

Dept. of the Month  
**Building & Safety**



See pages 22-28

## Dennis Zine's Challenge Leads Off March of Dimes Spring Campaign

■ **Councilman issues challenge to other City employees.**



**At the kickoff breakfast, from left: Councilman Dennis Zine; and Maggie Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.**

On January 14th, Transportation GM Wayne Tanda effectively took on the lead role in this year's March of Dimes fundraising efforts within the City family. But it was Councilman Dennis Zine who added the punch.

On hand at the leadership kickoff breakfast were top city leaders including Maggie Whelan, William Robertson, LAFD Chief William Bamattre, Gary Moore, Councilman Zine, Councilman LaBonge and others.

The March of Dimes Walk is scheduled to take place April 24th at Griffith Park. Coordinating the effort (with great enthusiasm) is Zaki Mustafa, a Senior Transportation Engineer with the Department of Transportation.



"More than 10,000 walkers and their families will participate in the March of Dimes'

See March of Dimes, Page 7

## Club Members Now Can Save Big at Office Depot

■ **A BIG DEAL: Discount program can mean big savings at the register, just for being a Club member!**

Office supply stores are becoming critical to the way we lead our busy lives. That's why the Club has worked hard to offer you an invitation to a great discount program at one of the nation's leading office supply retailers, Office Depot.

The Club has arranged with Club partner Office Depot to offer to all Club members in good standing "contract pricing" — often the same discounted prices that large organizations and companies negotiate. They offer the buying power, and you reap the benefit.

"It's a win-win situation," says Ken Meyer, Business Development Manager for Office Depot. "You walk up to the register, use the credit card that you have registered with the program, and then you pay the same price as the contract purchasers do. That can mean big savings."

### Here's how it works:

You contact Ken Meyer or one of his staff by phone or e-mail (details at the bottom of this story). You give him your credit card number (do not leave that number on a message, and do not use a wireless phone when you transmit it). He logs your card number into the system, and that's all there is to it. The next time you shop at Office Depot and use the credit card that you have linked to the program, you will receive a discount on any prod-

uct that the big contract purchasers receive. The discount is taken off your bill right at the register, automatically. Every time you shop at Office Depot.

It's that simple.

Not all items are discounted. But those that are can save you from five to 40 percent. (You need to use a credit card, not the Club card.)

"Office Depot loves the Club, and we're happy to continue to build our relationship," Meyer said.

See New Club Benefit, Page 3



**Welcome to the Club, Councilman!**

## LaBonge Celebrates City Family by Joining the Club

■ **Councilman Tom LaBonge, after months of being impressed with the Club's activities, has joined the Club.**

He joins Councilmembers Jan Perry and Janice Hahn as Club members.

LaBonge has long been a City employee. Before beginning his tenure on the City council, he was a longtime staffer at the DWP.

Club members who run into the councilman should make sure to welcome him to the Club—and ask him to contribute a recipe or two for our cooking column! ■

### Inside This Issue

Your Letters.....	3	East Valley Sanitation Yard.....	13
Club Counselor Recognized by West LA Sanitation.....	4	Harbor Department.....	13
LAFD Gets New Vehicles.....	4	"Where in L.A.?" Contest.....	14
Political Forum.....	5	African American Heritage Month.....	15
Jon Mukri Appointed New GM of Rec. & Parks.....	5	Local 347 Survey Summary.....	16
"Refer A Friend" Club Membership Application.....	6	NEW CLUB BENEFIT: Travel Services.....	17
Rita Robinson Named GM of Bureau of Sanitation.....	7	Life's Important Moments.....	18
Mercedes Marquez Named GM of Housing Dept.....	7	New Members Welcome.....	19
Pet Club.....	9	Dept. of the Month: Dept. of Building and Safety.....	20-28
<b>HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS:</b>		Retirees News.....	29
West Valley Sanitation Yard.....	10	Newsbriefs.....	30
DWP Harbor District.....	11	Cooking with the Club.....	32
DWP Retirees.....	11	FREE Classifieds.....	33
West LA Sanitation.....	12	Movie and Book Reviews.....	34
		Discount Tickets.....	35



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# Alive!

February 2004 • Volume 3 – No. 2

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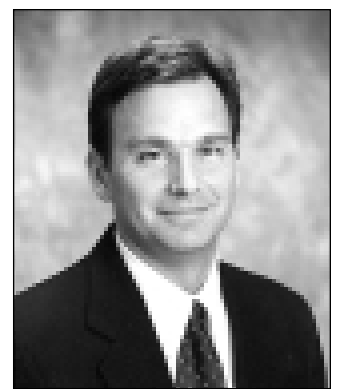
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## Numbers YOU CAN USE

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<b>City Personnel Office</b>	(213) 847-9240	<b>Local 347</b>	(213) 482-6660
<b>City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090</b>	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	<b>Los Angeles Federal Credit Union</b>	(213) 485-5000
<b>Commuter Services</b>	(213) 978-1593	<b>Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union</b>	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
<b>DWP Credit Union</b>	(213) 580-1690	<b>Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.</b>	(213) 255-9082
<b>DWP Employees Assn.</b>	(213) 367-3146	<b>Whistleblower/Complaint Program</b>	(800) 824-4825
		<b>Worker Compensation</b>	(213) 847-9405

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

by **John Hawkins**  
 COO, The Club



## Club Works Hard to Offer More Benefits

Here at the Club, one of the most popular benefits we offer you, our members, is our great ticket discounts. Day after day, week after week, we're happy to make events, movies, plays, theme parks and the like more affordable, so that you can take your families to the wonderful things happening in our great cities.

And then there are the terrific restaurant and shop discounts available to you through your Club card.

We're delighted to bring you this newspaper, *Alive!*, too. And who can forget ClubFest and the good times it brings to our busy lives.

But we know that your lives are bigger than discounted tickets, restaurant bargains and even *Alive!*, as good as we think it is.

There's more to your lives. And that's why the Club continues to build more benefits for you. You can read more about them in this issue of *Alive!* and the next, but let me mention them:



**Travel Deals:** The Internet has brought the world many things, but many people miss the personal touch of great customer service. That's what we've formed a partnership with the Cruise and Resort Travel Company, and are offering you great travel deals through them. See page 17 for details.



**Auto Insurance:** It's more important than ever to continue providing you with affordable, reliable auto insurance. We'll talk more about it next month, but we're happy to continue this great service.



**Home Mortgages:** When it comes to raising families, there aren't many things more important than home ownership. As a shelter ... as an investment ... as a creator of memories to last a lifetime ... homeownership is all of that, and more. The Club wants to help you do that, so we have partnered with Police and Fire Financial Services, Inc., to give you the help you need.

And that's not all. As we continue to develop the Club, we'll keep working on more benefits for you ... and the rest of your life. 🏠

## 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 Web site
- 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
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized Club information

### Group Rated Insurance Products

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

Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check" - 14% of premiums returned in 2003!
- Pet Insurance

### More Benefits

- Legal Services Plan
- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Contests, contests, contests!
- Travel Discounts
- Home Loans



## 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.

**Look for new services and products to be added soon!**



## Club Card

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

## ■ Club Member Responds to Request For Very Special Valentine Stories

February 14, Valentine's Day, of every year is a very precious time for those who are loved, have loved and will be loved. My love story begins 26 years ago when a handsome gentleman named Louie and a radiant young woman named Violet began dating while they were in college.

Louie is a very loving man, full of fun and energy of life, while Violet is the opposite. In their relationship, Violet is the arrow that always strikes the flaming heart and love of Louie. He would always remind Violet that it's tragic to die and not have loved and it's just as tragic to die and not have expressed love to those around you. Louie has made the last four years of their courtship the best of Violet's life. Louie would always write letters to Violet wherever he was. To him, writing love letters is an inexpensive gift from his heart and an expression of his passion and love to Violet. He would make his letter special by starting with a beautiful purple stationery and envelope. Every Valentine's Day for four years, he would never forget to send her a letter with his gifts, whether they are roses or a box of white chocolate. Louie has a habit, every Valentine's Day, of signing his name on every card and writing a postscript that reads: "Will

*Valentine*

you be my Valentine? Please say yes, I love you a whole bunch." After four long years of happy courtship, they fulfilled their matrimonial vows in front of God and pledged their love till death do us part as husband and wife. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Jay and Lyz.

After 26 years, I could not imagine my life with anyone else but Louie. Thanks Louie for caring and sharing. I hope Valentine 2004 is our best year together.

For those who are in love, and have love in their hearts, this Valentine's Day, treasure every moment you have to each other and with those that are special to your heart. I am wishing you all a spectacular Valentine's Day.

— Violet (Violeta Castro), Club Member

## ■ Long Term Disability Was There When She Needed the Protection

It is my pleasure to evaluate your service. Investing in Long Term Disability insurance is an excellent and extremely important benefit for any employee to invest in. A person never knows what may happen in their life in

# Members Speak Out

the future.

When I first signed up for the Long Term Disability insurance, I had no idea that ten years later I would have to use the benefit. I am so grateful that I did join. I really had forgotten that I had this insurance until I started going through my important papers. I called the office to verify the insurance for me. It's a blessing for me.

I was "married" to my City job. But now that I am now injured, being off payroll is very scary to me. I have been independent for over 20 years. Worker's compensation covered only so much of the payments for me, but Long Term Disability insurance helped me balance.

I am always very thankful for any help and assistance, mainly that I invested in the Long Term Disability insurance when I did. My benefit of insurance is truly a blessing.



Every time I called the Club office for help or assistance, I always got a friendly response to my question from the staff. Thanks.

Yes, it has been difficult at times since I have been injured but through God's grace and helpful people as yourself and some others, I am able to smile. Thanks again and may God bless you.

— Linda Carol Treadwell, Club Member

### Corrections:

— First, in our December issue, in our list of retirements, we misidentified the job title Lynn Schwickerath had at retirement. The correct title is Chief Clerk.

— Also, in our January issue, two people in a photo from Custodian Appreciation Day were misidentified. Here is the photo with the correct outline. Sorry about the mistake!



From left: Lendell Walker and Ceola Beard.



**Club members: Make your voices heard!**

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

WRITE TO US TODAY: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) or conventionally: The Club, World Trade Center, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

**Office DEPOT**  
What you need. What you need to know:

**OFFICE SUPPLIES**

**New Benefit**

## Club Can Help You Save at Office Depot

### New Club Benefit

*Continued from Page 1*

Eligible credit cards include Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express and the Office Depot Credit Card.

It takes just a few minutes to transform your ordinary credit card into the extraordinarily convenient and flexible "Office Depot Procurement Card."

#### Convenient on-line shopping available

If you prefer to shop from the comfort of your home computer and have Office Depot deliver your order to you, you must first set that up with Ken Meyer. The site you will use after you sign up is Office Depot's Business Services Website: <http://bsd.officedepot.com>

#### Find out how much you're saving

There are a couple of ways to check to see how much of a discount you might receive on an item, before you actually purchase it:

1. Office Depot will make a discount catalog available at the Club for member use (but not all discounted items will be available in the catalog for researching).
2. At checkout, you can ask the sales clerk to subtotal your purchase before you actually purchase the items.

"We're very happy to have Office Depot as a Club partner, and then be able to offer Club members this great deal," said Club COO John Hawkins. "There is no downside. You can never lose with this program. You can only save money." ■

### Here's how to activate your Office Depot discount:

1. Contact Ken Meyer or one of his staff: (818) 837-2563, or [kmeyer@officedepot.com](mailto:kmeyer@officedepot.com)
2. Identify yourself as a Club member, and give him your Club ID number.
3. If he does not answer, leave a message and he or his staff will call you back.
4. Do not leave your credit card number on his answering machine, and do not use a wireless phone (cell or cordless household phone) to transmit your credit card number.
5. When you talk to Ken or one of his staff, give him the number of the credit card you wish to link to the program. (You must use this card to receive the discount.)
6. Wait a day or two for your linked card to become active.
7. **Start saving!**

## Club Counselor Arlene Gets Nod From West LA Sanitation Yard

Club Counselor Arlene Herrero received a surprise holiday gift from the good folks at the West Los Angeles Sanitation Yard—a certificate of appreciation.

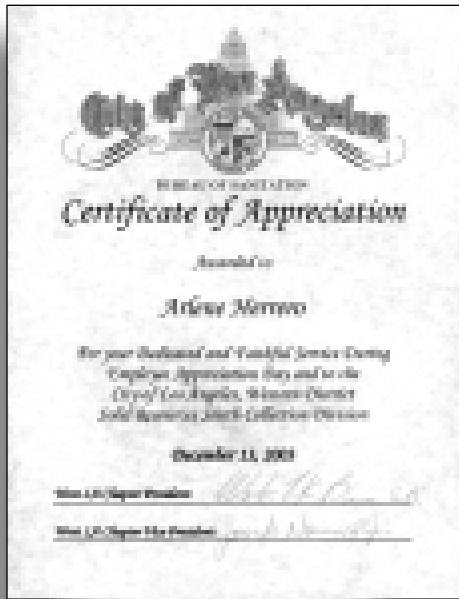
"It was a total surprise," she said. "I'm very grateful for it."

The certificate was presented to her at the yard's holiday party Dec. 13.

The certificate reads: "For your dedicated and faithful service during Employee Appreciation Day and to the City of Los Angeles, Western District Solid Resources South Collection Division."

"They are rewarding me for all my hard work and the efforts I have made to attend their activities throughout the year," Herrero said. "I love working hard for them. It's what being a Club counselor is all about."

"I look forward to working with the West L.A. Yard for a long time to come. They're great people, and I thank them for the certificate. The feeling of appreciation is mutual." ■



## LAFD Makes Way for Series of New Vehicles

With America's second largest City requiring nearly 1,900 Fire Department responses each day, providing instantaneous around-the-clock service places extreme demands on the department's emergency response vehicles.

Vehicles must be replaced for service reliability, cost and safety factors.

To provide life safety services in an optimal fashion, the Los Angeles Fire Department has an apparatus replacement program included in each year's budget. This allows the department to procure vehicles cost-effectively that will meet the needs of the City for decades to come. Based on a formula that includes the estimated number of years of expected service, a certain number of replacement apparatus are ordered each year.

Thirty-four new "engines" were ordered in June 2002 and June 2003 from both Seagrave and Pierce Manufacturing. Three of these engines have been received at the LAFD's Supply and Maintenance Division, with two of them then forwarded to the City's Radio Shops for installation of communications equipment. In the coming weeks, the first of these engines will be in service protecting the City.

Four new "trucks" were ordered in June 2003. Like all apparatus built to demanding LAFD specifications, these tractor-drawn LTI Aerial Ladders are custom built to protect the citizens of Los Angeles. The first of these units have yet to be received.

Fifty-eight new ambulances were ordered in June 2002 and January 2003 from the Wheeled Coach Corporation. All 58 ambulances have been received at the department's Supply and Maintenance Division, and 41 are already assigned

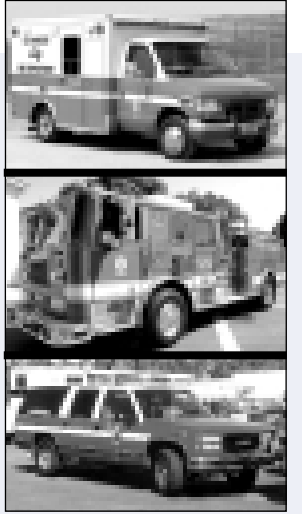
to the field.

Thirteen new Chief Officer Suburbans were ordered in January 2003. Nine General Motors Suburbans have been received at Supply and Maintenance Division, with three of them at the Radio Shops. One is already assigned to the field at the LAFD's 5th Battalion in Hollywood.

Eighteen new Emergency sedans were ordered in January 2003. All 18 Ford Crown Victoria Sedans have been received at the Supply and Maintenance Division, with two of them at the Radio Shops, and 16 already assigned to the field.

The process is a continuous one... and in January, 13 additional engines and 29 additional ambulances were ordered in a competitive bid process that assures a maximum value to the Department and those it serves.

The department anticipates that many of these vehicles will be in service or on display during the annual "Fire Service Recognition Day" celebration Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., all Neighborhood Fire Stations in Los Angeles will be having an Open House and are anticipating your visit. Don't forget to mark your calendar! ■



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**The benefits start the moment you join!**

# Join the Club!

**Start enjoying:**

- *Alive!* monthly newspaper
- The Club Card, with fantastic discounts for popular restaurants and services
- Big ticket discounts
- ClubFest annual Club party
- Club Website

# Join today!

City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
Your city. Your Club.

## Political Forum



by Greig Smith  
Councilmember, 12<sup>th</sup> District

### Sharing What's Needed Is the Best Part of LA

Recently, I had the pleasure of attending an event sponsored by the non-profit organization L.A. Shares. For those of you unfamiliar, L.A. Shares started in 1991 as a pilot program through the City of Los Angeles' Cultural Affairs Division. In 1994 it became an independent non-profit, though it still receives funding from the City of Los Angeles' Public Works Department.

Its mission is simple, but brilliant: to take donated, reusable materials such as computers, office furniture and supplies from local businesses and then donate these items to local nonprofits and schools. In so doing, businesses receive a tax deduction, and nonprofits and schools are able to get necessary and useful goods that are put to good use, instead of being sent to Sunshine Canyon Landfill.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB939) requires that cities divert a certain percentage of their waste from landfills. This percentage is growing and in the City of Los Angeles, we have set a goal of achieving 70 percent diversion by 2020. To accomplish our goals, we have "blue can" and green waste recycling programs and materials recovery programs, like L.A. Shares.

More recent legislation (SB20) prohibits the disposal of e-waste in landfills. E-waste is any number of a growing field of electronic items that includes everything from computer monitors and motherboards to discarded cellular phones. Due to these and other regulations, the City must, at great expense, collect these items at hazardous materials drop-off centers. Often, these items are discarded when their owners upgrade to newer models. L.A. Shares is able to find a home for any working electronics, computer package or cell phone. In the case of the later, they are collected and distributed to battered women's shelters, where they can be used to dial 911 in an emergency.

L.A. Shares has an incredible Website (www.lashares.org) that matches the business community with the nonprofit community. Nonprofits and schools are able to log on to the site and prepare a wish list that prioritizes their needs. Once completed, that list will trigger a notification each time that an item is donated that has been listed. Since there are often several

#### Council District 12 includes these communities:

- Northridge
- Granada Hills
- Porter Ranch
- Chatsworth
- West Hills
- Encino
- Van Nuys
- Canoga Park
- North Hills
- Winnetka
- Reseda
- Lake Balboa

requests for any given item, a computerized "lottery" ensues and the winner is notified by email how to pick up their item.

In addition to the site, they have a fully stocked warehouse in Griffith Park, where they invite nonprofits and schools to go "shopping." At the time of my visit, they had invited members of the Twelfth Council District nonprofit community, including our neighborhood councils. I watched with delight, as our community leaders carried out bags loaded with notebooks, computer labels, paper, software and other items. One group scored a drafting table, mini-fridge, video camera and television set!

When speaking with the director, Bert Ball, he mentioned that virtually the entire contents of their warehouse had been donated by only four major donors! We were both left to wonder how many people and organizations could be served if even more businesses got involved and donated their surplus items.

L.A. Shares is absolutely an example of what's right in the City of Los Angeles. ■

## Mukri Appointed New GM of Rec, Parks, Faces Staffing Issues

■ Mukri, currently the GM of General Services, confronts the frustration of unfilled positions at Rec and Parks.

Jon Kirk Mukri, the general manager of General Services, was named the new general manager of the Rec and Parks department, which faces increasing financial pressure in the City budget. Mayor Jim Hahn made the appointment, which is subject to City Council approval.

Mukri will oversee a department that operates and maintains more than 375 sites for recreational use, including 123 recreation

centers, 58 swimming pools, 7 lakes, 7 camps, more than a dozen museums and historic sites and hundreds of programs for youths, seniors, the physically disabled and volunteers. This includes more than 15,600 acres of parkland.

Under the City's current hiring freeze, 22 percent of the department's 2,285 positions are vacant.

