

Nothing Says Valentine Like Two City Hearts

■ **Alive!** talks to seven couples who fell in love while working for the City.

CLUB HEADQUARTERS — Lots of City Employees love working for the City. But lots have found love working for the City, too.

Inside, to kick off our special Valentine's Day coverage, *Alive!* tells the funny and charming stories of seven couples who met while working for the City.

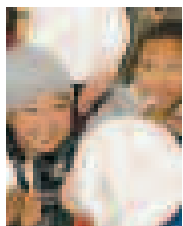
Whether it's finding love in a Sanitation dump ... or after a tough day answering 911 calls ... on a City bowling league ... or with the General Services guy who was installing the new carpet in your Councilman's office, love is in the air in the City!

Enjoy these stories, plus the "Be My Club Valentines" sent in by Club Members for their sweetie, beginning on page 46.

Rec and Parks Starts Lessons in Renewal Early

■ **Rec and Parks program teaches children about renewable resources.**

Photos by JuanCarlos Chan, Photographer, Rec and Parks



The Campostables program.

REC AND PARKS — How much do you think about the paper plate you used for dinner? What happens to it when you're finished? And what about that paper cup? Those utensils?

Rec and Parks is teaching youngsters about just such things – and the Department has won an award for the program, called Campostables.

The program raises ecological awareness amongst the youngsters who attend the Griffith Park Boys Camp and Camp Hollywood Girls Camp. All camp meals are served with biodegradable paper products, including plates, bowls and napkins. According to Jon Kirk Mukri, General Manager, Rec and Parks, "This initial effort at two City resident camps is in keeping with the Department's mission of educating young people on the importance of being good stewards of the environment through conservation and the understanding of ecosystems and wildlife."

Read more about the program on page 27.

Councilman Tom LaBonge, with City Hall in the background.

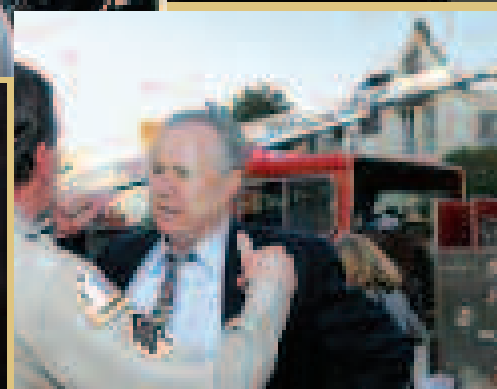
The *Alive!* Interview

Keeping up with

Mr. L.A.

■ **Alive!** was ready for a formal interview with Councilman and Club Member Tom LaBonge – but was whisked away to an emergency fire in his district. We learned the LaBonge rule: If you want to chat with him, be prepared to keep up.

Go to Page 10 for the full interview.



Alive! photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
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Be My Club Valentine!

Club Members pledge their forever love ...
in this month's *Alive!*

See page 46



Alive!

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See page 62 for ordering details.
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Call 800-300-9728 or visit www.wpcu.org

Bring in this ad when you open your account — we waive the \$5 membership fee for *Alive!* readers.

** A Message From the CEO **

LaBonge Loves LA Like No One Else

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

Greetings, Club Members!

Well, as you can see, this month our main feature is an interview with the illustrious Councilman and Club Member Tom LaBonge. It's not exactly a "normal" interview, as it was done while rolling to the scene of an apartment fire in his district, as well as *at* the fire, and *on* the way back. We took a quick break with the questions when he stopped at a traffic accident to make sure everyone was all right; and then we stopped here and there when he made notes to his staff in the back seat about things amiss in his district, from potholes and errant palm fronds to constituent concerns. But then we kept right on talking, all the way back to City Hall.

I have to say that the rumors are true: Tom LaBonge never, ever stops moving, and he really does love Los Angeles like no one else I've ever met. Read, and enjoy this special *Alive!* Interview.



Tom LaBonge (left), avid photographer, switches sides as he takes a picture of Club CEO John Hawkins during this month's *Alive!* cover photo shoot.

"We landed on a small dirt airfield and were met by our guide, Okwa, in a large Land Rover ..." That sounds like the beginning of a great adventure novel, doesn't it? Well, Hal Danowitz is at it again in his column, *Adventures with Hal*. Make sure you read part two of Hal's adventure to Africa this month; it starts on page 42 and will definitely keep you riveted!

And, as you know, February is the month of love. So, we've brought you two features that celebrate this. The first feature is *Be My Club Valentine*. Every year we print this special feature, where members can post a favorite picture of their loved one along with a personal message. Turn to page 46 and 47 to see what's being said down on Lover's Lane. Our second "love" feature is "Love and the City," another good feature turned in by one of our favorite writers, Club Member Yvonne Liu. It tells the story of seven couples who fell in love while both were working for the City. It starts on page 48 and is a great read.

And there's so much more: *History Comes Alive*, where we learn all about the roots of the French in Los Angeles (page 28); more holiday party round-ups (page 33); another West Point Leadership graduation (page 30); Harbor's entry into the Rose Parade; and the list goes on and on.

As you can see, there's never a loss of interesting things happening with City Employees. Dig in and enjoy!

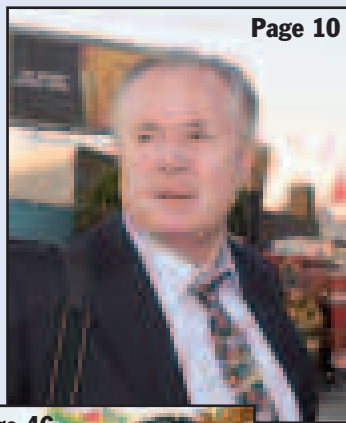
JOHN

(jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)



Features

Alive! February 2008
The newspaper of the
City Employees Club of Los Angeles



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To interview Councilman Tom LaBonge, first you have to catch up with him.

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The LAPD graduates another class of leaders in the making..

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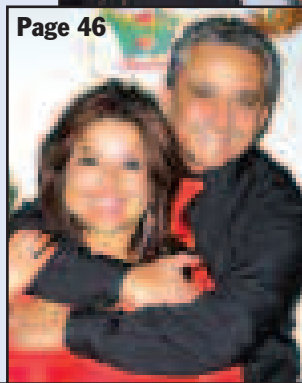
Alive! continues its annual roundup of the City's holiday parties.

45 Rose Parade Float

Harbor Dept. provided the City's official entry in the 2008 Rose Parade.

46 Club Hearts on Fire

Alive! celebrates Valentine's Day with two features – a story on City Employees who fell in love while working for the City, and a collection of your own Club Valentines sent to your sweeties.



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Go to Disneyland!
Discount tickets
at the Club Store.

SEE PAGE 61

The Word on the Street



**Cecilia Talbot,
Claims Administrator**

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

The Club provided "very good service. I didn't like having to fill out all those forms. You let me know what was missing on the forms."

— Miguel Rodriguez, July 2007

"Howard [Pompe], you definitely took the time to be extremely informative and professional on my visit to the 'Club.' It definitely was a pleasure to finally meet you. I sincerely appreciate your help and patience during my small setback."

— Ms. Jake, July 2007

Service From The Heart... When You Need It Most

Trust the Club's insurance and claims services when you need them the most.



The City Employees Club of Los Angeles
Celebrating the Lives of City Employees.

