing, locations and offer details. More participating merchants and attractions are being added every week! To review the latest list, visit www.cityemployeesclub.com and click on "Club Discounts."

<p>Entertainment</p> <p>Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra Pacific Park Amusement Park, Santa Monica Pier Ripley's Believe It Or Not Museum Hollywood Warner Brothers VIP Studio Tours</p> <p>Museums and Galleries</p> <p>Circle Elephant Art Gallery, Hollywood Herbert Palmer Gallery, Los Angeles Pasadena Museum of History</p> <p>Health, beauty and fitness</p> <p>Gold's Gym The Greenhouse Spa & Salon Mary Kay, Agoura Hills</p> <p>Professional services</p> <p>American Express Financial Advisors, Glendale Century 21 Associates, Burbank Digipix Event Photos, Sherman Oaks</p> <p>Stores</p> <p>Escapa Specialty Store, Bonaventure Hotel</p>	<p>Vine American Party Store, Los Angeles</p> <p>Food and Dining</p> <p>Azalea Restaurant, Los Angeles The Brasserie, Downtown Los Angeles Camachos Cantina, Universal City Gangadin Indian Restaurant, Studio City Hamburger Hamlet, Hollywood McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant Zenzaburu (A Thousand Cranes), Little Tokyo ... and many more!</p> <p>Lodging</p> <p>Days Inn Hotel, Torrance Knickerbocker Mansion Country Inn, Big Bear Lake Ramada Limited, Redondo Beach</p> <p>Auto rentals</p> <p>Avon Rent A Car Eagle Rider Motorcycle Rental, Hawthorne Gemstar Limo Service, Malibu Midway Car Rental</p>
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Go to www.cityemployeesclub.com for even more discounts!

Member Benefits:

Discount Tickets

- TICKET EXPRESS:
Buy tickets by Phone, Mail, or Website
- Theme parks and attractions (up to 70% off)
- Movies - all major screens (up to 70% off)
- Plays, musicals, the arts, sports events

Alive! Newspaper

- Births, weddings, retirements, deaths
- Free Classifieds
- Retirees Corner
- Department of the Month
- DWP news
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized Club information

Club Card

Show your card and save at hundreds of businesses in L.A. and throughout the country.

Group Rated Insurance Products

- Term Life Insurance
- Long Term Disability
- Short Term Disability Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance
- Critical Care Insurance
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check"
- Prepaid Legal Insurance
- Pet Insurance

More Benefits

- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Employee-of-the-Year Award



Questions? We're here to help.

(800) 464-0452

Call between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

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.