The agency is expected to suffer further

trimming as the City figures out a way to survive its current budget deficit, expected to be \$250 million for the next fiscal year.

"My job as general manager will be to convince the mayor and City Council not to keep these vacancies unfilled," Mukri told the Los Angeles Times.

Manuel Mollinedo, the outgoing parks general manager, leaves to direct the San Francisco Zoo.

"Jon's many years of experience make him an ideal leader for the Department of Recreation and Parks," Mayor Hahn said.

"Jon is the right person to lead the Department forward and he will be a fantastic asset to our team."

Before stints as

general manager and assistant general manager, Mukri was Managing Group Director for the Marine Corps Air Station in El Toro, General Manager of Navy Resale Activity in Long Beach, Officer in Charge of a supply center in Long Beach, and Logistics Officer/Financial Analyst for the United States Embassy in Manila. Mukri also served in the United States Navy for nine years. ■



Jon Mukri, General Manager, Dept. of Recreation and Parks.

**Congratulations Jon!**

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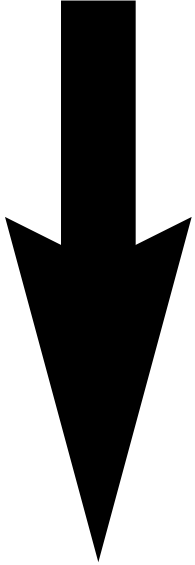
Bridal Rings Co. 550 South Hill St. Suite 620. International Jewelry Center  
Los Angeles, CA 90013. 213-627-7620. (Outside L.A. area 1-800-5-BRIDAL)  
Member of the Jewelers Board of Trade, Better Business Bureau, GIA & Calif.  
Jewelers Association. Present this ad and receive a free gift.

GV01

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

# REFER A FRIEND!

## and earn FREE movie tickets!



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

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

It's that simple. What are you waiting for?  
Sign up a friend today!

ATTENTION CITY AND DWP EMPLOYEES



## the City Employees Club of Los Angeles today!

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

Club members enjoy many valuable benefits including:

- Discount movie, theme park, and attraction tickets through TICKET EXPRESS
- Discounts and savings with your Club card from local and national retailers and restaurants
- Monthly *Alive!* Newspaper including free classifieds and special Retiree's section

• Access to Group-Rated Insurance Products

• Free notary services

**Questions?**

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

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

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

**New Member Information:**

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

**I was referred by:**

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

**Payroll Deduction Authorization**

Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Sign Here

**X** \_\_\_\_\_

City/DWP Employee

Date

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Code                      Deduction

# City's Walk-a-Thon Kickoff Is Highlighted by Zine Challenge

## March of Dimes

*Continued from Page 1*

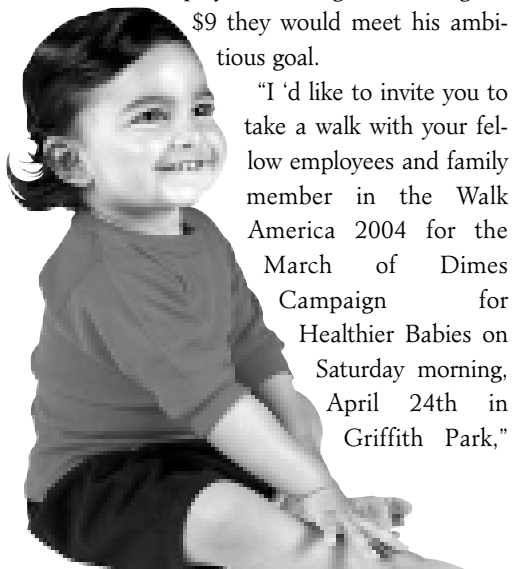
34th annual WalkAmerica at the beautiful Griffith Park on Saturday, April 24th," Mustafa said. "With its expanded, carnival-like setting, this walksite will be a very family-oriented event full of fun games, rides and other cool activities for the children and great entertainment, celebrity appearances, good food, and recreation for all.

"As the City Coordinator I intend to make it as fun and enjoyable as possible. Only together can we make a difference."

Tanda kicked off the breakfast by reminding everyone that the purpose of this effort is "to help those who enter this world with two strikes against them." He encouraged City employees of all ranks to stop and think about how lucky they are and to give freely this year, maybe just giving up a couple of lunches.

Tanda acknowledged that his goal this year of raising \$350,000 is going to be a great challenge, especially in light of the City budget. But, he said, he wants to make meeting the challenge fun. He figured that if each City employee were to give an average of \$9 they would meet his ambitious goal.

"I'd like to invite you to take a walk with your fellow employees and family member in the Walk America 2004 for the March of Dimes Campaign for Healthier Babies on Saturday morning, April 24th in Griffith Park,"



Tanda said. "Let's walk together to save babies."

Councilman Zine spoke on wanting to see team spirit this year, and wanting to see elected officials, General Managers and the City Attorney participate and kick in some money.

He then made a challenge to his peers; a \$1,500 challenge. Councilman Zine said that he is committing \$1,500 and is challenging other Council Members and General Managers to contribute in kind. "Let's make Wayne look good," Zine said. "And I want that challenge in your paper," he said, pointing to John Hawkins, the Club's Chief Operating Officer.

Consider it done, Councilman Zine!

Rita Hopkins, March of Dimes Executive Director, then thanked Los Angeles for being one of the best contributors in the country.

Councilman LaBonge reminisced about March Of Dimes' walks in the past, saying, "We must do more in 2004!" LaBonge also encouraged fellow council members and the Mayor to contribute to the cause.

The Club supports this effort and sends best wishes to the March of Dimes effort. ■



**LAFD Chief William Bamattre showed his support at the kickoff breakfast.**



**Wayne Tanda, General Manager, Transportation, speaking at the kickoff breakfast.**

# Current Club Board Member Rita Robinson Is Named New GM of Bureau of Sanitation

Rita Robinson has been appointed General Manager for the Bureau of Sanitation by Mayor Jim Hahn. In this capacity, Robinson will oversee a bureau with a budget of \$207 million and more than 2,600 employees. The mission of the Bureau of Sanitation is to protect the public and the environment through legal, efficient and effective collection, treatment, reuse and disposal of liquid and solid wastes.

"Rita's extensive experience will serve the people of Los Angeles well," Mayor Hahn said. "I am confident that she will be a fantastic addition to the Bureau of Sanitation. Rita is the right person for the job and she is a tremendous asset to our team."

"I look forward to the opportunity to work with Mayor Hahn, the City Council and the staff of the Bureau of Sanitation as we find solutions to the concerns of the community regarding landfills and environmental issues,"

Robinson said. "I am committed to leading the bureau with energy and excellence and meeting the needs of our residents."

Robinson was the Interim General Manager of the Los Angeles Housing Department, following a previous term as Interim General Manager at the Department of Transportation. Throughout her more than 25 years in City government, Robinson served in various departments including the Recreation and Parks Department, the office of the City Administrative Officer and the Community Development Department as well as a short period



**Rita Robinson, General Manager, Bureau of Sanitation.**

## Congratulations Rita!

of time as a management consultant in San Francisco.

Robinson graduated from Scripps College in Claremont with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Literature. Robinson's appointment was effective Jan. 5 and is subject to City Council confirmation. ■

# Mercedes Marquez Confirmed As New GM of Housing Dept.

The City Council has confirmation Mercedes Marquez as General Manager of the Housing Dept.

In this capacity, Marquez's primary responsibility will be to develop, recommend and direct the implementation of citywide policies and programs including: increasing affordable housing production and development, rehabilitation, preservation, rent stabilization and code enforcement; attracting state and federal funds to Los Angeles; formulating management policies, goals, and timetables; and working closely with elected officials and housing commissioners to formulate housing policies and programs.

"I am pleased that the City Council affirmed their support for Mercedes Marquez," Mayor Jim Hahn said. "I am confident that Mercedes will provide the Housing Department with determined leadership and

use her considerable experience and energy to guide the Department towards creative and innovative solutions for the housing challenges facing Los Angeles."

Marquez had served as vice president for McCormack, Baron Salazar, Inc., a national firm specialized in the development, consultation and management of urban communities. She previously served as deputy general counsel for civil rights and fair housing and later as senior counsel to then United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo.

Marquez served as Secretary Cuomo's principal adviser on civil rights policy including, fair lending and fair housing enforcement.

She is a graduate of the University of Southern California and Georgetown University Law Center.

The Club congratulates Mercedes on her confirmation. ■



**Mercedes Marquez, General Manager, Housing Department.**

## Congratulations Mercedes!



**At the kickoff breakfast, from left: Wayne Tanda, General Manager, Transportation; Barbara Harrison, March of Dimes Senior Community Director; Rita Hopkins, March of Dimes Executive Director; and Zaki Mustafa, Senior Transportation Engineer, Transportation.**



**At the breakfast, from left: Gary Lee Moore, P.E., General Manager, Bureau of Engineering; and William A. Robertson, General Manager, Bureau of Street Services.**

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# Newsbrief

## TRUCK TRAFFIC

Los Angeles Councilwoman Janice Hahn and Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner James Acevedo co-chaired the third meeting of the Port of Los Angeles' working group to reduce truck traffic Jan. 15. The working group, made up of more than 100 port stakeholders, has been asked to create a pilot program for extended gate hours at the port. The working group decided at the last meeting that the program will offer incentives to shippers that choose to use off-peak hours to move goods out of terminal gates by charging a premium to move cargo during peak hours. At the recent meeting, the working group agreed to convene a "technical working group" to determine the various costs and numbers associated with the extended hours program. The technical group, made up of various Port of Los Angeles and Port of Long Beach engineering consultants, as well as the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, was instructed to report back in 30 days with



specific recommendations for the pilot program—including how much of a premium will be charged for peak hour operations and what entity should be responsible for collecting the fees.

"Working together, this group has made more progress in three months than has been made on the extended gate issue in 20 years," said Councilwoman Janice Hahn.

"After only 3 meetings, this diverse group of stakeholders has made significant progress," said Commissioner Acevedo. "We have come up with some great ideas and are looking forward to getting real solutions from our technical group at the next meeting." In leading the charge for expanded port hours, Councilwoman Hahn has maintained that traffic congestion on Harbor area streets, and the 110 and 710 freeways could be significantly relieved if cargo trucks were permitted to move cargo out of the port during off peak hours. Additionally, air quality in Harbor communities would significantly improve. Currently, most terminal gates are open from about 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Extending gate hours at our ports will improve the quality of life for residents in the Harbor Area and throughout Los Angeles more than anything else we can do," the Councilwoman said. Councilwoman Hahn called on the Port of Los Angeles to explore the possibility of extended gate hours in June and the Harbor Commission convened the working group in October.

The working group is made up of representatives from the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, the Teamsters Union, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, shippers, terminal operators, the Port Police, the Los Angeles Police Department, the California Trucking Association and the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority. ■

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## For Pet Owners: A Guide for Treatment, Care of Animals in City of Los Angeles

Ever wonder how many dogs and cats you are allowed to have in the City of Los Angeles? Are leashes really necessary? What can you do if you have lost your pet? Do horses need a license? Can you be cited for not picking up after Fido?

At the beginning of a new year, it's good to review the rules in the City of Los Angeles are. So here are some interesting animal care guidelines you should know about if you live and/or work in the City of Los Angeles:

**LOST PETS:** If you've lost a pet, check the Website: [www.LAAnimalServices.com](http://www.LAAnimalServices.com) where they post photos of all animals coming in. Go to all animal shelters in your area at least every two days to look for your animal.

**FOUND PETS:** If you find a lost pet or stray animal, please give the owner a chance to find his/her beloved pet. It is important to provide the lost animal with humane care, including veterinary care if it is injured or sick. You can also take the animal to your nearest shelter.

**LICENSING:** All dogs and horses need a license. It is the law. An annual license fee of \$100 is charged for any unaltered dog. An annual license fee of \$10 is charged for any altered (permanently sterilized/surgically spayed/neutered) dog. The annual license fee for a horse is \$14.

**I.D./LICENSE:** Your dog must wear its license tag on a collar or halter at all times. You might also want to attach a personal I.D. tag displaying your phone number. Be sure to update license information and tags if you move or if your pet is adopted to another location. (Keep a current photo of your pet for I.D. purposes.) Think about microchipping your pet. This is a permanent identification system using a small transponder injected under the animal's skin.

**LEASH LAW:** Keep your dogs on your own property. When outside your property, keep your dog under the control of a competent person and restrained on a leash six feet or less in length at all times.

**SANITATION:** Owners are responsible for immediately removing any feces deposited by a dog on public or private property (other than that of the dog owner).

**BURIAL OF ANIMALS:** You can bury your pets only in an established cemetery. You may report dead animals to the Bureau of Sanitation: (800) 773-CITY.

**SHELTER:** Provide your dog with adequate shelter: covered on the sides, including a roof and floor raised off the ground to prevent flooding by water during rain.

**ABANDONMENT:** Please do not abandon your animal. If you don't want it anymore, do try to find it a home or take it to your nearest animal shelter. (It's a misdemeanor to abandon any animal in the State of California.)

**BREEDING:** Plan to have kittens or puppies? You must obtain an annual breeder's permit if you plan to breed your dog or cat. The cost of a breeder's permit is \$100.

**SELLING/GIVING AWAY ANIMALS:** Animals may not be displayed, offered for sale, sold or given away on any street or sidewalk. It is also against the law to sell, barter, exchange, offer or give any dog or cat to any minor under the age of eighteen (18) without the written permission of one of the minor's parents or legal guardians.

**DANGEROUS DOGS:** Keep all potentially dangerous dogs in an adequately fenced/enclosed area and maintain control of your dog at all times. A vicious dog (one that has caused certain types of injuries on humans or animals) may be humanely euthanized by the Department of Animal Services.

**GUARD DOGS:** Any dog kept, used or maintained on any commercial or industrial premises to guard, protect, patrol or defend any property or person is subject to special provisions, immunizations, licensing and regulations. Contact the Department of Animal Services for information on Guard Dog laws.

**DOG/CAT KENNELS:** No one may maintain a dog/cat kennel within the City of Los Angeles without a permit from the Department of Animal Services. The maximum number of dogs that may be maintained on your property without such a permit is three (3). The same limit applies to cats. Animal kennels are prohibited within 500 feet of residential areas.

**DOGS IN TRUCKS:** No animal may be transported on a street or highway in the back of a truck or other vehicle unless the animal is cross-tethered (restrained from two sides), secured in a carrier or cage, or the space is enclosed or has side and tail racks at least 46 inches high so that the animal may not jump, fall or fall out.

**POISONING:** No person shall place any poisonous substance in a place accessible to animals or birds with the intent to kill or harm them.

**ANIMALS AS FOOD:** A pet may not be used, sold or given away for the purpose of using it as food.

**CARE AND ATTENTION/ FOOD AND WATER:** Any animal neglected, abandoned or kept without food, water or proper care and attention will be removed by the Department of Animal Services and the owner cited. Pets must be provided with adequate food and water. Water should be available at all times and should be placed in an area where it will not become overheated in the summer or frozen in the winter.

**DOG FIGHTING:** Dog fighting is illegal and cruel. Anyone who possesses, keeps or trains any dog with the intention of engaging in any exhibition of fighting with another dog or anyone who causes any dog to fight with another dog is guilty of a felony. Anyone who is a spectator at such an exhibition of dog fighting is guilty of a misdemeanor.

**ANIMAL FIGHTING (OTHER THAN DOGS):** Possessing training devices or causing any animals or birds (including fighting cocks) to fight or being a spectator at such an event is a misdemeanor.

**OTHER ANIMALS:** Fowl and other animals (other than cats, dogs, canaries and birds) must be kept at least 35 feet from any dwelling, restaurant or food establishment and 100 feet from any school, hospital, or similar institution. Any crowing rooster, gamecock, turkey, guinea hen, peacock, goose, duck or other fowl capable of loud crowing or like noise, shall be kept at least 100 feet from any dwelling, residence or living quarters of persons other than their owner.

**CHAINING:** Humane requirements for maintaining a dog on a chain, rope or leash vary according to the size of the dog and other circumstances. Avoid chaining any dog for long periods, as this is not a humane or safe way to confine any dog. If you have to restrain a dog in this manner for limited periods, use an overhead, sliding cable that can be attached to a halter on the dog. This is usually the safest and most humane method. If a dog is chained, the chain should be long enough to allow adequate movement and exercise and be affixed so that the dog cannot become entangled or injured. Also, the chain must permit the animal access to adequate shelter, food and water. (Contact your local animal control agency for specific rules. Some cities and/or communities do not allow chaining.) No dog should be chained in an open area where it may be attacked by other animals or approached by strangers.

**RABIES:** Any dog over four (4) months of age must be current on its rabies vaccination. You must be able to produce the documentation upon request.

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

## The Pet Club

### Pet Gift Certificates Can Make a Great Present on Valentine's Day

Think out of the chocolate box this Valentine's Day and *Save-a-Life/Enhance-a-Life* with a Valentine's Pet Gift Certificate.

What is it? Well, it's a gift certificate that lets your true love(s) pick out his/her own pet/companion animal – another creature, animal, living thing, being to love for life.

Pet gift certificates come with cute cards for Valentine's Day messages and are available in a variety of amounts (actually, any amount of your choosing). They are available at all City shelters (hours: 8am-5pm Tuesdays through Saturdays, and noon to 4pm Sundays).

Picture it: You show up with red roses of passion and, instead of a (fattening) box of chocolates, you have a "classy" Pet Gift Certificate tucked amongst the flowers that says: *Your love has inspired me to save a life or Our Love has Saved a Life* or some such romantic thought...I don't know, you figure it out.

When you adopt an animal from a City of Los Angeles shelter, the adoption fee you pay covers vaccinations, spaying/neutering, a microchip and (for dogs) a license. The average cost to adopt a dog or cat from a city shelter is anywhere from \$38 to \$92 depending on the kind of animal, size, spay/neuter requirements, etc. Yes, all dogs and cats adopted from shelters must be spayed or neutered.

Since we are on the subject, I am compelled to share with you that Feb. 25 is *SpayDay USA*. What's that? Well, I wondered too when I first heard. *SpayDay* is the one day of the year when private citizens nationwide are encouraged to take responsibility for having one dog or cat spayed or neutered to help end pet overpopulation.

Pet overpopulation is a big problem. In Los Angeles, it is estimated that residents could own as many as 828,000 dogs and more than a million cats – this in addition to thousands of stray dogs and cats roaming city neighborhoods, streets and highways. As taxpayers, we bear the cost of picking up, housing and (very sad but very true and very unavoidable) eventually euthanizing these homeless animals. When you spay or neuter a dog or cat, it helps end unwanted births, reduces the needless suffering of our poor homeless animals and saves taxpayers some money too.

Here are a couple of facts you may find of interest: Two unaltered cats and all their offspring can theoretically produce 420,000 cats

in just seven years. Two unaltered dogs and all their offspring can theoretically produce 67,000 dogs in just six years. Yikes! Want to stop the tango and help these animals relax a bit? Then spay/neuter.

What exactly is spaying and neutering? Well, they are common surgical procedures that prevent animals from being able to reproduce. When a female is spayed, her ovaries, fallopian tubes and uterus are removed. When a male is neutered, his testicles are removed. Sorry, you had to know.

How bad is it? Well, I have a white male Tootsie poodle and a white female Mimi poodle, both adopted from the North Central Shelter. Neither seemed traumatized by the surgery and are two happy "scampers" around my home. Both don't seem to miss anything and are in animal bliss. (Come one guys. It will be fine. Take your macho dog to the vet.

It won't make him less protective. It won't make him fat. Just do it and don't give it another thought.)

If it makes you feel better, getting your animal fixed does provide health benefits. For one thing, it greatly reduces the risk of breast cancer and prevents various reproductive disorders. Neutering also resolves undesirable behaviors such as aggression, spraying and roaming and eliminates the risk of various testicular diseases. Besides, if you spay/neuter, then you won't have to deal with blood stains on rugs and furniture from a female in "heat," or a male pet that "mounts" people or sprays furniture with urine; or a yard full of neighborhood animals attracted by your female pet (no "dog parties"); or a litter that you must care for and find homes for.