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Total claims paid back to Club Members in 2007 (through December): \$5,301,080.92

Claims paid:

Life insurance claims paid this month: **\$470,513.28**

Life insurance claims paid this year: **\$3,163,989.14**

Long-term disability claims paid this month: **\$126,753.82**

Long-term disability claims paid this year: **\$1,407,929.78**

Long-term care claims paid this month: **\$44,550.00**

Long-term care claims paid this year: **\$264,162.00**

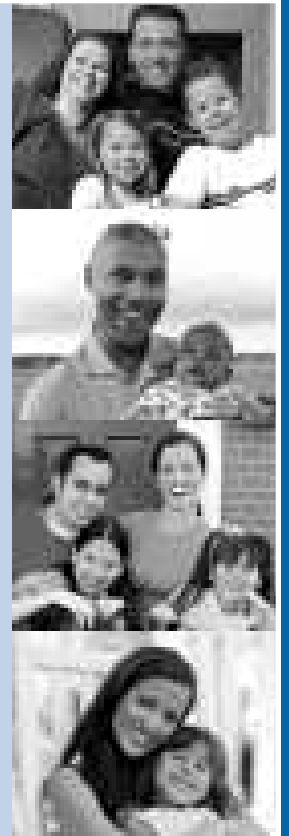
Cancer insurance claims paid this month: **\$50,000.00**

Cancer insurance claims paid this year: **\$465,000.00**

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- Comprehensive Long Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance (\$10,000-\$50,000)
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*Contact the Club for more details.



These are the faces behind the Club. Our staff is dedicated to helping our members receive the maximum benefit from their membership. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions about your Club, our counselors are ready to help.

Need help? Find your Counselor

When contacting the Club, ask for the counselor that handles your department.



2003 President's Award Recipient
Arlene Herrero
Senior Benefits Specialist – Member Services Counselor

Aging, Department of Building and Safety, Department of DWP Energy Services
DWP Marketing and Customer Service
DWP Water Services
Engineering, Bureau of General Services, Department of Harbor Department

Information Technology Agency
Library Department
Personnel Department
Police Department
Retirement System, City Employees' Sanitation, Bureau of Transportation, Department of



Liz Montes
Member Services Counselor

Accounting, Bureau of [Formerly] Animal Regulation, Department of Airports, Los Angeles World
Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Administrative Officer
City Attorney
City Clerk
Coliseum, Los Angeles Memorial Community Development Department
Community Redevelopment Agency
Contract Administration, Bureau of Controller, Office of the Convention Center, Los Angeles
Council District # 1-15
Cultural Affairs, Department of

Department on Disability
DWP Admin.
DWP Financial Services Executive
DWP Integrated Support Services
El Pueblo De Los Angeles
Environmental Affairs, Department of Finance, Office of Fire Department
Housing Department
Management/Employee Services, Mayor, Office of the Planning, City
Recreation and Parks, Department of Street Lighting, Bureau of Street Services, Bureau of Zoo Department, Los Angeles

Questions? We're here to help.

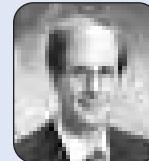
Call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

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Meet the Club Team



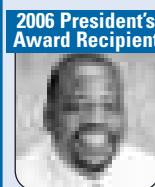
John Hawkins
President & CEO



Brian G. Trent
Chief Financial Officer

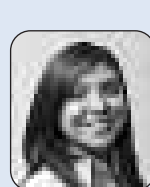


Robert Larios
Director of Communications & Marketing



2006 President's Award Recipient

Navin Cotton
Vendor Relations Manager
"Ticket Guy"



Jessica Segura
Merchandise and Ticket Sales Coordinator



2004 President's Award Recipient

Cecilia Talbot
Claims Administrator



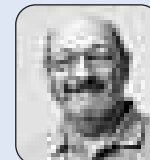
Marla Fisher
Claims Assistant



Angel Gomez
Member Services Manager



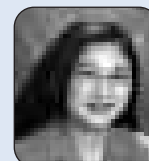
Lupe Medina
Administrative Services Representative



Howard Pompe
Member Services Counselor, In-House



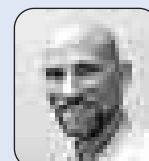
Leigh Thompson
Controller



Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant



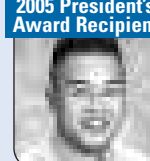
Katie Hesseltine
Application Coordinator



Michael Anderson
Information Technology Manager



Alan Bound
Information Technology Programmer



2005 President's Award Recipient

Summy Lam
Information Technology Business Analyst

LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

'People We See' Is a Good Reminder of our Neighbors

I was quite interested in your article called "People We See" because I volunteer at a food locker and know each person we serve has a story. Sometimes we need to look beyond ourselves to look in the eyes of someone in need. Our brothers and sisters on the streets need our compassion and a ray of hope. Each person can do something, such as donating to good causes that help those experiencing darker days. Awareness is what you brought to light by this article. Thanks.

— Wanda Kujawski, City Retiree

Thank you for the wonderfully compassionate new feature, "People We See." Every month I'll look forward to reading about our overlooked, often-ignored workplace neighbors. Bless you for not forgetting them.

— Lori, Club Member

Griffith's Planetarium Show Is Beautiful, Worth the Trip

Hi *Alive!* Just thought I would tell you that I went and saw the new planetarium show at the City's Griffith Observatory. It's called "Centered in the Universe." It takes you through a visual journey of what astronomers believed thousands of years ago and what they believe today.

I've got to tell you that it blew my mind. Not only was it well-written and well-presented, the graphics and imagery were beautiful. In fact, the best word to describe the show would be "beautiful." If you can, please put this in your next *Alive!* so that my fellow City Employees can also enjoy the new show; I know they'll be glad they did.

— Thomas Bainbridge - DPW

City Audits Can Provide Ways To Improve Dept. Management

To me, any time I hear the audit, I think of bad thoughts. That doesn't change even when we're talking about City Controller Laura Chick auditing the Department of Animal Services. I hope all goes "A-okay" for Animal Services.

— Joe Howe, Rec and Parks

Important to Get the Word Out About Sand Bags for the Rain

I think it was a great thing that Public Works did to offer sandbags to the L.A. residents like my neighbors and I during the rainy period. I just wished there was a way that the information on how to get some was advertised more. If it weren't for me, since I work with General Services, I don't think my neighbors would have known to call the 311 information line for the City of Los Angeles.

— Henry Forbes, General Services

Lori Is a Big Fan of Old-Time Feel of City Hall's Room 350

I know everyone is familiar with the main City Hall Chamber room that regular City Hall business is conducted with the public and City Council. But my favorite room is room 350, which is the Department of Public Works Chamber Room. I think it's officially called the Edward R. Roybal BPW Session Room. Can anyone confirm this? Anyway, this room has a real yesteryear feeling to it and is a must see if you're in City Hall.

— Lori Trاملة, Transportation

Detention Officer Objects to Daily News Idea to Save Money

On Jan. 22, the *Daily News* newspaper ran an editorial suggesting ways that the City of Los Angeles could resolve their financial problems.

One of their suggestions was reducing and cutting City Workers' pay raises, stating that the raises were "unearned," and referred to City Workers as city bureaucrats being the highest paid in the nation.

I disagree that the City should "revisit the whopping 23 percent, unearned pay hikes that City Hall gave to the City's bureaucrats (the highest paid in the nation)."

This new contract that City Workers negotiated was a fair contract. In the prior contract that expired in June, we received a total of 6.25 percent in wage increases over three years, with no pay raise the first year of that contract. The funny thing is, I did not see anyone writing in to complain about that.

The City should look for other avenues to save money (there are many of them, just ask Laura Chick) before cutting or reducing pay increases. We have earned them.

— Brian Hollenbaugh, Jail Division, LAPD

Corrections

In last month's story on the Harbor's 100th anniversary party, we identified several Port Police officers as working for a different agency. We apologize for this; the editor certainly knows the difference, but was asleep at the wheel.

Here are the photos with the correct identifications. — Ed.

Securing the event were, from left: Christopher Flanagan, Cadet, Port Police, 1 year of service; Edward Olvera, Port Police Cadet, 4 months of service; and Christine Piña, Port Police Sr. Cadet, two years of service.



On the Cycle Detail are (from left) Byron Culbertson, Senior Lead Officer, Port Police, 2 years of service; and Sgt. Robert Myers, Port Police, 19 years of service.



From left: Lt. Michael Kettelkamp, Port Police, 25 years of service; and Rosario Ferrara, Senior Lead Officer, Port Police, 5 years of service.

REST INSURED

by JEFF GELINEAU

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



Businesses in Home Need Protection, Too

People sometimes start a home business to help contribute to the family income, or to provide a "little extra." These endeavors can be rewarding both financially and in the purpose and fulfillment that they often bring. Unfortunately, they can also bring along additional insurance exposures that need to be considered, also.

An estimated 12 million Americans operate a full-time or part-time business from their home, and that number keeps growing. Many people believe their homeowners' policies cover all their home business insurance needs. As a result, many are uninsured.

The first tip is: Don't assume your homeowners' policy covers your home business. It may, but coverage will be very limited. Most insurance companies do allow you to add some home businesses by endorsement and that provides much broader coverage. Remember, home business coverage on your homeowners' policy is *not automatic*. Not all home businesses can be covered on a homeowners' policy. Insurance companies do not want to insure any type of business where you have clients visiting your home. Mainly they want to cover work that you do from home, or times when you travel to other people's homes.

The next question is, what would happen if a fire destroyed your business property, making it impossible for you to get back to business right away? Would you remember what property had been destroyed? One way is by taking a complete inventory of all your personal business property, determining its value, and deciding what's worth insuring. Having an up-to-date business inventory will help you get your insurance claim settled faster, verify losses for your business' income tax return and help you purchase the correct amount of insurance.

Start by making a list of personal business property, describing each item and noting where you bought it and its make and model. Clip to your list any sales receipts, purchase contracts, and appraisals you have.

Even if you do add this coverage, you will be getting very limited business coverage. You will get coverage for your property and liability, but will not get coverage for any loss of income, automobile insurance, or any type of professional liability.

Some insurance companies have begun to offer what amounts to a mini-business owners' package policy. Some of these policies cover loss or destruction of business property on or off premises; loss of valuable papers and important business information; personal injury and advertising liability; accounts receivable up to \$10,000; money lost on premises up to \$5,000 and off premises up to \$2,000.

The companies that offer these policies often require that you purchase your homeowners' and auto policies from them. With those in place, your home business policy extends the amount of personal property and liability coverage you have on your home to your business. And if a fire or storm makes running your business impossible, it'll cover expenses and lost income for up to a year.

Start your search for a policy with trade associations or business groups. In many cases, these organizations are able to provide reduced insurance rates based on the volume

of business they can offer the insurance company. They've also negotiated coverage specific to your type of business, which can save you significant time in determining what you should cover. If you are presenting home parties selling products for a certain company (like cosmetics, clothing, jewelry, etc.), then contact that company to see if they have an insurance program that you can purchase to cover your exposures.

If you use an auto for your business activities — for example, transporting supplies or products, visiting customers, or ferrying employees or customers — you need to make certain your automobile insurance will protect you from accidents that occur while on business. In many cases, your personal automobile policy, which covers taking the kids to see their grandmother, picking up the groceries, or any one of thousands of personal tasks, can also cover business uses.

In some cases, however, depending on your type of business and the kind of vehicles you own, you may need to purchase a separate business auto insurance policy.

Once you hire an employee, you may need to purchase workers' compensation insurance to cover what it will cost if the employee is hurt on the job and needs medical treatment and income until he or she can return to work.

If you've incorporated your business, workers' compensation insurance can also cover you if you are injured at work.

Keep in mind that most personal umbrella policies that are tacked onto a homeowners' or personal auto policy will cover liability stemming from business activities and business property only if covered by the basic policies. Always check your policy to see how it defines business and business property, or ask your agent.

Feel free to call our agency if you have any questions about insuring a home business, or would like a homeowners quote.

United Agencies is the Club's Partner in helping members with their home and auto insurance and related products. We specialize in creating personal relationships with our customers, and serving their needs in a prompt, efficient and friendly manner.

Call our office today at (888) 801-5522, United Agencies Burbank (CA License # 0252636).

Check out our City Employees Club page on the United Agencies Website at: www.unitedagencies.com/cityclub

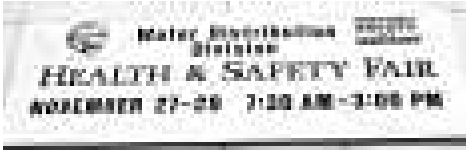
This Website lists the upcoming visits we'll be making to City Department meetings where you can ask us any question in person, and get an instant quote!

Have a question? Is there something about insurance that you've always wanted to know, but were too ashamed to ask? Maybe something that you've just always been curious about? Feel free to send me an email at jgelineau@unitedagencies.com, and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.

Be Safe and Have Fun!

Call United Agencies Burbank today at (888) 801-5522.

CA License # 0252636



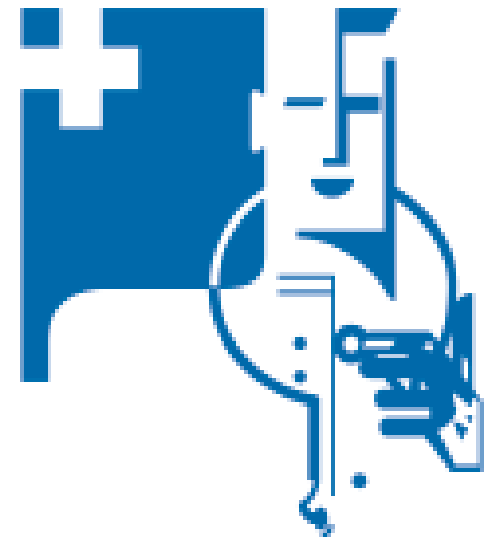
At the Sylmar Health Fair.



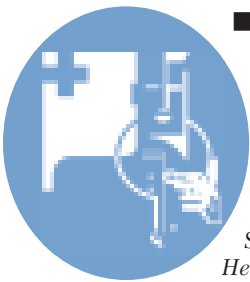
At the Sylmar Health Fair.



Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, helps out DWP employees.



Sylmar Health Fair



■ **DWP's Sylmar Station hosts employee health fair.**

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, and Tonya Howard-Taylor, DWP Sylmar Station; Photos by Arlene Herrero

DWP — More than 400 people attended the DWP Water Distribution Health Fair from Nov. 27 to 29 at the DWP's Sylmar Station.

The Club was there, telling the good news of all the benefits Sylmar employees can enjoy when they join the Club.

Other participating vendors included 3M; LA City Fire C.E.R.T.; Blue Cross; Kaiser; Smile Finders dental referral service; American Red Cross; Work Rite Ergonomic; Le High Safety Shoe; United Rental Trench Safety; Usana Health Science; Shoterra; AFLAC; California Highway Patrol; RKI Instruments; Atwood Prior; DWP Corporate Health and Safety; Sylmar Water Education Safety and Training; the DWP Employee Association; Dept. of Aging; and the DWP Family Care Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

The Sylmar Director is Steve Malinoski and the staff that helped with the fair included Tonya Howard-Taylor; Jaime Castrellon; Mark Brandt; Gwen Derby; Virginia Lombardo; Charles Sparks; Reuben Garcia; Richard Bustos; Keith Saddler; Mike Hamilton; and Jerry Jones.

Congratulations to all for a successful event.



Jaime Hernandez, Safety Engineer Associate, 2 years of service, Club Member.