Prices for spay/neuter surgery vary, anywhere from \$35 to \$100 or a little more, depending on the size and health of the animal. Check with your local vet. If you are a senior, are disabled, have limited resources or have no resources to spay/neuter, then call (888) 4LA-PET1 for information on our special discounted or free spay/neuter programs.

So ... for Valentine's Day, you can give the gift of spay/neuter to a pet and/or give that special gift of compassion to your true love: a Pet Gift Certificate that will save a life and teach gentleness, compassion, kindness and empathy – what better gift than this on Valentine's Day? 🐾



### Send Questions

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

Write to me at: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

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



If you have additional questions or need more information, call (888) LA-PET1 or (888) 452-7381 (hearing impaired: [877] 875-8205) or visit the Website: [www.LAAnimalServices.com](http://www.LAAnimalServices.com).

# Holiday Highlights

## Holiday Event Marks First Time West Valley Sanitation Yard Gets Together Outside Work

When the employees of the West Valley Sanitation Yard gathered to celebrate the holidays Dec. 20, it was the first time the yard had gathered socially outside of work, according to Superintendent Leo Martinez.

The party was held at El Queso Grande in Granada Hills.

According to Leo, employees were able to bring along their significant other to this event to celebrate the holidays. Everyone enjoyed the buffet dinner along with some raffles (some prizes were donated by the Club) and dancing.

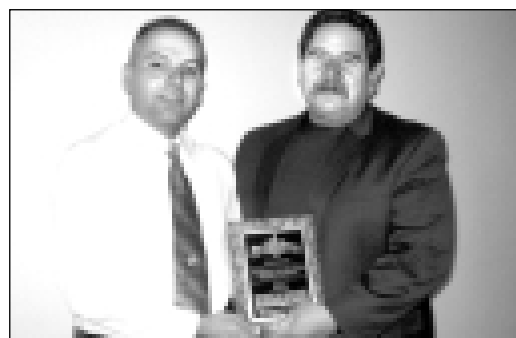
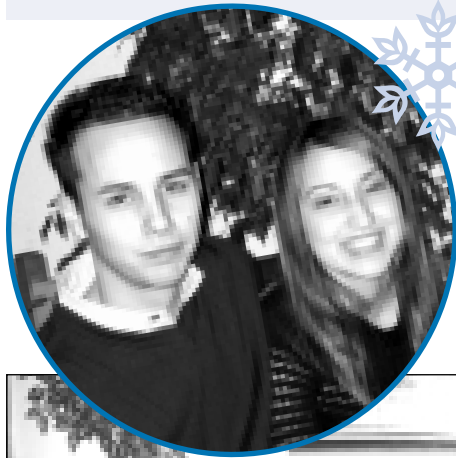
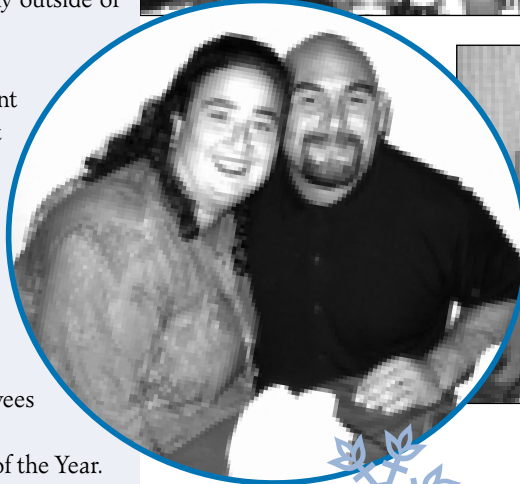
The evening was topped off with Employee of the Year awards. Leo wanted it to be known that the West Valley is "A#1 for the last two years every month in attendance."

Award recipients were voted on by their peers, not their supervisors.

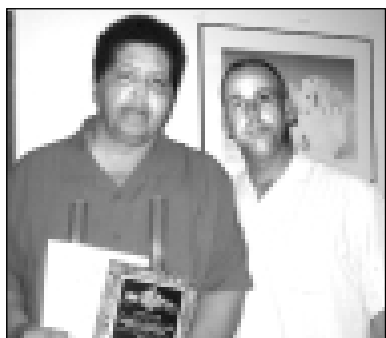
Some of the recipients were:

- Allen Guidry, Alex Serna and Martha Nunez were awarded Employees of the Year.
- Mike Boyd and Brian Sibert were awarded the Recycling Employees of the Year.

Here are some photos of the event:



Jesse Cruz, Bulky Item Supervisor, is pictured with Alex Serna, Employee of the Year recipient. Mr. Serna has 30 years of service and considered a "veteran" on the West Valley Yard, which is also known as the "rookie yard," claims Leo Martinez.



Allen Guidry is awarded Employee of the Year. He is pictured with Bob Potter, Household Commodities Supervisor.



Sr. Clerk Supervisor Martha Nunez awarded Annabel Duran Employee of the Year. Annabel (above) is pictured with Veronica Hernandez, who coincidentally was also awarded Employee of the Year by the East Valley Yard, where she works.



# Holiday Highlights

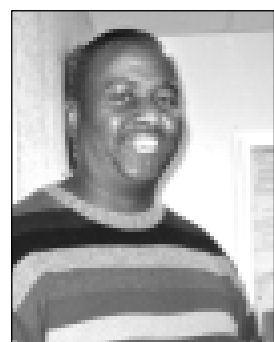
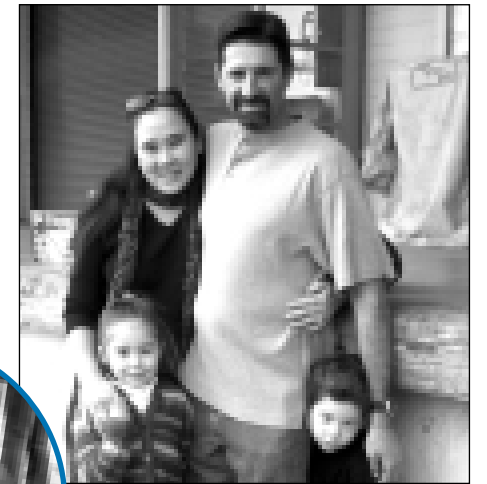


## DWP Harbor District Rings in Holidays With Annual Breakfast on Christmas Eve

The DWP Harbor District enjoyed its annual holiday breakfast on Christmas Eve morning. The party was held at the Harbor District Headquarters Yard.

The annual party is for the employees along with their family and friends to come together and celebrate the holiday. Current employees along with their families and retired employees were also at the breakfast. Fun and games such as miniature were enjoyed by young and old.

Here are photos from the event.



## DWP Retirees Continue 55-Year Holiday Tradition

The DWP Retirees Association held its annual holiday party Dec. 6 in the cafeteria of the DWP's John Ferraro Building downtown.

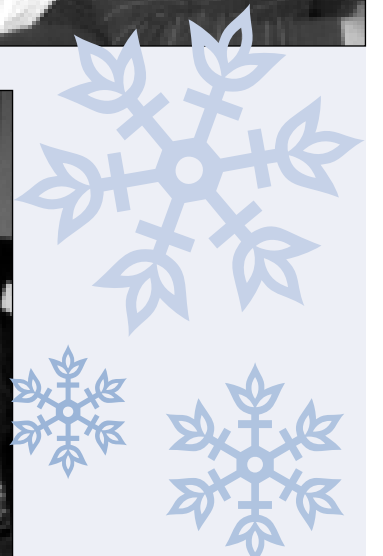
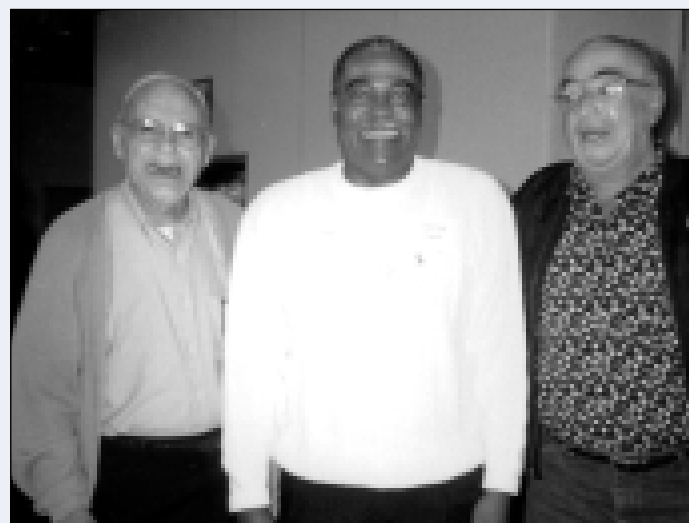
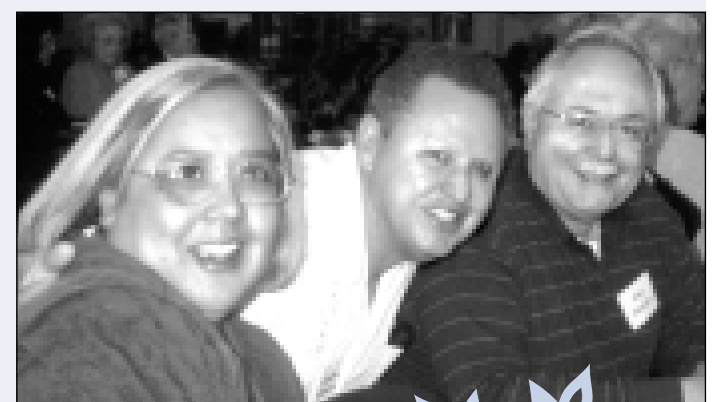
More than 300 attended the event.

Refreshments, a light lunch and more than 50 door prizes were part of the fun.

"Attendees came from all over, from Nevada, Oregon and Washington state," said Dolores Foley, association president. "It's a real nice thing."

The association's board put the afternoon together. Norma Aguirre lead the way.

Here are some photos from the event.



# Holiday Highlights



## West LA Sanitation Honors The 'Splendor of the Season'

The Sanitation Department Western District celebrated the end of the year and the holidays with its annual party, this year titled Splendor of the Season.

The celebration took place Dec. 13 at the VIP room at the Quiet Cannon, in Montebello. More than 150 people attended the dinner.

Event guests included Bob Schoonover, Local 347 president, and Salvador Miranda, Manager I, Solid Resource Valley Division.

The evening was a classy affair that featured a live jazz band while dinner was served. A deejay closed the evening while guests danced until midnight.

### Award recipients included:

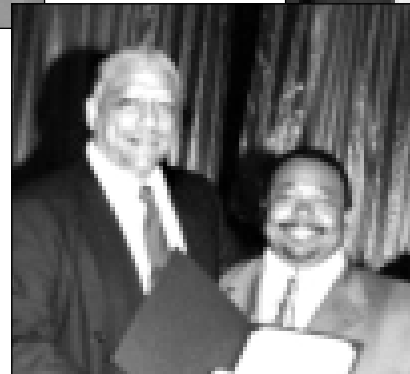
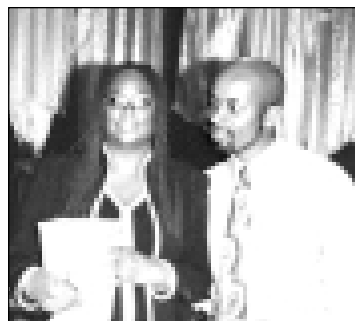
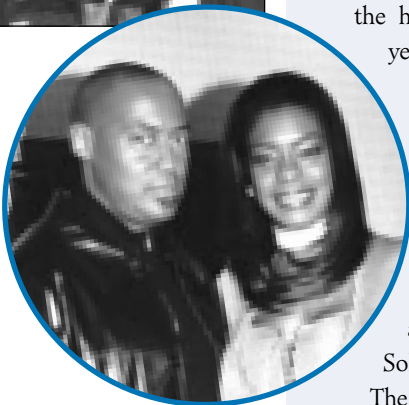
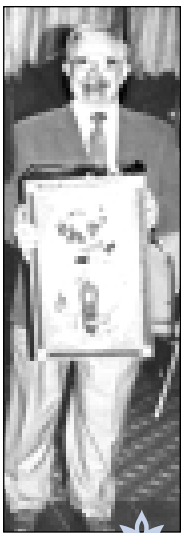
- Blue Commodity: Carlos Ortiz and Larry Young
- Green Commodity: Richard Humphrey and Littleton Gardner

- Black Commodity: Carlos Chaffino and Ralph Leeper
- Black Commodity: Romeo Estrada and Doren Green
- Special Commodity: Raymond Lucas
- Supervisor: Michael Jackson and Erwin Holloway
- Shop Mechanic (General Services): Dan Braviroff
- Shop Supervisor (General Services): Dan Parker
- Clerical: Toni Chagolla

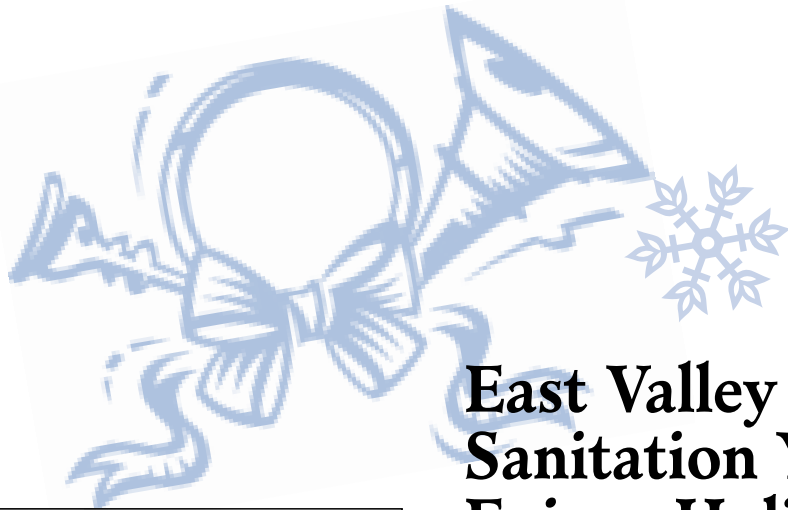
Special thanks were given to Jonathan Polk, Walter Crowder, Salvador Miranda, Wayne Downing and Arlene Herrero of the Club.

A number of employees were also recognized for their contributions throughout the year for help with the Open House, Picnic, two Employee Appreciation Days, and the Christmas Party.

Here are photos from the event.



# Holiday Highlights



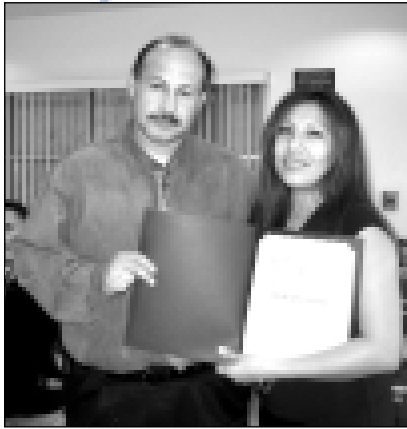
## East Valley Sanitation Yard Enjoys Holiday Luncheon

The East Valley Sanitation Yard held its annual holiday luncheon Dec. 19.

### The following received end-of-year awards:

- Kelvin Wilson, Certificate of Appreciation
  - Juan Morales, Driver of the Year for Fleet Services
  - Kenny Lampton, Driver of the Year for Bulky Items
  - David Regalado, Driver of the Year for Green Waste
  - Joseph Garcia, Employee of the Year for Recycling Commodity
- All awardees were nominated and voted on by their peers.

Here are some photos of the event.



Acting Superintendent Joel Zuniga presents Veronica R. Camacho with Clerk of the Year.



William Reese, Solid Resources Supervisor, presents Driver of the Year Certificate to Oscar Vargas from Household Commodity.



Acting Superintendent Joel Zuniga presents Anthony T. Fenderson with Supervisor of the Year.

## City Harbor Dept. Celebrates With Long Tradition of Calamari, Fun

The party has developed a tradition of serving calamari, with the tradition going back at least 15 years. Approximately 150 pounds of fresh calamari was cooked this year, in addition to tamales, omelets, eggs, bacon, ham, French toast, pancakes and desserts, too.

Martin Chavez from the Harbor Dept. explains the history of the party:

"The Construction and Maintenance Division began the Christmas Breakfast, which has become a Harbor Department tradition. As director of C&M, Joannie Mukai is considered the host and is responsible for providing the location, resources, and allowing personnel release time to prepare for the event.

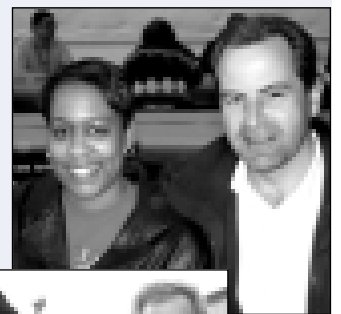
"This year's co-chairs were Rene Rodriguez, Carpenter, and Holly Carlson, Senior Clerk Typist. Brian Shaefer, Piledriver, served as head cook and food coordinator. The fried calamari is prepared every year by the boat shop.

"Due to rising costs and time required to coordinate the event, in 1996 the Harbor Department Employees Club became sponsors. At that time the event was renamed the HDEC C&M Christmas Breakfast. Due to this partnership the annual event has been kept vibrant for past, present, and new Harbor Department Employees to enjoy."

Joannie Mukai, Harbor Department Director of Construction and Maintenance, has been with the Harbor Department since 1979.

Here's a list of the volunteers who helped make the event a success:

- |                  |                   |                    |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Brian Schafer    | John Clark        | Jeff Morrill       |
| Dave Ruiz        | Gilbert Atkinson  | Bill Brown         |
| Gilbert Tascione | Tom Thepprasit    | Andy Robateau      |
| John Osollo      | Rick Blake        | Carlos Rodriguez   |
| Chuck Parsons    | Alan Mayse        | Rene Rodriguez     |
| Kent Schumann    | Herb Galvez       | Phillip Sandoval   |
| Joe Trujeque     | Michele Payan     | Holly Carlson      |
| Kirby Real       | Gabe Silva        | Emma Gonzalez      |
| Martin Lovato    | Lori Gastelum     | Tracey Zuliani     |
| Jose Aguirre     | Ante Basich       | Christine McMillan |
| Steve Karsten    | Nick Jurat        | Ron Price          |
| Al Baca          | John Radovich     | Steve Karsten      |
| Willie Brown     | Mark Weisenberger | George Jackson     |
| Gerald Mageau    | Ping Lit          | Pauline Hospe      |



# Where in LA? WIN A FREE DINNER FOR TWO

## What is this? Where is this?

The Club member who gives us the most complete, detailed description of this object (see picture below) related to the City of Los Angeles wins a free dinner for two!

- This month's deadline: Feb. 10. See complete list of rules at the bottom.
- Thanks for playing, and good luck!



Send your response along with your Club member number via e-mail to:

**whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com**

### Contest Rules:

1. Winning contestants must be Club members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
2. Responses can be delivered by mail, fax or e-mail (phone and in-person responses will not be accepted).
3. Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
4. The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

### Here's the answer to last month's contest. Did you get it right?



The Club member who won two free movie tickets is **Janet Fernandez, DWP Security Officer.**

#### Her response:

"This is a picture of one of Echo Park's most beloved icons, the Lady of the Lake, more formally known as the 'Queen of Angels.' This statue stands near the eastern edge of Echo Park Lake and was originally to be cast in bronze. Instead, it was cast in concrete and given as a gift to the city of Los Angeles in 1935

"50 years later, the statue, damaged and suffering from neglect, was removed from public display and put in

storage. In 1999 it was restored to its original splendor by the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, with the support from Councilmember Jackie Goldberg, Department of Water and Power, Department of Recreation and Parks and the Echo Park Historical Society."

#### Good going, Janet!

She even took a photo of the statue with her grandkids Jason and Justin (bottom).








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# February is African American Heritage Month



**Black History Month celebration: Take a journey to Africa at the L.A. Zoo and Botanical Gardens during February. African drummers Abalaye (pictured) will be one of the entertainment groups.**

## You're Invited to Celebrate Black History Month at LA Zoo

The L.A. Zoo will celebrate Black History Month during February. Each weekend, the event will highlight the music, food, crafts and other traditions of the people of African descent. The Zoo's animals and plants native to Africa will be featured prominently for visitors to identify easily.

Entertainment at the events will include jazz musicians, drummers and storytellers. There

will also be special crafts for children.

The Zoo is in Griffith Park, at the junction of the Ventura and Golden State Freeways. Admission is \$9 for adults and \$4 for children ages 2 to 12. Zoo hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

For more information, visit the Zoo's Website at [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org), or call (323) 644-6400. 📠



**PAUL REVERE WILLIAMS (1894-1980)** was one of Southern California's foremost architects, producing a remarkable number of buildings during a career that spanned nearly 60 years. In addition to the nearly 2,000 homes that Williams designed, he also had a hand in shaping some of L.A.'s most recognizable structures, including the Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles International Airport and the L.A. County Courthouse.

## Event Calendar Now Available for African American Heritage Month



A special calendar listing events related to African American Heritage Month (February) have been produced by the City's Cultural Affairs Department and are available.

They are free.

The calendar includes events that are happening citywide to celebrate the history and spirit of African American culture.

You can request a calendar by calling Sarah Welch, Cultural Affairs, at (213) 473-8481. 📠

## Cultural Affairs Sponsors Exhibit That Surveys African American Artists in LA

The City's Cultural Affairs Department, in partnership with the Harriet and Charles Luckman Fine Arts Complex, California State University, Los Angeles, is presenting a major, citywide survey exhibition of works created by African American artists in the Los Angeles area from 1930 through 2003. The exhibition, titled "African American Artists in Los Angeles, A Survey Exhibition," commemorates and celebrates the artistic and cultural contributions African American artists have continued to make to the City of Los Angeles, its residents and visitors. This exhibition is the only one of its kind, launching Celebrate 2004, the City of Los Angeles' official events celebrating African American Heritage Month, and culminating with the city's celebrations in 2005.

Due to the prolific nature of the program, the exhibition is divided into three individual parts, each covering a unique time period in the life of the city and its artists. Each part also carries an educational component, including panel discussions and workshops.

Part one of the exhibition, entitled *Fade*, will feature works from 1990 through 2003. *Fade* is curated by Malik Gaines, a local writer and curator who has quickly garnered international recognition for his contemporary art criticism. *Fade* will be presented at the Craft and Folk Art Museum and the Luckman Gallery and University Fine Arts Gallery, both on the campus of California State University, Los Angeles. The exhibition will run simultaneously at the three venues, opening January 16 and

17, 2004, and remaining on display through February 28, 2004.

Part two of the exhibition, to open in July, includes work from 1960 through 1989. This part of the exhibition, as yet untitled, will be held in venues that carry particular historical significance relating to the time period represented: the Watts Towers Arts Center, the William Grant Still Arts Center and the Museum of African American Art. These three venues, alongside the Brockman Gallery and the Tanner Gallery, were responsible for establishing the reputations of countless artists who have continued on to receive recognition from a national audience. Part two of the exhibition is curated by Dale Brockman Davis, who, alongside his brother Alonzo, established the city's first and oldest gallery showing the work of African-American artists. Part

two opens July 10 and continues through August 22.

Part three covers 1930 through 1959 and will be held at the City of Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, in Barnsdall Art Park, and the California African American Museum. Part three, also not yet titled, will open January 15, 2005, and close March 31, 2005. This part of the exhibition promises to present works rarely seen by the

public, that carry great significance to the City of Los Angeles, the nation and the international community.

The full exhibition will be accompanied by a comprehensive catalog available in next January.

For more information on the exhibition throughout the year, please visit the Cultural Affairs Department website: [www.culturela.org](http://www.culturela.org). 📠



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## Local 347 Survey Summary Provides Outline of Worker Comments, Concerns

A memo sent to Mayor Hahn, the City councilmembers and City managers provided a preliminary summary of the results of a survey taken late last year by the SIEU Local 347, which represents many City workers.

"To follow up on the survey and update distributed to city workers, Local 347 is sending along a summary of the preliminary results of the survey of workers' thoughts about possible cuts, cost savings, means of generating increased revenue, and ideas to improve the services we provide to the people of Los Angeles," wrote Julie Butcher, head of Local 347.

"These submissions have not been edited," she continued. "The Union trusts that the leaders of LA want to hear from the workers without censoring. Some of these are great ideas. Some of these suggestions could not be supported by the Union institutionally. All of them reflect great thoughtfulness and a clear commitment to our work. It is inspiring to understand the depth of this commitment to the City of Los Angeles.

"SEIU Local 347 has identified several themes and proposals worthy of pursuit."

### The memo includes these comments and observations:

■ **City workers have amazing ideas about how their work could be done more efficiently and more cost effectively.** These ideas should be heard, explored, tried, and, above all, respected. No suggestion should be ignored.

■ **There are considerable problems with the way in which the City administers contracts for services.** Departments are not following the charter, complying with provisions of the collective bargaining agreement, and are not doing meaningful cost benefit analyses. In



many instances, department managers are contracting out work that could be done in-house more cost effectively and at a higher quality but because of obstacles to hiring staff, contracts are being let at a higher cost.

■ **Employees emphasize their expectations that their employer will "take care of business" in many different ways.** They expect the City to provide them with the proper tools, equipment, and supplies to do their jobs. For instance, workers in DOT consistently complain about the inadequacy of the operations responsible for posting and replacing street signs and for painting curbs. This valid complaint arises from the negative effect the

lack of these services have on the ability of other workers to do their jobs. City workers don't like to look stupid. Failing to paint red curbs red makes them feel as if the City is incompetent, incapable of taking care of this simple piece of business.

This expectation extends to staffing issues. Workers expect supervision. The comments submitted in this quick survey show that employees will accurately notice where there are too many supervisors and managers as opposed to workplaces that are appropriately staffed and supervised. Again, the insights of the men and women doing the work are stark. The City would do well to take heed to their observations.

■ **Throughout these responses, one notes an overriding sense of pride and a focus on excellence.**

In joint labor-management committees across LA, city employees have developed work standards, have actively participated in processes that dramatically improve the way we provide service, and have led in changing the bureaucratic and stodgy ways of the past. Workers are proud that there is nothing private contractors can do that city workers cannot do – better, more responsibly, more efficiently. This commitment to excellence and quality is palpable.

■ **Much of the discussion generated is in the area of increasing the generation of revenue,** capturing otherwise lost opportunities, contracting IN work, increasing and expanding services, and recouping funds to pay for the work in the most responsible ways possible. City employees are proud of their work and believe that the public will support modest, understandable increases in costs for the provision of excellent services provided these are accompanied by accountability and transparency.

■ **Most city workers hate rigidity, bureaucracy, and intransigence.** Many cringe when they hear someone say, "It's not my job." Somehow, we have to work to preserve the protections ensured by firm testing and classification structures while reducing a cultural reliance on the status quo.

■ **Workers want information.** Several suggestions center on increased information sharing, training on the city budget, explanations of everyday processes and practices, increased focus on being certain that we are doing our jobs in the most up-to-date, competent, effective way possible.

"As always, Local 347 shares the commitment of its members to furthering the work we must all do together to guarantee that the people of Los Angeles are getting the absolute biggest bang for their taxpayer bucks," the memo concludes. "The Union hopes that this preliminary information is helpful as we proceed along the very tough financial path of 2003 and 2004." ■

## 2004 NBA All-Star Jam Session

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



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

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

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

**WHERE:** LA Convention Center, South Hall  
**DATE:** Saturday, February 14th, 2004  
 9 AM – 10 PM  
**PRICING:** Adults - \$15,  
 Kids (3-12) - \$10

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

Order now, tickets are limited.





# Club Partner Takes Your Travel Needs Personally

■ **New Club partner Cruise and Resorts offers you personal attention.**

Tony Adler knows how impersonal purchasing travel services can be these days. With most of the airlines, hotels and cruises switching their sales efforts to the Web, buying the right packages can be tougher than ever.

The good news is that Tony's company, Cruise and Resorts, loves the personal touch. Better still, prices are still affordable, because Cruise and Resorts offers a number of corporate and association discounts. And the best news of all, is that Cruise and Resorts is one of the newest Club partners, putting all that travel buying power to work for Club members.

"The Cruise and Resort program offers Club members all the benefits of the biggest travel associations without any additional costs to its members," Tony said. "Members save money on nearly every type of travel including cruises, hotels, tours and international airfares. Members get to talk to a real live trained vacation representative when they call Cruise and Resort, something unusual in today's Web-based environment!"

Cruise and Resorts has lots of experience working with groups like the Club. "We are a brand-new partner for the Club," Tony continued. "We have divisions that work with other large non-profit organizations, charitable organizations and public and private schools. We are excited about our new association with the City Employees Club of Los Angeles! It is obviously a first-class organization."

Cruise and Resort has been in the travel industry for 16 years. It has expertise in a variety of areas; individual trip planning and assistance, group travel, family travel, and small and large meetings and conventions.

Here are some of Tony's hot specials: "As the cruise lines are assessing their inventory situation now that we are in a new year, they

have made available to us new Alaska and Mexico cruise reductions for the spring and summer. We have blocked space on

nearly all of Norwegian Cruise Line's 1-week Hawaii cruises, so we can offer members the lowest legitimate prices anywhere!



**Kristy Adler, Cruise and Resorts.**

One-week cruises to the Mexican Riviera from Los Angeles/Long Beach for as low as \$849 per person for a week, including March 27 (spring break for many schools) on Princess Cruises. We have eight-night fall Mexican Riviera cruises from \$649 (going fast)! Club



**Tony Adler, Cruise and Resorts, one of our newest Club partner.**

**"The Cruise and Resort program offers Club members all the benefits of the biggest travel associations without any additional costs to its members."**

*– Tony Adler, Cruise and Resorts*

members who send in their coupons from the flyer and book by Feb. 29 also receive an additional \$50 savings on any NCL(Norwegian Cruise Line) cruise booked.

"Cruise and Resort also has excellent rates at Club Med, Jamaica all-inclusive resorts, and hotels throughout the world—often with added amenities and reduced rates."

When you call, it's important to identify yourself as a Club member. "We want to make sure they are offered all Club benefits."

Of course, if you are one of those people who loves to use the Internet, don't worry—Cruise and Resort has a Website, too. "If people would prefer to book on the Internet, they can do so at our website. When they register on the site, they should make sure they put Los Angeles in the Employee Club field under personal information." 📧

# CRUISE and RESORT


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You can reach Tony at [aadler@cruiseandresort.com](mailto:aadler@cruiseandresort.com)  
His phone number is (818) 990-4290, and fax number is (310) 472-9860.  
Cruise and Resort is at 15303 Ventura Blvd., 9th floor, Sherman Oaks.  
The Website: [www.cruiseandresort.com](http://www.cruiseandresort.com)



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# Life's Important Moments

# Share your moments!

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



## Promotions

**William Flowers**, promoted to Airports Maintenance Supervisor at Los Angeles World Airports - LAX. Formerly he was Head Custodian Supervisor



**Promotions:**

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



## Births

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



## Weddings

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

## Retirements

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

NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
C.M. Burkhardt	Librarian (Libraries)	12	Richard Mann	Sr. Airport Safety Officer (Airports)	37
Jerry Caudle	Sr. Clerk Stenographer (LAFD)	33	Jenny Martinez	Library Assistant (Library)	18
Amy Chung	Council Aide VII (Council)	19	Randall McCall	Building Mechanical Inspector (Building and Safety)	10
Sandra De Sellem	Crossing Guard (Transportation)	3	Ernest Ortega	Plumbing Inspector (Building and Safety)	14
Lawrence Floyd	Accounting Clerk (Cultural Affairs)	28	James Persons	Sr. Construction Inspector (Harbor)	38
Howard Frost	Systems Analyst (Library)	33	Lawrence Punter	Deputy City Attorney III (City Attorney)	23
Leon George	Special Officer (Harbor)	11	John Rach	Sr. Personnel Analyst (Rec and Parks)	10
Jon Gerfen	Light Equipment Operator (Rec and Parks)	30	Edward Ramirez	Deputy City Attorney II (City Attorney)	21
Blanche Godel	Sr. Clerk Typist (Public Works)	16	Mariano Salazar	Refuse Collection Truck Operator (Sanitation)	22
Carmen Gutierrez	Crossing Guard (Transportation)	8	Robert Sherwin	Deputy City Attorney IV (City Attorney)	10
Richard James	Asst. City Attorney (City Attorney)	36	Seve Wahi	Communications Electrician (ITA)	25
Shakey Kasparian	Clerk Typist (Finance)	25	James Washington	Street Use Inspector (Public Works)	34
Cranston Komuro	Council Aide VII	6	Alex Williams	Heavy Duty Truck Operator (Public Works)	28



## In Memoriam

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

NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
<b>Active Members:</b>			Dewayne Leber	Gen. Services	27
Bryan Harding	Street Services	7	Clara Louvier	Rec and Parks	31
Barbara Hardman	Gen. Services	26	Helen McBroom	Public Works	30
Nancy Howe	Transportation	5	Calvin McCullough	Public Works	26
Anthony Pittmon	Sanitation	25	Willa McKellom	LAPD	17
Teresa Sims	Neighborhood Empowerment	Not disclosed	Margaret McWaters	Public Works	18
Eddie White	Transportation	4	Irvin Metz	Building and Safety	20
<b>Retired Members:</b>			Norma Parrott	LAPD	15
Manuel Airada	LAPD	15	Gertrude Pesman	Library	14
Raymond Aldridge	House Preservation	13	William Reader	Public Works	33
Robert Anderson	Public Works	27	Harvey Reeder	Gen. Services	32
Jennie Blank	Public Works	16	Elda Rota	Airports	22
Mabel Brandt	LAPD	21	Andrew Schlaudraff	Public Works	9
William Bryant	Public Works	27	Celestine Scott	Rec and Parks	15
Charles Cary	Airports	34	Lorene Scott	Airports	22
Ramiro Cereceda	Public Works	10	Harlene Settles	LAPD	33
Beatrice Chavez	Public Works	22	Kenneth Shipp	Airports	22
Silvia Cruz	Gen. Services	17	James Smith	Transportation	17
Patricia Degenstein	Controller	23	Fred Steele	Public Works	35
Helen DeWitt	LAPD	24	Hugh Stevenson	City Council	23
Geraldine Didion	LAPD	30	Raymond Tessler	Airports	33
Mildred Foster	LAFD	31	F. Thompson	Public Works	27
Maria Gillingham	Rec and Parks	26	Omas Thun	Public Works	34
Robert Grant	Public Works	24	Dorothy Todd	LAPD	20
James Hagan	Building and Safety	21	Jannie Tracer	Library	15
Orville Haworth	Public Works	31	Anthony Trouncale	Rec and Parks	32
Sherman Hillman	Harbor	24	Shigeru Tsuyuki	Building and Safety	30
Gerald Jackson	Gen. Services	27	William Wade	Public Works	30
Roosevelt Jones	Public Works	29			
Mary Kindermann	Library	10			
Robert Knebel	Public Works	26			

**In Memoriam:** We receive this information directly from the City and the DWP. But send us the name of the deceased, and we'll print the notice. Send in a photo of the deceased, too, if you have one, and include your phone number. Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com).

## New Members

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

# Welcome New Members!

Chris Alfieri  
Jaime Amador  
Ray Anderson  
Stephen Arriola  
Todd Ary  
LeAnn Ashley  
Albert Baca  
Lorraine Bailey  
Angela Balentine  
Ernie Ballesteros  
Rebecca Barajas  
John Basilio  
Daniel Bates  
John Behrens  
Brandi Blue  
Andre Bolden  
Joe Bradley  
Dedrick Brown  
Stinson Brown  
Patricia Bryant  
Trentia Campbell

Sergio Castellon  
P. Cervera  
Dirk Clark  
Carlito Claudio  
Iayisha Comeaux  
Ernie Cortina  
Carmine Croucl  
Diane Cunningham  
Patricia Davenport  
Jon Delgado  
Alejandro Diazvalle  
Dorothy Diskin  
Huberto Docazal  
Jo Ann Dominquez  
Jerico Dulay  
Jack Edmonds  
Meliton Flores  
Arthur Flores  
Cynthia Fowler  
Russel Fujii  
Thomas Fujiwara

Francisco Garcia  
Charles Garrett  
Jose Gomez  
Arturo Gonzalez  
Juan Gonzalez  
Sean Gorman  
Darolyn Goya  
Gianfranco Grimaldi  
Pallas Hall  
Jason Halstead  
Michael Heduig  
Manolito Hernandez  
Gerardo Ibanez  
Clyde Ignacio  
Glenn Jacobs  
Omar Jara  
Abigael Juarez  
Mario Juravich  
Rozine Kalaidjian  
Timothy Kay  
Gregg Kushinier

Paul Lankes  
Quang Lam Ly  
Paul Lyles  
Jennifer Malis  
Oscar Marroquia  
Araina McLaurin  
Dennis Meacham  
Frank Mercier  
Karen Miguel  
Asmik Minasyan  
Marcus Myles  
Gregory Naso  
Lawanda O'Brien  
Edward Orange  
Alexander Ortiz-Luis  
Zelaida Oviedo  
Pete Parra  
Clifford Perdue  
April Perez  
Gloria Prado  
Lila Probert

Adorlita Resurreccion  
Roberto Rivas  
Miguel Rodas  
David Rosenthal  
Alvaro Ruano  
Mihrrn Sarkisian  
Gerald Stevens  
Fanny Tagawa  
Rudolph Torres  
Gail Turner-Brown  
Manuela Uranga  
Alphonse Urrea  
Yadria Valencia  
Thomas Valenzuela  
Jonathan Weathington  
Joan West  
Tommy White  
Calvin White  
Jacqueline Williams

Welcome to the Club, Councilman!



New Club Member:  
**Tom LaBonge**  
Councilman, 4th District

James Wilson  
Roger Woodland  
Theresa Zaragoza  
Joanna Zimring  
John Zlock

# Save \$\$\$ Big Money with the Club Card

Use your Club Card to get these great discounts plus many more!



The Club has negotiated great savings for its members at many local restaurants and entertainment locations. Present your Club Card to take advantage of up to 20% off the cost of meals at your favorite restaurants like El Torito and Acapulco.

More participating merchants and attractions are being added every week! To review the latest list, visit [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com) and click on "Club Discounts."

Go to [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com) for even more discounts!

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2. Estate Planning
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Call us to set up a free consultation regarding your financial needs. Prudential Securities is not a legal or tax advisor.

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Kevin Wright, Financial Advisor  
Wachovia Securities  
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Encino, CA 91436  
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800-245-9867

WACHOVIA SECURITIES, LLC



# Department of the Month

## Department of Building and Safety

### Building and Safety Is Here to Keep You Safe

by Andrew A. Adelman, General Manager

Protecting the lives and safety of the residents and visitors to Los Angeles, preserving quality of life, and contributing to the City's economic development, is the mission of the Los Angeles City Department of Building and Safety (LADBS).

Our team of more than 850 employees is committed to quality customer service and helping our customers complete their projects safely, without delays.

Our 16 offices are conveniently located through out the City to serve the needs of our 300,000 annual walk-in customers. The operators in the Customer Call Center handle more than 750,000 phone calls annually. The engineers, inspectors, administrative and support staff all work together to make it possible for LADBS to issue more than



**Andrew A. Adelman, General Manager, Building and Safety**

140,000 permits annually with an estimated valuation of over \$3 billion. Almost 40,000 significant projects annually are reviewed and approved resulting in more than 630,000 inspections being performed on construction projects.