From left: Thomas Lim, Water Services Specialist, 20 years of service; and Colman Lockett, Maintenance and Construction Helper, 17 years.



Leslie A. Vernon, Sales Person, Receptionist, 14 years of service, in the DWP Employees' Association booth.



From left: Steve Malinoski, DWP Executive; and Michael Chavez, Superintendent, Club Member.



Tonya Howard-Taylor (foreground), DWP Industrial Hygienist, 2 years of service with DWP. Tonya and her Sylmar Water Education Safety and Training Team (Sylmar WEST) organized the fair. In the background (from left) are Renee Patillo and Emmie Sobrepena from USANA Health Services.



Pat Nagy and Eugene Bivol from the Red Cross.



From left: Daniel Montano; Nick Ramirez, 24 years of service; and Richard Bustos, General Superintendent, Water Distribution.



Helen Davis, Department Liaison, Council on Aging and California Senior Legislature; and Club Member.



Sandra Foster, Utility Administrator, 14 years of service, Club Member.



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213-689-4662 Fax: 213-689-7870
e-mail: mjd1903@aol.com

We've Moved to Larger Quarters

Rosebud Marketing is now in Suite B-277 (we were in A-444).

In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins and Member Services Manager Angel Gomez introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell.

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

No. 2 in a series.
FEBRUARY 2008



Meet Mike McDowell.

HIS NEIGHBORHOOD:
Temple and Los Angeles Streets, a block north of City Hall.

AGE: 56

BIRTHPLACE:
Flint, Mich. "I moved to L.A. in 1990. I took the Greyhound. It cost me \$124 one way."

FAMILY:
One sister, no brothers.

EDUCATION:
Ameson High School, Mich.

IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?
"Peace on earth."

FAVORITE TEAM:
Detroit Lions

RELIGION?
Christian

FAVORITE FOOD:
Rice

FAVORITE MOVIE:
Gone With the Wind

FAVORITE ACTOR:
Sean Connery

FAVORITE ACTRESS:
Kim Novak

FAVORITE TV SHOW:
Jeopardy

FAVORITE MUSIC:
Classical

FAVORITE CANDY:
Chocolate-covered peanuts

FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY:
City Hall area and Broadway

DATE WE MET MIKE:
Jan. 9, 2008

The Club gave Mike a \$25 Starbucks card and a blanket.



Who are the people you see every day?

Newsbriefs

NEW PERSONNEL CHIEF AT AIRPORTS:

On Jan. 17, Paula Adams was appointed Personnel Director of Airports, which owns and operates four Southern California airports: Los Angeles International (LAX), LA/Ontario International (ONT), LA/Palmdale Regional (PMD) and Van Nuys (VNY).

Adams is responsible for managing LAWA's Human Resources Division, which covers the key areas of Equal Employment Opportunities, Labor Relations and Records Management, Staffing and Compensation, Training and Benefits and, City Employment Opportunities. The division provides human resources services to more than 3,500 City employees at LAWA.

In announcing the appointment, LAWA Deputy Executive Director for Administration and Government Affairs, Samson Mengistu, said, "Paula Adams brings extensive experience in managing all aspects of personnel work, and she will be a great asset to LAWA, and play a key role as we move forward with improvements in Human Resources."

In taking on the position, Paula Adams said, "My goal is to create a truly empowered Human Resources Division, and I look forward to my role in facilitating the personal interaction among my staff and all of LAWA's employees."

Adams has held increasingly responsible administrative positions within three Los Angeles city departments – LAWA, DWP and General Services. Most recently she served as a utility administrator at DWP, where she conducted internal investigations.

From 2000 to 2007, Adams served in various positions within LAWA, including labor relations analyst and management analyst. She held dual roles in which she served as both LAWA's Labor Relations Manager and the Equal Employment Opportunity Manager.

She has studied in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and speaks fluent Portuguese. She holds a Bachelor of arts degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara; a Master's degree in public administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills; and a Certificate in corporate litigation from the University of California, Los Angeles Extension.

Adams is a Los Angeles resident and has two daughters.

SAVING WATER:

Citing the growing water shortage and pending drought, Councilwoman Janice Hahn has called on the City to implement a series of water saving and reuse programs.

"We are facing a serious water shortage in Southern California," she said. "It is our duty to make responsible changes and upgrades to ensure we are doing all we can to conserve and use water smartly."

Councilwoman Hahn has introduced three separate motions over the past several months. Two of the motions call for better use of recycled water for irrigation or industrial uses, not for drinking.

First, she has called on the DWP and Public Works/Sanitation to develop new requirements for all new developments, as well as significant remodels of multifamily properties, to utilize recycled water, or a "purple pipe" system for irrigation and industrial uses. The motion further instructs the DWP to create a master plan of how to utilize recycled water for existing customers throughout the City. In a separate motion, Councilwoman Hahn asked the DWP to look specifically at the possibility of using waste water from the Hyperion and Terminal Island treatment plants for industrial and irrigation purposes in the South Bay.

In a third motion, the Councilwoman requested that the DWP to work hand in hand with the Metropolitan Water District to develop a new rebate program to provide incentives to convert more customers to drought-friendly landscapes. The motion also asks the Department to create requirements for the use of drought tolerant plants in landscaping for all City projects of more than 50,000 square feet.

"We can no longer ignore this pending crisis facing the City," she said. "Yet, every day we are dumping about 230 million gallons of waste water into the ocean. It is time we seriously looked into how we can prepare for a drought."

Life's Important Moments

Share your moments!

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

New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Airports | Housing | Public Works | Adam Myers |
| Kathryn Kutsch | Juan Dial | Sanitation | Erric Roman |
| Francisco Martinez | Convention Center | Francisco Arevalo | Walter Tobar |
| Evelia Moratoya-Rueno | John Blue | Benjamin Autrey | Manuel Villaguana |
| Syed Naqvi | Carlos Lozano | Jorge Barajas | Maha Yateem |
| James Payne Jr | Josue Montano | Sheila Brice | Victor Yoshii |
| Carlos Piedra | Ruth Reza | Howard Cross III | DWP |
| Claudio Ragasa Jr. | John Sanchez | Santos Duran | Bronko Anderson |
| Sharon Rodgers | Planning | Irvyn Espino | Susan Chudy |
| Erica Sahagun | Monique Diaz | Arthur Hall | Mark Goodwin |
| Marvin Ward | LAPD | Melva Jackson | Mack Luna |
| Animal Services | Anthony Azevedo | Kenneth Lampton | Victor Rios |
| Thomas Kalinowski | Elaine Belk | Pablo Serrano | Retired |
| Jackie Kirkman | Tenicia Davis | Anthony Watson | Quinta Hunter |
| Controller's Office | Jayda Davis | Albert Woodson | Joe Legaspi Jr |
| Adelaida Villanueva | Renee Merrick | Rec and Parks | Vaudine Shaw |
| LAFD | Bhikhu Raval | Mary Bingham | Other |
| Justin Davis | Aurora Smith | Titus DeCoursey | Joey Castruita Jr |
| Ronald Crittendon | Joann Stout | Patricia Delgado | Joe Jennings |
| Harbor | Eleitino Tuiasosopo | Stachana Harris | Rodolfo Jimenez |
| Marino Paredes | Angel Vega | Derrick Jackson | Gustavo Ornelas |
| General Services | Gentle Winter | Sharon Moore | Quoc Tran |
| Edward Casebeer | Karen Wright | Nikol Morales | Luis Zaldivar |
| Cesar Gonzalez | | Gonzalo Moran | |
| Clinton Peterson | | | |
| Bobby Smith | | | |