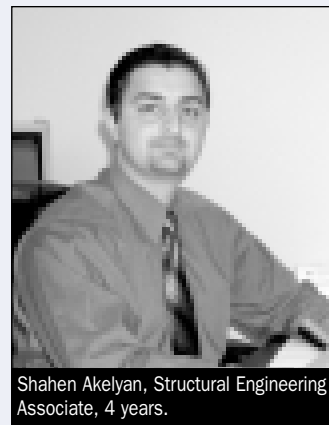
Preserving the quality of life in Los Angeles is one of the most important elements of our mission. To that end, our Code Enforcement Bureau responds to, completes, and closes more than 48,000 cases per year, bringing back into compliance more than 36,000 properties.

The City of Los Angeles has more than 1.2 million buildings on more than 750,000 parcels of land. The overwhelming majority of these buildings were built more than 50 years ago. This poses interesting challenges for LADBS and the City's lawmakers. These buildings are typically in a state of disrepair and can typically affect surrounding structures. LADBS uses creative enforcement techniques and very qualified staff to bring these buildings into compliance, increasing the quality of life in the surrounding community.

As the economy fluctuates, so does construction activity. This, coupled with changing construction trends and product use, keep LADBS employees on their toes. The Department's Materials Control Section and the LADBS Test Lab are on the cutting edge of

technology and construction trends. The Department Training staff keeps employees current with code changes and changes in construction and inspection techniques.

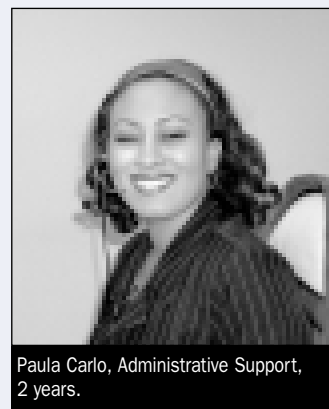
The employees of this department are a dedicated, hard-working team with a singleness of purpose: to serve the residents and businesses of Los Angeles. We are proud to be part of the greatest Building Department in the world, helping the residents and businesses of the greatest City in the world. 🏡



Shahan Akelyan, Structural Engineering Associate, 4 years.



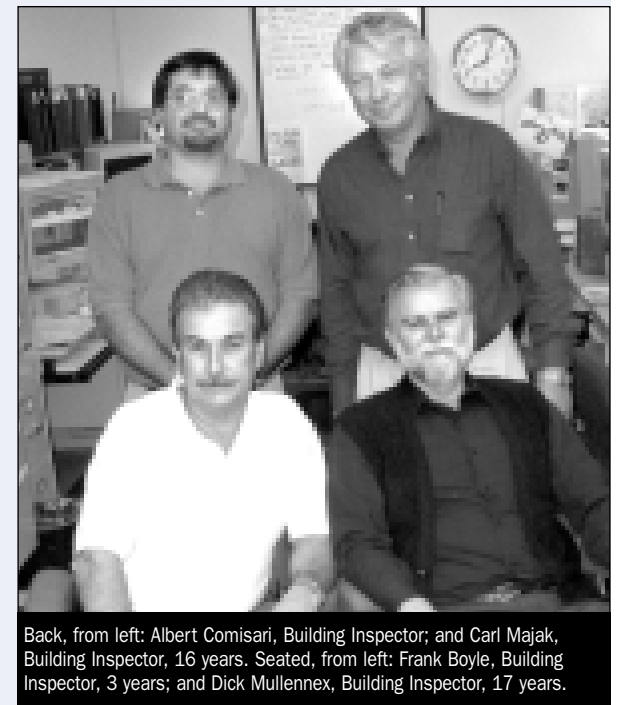
Richard L. Bird, Sr. Fire Sprinkler Inspector, 19.5 years.



Paula Carlo, Administrative Support, 2 years.



Kimberly Garrett, Clerk Typist, 6 months.



Back, from left: Albert Comisari, Building Inspector; and Carl Majak, Building Inspector, 16 years. Seated, from left: Frank Boyle, Building Inspector, 3 years; and Dick Mullennex, Building Inspector, 17 years.



From left: Jimmy Abreu, Building Mechanical Inspector, 9 years; Dennis Dickinson, Building Mechanical Inspector, 16 years; Warren Wulf, Inspector, 16 years; and Abe Rush, Senior Inspector, 20 years.



From left: Leo Chesko, Building Inspector, 16 years; Dennis Cordon, Building Inspector, 3 years; Rene Dominguez, Senior Inspector, 23 years; and Henry Baghdassarian, Building Inspector, 15 years.



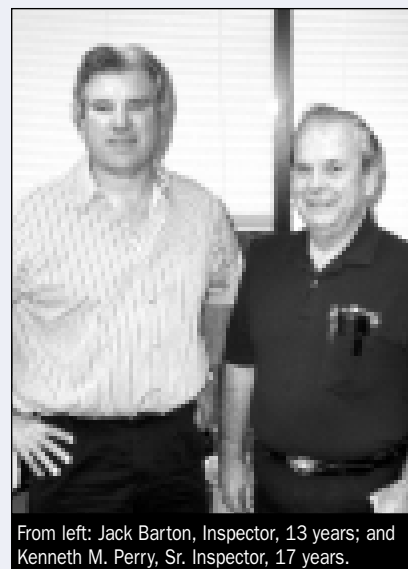
Brandi Blue, Administrative Support, 3 months.



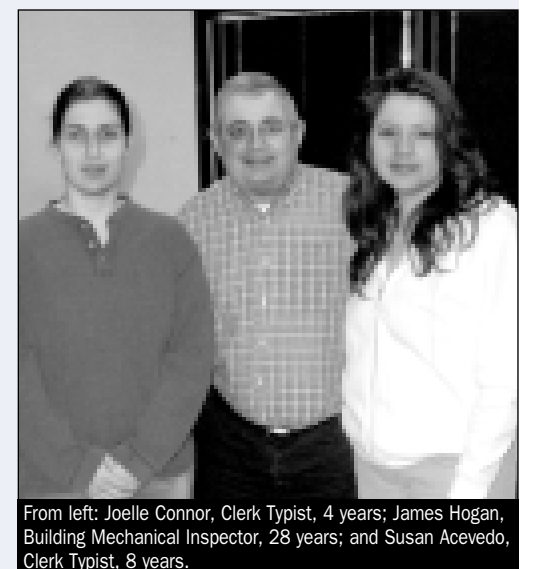
Adriane Buchanan, Administrative Support, 15 years.



David L. Calhoun III, Fire Inspector II LAFD.



From left: Jack Barton, Inspector, 13 years; and Kenneth M. Perry, Sr. Inspector, 17 years.



From left: Joelle Connor, Clerk Typist, 4 years; James Hogan, Building Mechanical Inspector, 28 years; and Susan Acevedo, Clerk Typist, 8 years.



From left: Steve Alaimo, Building Mechanical Inspector, 26 years; John Reilly, Building Inspector, 16 years; John Jaegers, Inspector, 5 years; E. Wade Markham, Inspector, 17 years; C. Cuellar, Building Inspector, 17 years; and Tom Pope, Senior Inspector, 23 years.



Front, from left: Scott Ayers, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate III, 16 years; Nick Trotta, S.E., Assistant Counter Supervisor; Julia Li, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate II, 2 years; and Aldous L. Chic, Disabled Access Section, 19 years. Back, from left: Tim Wang, Structural Engineering Associate; Jose Mendoza, Structural Engineering Associate I, 6 months; Ron Van Orden, S.E., Assistant Chief of Plan Check, 13 years; and Dean C. Lee, Structural Engineering Associate, 19 years.



Betty Cortinas, Sr. Clerk Typist, 17 years.

## Department of Building and Safety

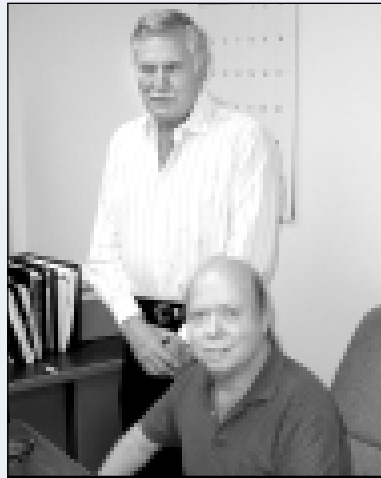
## Department of the Month



From left: Maria T. Berumen, Personnel Records Supervisor, 13 years; Gina Tervalon, Personnel Director, 18 years; Karen C. Penner, Chief, 27 years; Robert J. McCready, Senior Personnel Analyst I, 25 years; Kathy Heredia, Secretary, 40 years; Shannon Cherry, Clerk Typist, 6 months; and Yvonne D. Dockery, Senior Clerk Typist, 17 years.



Back, from left: Steve Archer, Mechanical Inspector, 14 years; and Mike Dickson, Sr. Building Mechanical Inspector, 21 years. Seated from left: Michael J. Hughes, Inspector, 2.5 years; and Jeff L. Follin, Building Mechanical Inspector, 3 years.



Denis Connolly, Sr. Building Inspector, 17 years (standing); and Ray Anderson, Building Mechanical Inspector, 18 years.



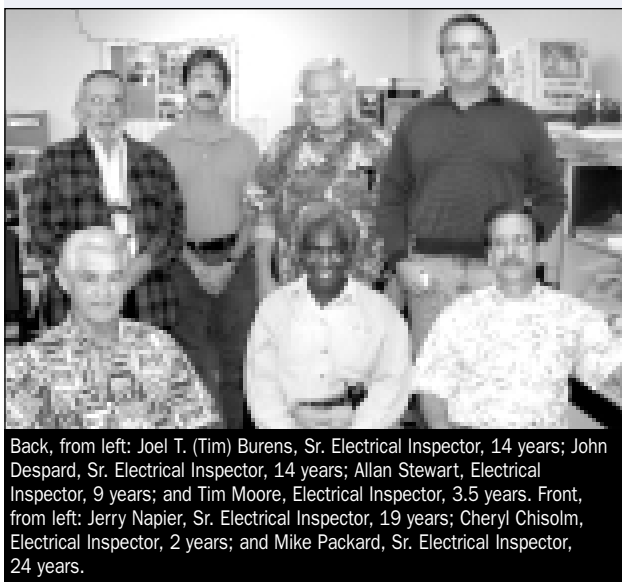
Back, from left: Steve Archer, Mechanical Inspector, 14 years; and Mike Dickson, Sr. Building Mechanical Inspector, 21 years. Seated from left: Michael J. Hughes, Inspector, 2.5 years; and Jeff L. Follin, Building Mechanical Inspector, 3 years.



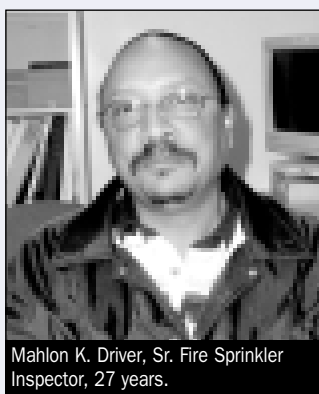
Cora Johnson, Structural Engineering Associate II, 14.5 years.



Leneva Cobb, Administrative Support, 7 years.



Back, from left: Joel T. (Tim) Burens, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 14 years; John Despard, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 14 years; Allan Stewart, Electrical Inspector, 9 years; and Tim Moore, Electrical Inspector, 3.5 years. Front, from left: Jerry Napier, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 19 years; Cheryl Chisolm, Electrical Inspector, 2 years; and Mike Packard, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 24 years.



Mahlon K. Driver, Sr. Fire Sprinkler Inspector, 27 years.

### Department of Building and Safety

PROFILE

**Head, Engineering:** Nick Delliquadri

**Head, Inspection:** Robert Martin

**Head, Code Enforcement:** Dave Kiem

**Head, Resource Management:** Grace Harper

**Commissioners:** William Rouse, president  
 Ilan Israely, vice president  
 Efren Abratique  
 Francisco Arrizon  
 Barbara Boudreaux

**Employees:** More than 850

**Offices:** 16

**Walk-in Customers (per year):** 300,000

**Phone inquiries handled (per year):** 750,000

**Permits issued (per year):** 140,000

**Estimated value of permits (per year):** \$3 billion

**Major projects reviewed (per year):** 40,000

**Inspections performed (per year):** 630,000

**Trade licenses issued (per year):** More than 17,000

**Buildings responsible for:** More than 1.2 million

**Parcels of land responsible for:** More than 750,000



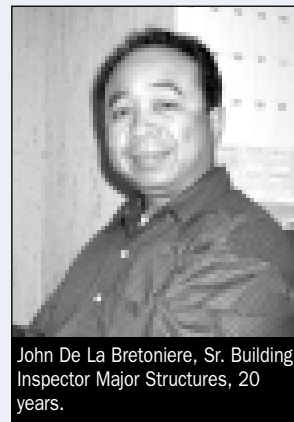
From left: David L. Captain, Building Mechanical Inspector, 4.5 years; Richard Fortman, Sr. Building Inspector Special Projects, 16 years; Errol T. Tate, Principal Inspector, 33 years; Edmund Lum, Pro-Active Code Enforcement Building Mechanical Inspector, 15 years; and Leo Whang, City Wide Nuisance Abatement Inspector, 25 years.



From left: Manuel E. Carrera, Sr. Building Mechanical Inspector, 29 years; Jeffery Duran, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years; Glenn Jagiello, Building Mechanical Inspector, 17 years; and Pat Smith, Inspector, 16 years.



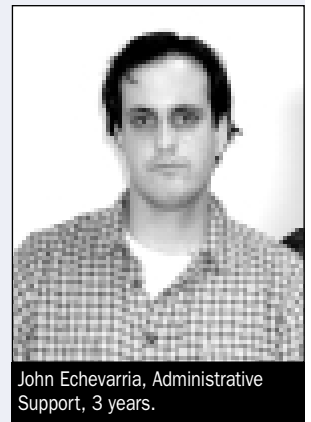
Elizabeth Zuniga, Administrative Support, 5 years.



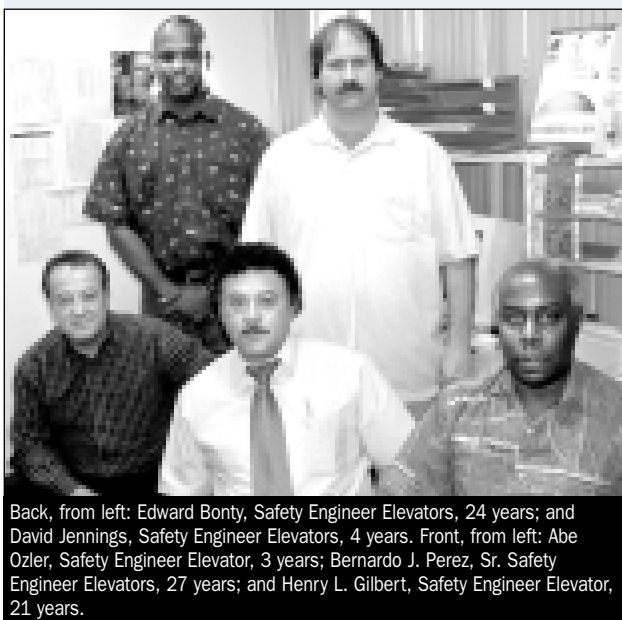
John De La Bretoniere, Sr. Building Inspector Major Structures, 20 years.



Vince Faraone, Structural Assoc. I, 2 days.



John Echevarria, Administrative Support, 3 years.



Back, from left: Edward Bonty, Safety Engineer Elevators, 24 years; and David Jennings, Safety Engineer Elevators, 4 years. Front, from left: Abe Ozler, Safety Engineer Elevator, 3 years; Bernardo J. Perez, Sr. Safety Engineer Elevators, 27 years; and Henry L. Gilbert, Safety Engineer Elevator, 21 years.



Hector H. Buitrago, Assistant Bureau Chief, 27 years; Nicolino G. Delli Quadri, Acting Bureau Chief, 33 years; Bernadette Reyes, Acting Executive Secretary, 1 year; Sherman Stark, Tool and Warehouse Worker, 26 years; Donnie Gray, Secretary, 2 years; David Carter, 6 months; Linda Lam, Executive Secretary, 20 years; and Zeny M. Serrano, Executive Secretary, 20 years.



Back: Vahe Sarkissian, Sr. Building Inspector, 5 years. Seated, from left: Ben Renfrow, Sr. Safety Engineer, 21 years; and Rudi Foorman, Building Inspector, 4 years.

## Department of Building and Safety



Back, from left: Rick Jackson, Building Inspector Investigator, 3 years; Rick Rodriguez, Building Inspector Investigator, 4 years; Edward Rowe, Senior Building Inspector, 19 years; and Richard Bocek, Senior Building Inspector, 17 years. Front, from left: Walt Lauderdale, Senior Building Inspector, 24 years; Bruce Capucetti, Senior Building Inspector, 29 years; and John Kelly, Senior Building Inspector Senior Investigator, 18 years.



Seated: Louie A. Warnasuriya, Heating Inspector, 17 years; and Michael McLay, Heating Inspector, 5 years.



Marla Jordan, Administrative Support, 4 years.



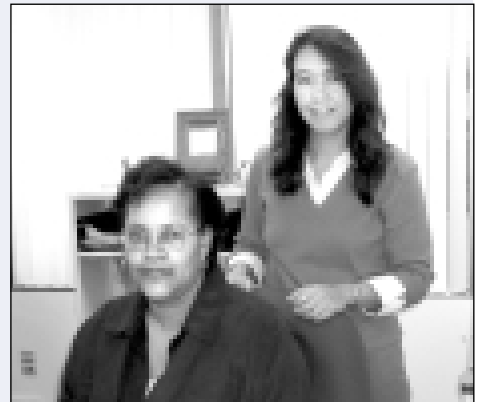
Lincoln Lee, S.E., Director Case Management, 14 years.



From left: Leonard Marquez, Citation Officer, 15 years; R. Rendich, Citations Section Inspector, 14 years; Dave Sherwin, Court Liaison, 24 years; Frank Bush, Principal Inspector, 15 years; and Thomas Pruett, Senior Inspector, 29 years.



From left: Joseph Paradiso, Inspector, 1 year; Eva Montijo-Ramos, Pro-Active Code Enforcement Inspector, 19 years; P. Pearson, Sr. Inspector, 20 years; and Ron Kidwell, Building Mechanical Inspector, 4 years.



Beatrice Pacheco, Sr. Clerk Typist, 3 years (standing); and Wanda Walker, Clerk Typist, 5 years.



From left: Brett Martens, Building Inspector, 4 years; Chuck Farrell, Inspector, 6 years; Paul Chopp, Sr. Inspector, 17 years; Winfield Hinkson, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years; Greg Volpe, Building Mechanical Inspector; Nicholas Parisi, Inspector, 15 years; Jose Colon, Building Mechanical Inspector, 15 years; and John Weight, Inspector, 9 years.



Robert Nishimura, Sr. Management Analyst I, 15 years; Chi Mei Chang, Sr. Management Analyst I, 14 years; Anthony Sanchez, Management Analyst II, 3 years; Evelyn Castillo, Sr. Management Analyst I, 13 years; Karen B. Freire, Management Analyst II, 2 years; Angela De La Rosa, Management Analyst II, 5 years; Jocelino E. Joun, Management Analyst II, 10 years; Muriel Ho, Management Analyst II, 7 years; and Eddie McKnight, Senior Clerk Typist, 3 years.



Art Manalo, Accounting Clerk II, 2.5 years.



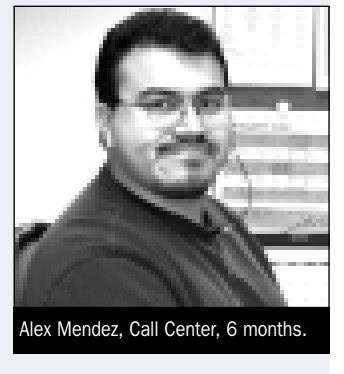
Back, from left: Norlito A. Medrano, Office Engineering Technician I, 3 weeks; John L. Conti, Structural Engineering Associate, 3.5 years; Nate Gruenbaum, Structural Engineering Associate IV, 26 years; and Charles Canning, Office Engineering Technician III, 17 years. Seated: Bernice C. Clarke, Clerk Typist, 2.5 years.



From left: Rebecca Ng, Eng. Structural Assoc. I, 6 months; Irene Yu, Eng. Structural Assoc. I, 2 days; and Ellen Rodriguez, Sr. Clerk Typist, 15 years.



Mary Liu, Structural Engineering Associate III, 26 years (standing); and Margo Kuhn, Clerk Typist, 5 months.



Alex Mendez, Call Center, 6 months.



Onetha Middleton, Clerk Typist, 1 year.



From left: Richard Myers, Inspector, 3 years; Kevin Beaulieu, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years; Charles Sondergaard, Building Mechanical Inspector, 34 years; and Anthony Giannini, Senior Inspector, 29 years.

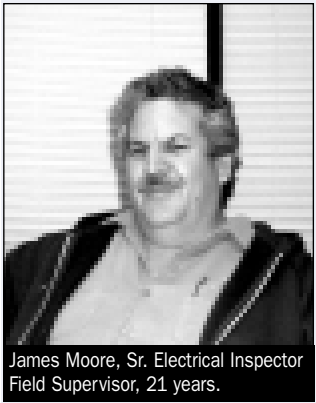


From left: Rudy Martinez, Senior Heating and Refrigerator Inspector, 22 years; Robert Thompson, Senior Sprinkler Inspector, 26 years; Joann Troncale, Training Coordinator, 18 years; and Joe Clark, Senior Inspector, 30 years.



Nancy Pineda, Clerk Typist (standing), 1 year; and Laura Klascius, Clerk Typist, 2 years.

# Department of Building and Safety



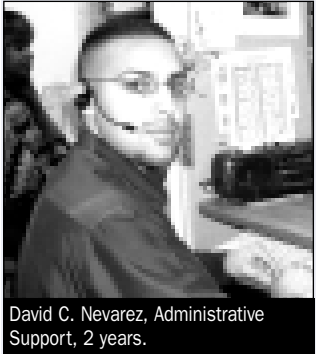
James Moore, Sr. Electrical Inspector Field Supervisor, 21 years.



Front, from left: T. O'Conner, Citations Division/Metro, 19 years; G. Peterossian, Building Mechanical Inspector, 3 years; and Louis Botticella, Sr. Inspector, 33 years. Back, from left: Dan Bates, Building Inspector, 10 years; Mark Van Slooten, Inspector, 2 years; Traci Stallings, Sr. Clerk Typist, 9 years; Henry Ojeda, Building Mechanical Inspector, 28 years; Paul Becker, Building Mechanical Inspector, 1.5 years; and Tom Willis, Inspector, 20 years.



From left: Ruben Perez, Assistant Bureau Chief, 30 years; Danita Brooks Phillips, Code Enforcement Bureau, 24 years; Flora Robinson, 3 years; and Mike Lee, Chief Inspector, 31 years.



David C. Nevarez, Administrative Support, 2 years.



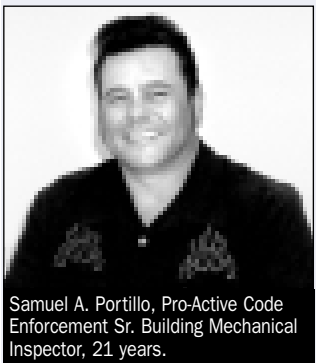
Juan C. Robles, Senior Administrative Support, 13 years (middle); Linda Gordon, Principal Clerk, 32 years (left); and Mary Kamuck, Administrative Support, 17 years (right).



Seated: John Pourhassan, Structural Engineering Associate II, 6 years. Standing: Nate Gruenbaum, Structural Engineering Associate IV, 36 years.



Front, from left: Dan Rodriguez, Building Inspector, 4 years; Larry Galstian, Principal Inspector, 19 years; Carlos Corugedo, Sr. Building Inspector, 34 years; and Roy Sanghvi, Building Inspector, 3 years. Back, from left: Allen Fish, Building Inspector, 15 years; and Phil Ferguson, Sr. Building Inspector, 14 years.



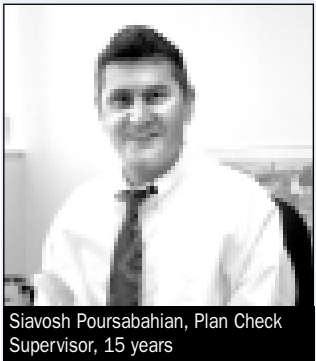
Samuel A. Portillo, Pro-Active Code Enforcement Sr. Building Mechanical Inspector, 21 years.



From left: Kevin Roth, Clerk Typist, 1 month; Elvia Garcia, Sr. Administrative Support, 13 years; Jessie Cabasac, Administrative Support, 13 years; John Jackson, Clerk Typist; Joe Campos, Clerk Typist, 3 years; Graciela Ochoa, Administrative Support, 5 years; Kanisha Wilson, Clerk Typist, 3 months; and Vivien Cruz, Clerk Typist, 2 years.



From left: Bob D. Quan, Structural Engineering Associate IV, 34 years; Erico Barrera, Case Management, 6 months; Syed K. Ali, P.E., Case Manager, 16 years; and Ronald J. Black M.S., Principal Inspector, 19 years.



Siavosh Poursababian, Plan Check Supervisor, 15 years



Elizabeth Lopez, Administrative Support, 8 years.



Veronica Lopez, Structural Engineering Associate, 5 years.



From left: Sako Aghazarian, Sr. Building Inspector, 16 years; Bob Cole, Inspector, 22 years; and John Zolnikov, Sr. Building Inspector, 29 years.



Back, from left: Eduardo Rodriguez, Structural Engineering Associate, 2 years; David McCombs, Structural Plan Check Office Manager, 16 years; and Ishmael Ortiz, Sr. Building Mechanical Inspector, 26 years. Front, from left: Vyeary Herrington, Sr. Administrative Support, 10 years; and Valeska Calero, Administrative Support, 4 years.



Sheree L. Molles, Clerk Typist, 5 years.



Frank Rojas (right), Structural Engineering Associate, 15 years, assisting a customer.



From left: Eva Sun, Senior Systems Analyst II Systems Development, 18 years; Robert J. Martin, Deputy Superintendent of Building, 34 years; Debbie R. Rettig, Secretary, 22 years; and David Schnitger, P.E. CBO, Director of Systems, 28 years.



From left: Ellen Sahara, Admin. Support, 4 years; Dehiesha Brown, Clerk Typist, 6 months; Lettie Gregory, Clerk Typist, 6 months; Jackie Gomez, Sr. Admin. Support, 18.5 years; Maria R. Vasquez, Principal Clerk, 27 years; and Esther Yabarra, Clerk Typist, 6 months.



Back row, from left: Tom Scarin, Sr. Building Inspector; Jack Conger, Heating and Refrigeration Inspector, 2 years; Steve Palchanis, Sr. Heating and Refrigeration Inspector, 18 years; Doug Leatherman, Sr. Heating Inspector, 25 years; Jim Dimit, Sr. Inspector, 19 years; Jerry Fisher, Fire Sprinkler Inspector, 17 years; and Dennis Clausen, Plumbing Inspector, 1 year. Seated, from left: William Foster, Sr. Building Inspector, 29.5 years; and Jesse Barboza, Plumbing Inspector, 15 years.



From left: Robert Sepanian, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate, 6 years; Kevin Porter, Building Inspector, 18 years; Robert Bishop, Building Inspector, 6 months; Masaaki Iwaoka, Building Inspector, 29 years; and Michael Smith, Building Inspector and Grading Inspector, 16 years.



Front: Susy Tija, Office Engineering Technician, 14 years. Back, from left: Allen Peery, Structural Engineering Associate III, 20 years; Ji Orion, Structural Engineering Associate III, 3 years; Anthony Bauerlein, P.E., Electrical Plan Check Engineer, 18 years; and Barry Peshek, Office Engineering Technician, 15 years.



## Department of the Month

## Department of Building and Safety



From left: Abdul Chegeni, P.E., MS, Structural Engineering Associate, 14 years; Andy Tung, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate, 3 years; Binh C. Phan, Structural Engineering Associate, 4 years; Chon-Choi J. Kuo, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate, 15 years; Ming Ong, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate, 6 years; and Hayato Tsuchiya, Structural Engineering Associate II, 15 years.



From left: Hurde Coleman, Structural Engineering Associate II, 13 years; Fernando Mejia, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate, 15 years; Angelo C. Yumul, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate II, 18 years; Jeff McIntyeare, S.E., Assistant Manager, 17 years; David Olivas, Structural Engineering Associate, 4 years; and Eddie Yamamoto, S.E., Structural Engineering Associate II, 4 years.



From left: Dominic Daneri, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years; Rick Mireles, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years; and Carlos Charlie Hale, Senior Building Mechanical Inspector, 26 years.



Eva L. Wong, Systems Analyst II, 9 years.



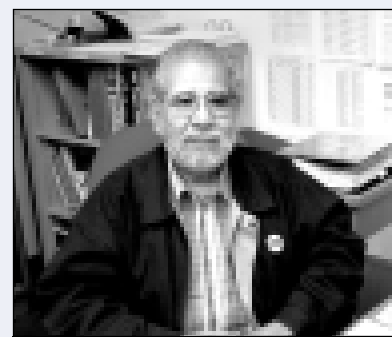
Robert C. Steinbach, Assistant Bureau Chief Public Information Officer, 20 years.



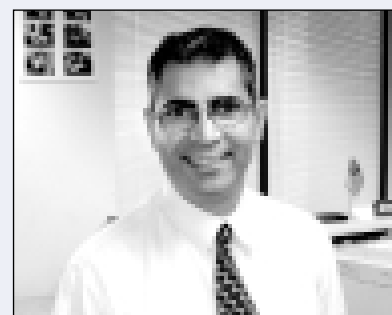
Back, from left: Giovanni O. Dacumos, Technical Support Group, 8 years; Zoran Turudic, Technical Support Group, 8 years; and Kerry T. Hirahara, Technical Support Group, 18 years. Front, from left: Cindy O'Hara, Technical Support Group, 12 years; Diana Reyes, Student Professional Worker, 4 months; and Joy Mateo, Technical Support Group, 3 years.



Back, from left: Mario L. Enriquez, Accountant, 3 years; Erwin G. Lee, Accounting Clerk, 20 years; Clarence Kidd, Storekeeper, 31 years; Ann Ormiston, Departmental Chief Accountant II, 29 years; Debra Chavez, Administrative Support, 10 years; Maribel Gutierrez, Administrative Support, 5 years; Teodoro Delupio, Senior Accountant II, 15 years; and Jack Smith, Accounting Clerk, 18 years. Front, from left: Ester Elba G. Vibal, Accountant, 3 years; Precy T. Sanchez, Senior Administrative Support, 15 years; Nancy Truong, Accounting Clerk, 8 years; Lina Bustamante, Principal Accountant II, 18 years; Christiane, Alzner, Accounting Clerk, 9 years; and Sandra J. Sherman, Senior Administrative Support, 4 years.



Maniel Zevallos, Sr. Plumbing Inspector, 17 years.



Osama Younan, Mechanical Plan Check Counter Supervisor, 18 years.



From left: David Chan, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years; David Heine, Building Mechanical Inspector, 2 years; Alexander Bruce, Manager, 41 years; Dan Orrante, Building Mechanical Inspector, 4.5 years; Richard Rohaly, Building Mechanical Inspector, 4 years; and David Roberts, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years (seated).

## Here Are Some of Building and Safety's Accomplishments in the Mayor Hahn Era

- **Private construction completed:** More than \$6.5 billion
  - Residential: \$4 billion
  - Commercial: \$2.5 billion
- **Permits issued:** More than 330,000
  - Residential: 230,000
  - Commercial: 100,000
- **Permits issued over the Internet:** More than 50,000
- **Walk-in customers:** More than one million
  - Average customer waiting time: Less than 10 minutes
- **Phone customers served:** More than 2 million
  - Average customer waiting time: Less than 15 seconds
- **Construction inspections performed:** More than 1.5 million
  - 99.9 percent of inspections performed within one working day
  - Residential : one million
  - Commercial : 500,000
- **Code Enforcement cases closed:** More than 120,000
- **Abandoned and nuisance buildings addressed:** More than 1,600
  - Buildings rehabilitated: More than 1,300
  - Buildings demolished: More than 300

## Building and Safety's Recent Awards and Commendations

"Public Service Award" and "Award for Dedicated Service to the Los Angeles Regional Uniform Code Program"  
 — From Structural Engineers Association of Southern California, June 2000 and June 2003

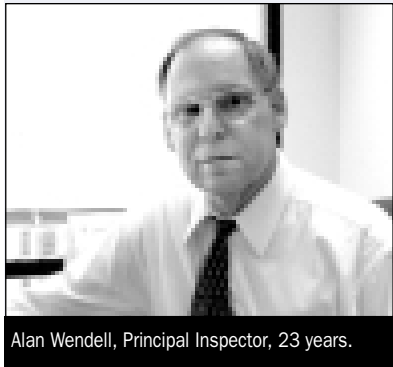
Semifinalist, "Innovations in American Government Award"  
 — From Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, October 2002

"Good Government Award"  
 — From the American Institute of Architects, Los Angeles, October 2002

"Growing With Our Cities and Communities Award"  
 — From Asian American Architects/Engineers Association, October 2002



## Department of Building and Safety



Alan Wendell, Principal Inspector, 23 years.



Terri Walker, Accounting Clerk II, 23 years.



Richard Yee, Plumbing Inspector, 5 years; Luis Pastor Sanchez, Major Structural Supervisor, 19 years; Sean Dang, Structural Eng. Assoc., 7 years; William Stutsman, Structural Engineering Assoc., 18.5 years; Frank C. Liu, Structural Eng. Assoc., 4.5 years; Martin Fragoso, Structural Eng. Assoc. II, 3 years; Ewa O'Neal, Disabled Access Eng., 20 years; Colin Kumabe, Sr. Structural Eng., 19 years; and J. Gabriel Linares, Structural Eng. Assoc. II,



From left: Ibrahim K. Habashi, Sr. Structural Engineer Assistant Office Manager, 30 years; David T. Hsu, Manager West Los Angeles District Office, 20 years; Celeste A. Morris, Administrative Support, 6 months; Charmie Torres, Structural Engineering Associate, 5.5 years; Nate Gruenbaum, Structural Engineer Associate IV, 36 years; and Theophanis Aravanis, Electrical Engineering Associate III.



From left: Bobbi Walker, 1 year; Dee McGee, 10 years; Lilia C. Mendoza, 1 year; Valerie N. Cameron, Clerk Typist, 7 months; and Marisita Casim, 3 months.



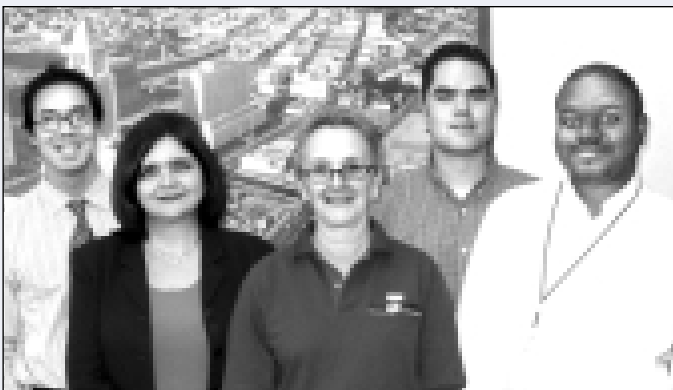
Robert Felix, Building Mechanical Inspector, 14 years.



From left: Dan Wray, Abandoned Building Task Force Sr. Inspector, 15 years; Carol Brinkman, Contract Nuisance Abatement Inspector, 29 years; Alexander Moffat, Abandoned Building Task Force Inspector, 4 years; Roger Bruce, Nuisance Abatement Revocation Inspector, 17.5 years; and Matt Kellerman, Nuisance Abatement Revocation Inspector, 14 years.



From left: Robert Viereck, Building Mechanical Inspector, 14 years; Blanca Morales, 3 years; Dorothy Jones, Administrative Support, 10 years; Lily Sokolovsky, Electrical Plan Check Engineer, 23 years; Kenneth Kinter, Administrative Support, 22 years; Janet Yamamoto, Senior Administrative Support, 25 years; and Melissa Cook, 3 years.



Back, from left: Joe D. Vo, Structural Engineering Associate, 5.5 years; and Felix G. Figueroa, Structural Engineering Associate, 5.5 years. Front, from left: Ida Miranda, Sr. Administrative Support, 19 years; Roseann Budesa, Administrative Support, 20 years; and Rodney Duncan, Accounting Clerk II, 17 years.



From left: David Feiler, Administrative Support, 3 months; Mui Lay, Sr. Administrative Support, 13 years; and Claudia Alvarez, Administrative Support, 31 years.



Edison Soleiman, Mech. Plan Check Eng., 15 years; Wesley Farrell, Structural Eng. Assoc., 15 years; Behzad Eghtesady, Chief, 22 years; Sam Chang, Structural Eng. Assoc., 4 years; Tai Vu, Structural Eng. Assoc., 3 years; Kwok Y. Law (Bob), Mech. Plan Check Eng., 21 years; Mark Wang, Mech Plan Check Eng., 2 years; and ToiB B.-Maxie, Admin Support, 6 months.



Back row, from left: Dave Wright, Plumbing Inspector, 2 days; Mark Jorgensen, Plumbing Inspector, 1 year; and Bud Banks, Plumbing Inspector, 1 year; and Patrick Kelly, Plumbing Inspector, 3 years. Front row, from left: Russ Ito, Sr. Plumbing Inspector, 16 years; and Lou Alonge, Plumbing Inspector, 14 years.

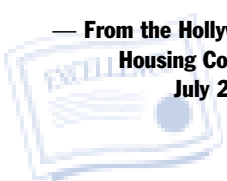


Standing, from left: Donald Wong, Inspector Sign Inspection Division, 4 years; John Crawford, Building Inspector Sign Inspection Division, 14 years; and Bob Dunn, Pro-Active Code Enforcement Inspector, 4 years. Seated: Jim Buchan, Building Inspector Sign Inspection, 2 years.

## Building and Safety's Recent Awards and Commendations

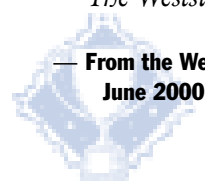
### "Special Award"

— From the Hollywood Community Housing Corporation, July 2002



### "The Westside Prize 2000" and "The Westside Prize 2002"

— From the Westside Urban Forum, June 2000 and June 2002



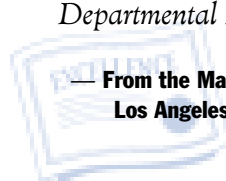
### "Special Recognition Award"

— From the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and Construction Industry Awards Committee, October 2001

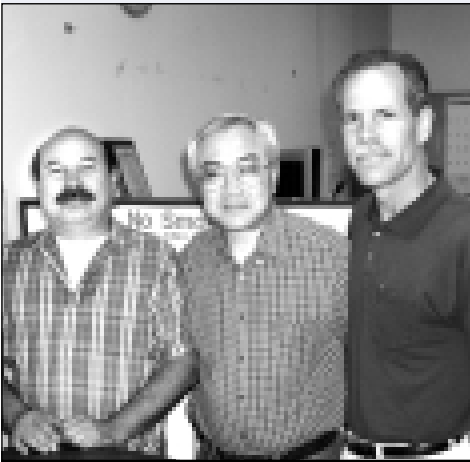


### "Mayor's Distinguished Departmental Budget Award"

— From the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, April 2000



## Department of Building and Safety



From left: Edward Garcia, Inspector, 10 years; David Huang, Senior Inspector, 17 years; and Vince Scipioni, Building Inspector, 3 years.



Back, from left: Rodney Duncan, Accounting Clerk II, 17 years; and Allan Bradley, Clerk Typist, 2 years. Front, from left: Tracy Cai, Accounting Clerk II, 3 years; Victoria Vasquez, Chief Cashier, 17 years; Leticia Reyes, Accounting Clerk II, 5 years; and Leonard Torres, Accounting Records Supervisor, 17 years.