In Memoriam

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

| | |
|--|--|
| Active | Matthew Gaines, Public Works, 33 |
| Charles Anderson, Public Works, 19 | James Green*, DWP, 27 |
| Kenneth Branam, DWP, 23 | Ralph Haack, Public Works, 19 |
| William Buckner, Public Works, 4 | Printes Hodges, General Services, 22 |
| Karl Chang*, DWP, 7 | Arline Jocelyn, DWP, 8 |
| Mark Thomas Feliciano, Rec and Parks, 4 | Ann Johnson, Library, 19 |
| Richard Johnson, Building and Safety, 23 | Eunice Kent, Library, 36 |
| Matt Manney, Transportation, 9 | Paul Kishi, DWP, 22 |
| George Monaghan, Public Works, 18 | Stanley Kmiecik, DWP, 28 |
| John Francis Morgan, ITA, 9 | LeVal Lund Jr., DWP, 42 |
| Hollis Wilson*, DWP, 39 | Henrietta Marshall, Public Works, 24 |
| Retired | Andres Morales, Public Works, 24 |
| Ward Abrams, Rec and Parks, 19 | Monroe Phillips, DWP, 30 |
| Jeanne Bailey, City Council, 33 | Ralph Rosenfeld, Building and Safety, 15 |
| Wanda Banks, DWP, 24 | Richard Roudebush, General Services, 26 |
| Lawrence Barney*, DWP, 12 | Curtiss Simpson, Rec and Parks, 30 |
| John Bast, DWP, 23 | Robert Smid, DWP, 29 |
| Alfonso Bautista, CDD, 14 | John Speare, DWP, 23 |
| Nancy Bonneau, DWP, 31 | Robert Swartz, General Services, 11 |
| Emily Bunn, Transportation, 22 | Eugene Vasquez, DWP, 45 |
| Joe Burk, Building and Safety, 30 | Ralph Venus, Public Works, 31 |
| Chester Carpenter, Public Works, 21, | Donald Weidner, LAPD, 14 |
| Marvin Carter*, DWP, 31 | William Whalen, DWP, 12 |
| Beulah Clark, LAPD, 26 | Bert Wilde, DWP, 22 |
| Gilbert Cota, DWP, 26 | Jesse Willis, Public Works, 25 |
| Patrick DeSalvo, Public Works, 27 | Margery Wolf, Controller, 10 |
| Raymond Festor, DWP, 30 | Robert Yeamans, DWP, 6 |

*Club Member

Retirements

| NAME | TITLE | DEPT. | YEARS | NAME | TITLE | DEPT. | YEARS |
|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Robert Allen | Refuse Collect. Truck Op. | Public Works | 16 | Royce Menkus | Asst. City Adm. Officer | CAO | 35 |
| Hamed Aman | Tax Auditor | Finance | 36 | George Naviera | Not Disclosed | DWP | Not Provided |
| Margaret Coffey | Police Service Rep. | LAPD | 29 | Kathy Neal | Council Aide | Council | 8 |
| Ronald Deaton | Not Disclosed | DWP | Not Provided | Milton Norwood | Heavy Duty Truck Op. | Public Works | 31 |
| Shahry Deyhimy | Sr. Mgmt. Analyst | Housing | 32 | Cathy Poulos | Management Analyst | LAPD | 30 |
| Randolph Dreyer | Not Disclosed | DWP | Not Provided | Leonard Sanchez | Not Disclosed | DWP | Not Provided |
| Elizabeth Floyd | Cust. Supervisor | General Services | 30 | Albert Savage* | Not Disclosed | DWP | Not Provided |
| Brenda Lakes | Sr. Clerk Typist | Finance | 30 | Aurora Smith | Airport Guide | Airports | 13 |
| Kevin Lutz | Air Conditioning Mech. | Zoo | 31 | Linda Valentine | Clerk Typist | LAPD | 13 |
| Thomas Matchie | Not Disclosed | DWP | Not Provided | | | | |

*Club Member

Births



First birthday Dec. 7 for D'Andre, grandson of Alicia Marquez, DWP, Club Rep. "A party was held with the 'Lil Prince' theme, and he managed to keep his crown on through out the whole party. It was a wonderful day. For all you grandmothers out there, enjoy your grandchildren while you can."



Frankie Nathan Alvizures, born Oct. 6 to Amanda Alvizures, Planning Dept., and her husband, Francisco. "Our gift from God, after our first son turned 18," Amanda says.



Delano Kojo Oppong, born Nov. 5 to Eric and Tracie Edwards Oppong and older brother, Jordan. Tracie is a Senior Management Analyst, Airports.

Alive! is delighted to publish photos of Club members newborn babies. Have a photo of a recent newborn? Send it in to *Alive!* Births, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

Special Achievements

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? It could be academic, or part of your hobby, or similar. Let us know! Send a photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Promotions

Alive! is delighted to publish promotion photos of Club members. Have a photo of a recent promotion? Send it in to *Alive!* Promotions, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

Graduations

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? It could be academic, or part of your hobby, or similar. Let us know! Send a photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Weddings

Alive! is delighted to publish wedding photos of Club members. Have a photo of a recent wedding? Send it in to *Alive!* Weddings, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

Quinceañera

Alive! is delighted to publish photos of Club members quinceañera. Have a photo of a recent quinceañera? Send it in to *Alive!* Quinceañera, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

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Insurance Products

From the Club

The Club offers these group-rated insurance products to its members. Don't wait... make a positive step for your peace of mind today. Contact your Club Counselor for all the details of these plans.



Term Life (from \$10K to \$300K)

Safeguard your loved ones! Life insurance is a great way to protect them. Purchasing term life insurance also makes you eligible for the Club's famous refund check...whatever we don't spend in claims and overhead, we return to the policyholders. Smart...well managed...and service-oriented.

Spouse Life Insurance

Include your spouse with Club Term Life Insurance.

Long Term Disability Insurance

Protect yourself from career-ending traumas.



Long Term Care Insurance

Manage your future health-care costs with this Club package.

Cancer Insurance

Purchase a Cancer Insurance policy from the Club, and put this affliction out of your mind.

Group Rated Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance

Use the power of the Club to protect yourself against the financial downfall of accidental death or dismemberment.

Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Take advantage of the Club's purchasing power (strength in numbers!) to get great rates for your auto and homeowners insurance.

Your Counselor Can Help

Your Club Counselor will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Club's insurance packages. Look on page 4 to find out which Counselor represents your department ...or call (800) 464-0452.



Arlene Herrero



Liz Montes



Howard Pompel

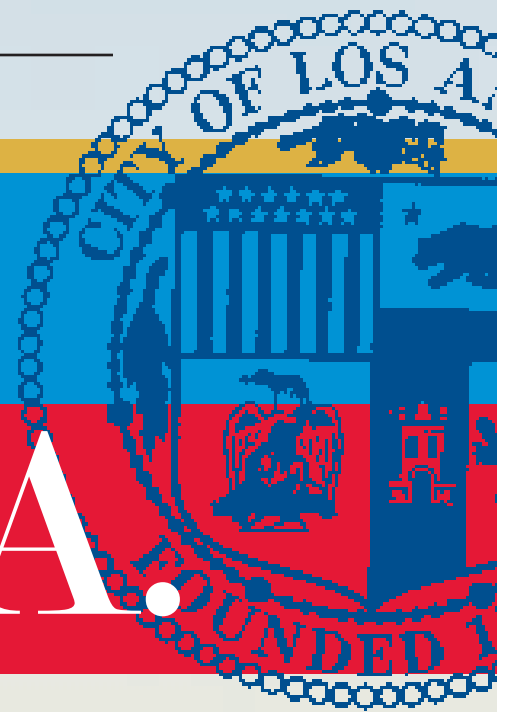
The *Alive!* Interview

Tom LaBonge at the fire Jan. 15 in a two-story apartment building at 5449 W. Sixth St. near Detroit Street. No one was injured in the blaze.