From left: Cornell Ewell, Plumbing Inspector, 15 years; Peter Callas, Sr. Safety Engineer-Elevators, 18 years; Peter Callas, Senior Safety Engineer-Elevators, 18 years; James R. Townsend, Safety Engineer-Elevators, 6 years; Donald C. Mestayer, Jr. Safety Engineer, 24 years; Benoit Beaulieu, Building Inspector, 3 years; and D. Stewart, Inspector, 17 years.



From left: Tim Fan, Structural Engineering Associate, 5 years; Philip Yin, Structural Engineering Associate, 4.5 years; Rick Jackson, Building Inspector Investigator, 3 years; Dennis Hawks, Electrical Inspector Inter-Agency Housing Task Force, 14 years; Johnny Yutronich, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 16 years; and Richard Bocek, Sr. Building Inspector, 17 years.



From left: Rocky Gordon, P.E., Board Secretary, 10 years; Garth Pillsbury, Photographer, 21 years; Willie Williams, Commission Staff, 28 years; Gloria Walters, Commission Staff, 27 years; and Peter Kim, S.E., Specialty Engineering Section Chief, 17 years.



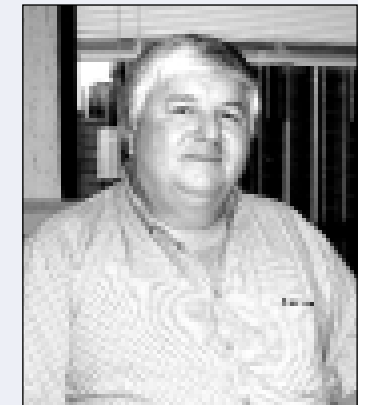
From left: Patrick Gilbert, Principal Inspector, 20 years; Darell L. Brassfield, Senior Inspector, 32 years; Tom Pope, Senior Inspector, 23 years; and Anthony Giannini, Senior Inspector, 29 years.



From left: Al Gamble, Building Inspector, 15 years; Paul Frausto, Sr. Building Inspector, 35.5 years; Steve F. Weis, Building Inspector, 17 years; Johnny Kazarian, Building Inspector, 17 years; Kulbir Jain, Sr. Building Inspector, 17 years; and Ray Wooden, Principal Building Inspector, 33 years.



From left: Negisti (Nicki) H. Girmay, Assistant Engineering Geologist II, 14 years; Dana V. Prevost, Engineering Geologist II, 15 years; Andrzej (Andy) Szpikowski, Geotechnical Engineering, 7 years; Stephen G. Dawson, Engineering Geologist I, 12 years; Frederick H. Wong, Structural Engineering Associate II, 5 years; and Raphael H. Cheng, Geotechnical Engineer, 3 years.



Bill Garcia, Building Inspector, 17 years.



From left: Salem Garawi, Structural Plan Check Eng., 17 years; Eddie Chavez, Structural Eng. Assoc., 3.5 years; Fidencio Madero, Structural Eng. Assoc., 3 years; Goerge Banning, Structural Eng. Assoc., 18 years; (front left) Delilah C. Reyes, Structural Eng. Assoc., 26 years; Larry Lee, Structural Eng. Assoc., 2 days; (front right) Jin Wen, Structural Eng. Assoc., 2.5 years; and Soon Cho, Structural Eng. Assoc., 4 years.



From left: Raul P. Gras, Principal Inspector Elevator and Pressure Vessel Division, 24 years; Lance Wong, Chief Elevator and Pressure Vessel Division, 28 years; Jovie Aclaro, Sr. Safety Engineer, 15 years; and Vladimir Martinov, Safety Engineer, 1 year.



From left: Wilbert Guerrero, P.E., Mechanical Plan Check Engineer, 1 year; Ara Sargsyan, Structural Engineering Associate, 4 years; Steven T. Kim, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate, 3 years; Dawn Cheng McNulty, Structural Engineering Associate II, 6 years; and Jason Healey, P.E., Structural Engineering Associate, 7 years.



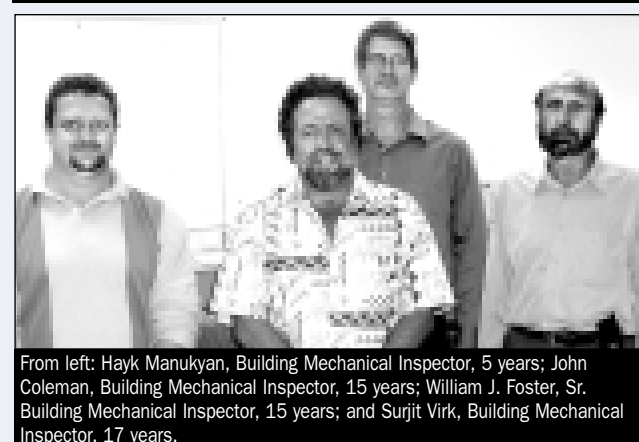
From left: Phil Guzman, Sr. Plumbing Inspector, 19 years; Marvin Godfrey, Building Mechanical Inspector, 16 years; Cameron Gray, Building Mechanical Inspector, 25 years; and David Tsau, Inspector, 2.5 years.



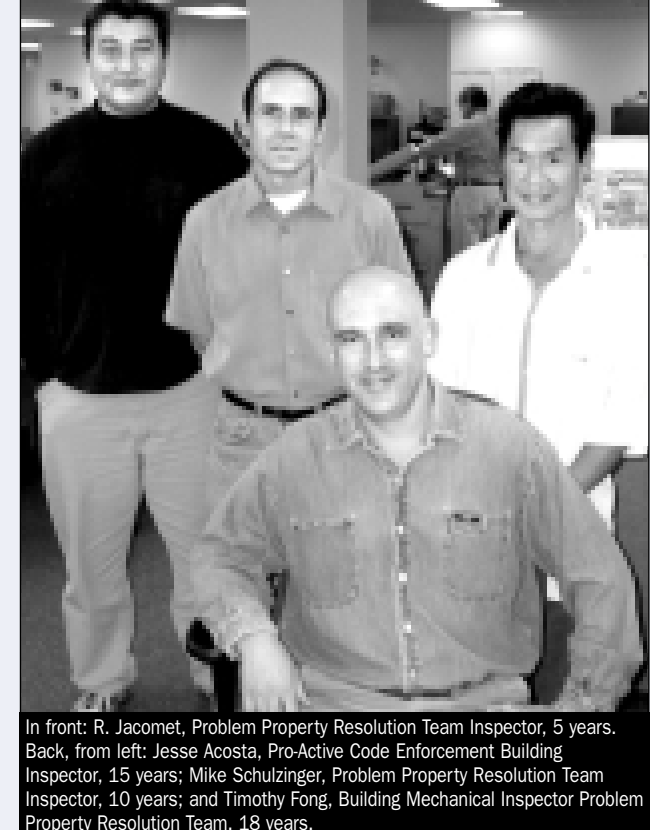
From left: Shannon Haas, Inspector, 4 years; S. Perry, Senior Inspector, 16 years; and John Whipple, Contract Nuisance Abatement Inspector, 1 year.



Emma Grimm, Structural Engineering Associate III, 24.5 years, assisting a customer.



From left: Hayk Manukyan, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years; John Coleman, Building Mechanical Inspector, 15 years; William J. Foster, Sr. Building Mechanical Inspector, 15 years; and Surjit Virk, Building Mechanical Inspector, 17 years.



In front: R. Jacomet, Problem Property Resolution Team Inspector, 5 years. Back, from left: Jesse Acosta, Pro-Active Code Enforcement Building Inspector, 15 years; Mike Schulzinger, Problem Property Resolution Team Inspector, 10 years; and Timothy Fong, Building Mechanical Inspector Problem Property Resolution Team, 18 years.

## Department of Building and Safety



From left: Bob Luera, Building Mechanical Inspector, 20 years; Carl Lockridge, Building Mechanical Inspector, 2.5 years; Jerry Goodman, Senior Building Mechanical Inspector, 17 years; and Mike Faunce, Building Mechanical Inspector, 18 years.



From left: Timothy Key, Sr. Building Inspector, 20 years; Chris Martinez, Building Inspector, 4 years; and Hamid R. Pishahvar, Sr. Building Inspector, 16 years.



From left: Robert A. Hunau, Electrical Inspector, 3 years; Gary Klausman, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 16 years; Douglas N. Verral, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 14.5 years; Bill Clark, Sr. Plumbing Inspector, 17 years; Morris N. Bloom, Fire Sprinkler Inspector, 15 years; and Thomas E. Crawley, Electrical Inspector, 7 years.



From left: John Kennedy, Sr. Inspector, 27 years; F. Hannum, Inspector, 15 years; Charles Boghoskhan, Inspector, 10 years; John Biezins, Building Mechanical Inspector, 3 years; and Bob Reese, Inspector, 14 years.



Back, from left: John S. Hayes, Building Mechanical Inspector South Region, 1 year; B.A. Anderson, Principal Inspector South Region, 28 years; Ray Lewis, Electrical Inspector South Region, 6 years; David Haendle, Building Mechanical Inspector, 1 year; Vincent (Steve) Cotton, Building Inspector South Region, 4 years; and Mardel Nicholas, Clerk Typist, 24 years. Front, from left: J. Utreras, Building Mechanical Inspector, 15 years; L. Louis Ling, Inspector, 3 years; Wayne Smith, Sr. Building Inspector, 28 years; and Mercy Johnson, Clerk Typist, 26 years.



From left: Bosco Tang, Accounting Clerk II, 17 years; Erika Anderson, Accounting Clerk II, 18 years; and Thang C. Lam, Accounting Clerk II, 13 years.



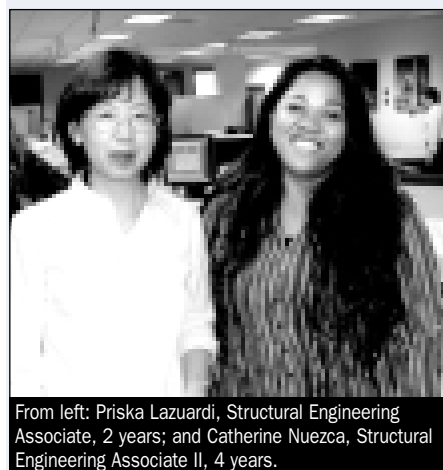
From left: Vincent Lou, Clerk Typist, 6 months; Krisandra Miller, Clerk Typist, 2 months; Jenny Ayala, Sr. Administrative Support, 14 years; and William Gomez, Principal Clerk, 17 years.



From left: Richard A. Hanwood, Sr. Heating and Refrigeration Inspector, 1 year; Denver Shawn Hargis, Heating and Refrigeration Inspector, 4 years; Ralph Villalobos, Heating and Refrigeration Inspector, 16 years; and (seated) Mark J. Casey, Sr. Heating and Refrigeration Inspector, 16 years.



Front, from left: John G. Janson, Inspector, 19 years; Darell L. Brassfield, Sr. Inspector, 32 years; Dale Carney, Building and Mechanical Inspector, 16 years; Stephen E. Reed, Building and Mechanical Inspector, 3 years; and Bruce Rozak, Inspector, 15 years. Back, from left: Ken Kurowski, Inspector, 6 years; Richard Webster, Inspector, 35 years; and Bill Bellefontaine, Inspector, 5 years.



From left: Priska Lazuardi, Structural Engineering Associate, 2 years; and Catherine Nuezca, Structural Engineering Associate II, 4 years.



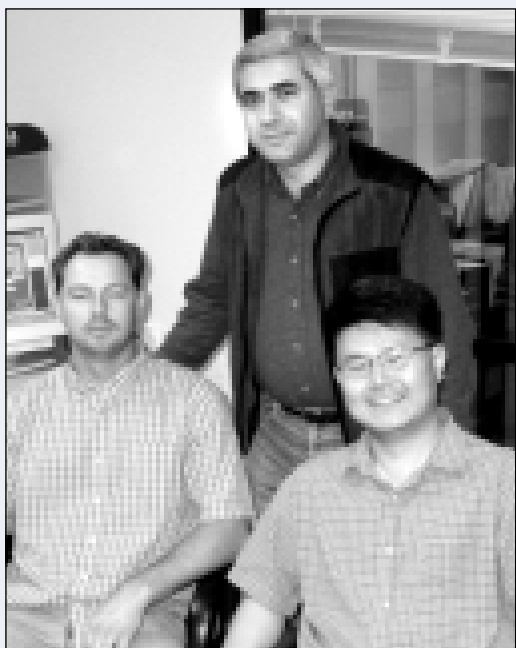
From left: Eric Jakeman, Building Mechanical Inspector, 3 years; Pierre Ross, Building Mechanical Inspector, 9 years; E. Leos, Building Mechanical Inspector, 17 years; Mike Beveridge, Building Mechanical Inspector, 16 years; Kim Arthur, Senior Inspector, 14 years; and Jack Rios, Building Inspector, 17 years.



Front, from left: Joe J. Lee, Database Architect, 17 years; Jeanne Ly, Sr. Systems Analyst, 9 years; Jing Reyes, Systems Analyst II, 14 years; Jaime Truong, Senior Systems Analyst I, 4 years; and Thuy Nguyen, Systems Analyst II, 15 years. Back, from left: Larry Shiah, Systems Analyst II, 2 years; Andrew Herd, P.E., Plan Check and Inspector System, 15 years; Eva Sun, Senior Systems Analyst II Systems Development, 18 years; Samar Desai, Systems Analyst, 7 years; and Elizabeth Garcia, Sr. Clerk Typist, 2 years.



From left: Wai-Kwong Lau, Disabled Access Section, 17 years; Richard Tres, Structural Eng. Assoc., 14 years; and Eddie Garin, Disabled Access Section, 3 years.



From left: Chris McHugh, Electrical Inspector, 4 years; Vazcen Karakhanyan, Electrical Inspector, 4 years; and Won H. Lee, Electrical Inspector, 15 years.



Arthur Jaramillo, Central Region Principal Inspector, 28 years.

### Hey, Building and Safety: I'm Your Counselor!



Arlene Herrero  
Member Services Counselor

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

I'm over at the Department of Building and Safety all the time. Call or e-mail me to schedule an appointment: (800) 464-0452, or [aherrero@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:aherrero@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Department of Building and Safety



Back row, from left: Bill Shelton, Sr. Building Inspector, 17 years; Faith L. Maulupe, Sr. Clerk Typist, 4 years; B.A. Anderson, Principal Inspector South Region, 28 years; Paul D. Buck, Inspector, 3 years; and Brad Fiehmman, Inspector, 4 years. Front, from left: Jeffrey S. Corpuz, Inspector, 6 years; and Greg G. Glover, Building Mechanical Inspector South Region, 1 year. Front row, from left: Michael Dwyer, Building Mechanical Inspector South Region, 1 year; Ansel B. Rodrigues, Building Inspector, 19 years; and Roger Sjodin, Legal Liason Inspector, 3 years.



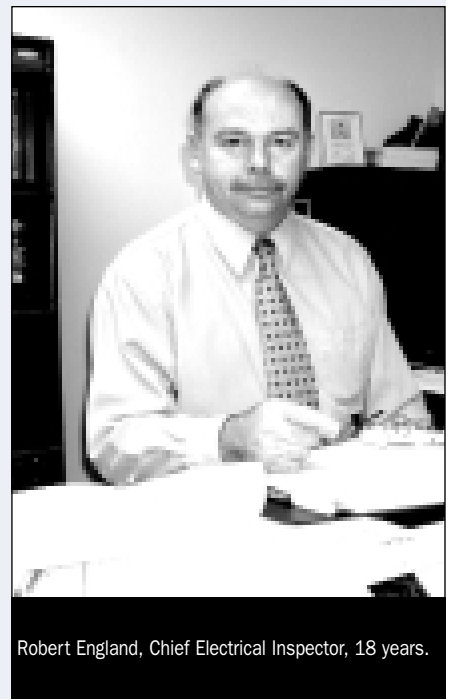
From left: D. Steward, Inspector, 16.5 years; Augustus Albas, Vehicle Establishment Inspection Program Building Mechanical Inspector, 3 years; Edmond Deckert, Inspector, 1.5 years; Russell Kelly, Pro-Active Code Enforcement Inspector, 1.5 years; Martin Tack, Building Mechanical Inspector, 5 years; Tom Sifton, Building Mechanical Inspector, 3 years; and Armando Pastran, Building Mechanical Inspector, 2.5 years.



Standing, from left: Alexander Bruce, Manager, 41 years; and John Hyde, Sr. Building Mechanical Inspector, 17 years. Seated, from left: Brad Bescos, Building Mechanical Inspector, 3 years; Oscar San Roman, Building Mechanical Inspector, 8.5 years; and Jeff Napier, Building Mechanical Inspector, 8.5 years.



From left: Modesto Valenzuela, Administrative Support, 6 years; David Chang, S.E., Plan Check Supervisor, 20 years; Abram Bass, Engineering Technician, 14 years; Ken Gill, Counter Supervisor, 17 years (seated); and Julio B. Zafra, Office Engineering Technician III, 14 years.



Robert England, Chief Electrical Inspector, 18 years.



From left: Bill Thompson, Building Inspector, 2 days; Dennis Delgado, Pro-Active Code Enforcement Inspector, 1.3 years; Carilo Stude, Plumbing Inspector, 17 years; Rick Rodriguez, Building Inspector Investigator, 4 years; Pat Dunning, Building Inspector, 3 years; Frank Lara, Pro-Active Code Enforcement Building Mechanical Inspector, 4 years; and Richard Macabeo, Building Inspector Inter-Agency Housing Task Force, 15 years.



From left: Brian Trupin, Sr. Building Inspector, 18 years; Albert W. Haas, Sr. Building Inspector, 29 years; Gary S. Toon, Electrical Inspector, 2.5 years; J. Greg Stephens, Building Inspector, 16 years; Rick Horn, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 17 years; Howard Stern, Electrical Inspector, 1.5 years; and J. Gross, Building Inspector, 8 years.



From left: Roy Tikka, Inspector, 18 years; Vic Antonioli, Building Inspector, 17 years; D. Stiles, Senior Building Mechanical Inspector, 17 years; and Jack Upchurch, Building Mechanical Inspector, 18 years.



From left: Joe Velasquez, Building Inspector, 18 years; Thomas Huerta, Electrical Inspector, 10 years; John Hamilton, Building Mechanical Inspector, 1 year; Michael R. Miller, Senior Building Inspector, 15 years; and Art Valenzuela, Building Mechanical Inspector, 20 years.



Standing: Chiharu Suzuki, Structural Engineering Associate I, 6 months. Seated: Yogen R. Thakar, Mechanical Plan Check Engineer, 20 years.



# Retirees NEWS

## Retiree Hotlines

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

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

**City Retirement Counselors:**

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

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

## For Retirees

By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

## Membership NEWS

■ **Evelyn Akerman** reports that her daughter, Karen Meredith, 55, died on Dec. 23 of heart failure ...

■ **Charles and Betty Gunerson** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at Leisure World. They met at a USO dance ...

■ **Ken Smuland**, ACEA President in 1961, called from Palm Desert to thank the RLACEI and its officer for doing a good job ...

■ **Jane Hanson** writes, "Many thanks for all you do to help the retirees."

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



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:  
 People are like rainbows with colors to match their character.  
 In time, the brighter colors tend to soften a bit, while others form delightful new shades and nuances.  
 May the treasure at the end of your rainbow, always be a heart of gold.



## Could a Website Be In RLACEI's Future?



**Ed Harding,**  
 RLACEI President

Edward Harding, RLACEI President, reports: "As we embark on another year, my ninth as your president, your officers and I will strive in 2004 to continue to work diligently to bring needed benefits to the retirees and spouses. Your attendance at our general meetings in April and October at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center will enable you to keep informed and to ask questions and express your opinions.