On the Move with

Mr. L.A.



As *Alive!* discovered, interviewing Councilman and Club Member Tom LaBonge means catching up with him first. In this unusual *Alive!* Interview, we capture Tom at his best – serving his district during a fire emergency. On the drive back, he shares some thoughts about family, pumpkin bread, and public service in his favorite city in the world, Los Angeles.

TURN THE PAGE FOR THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW.



Alive! photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager, and *Alive!* staff

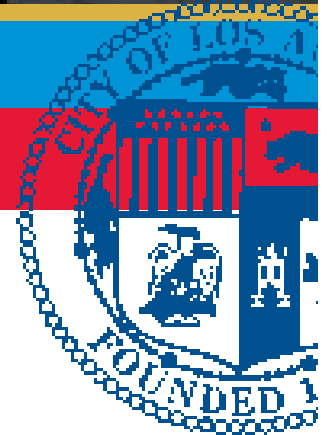


Mr. L.A.



Tom LaBonge congratulates his fellow City Employee, Sgt. Curtin, Transportation, for the sergeant's excellent of traffic management at the scene of the fire.

The *Alive!* Interview



LaBonge on the Move



■ **Despite driving to a fire emergency in his District, Councilman and Club Member Tom LaBonge gave an in-depth *Alive!* Interview from the front seat of his car.**

CLUB HEADQUARTERS — Tom LaBonge met *Alive!* in his City Council offices in City Hall, ready to chat at length about his thoughts concerning the City of Los Angeles, only to be called to an emergency apartment building fire in his district.

Rather than miss the opportunity to interview the ever-in-motion Councilman, *Alive!* grabbed our pens, notebooks and cameras, and hopped in his front seat. And it occurred to us that being in motion and serving his district were his natural states anyway.

The following interview was conducted Tuesday, Jan. 15, both in his car on the way to and from the fire, and at the scene. — Ed.

Alive! You were brought up with seven brothers.

Tom LaBonge: Yes.

How did that shape you?

Tom: Well, first, we had great parents. Both of our parents loved the city of Los Angeles. They loved the community. They taught us great values, which are so important to have. They taught us to care for our neighborhoods. Being boys, we broke a lot of windows playing baseball. [So, they wanted to] compensate for that.

What was the age spread of your brothers?

Tom: We had a 20-year age spread. When some guys had hot rods, we still had kids riding tricycles.

I can't say enough about my family, helping me develop so many things. I've been very fortunate coming from a great family.

My mother's father was a Los Angeles police officer from 1919 to 1943, so there's a little connection to the City there.

How did I end up [working for the City]? Back in 1962, I was going to a Catholic school, Our Mother of Good Counsel on Vermont Avenue. All Catholic schools had classes of 60-plus kids, so I got forced out of the class. Consequently, I started going to a public school. What do all your brothers do? They called you, "public," because you went to a public school. Now, some 45 years later, what am I? A public servant. It's funny how it all worked out.

Were you the first in the family to go to a public school?

Tom: First in the family, and then they all followed me because a lot of us went to John Marshall High School. Only three of the eight boys went to Catholic high school.

You grew up in a strong Catholic family.

Tom: I got a great letter from a 92-year-old Monsignor who knew all my family when we were growing up. He was very complimentary to how he remembers all of us growing up and playing.

My father died when I was 17; my mom died when she was 83, so she lived a good life. But I would love to have them see my family, my brothers and me, and where we are now.

Do you stay in contact with any of your brothers?

Tom: All of my brothers.

Do you have a favorite?

Tom: They're all my brothers. They all have great values.

Family is really important. When I was young, my job in life was to take the trash out, and I met the City trash collectors when we had garbage day and can-box-day, which came as a precursor. We used to collect trash on two dif-

ferent days and the cans on a different day. I remember during the summer waiting for the City truck to come by; the guys who worked for the City were so nice to you. That's the one thing about a City employee — they represent the City. They're a community, and it's kind of exciting for people to see them in a real form and face.

Have you taken what you learned from your parents and incorporated it into your personal life?

Tom: Oh yes, certainly. My kids learn about the City a lot. I've taken my children all over. I've had a great experience for many years, first with [then-Councilwoman] Peggy Stevenson in the mid-'70s to [then-Council President] John Ferraro from the late '70s to the early '90s, to Mayor [Richard] Riordan for seven years, and then with the Department of Water and Power. And then I was elected to office six years ago. During that whole time, when I had kids from 1994, I'd take my children all over the City. So they've experienced a lot of the City, too.

And my wife, Brigid, has been very supportive of my work in many different ways.

How many years have you been married?

Tom: I've been married since 1988, 20 years this year; but we were together 29. We met at the Palomino Club, 6907 Lankershim Boulevard.

What would you tell parents today as far as raising kids?

Tom: Parenthood is so important. I had great parents, and I try to be a good parent. It's important to engage your children in every way possible about what the City is about,

— continues

“I come home satisfied every night knowing that I made a difference in somebody’s life, and I think that’s a great value if you can teach your children that.”

– Tom LaBonge

— continued from page 13

especially if you’re a public employee, whether you’re a police officer or a firefighter or a librarian. Engage them in the importance of what a public servant is. I come home satisfied every night knowing that I made a difference in somebody’s life and I think that’s a great value if you can teach your children that. That’s certainly what I try to do.

Your son, Charles, is your oldest?

Tom: Charles is my youngest, nine, soon to be ten.

What do you think he’ll be?

Tom: He wants to play for the San Diego Chargers.

And your daughter [Mary-Catherine]?

Tom: She’s a great writer, and she works real hard at school and does real well, so I have hope that she writes.

Does she have an ambition?

Tom: I think to be a writer. So it really inspires me because I’m not a writer; I’m a listener and talker, and I do what I do. But I like the fact that my daughter is. My wife is an artist. She’s helped me a lot in my career.

Energized About the City

Do you think that being born, raised and schooled

in Los Angeles makes you different?

Tom: Everybody contributes wherever they’re from, but I think when you’re from Los Angeles you can contribute even more because you have the experience. You see the transformation in neighborhoods. I think it’s just the experience of seeing the neighborhood change.

My parents were born in Los Angeles, my mother in Lincoln Heights and my dad in Long Beach, and they grew up in Los Angeles. They’re both gone and in heaven, but you heard the family stories, and you’re able to remember that there’s somebody who went before us and worked real hard to try to build this great City.

If you could go back to one day in L.A.’s history ...

Tom: I would go back when [DWP water system architect William] Mulholland was out there in the Cascades and said, “There it is, take it!” I would go back for that one moment.

I’d also like to hang out with Jimmy Cagney when he was rolling around Warner Bros. He was somebody fun, a good Irishman.

You’re obviously very energized about Los Angeles. Why not New York? Why not Chicago?

Tom: This is the greatest place to live. There’s opportunity here that is not possible in other

cities; you don’t have to know anybody really in L.A. You’ve just got to be able to work hard, and then you can get to where you need to get to.

When you go other places outside of Los Angeles, let’s say, the East Coast, what do you say about L.A.?

Tom: One thing about Los Angeles, it’s on the West Coast. We have the wonderful coastline here. The Pacific Ocean is right here and that gives us a lot of strength. Water gives people strength. In addition to that, mountains give you strength and we have beautiful mountains, the San Gabriel and San Bernadinos. Consequently, we’re very strong as a body of people, I think. And our geographical diversity adds to our strength as individuals. That’s my philosophy.

Ever thought of running for mayor?

Tom: People talk about that all the time.

Well ...

Tom: I just want to run for the next meeting, get home to my family and take care of my district.

What are you going to do in 2012?

Tom: I hope to get there! Every day’s a blessing. In 2011, I’m going to run for re-election. I hope to get re-elected.

Can you do that? Run for a third term?

Tom: Yes.

Because you guys just passed the amendment [allowing third terms]?

Tom: The people just passed it. I didn’t pass it. Yes. I want to work with the energy that I have today, and continue to inspire my family. My children will still be in school in 2012.

City Services in Action

After having arrived at the fire emergency, and checked things out, Tom LaBonge and Alive! get in the car and head back to City Hall. — Ed.

Tom: Well, no one got hurt at the fire, which is key. They had a great response from the Fire Department and the Housing Department and Transportation, with the Red Cross and the tough work of helping the displaced people.

What’s the secret to getting everybody to the fire so quickly? What makes that happen?

Tom: Communications: Cell phones and communication. Those are the biggest things that make it happen.

Is there a sense of energy in LA?

Tom: We have a great Fire Department that responds tremendously to incidents like this. They train all the time; we have the greatest Fire Department in the country.

When you leave an event like that, does it make you that much more proud?

Tom: What really makes me feel good is seeing the people who work for the City, whether it was Crew 152 or 154; Street Pavers and Street Services doing an overnight paving job on Hollywood Boulevard; or the Park Rangers, acting in the interest of the public in Griffith Park.

Griffith Park

Griffith Park means a lot to you. Why?

Tom: Well, one, I’m a park guy. Coming from a big family, I grew up in public parks because the park was near our home. We grew up in Silver Lake, and I used to hike there as a child and as a Boy Scout. I took my dates there to the Observatory or hiking, and I took my wife there when we dated. And then I took

— continues

ABOUT TOM LABONGE

Tom LaBonge

– City Councilman, District 4
– Club Member

NEIGHBORHOOD AT BIRTH AND NOW:
Silver Lake

FAMILY:
Wife, Brigid; daughter, Mary-Catherine, 13;
and son, Charles, 9.

EDUCATION:
Our Mother of Good Counsel and Ivanhoe
Elementary Schools; Thomas Starr King
Middle School; and John Marshall High
School; all in Silver Lake. Los Angeles
City College and Cal Poly Pomona.

FAVORITE CANDY:
“The chocolate and brittle piece” in the
corner of a See’s candy box. “I’m 54,
so I’ve got to eat better and eat more
vegetables. I should start a campaign.
Everybody have a vegetable and a piece
of fruit a day.”

FAVORITE MUSIC:
“I like all kinds of music, truly, but I
like rock and roll. I love Elvis Presley’s
music a lot.”

FAVORITE BAND:
Credence Clearwater Revival.
“I do like the Stones a lot.”

FAVORITE QUOTE:
“Enjoy and love Los Angeles.”

HERO:
“A lot of people inspired me, but if I
could point to one person, it’s Phil Davis.
He was my coach in high school.”

FAVORITE MOVIE:
Midnight Cowboy, Cool Hand Luke,
Chinatown, The Wizard of Oz.





The *Alive!* Interview





The *Alive!* Interview

— continued from page 14

my children there. I've been hiking there almost every morning for 30 years.

So you would go to the Observatory -- that was your spot?

Tom: Right.

What are your thoughts on the recent fires?

Tom: Nature is coming back and it's coming back beautiful. You can see it happening in the park right now.

You're optimistic?

Tom: Yes, it's just going to take a while.

The rains didn't cause as much damage?

Tom: [Rec and Parks General Manager] Jon Kirk Mukri and his team did a great job in organizing the Hydro-Mulch Program. It's been successful. And all of the crews that work for Rec and Parks really did an A-plus job.

They're still working on it, right?

Tom: Yes, they're still working on it, but I think they prevented what we thought would be serious mudslides. So the park is coming back and all, but three trails are open, so the Sierra Clubs is happy. They're hiking more. Dante's View is wide open.

L.A.'s Challenges

What is LA's most daunting problem right now?

Tom: Public safety, which is always a challenge every day. There are some people among us who have a hostile feeling towards others, whoever they are. Public safety is the number one issue, but after that it's mobility.

Mobility is a problem because ...

Tom: It's a problem because we don't have an adequate transportation system that complements the needs of everyone. I'm a strong proponent of heavy-rail transit, of the extension of the subway from its terminus in the Valley out to the West San Fernando Valley and the North Valley. I support the extension at Wilshire to Santa Monica; I support the extension out to the Arts District and along the river from Union Station. We need transit everywhere.

Define heavy rail.

Tom: Subway.

Light rail?

Tom: Light rail is a complement, but it's not as complementary as heavy rail. Heavy rail could carry more people and could put speed to it. I think people like to move quickly in the great cities of the world, like Berlin, London, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Paris. All have great transit systems and underground systems; we need to have a little bit of both. San Francisco is a great city, although it's a little city, only 49 square miles. It does have the ability to go above grade and below, and it goes down the center of freeways. We've got to look that way. We have about 250 miles of freeway system in Los Angeles County and only have about 18 miles of heavy rail and we need to get more.

Do you see not being able to take a rail to LAX as an issue?

Los Angeles "is the greatest place to live. There's opportunity here that is not possible in other cities; you don't have to know anybody really in L.A. You've just got to be able to work hard, and then you can get to where you need to get to."

— Tom LaBonge

Tom: Yes, that was a missed opportunity.

Is there anything in the future for that?

Tom: They're trying to change that. Mr. [Bill] Rosendahl, my [Councilman] colleague, is pushing for the Green Line Extension to LAX and also through Westchester to Venice and the Santa Monica area on a coastal type of line. I know Miss [Janice] Hahn [also in the Council] is pushing for an extension from the Harbor. We need a lot of things.

Is [Transportation General Manager and Club Board Member] Rita Robinson helping out?

Tom: Everybody's going to help out, but here's the challenge we have: There's been a fundamental change in government in the last 20 years. The federal government isn't in the business of helping cities anymore. I hope we see that the federal government returns to helping cities in urban areas. We're one of 88 cities in [Los Angeles] County. And we're in a large metropolitan area, which includes five other counties: Ventura, San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange right here, and then right next to us is San Diego County. All of us need help and guidance for our infrastructure, our mobility and our transit, and all the needs in between. You can see it right here, there's a lot of people on Vermont Avenue.

Do we have enough police officers on the street?

Tom: No. We need more police officers. We especially need more traffic officers, too. There are three things you can do about traffic. They're called "the three E's" -- engineering, education and enforcement.

Impressions of Leadership

I'm going to shift gears. Give us a brief impression of each of the last four mayors. Let's start with Tom Bradley.

Tom: Very distinguished. I was on his Youth Council and we spoke often because we'd run into each other in the elevator. I have great admiration for him, and how he helped lead the City and transform it into the international city that it was. One of the brightest moments in our history was the 1984 Olympic Games.

How about Dick Riordan?

Tom: He was a very motivated individual who helped stop L.A. from a slide. He was very sad to see the riots in 1992, and then people didn't believe in the City. He helped lead the charge to make people believe in Los Angeles again, and certainly people do. He doesn't get

enough credit for that. It was a very difficult period, but as he said, he was "tough enough to turn L.A. around." He was a tough Irishman who inspired people to believe in the City again.

James Hahn?

Tom: The most important thing he did: He kept the City together. The City was on the verge of a divorce. [Valley secession] would have torn us apart, and we'd still be suffering from a municipal divorce. He held the City together, which is so important,

He also helped rebuild the Police Department. It's so key to get the Police Department inspired to serve Los Angeles. He selected Chief Bill Bratton to be the leader there. It was a tough political decision, but he made it.