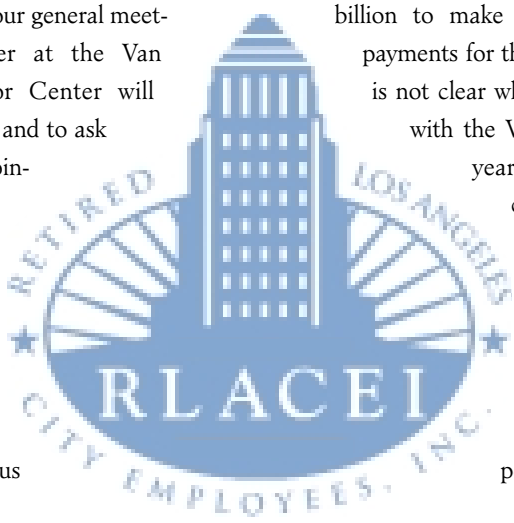
"We are looking into developing a Website on the Internet to add another communication link, in addition to this For Retirees page and the RLACEI Newsletter. Let us know of your opinions."

**Legislative Update:** Ken Spiker, our elected representative to the LACERS Board of Directors and Chairman of LACERS Benefits and Administration Committee, reports that,

due to the steady increase in health care costs and access to care concerns due to network closures and service area pullouts, the LACERS Benefits and Administration Committee has expressed a desire to bid health plans for 2005. Staff is in process of developing an RFP for the purpose of identifying and selecting the most qualified and cost-effective health care organizations that can deliver quality care, while maintaining member satisfaction.

On the budget front, last month the Governor issued an executive order appropriating the funds to resume the Vehicle License Fee backfill payments to local government. It is estimated that it will require \$2.6

billion to make the remaining payments for the fiscal year. It is not clear what will happen with the VLF during the year's budget discussion. At least for now the City will receive its allocation estimated to be \$19 million per month.



**Credit Union Meeting:** The L.A. Federal Credit Union's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 24, at 5:30 pm at the L.A. Mall branch. Several retirees have been running for offices. Stay tuned.

**Her Family Tree:** Lucy Scates, Library Dept. retiree, is proud to list all of her relatives who also worked for the City.

- GRANDFATHER: Charles Bailey, Plumbing Inspector
- FATHER: Michael Greeley, Police Lieutenant
- SISTER: Mildred Kaiser, LAPD
- SISTER: Julia Snell, LAPD
- BROTHERS: Joe, Charles and Lawrence, DWP

I would like to hear from other retirees who also had a number of relatives who work(ed) in City service.

### Coming events in 2004:

**April 15** – General Membership Meeting at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center;

**June 15** – Annual Retirees Golf Classic at the Alhambra Golf Course

**August 12** – Picnic at the Grace E. Simons Lodge in Elysian Park

**October 14** – Annual Corporation meeting and Election of Officers at the Van Nuys/ Sherman Oaks Senior Center

**December 9** – Christmas Party at the Grace E. Simons Lodge. 🍷

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# Newsbriefs

## AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mayor Jim Hahn, joined by city officials and members of the business, civic and entertainment communities, kicked off Los Angeles' 2004 African American Heritage Month celebration Jan. 16.



"It is my privilege to preside over a city with such tremendous diversity in culture, community and history," said Mayor Hahn. "Los Angeles benefits from the contributions made by our African American community to the arts, sciences, humanities and all other sectors of life. To honor that rich history, we celebrate African American heritage through this year's series of art exhibits, dance performances and community events. I'd like to invite all Los Angeles residents to come celebrate the 2004 African American Heritage Month with the City of Los Angeles."

"This is an excellent time for people of all ethnic backgrounds to learn about the rich culture and history of African Americans in the City of Los Angeles and throughout the country," said Councilmember Jan Perry. "African American culture spans the globe and speaks to our diversity in this great city. By understanding this and other cultures, we can better understand our neighbors and friends—our fellow Angelenos."

"Each year Black History Month allows us an opportunity to remember and reinforce," said Councilmember Bernard Parks. "Those of us who were alive to experience the Civil Rights Movement remember the many different struggles involved at that time. Now, it is our responsibility to reinforce to our youth the lessons we've learned during the darkest period of our country's history. That is the only way to continue the progress that society has made."

The African American Heritage Celebration is a citywide commemoration of African American contributions in the areas of art, humanities and the entertainment industry. The celebratory events begin January 16 and will continue through March.

## BUDGET WOES

On Jan. 13, Mayor Jim Hahn outlined his budget priorities for the coming fiscal year to a gathering of business leaders during the annual mayoral address to the Central City Association, and also spoke about the effects Governor Schwarzenegger's budget plan would have on the city.



"In the new year, we must continue to focus on making Los Angeles the safest big city in America and improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods," Mayor Hahn said. "This will be especially difficult because Governor Schwarzenegger's proposed budget significantly cuts funding to cities that we use to provide essential services like police and fire. I ask you to call the governor and your state legislators and ask them to reconsider."

The Central City Association was established in 1924 and is a business membership organization representing over 300 businesses, trade associations and nonprofits that employ more than 250,000 people in Los Angeles County.

## Around the City

## CRIME DOWN

Mayor Hahn was joined Jan 14 by Los Angeles Police Chief William J. Bratton, Police Commission President David S. Cunningham III, and Los Angeles City Councilmembers to present the 2003 year-end crime statistics, and announce the LAPD's crime reduction goals for 2004.

At the end of 2003, homicides were down citywide by nearly 22 percent and total violent crime was down citywide by 6 percent, exceeding the crime reduction goals set by Chief Bratton last year. Mayor Hahn told a group of community leaders gathered at the West Los Angeles Church of God and Christ that gang-related homicides were down 30 percent and that the majority of gang-related violent crimes were down.

"I am pleased to report that LAPD has exceeded its goals for reducing violent crime in 2003," said Mayor Hahn. "We are not where



we need to be, but we are headed in the right direction. My main priority continues to be to make Los Angeles a safer city, but we cannot bring down crime without the help of the community."

Chief Bratton attributed an 11 percent increase in arrests citywide to a greater assertiveness on the part of officers and a greater focus on their policing efforts. However, he said the negative consequence of this assertiveness was a 21 percent increase in the number of officers shot at in the line of duty.

"More and more we are seeing blatant acts of deadly violence aimed at officers," said Chief Bratton. Chief Bratton told the audience that LAPD cannot take full credit for the reduced crime rates and increase in arrests and cited a focused effort by the department to improve its relationship with the communities it serves. Chief Bratton acknowledged a significant increase in help from community members in solving crimes in 2003. ■



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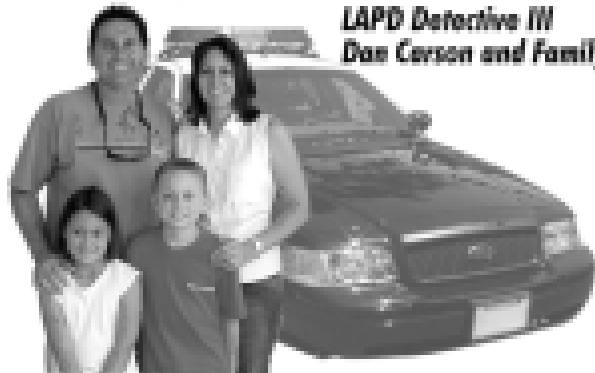
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# Cooking with the Club

by our own  
**Robert Larios**



## Send Us Your Recipes!

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

## Be My Valentine

### Bacon Meets Smoked Oysters

#### INGREDIENTS

- 2 cans smoked oysters
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/2 lb bacon strips
- 40 round wooden toothpicks
- 3 tbsl garlic, minced
- 1/4 tsp pepper

#### DIRECTIONS

Cut bacon strips in thirds. Wrap a bacon slice around each oyster and place a toothpick through to hold it in place. In a medium skillet, heat oil, and add garlic. Cook wrapped oysters in oil until bacon is crisp. Remove from pan and drain on a paper towel to drain.



## On Valentine's Day, Love Is Best Served Cheesy

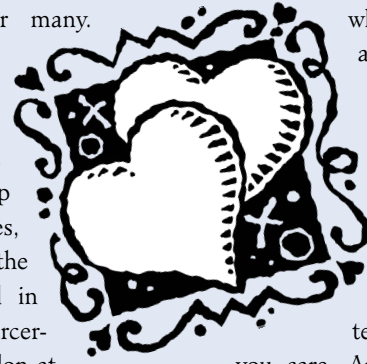
We are all aware that February 14 is the lovers' holiday, the holiday of love, as well as Valentine's Day. The giving of candy, flowers or other gifts between couples in love has become innate for many. Nonetheless, did you know that the concept of Valentine's Day originated in fifth-century Rome as a tribute to Catholic Bishop St. Valentine? Later, Charles, Duke of Orleans, sent the first true Valentine card in 1415 to his wife while incarcerated in the Tower of London at the time. The first Valentine card most likely grew out of this practice.

Another part of the Valentine's Day tradition is to depart on Valentine's Day to a dinner date or make a Valentine's Day meal for someone. I prefer the latter, especially with

the following Valentine' Day recipes. The Bacon Meets Smoked Oysters is a Bureau of Sanitation favorite out of Hyperion Treatment Plant. The employees tell me that what makes it tasty is the garlic and the olive oil.

Cupid's Strawberry Lemonade will become a classic for Valentine's Day and for any hot day, especially in the summertime. Like hugs and kisses, Hugs and Cheeses is an adorable recipe that will tell your loved one how much you care. And lastly, the Valentine's Day Breakfast is my favorite for its use of dill and egg. The combination of dill with eggs is a marriage I have no trouble blessing.

Club members, make sure to send in those recipes. It's all about sharing! Send them to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



### Hugs and Cheeses

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 package marinated goat cheese (or you can buy a jar of goat cheese in olive oil)
- 1 red bell pepper, roasted
- 1 yellow bell pepper, roasted
- 3-4 tsp fresh (not dried) basil, diced
- 1 large baguette

#### DIRECTIONS

Slice baguette into 1-inch slices. Spread a layer of goat cheese onto each slice. Top with a strip or two of roasted pepper and a few strips of fresh basil.

If you prefer to serve this as an entree sandwich, just slice your baguette lengthwise, spread with goat cheese and top with roasted peppers and fresh basil.



### Valentine's Day Breakfast

#### INGREDIENTS

##### Filling:

- 1 1/2 cup finely chopped mushrooms
- 1/4 cup sliced green onion
- 1 tbsl margarine or butter
- 1 tbsl all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup milk

##### Egg mixture:

- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cup milk
- 2 tbsl margarine or butter
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 1/8 tsp ground nutmeg
- 1/4 cup dill weed
- 4 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

#### DIRECTIONS

**Filling:** Cook mushrooms and onion in margarine or butter till tender (about 5 minutes). Stir in flour and pepper. Stir in milk all at once. Cook, stirring over low heat until thickened and bubbly ... then set aside.

**Egg mixture:** Combine flour and milk in medium saucepan. Cook and stir over medium heat until thickened. Stir in the margarine or butter till melted. Stir in dill weed, salt, pepper and nutmeg. Add eggs, and stir until combined. Stir in 3/4 cup of the cheese. Pour half of the egg mixture into a lightly greased 12x7-1/2x2-inch baking dish. Spoon mushroom mixture over egg mixture. Top with the remaining egg mixture. Bake in 400-degree oven 20 minutes or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Let stand 5 minutes. If desired, garnish with finely chopped red pepper. Makes 6 servings.



### Clams Kissed with Mushroom Caps

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 lb mushrooms, 1-1/2" to 2" in diameter
- 1 cup minced clams, with liquid
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup dried bread crumbs
- 1/3 cup Parsley, chopped
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp ground black pepper
- Lemon juice

#### DIRECTIONS

Melt butter in saucepan. Remove and dice mushrooms stems. Dip mushroom caps in butter and place, rounded side down, on a rack on a cookie sheet. Drain clams and reserve liquid. In melted butter, sauté mushrooms stems and garlic. Add clam liquid and simmer until mushroom stems are tender. Remove from heat and stir in the breadcrumbs, parsley, salt and pepper. Spoon mixture into mushroom caps. Broil about 6 inches from heat for about 8 minutes, until mushrooms are tender and tops are lightly browned. Sprinkle a few drops of lemon juice on each and serve hot.



### Cupid's Strawberry Lemonade

#### INGREDIENTS

- Juice of one lemon
- 1 tbsl sugar
- 10 ripe strawberries
- 1cup water

#### DIRECTIONS

Throw the lemon juice, sugar, strawberries and water into a blender and mix until fairly smooth. Serve over ice. Makes one glass.







# Critic's MOVIE REVIEWS

Corner

**WIN Two FREE Movie Tickets**

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

## End-of-Year Movie Roundup

by Gail Seltzer, DWP

### Honey

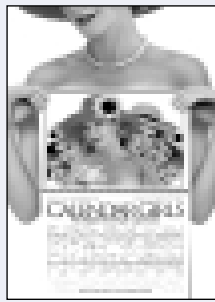


Jessica Alba stars as Honey Daniels, a hip-hop dancer and teacher. Early in the movie she is discovered by Michael (David Moscow) and is hired for his latest production. She is then asked to choreograph the next couple of productions. With the money she is making, she hopes to open a free dance studio for the kids in the neighborhood.

Mekhi Phifer (from the TV show ER) plays a barber who wants to go out with Honey. This actor has a lot of charm and so does his character. They make a sweet couple.

The movie was probably intended for pre-teens and younger teens, but I found the movie to be entertaining. If you can stand hip-hop music, it's okay for all ages. Also in the movie is Lil Romeo and a guest appearance by Missy Elliott.

### Calendar Girls



Annie Clark (Julie Walters) loses her wonderful husband John (John Alderton) to cancer. After having spent so much time in an uncomfortable waiting room in the hospital, Annie and her best friend, Chris Harper (Helen Mirren), decide to

raise money to buy a comfortable couch to donate to the hospital.

Since her women's club puts out a calendar every year to raise money, Chris comes up with the wild idea of creating a nude calendar. Surely this would raise more money than the others would. After overcoming objections from their women's group, the calendar is a go. With women ranging in age from mid-40s to the mid-60s, a beautiful and tasteful calendar is put together. Once the calendar is printed and circulated, it generates more attention than the women could have imagined.

The movie is based on a true story and is absolutely wonderful. Helen Mirren is a joy. The relationship between Annie and Chris is one that we would all want to have. Filmed mostly in England, the film treats us to some beautiful sites. And although I think it is more of women's movie, I think men will also enjoy it (probably for different reasons!). Jay Leno makes a guest appearance.

### Something's Gotta Give



Jack Nicholson is excellent as Harry Sanborn, confirmed bachelor, wealthy businessman and playboy who dates only younger women. He is currently dating Marin Barry (Amanda Peet) and the two go off for a romantic weekend at her mother's beach house. No sooner than they get there, they unexpectedly

run into her mother, Erica (played superbly by Diane Keaton) and her Aunt Zoe (Frances McDormand). Before anything happens between Harry and Marin, Harry has a mild heart attack and must stay at the beach house to recuperate. His doctor, Julian Mercer (Keanu Reeves), meets Erica and asks to take her out.

Marin and Zoe have to go back to the city and this leaves work-at-home writer Erica to care for Harry. Nervous about dating a younger man, caring for Harry, and writing her latest novel, Erica has her hands full.

The movie moved slowly at times, but it still is a very good movie. The chemistry and comedy with Jack and Diane is worth the price of admission alone. Everything else is just icing.

### Mona Lisa Smile

Julia Roberts stars as Katherine Watson, who accepts the position of art teacher at the prestige Wellesley College in 1953. Katherine tries to open her students' eyes to the fact that there is more to life than being the perfect wife, homemaker and mother. It is so amazing that was the primary objective of this school back then.



With the combination of student story lines and Katherine's story, this makes a good movie. Julia Stiles shines as student Joan. And fine performances were also turned in by fellow actors/students Kristin

Dunst and Maggie Gyllenhaal and teacher Marcia Gay Harden. I think adults would enjoy this film.

### Cold Mountain



Having just moved to new area, Ada (Nicole Kidman) meets Inman (Jude Law). Although they share very few words, their eyes lock at every meeting. The civil war soon begins and he heads off to serve, but not before he and Ada share one long passionate kiss.

The movie then goes back and forth from Inman and Ada, both writing each other, waiting for the time they can be together. Ada struggles to pay the bills and keep the house up after her father (Donald Sutherland) dies. A short time after, Ruby (Renee Zellweger) comes to live with her and help her. Renee is excellent as the hard working and spirited Ruby. She is rough around the edges, but a very likeable character.

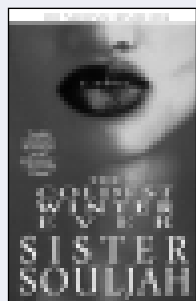
At the same time, Inman faces many obstacles and struggles to say alive to make it back home to be with Ada.

Also in this movie are Philip Seymour Hoffman, Natalie Portman and Kathy Baker. The movie was very good and moved at a fairly good pace, but even for a war movie, I think there was too much violence. 📺

# Critic's BOOK REVIEWS

Corner

Read a great book lately? Tell your fellow Club members about it! Send in a paragraph or two about the book, plus the title, author, genre, number of pages and the publisher. Send your reviews to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



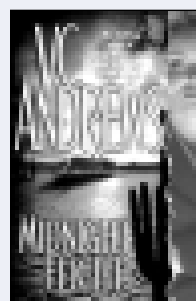
### The Coldest Winter Ever

Sister Souljah  
- 352 pages, African American Fiction, Pocket Books 1999

Sister Souljah tells an intriguing story about how Winter Santiago and her family/friends fight to survive in their neighborhood. This book covers love, murder, robbery, blackmail, drug use and abuse and betrayal. It is well written, the time line is superb, and the characters are so real. This is a coming of age story about Winter, whose father is an ill-famed drug lord. She lives a glam life based on her family's rep, and is a girl from the projects wearing hot clothes, and a bad attitude. Everything changes for Winter when her infamous father is sent to prison and everything they own (house, cars, money) is taken by the FBI. Winter sees that the streets aren't what she thought. In her quest to live a certain lifestyle she loses

it all and even is incarcerated as a result of her bad judgment. Nobody, and I mean nobody, is going to give it to you like Winter. Instead of going to school and trying to get an education to make something positive out of her life, Winter chooses the same fast life that sent her father to prison.

— Lynne Wright, Airports



### Midnight Flight

V.C. Andrews  
- 377 pages, Thriller, Pocket Books 2003

In this story, three teenagers—Robin, Teal and Phoebe—have been determined to be "incorrigible" by their families and the courts. The girls are all from entirely different backgrounds. They are sent to Dr. Foreman's School for Girls. The school is supposed to be a "boot camp" type of environment, but no one has any ideas of what really goes on at the

ranch. The girls are subjected to very cruel and unusual punishment. They sleep in barns, work in the hot desert heat and are "monitored" by ruthless guards. The girls are also subjected to a lot of psychological punishment. Psychological games are played by Dr. Foreman to turn the girls against each other, but they eventually learn that, to have any chance surviving, they must stick together. In a surprise ending, the girls are eventually rescued from "this torture and Dr. Foreman is exposed for the true villain she really is.

— Lynne Wright, Airports



### Trapped

Greg Iles  
- 434 pages, Mystery/Suspense (previously published as 24 Hours), Signet Books 2002

A team of professional kidnappers has kidnapped children five times previously and has gotten

away with it. They get the ransom and release the children unharmed. They think it is the perfect crime and it takes exactly 24 hours to accomplish it. The team then kidnaps the daughter of Dr. Will and Karen Jennings. The twist is that Will and Karen fight back. Part of the team also realizes that this time, things seem different. They are correct in their assumption. The team leader has a personal ax to grind with Will. And when things get personal, that is when mistakes are made. But Will and Karen refuse to become the sixth victim or let this team get away with its crime. Determined to stop them and save their daughter, Will and Karen wage a war with the kidnappers. This book is well written and packed with surprises. You may even find yourself feeling some compassion for some of the kidnap team members. 📺

— Lynne Wright, Airports



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**Beverly Haro**  
Member Services Counselor

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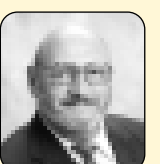
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