And Antonio Villaraigosa. What do you think he'll be known for?

Tom: He certainly brought the energy level up higher than all of them. His commitment to try to look to the future on some initiatives, which would take a long time, is admirable. But people want to see action now, and he's trying to provide that.

Who do you think was the most demanding mayor, in your memory?

Tom: Only because I worked for him: Richard Riordan was very, very, very demanding. Very demanding.

On everybody? On all his department heads?

Tom: He didn't have the total respect for the City Employees that he should have had until the 1994 earthquake, when he saw how well they responded, how well they did.

The Heart of a Politician

What's the story behind the pumpkin bread? [He gives away hundreds of loaves of pumpkin bread during the holidays. — Ed.]

Tom: I used to work for a printer in the late '60s and early '70s when I was a child. I wanted to be a printer. And he would take [gifts] to the Monastery of the Angels on Gower near Franklin, in the Hollywood Hills below the Hollywood sign, to give them to the nuns.

I remember the first time I bought the bread and gave it to some folks who helped me out and I've been buying it ever since.

How many loaves a month do you buy?

Tom: I bought a lot toward the end of the holiday, thanking a lot of people. I don't know, it's hundreds.

What's the most important part of your job?

Tom: To focus and help and inspire people to do the most for the people of Los Angeles. There's maybe 55,000 City Employees, and I think it's real important to inspire. We all have to work and deliver City Services, which are the backbone of any community.

Do you consider yourself a politician?

Tom: Yes, I'm a politician. You've got to be a politician if you're a politician.

Thanks for your time today, Councilman.

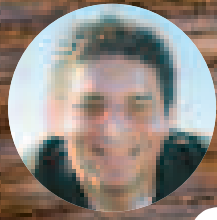
Tom: Thank you! ■



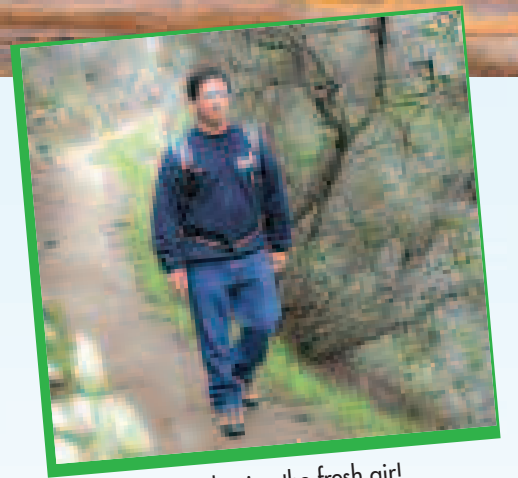


Mr. J.A.

Angel's Be Alive!

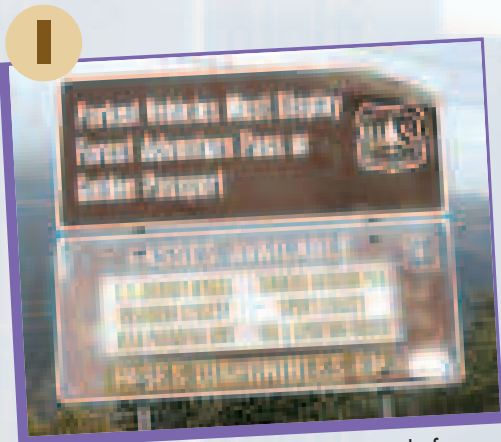


Angel Gomez,
Member Services
Manager

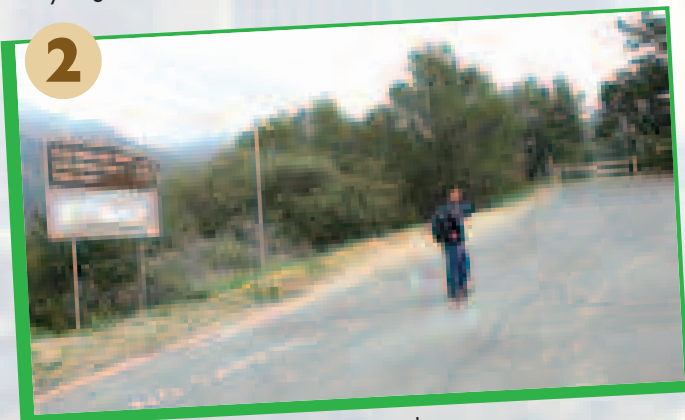


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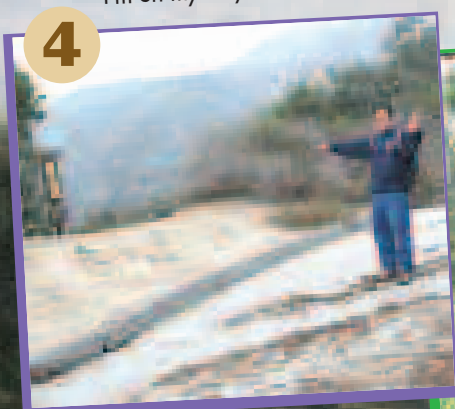
Make sure you buy your Adventure Pass before you go.



The trail starts at the white gate on the right.



I'm on my way!



At mile .46, go left on the Sunset Ridge Trail.



Past this Search and Rescue cabin is where you'll start heading upstream.



This will be the norm for another mile.



I'm almost there, but first I have to find a way up through this! (Tip: Stay to the left; there's a trail half way up that allows you to bypass most of the remaining boulders.)

Hey everyone! How are you?

I found a real gold mine just minutes north of Los Angeles. It's called Dawn Mine, and it's just outside of Altadena. Gold was discovered in the area in 1895; there were some small claims, and it was worked for seven years. Then, in 1902, a man named Michael Ryan bought the mine and began boring numerous tunnels into the mountain. In 1929 he died, and in 1933 a new mining company took over boring a 1,200-foot tunnel with a small mill. They had success for several years, but soon the gold ran out. In the 1940s and '50s, other miners tried their luck, but nothing major was reported.

While going into a portion of the mine is possible, it is not recommended. There is risk of cave-ins, snakes, black widows, scorpions and very deep shafts that are masked by what may look like standing water. There is plenty adventure in actually finding the mine, so don't risk your life by going in.

With that said, Dawn Mine has been a favorite hiking destination for many Angelenos in the know. It's not the easiest place to get to, though - you'll encounter

trails with mountains on one side and steep cliffs on the other. You'll be crossing a stream by hopping rocks and boulders (and I do mean *boulders*) countless number of times. In winter months, the water can be rushing pretty fast, so be careful. This hike is a guaranteed adventure in every sense of the word that will leave you feeling a little tired but invigorated.

Make sure you purchase your Adventure Pass before you go; they can be bought at Sport Chalet, REI, Big 5 and a couple other places.

There are two ways to get to the mine. I decided to take the shortest.

1. First, see directions to the trailhead on the right.
2. Once at the trailhead, walk past the big white vehicle gate and continue on the paved road.
3. After a half-mile (.46 miles exactly), you'll see a trailhead for Sunset Ridge Trail on the left. Take it (keep your eyes on the trail as you will be encountering some very steep drop offs).

4. After about a half mile (.61 to be exact), you'll come across a cabin that's used for the Search and Rescue teams. Just before the cabin you'll see a sign that shows Sunset Ridge trail going up in to the mountain. Don't take this; instead, keep walking straight right past the cabin (just follow the sound of the stream). Once you get to the stream, simply follow it upstream for another mile. The trail is washed out for much of the way, but just keep following the stream, and be careful.

5. Take your time and when you see the structure shown in picture #9, you'll know you're within feet of the mine. In fact, many people walk right past it since it's fairly well hidden behind some very large rocks.

6. Lastly, *do not go into the mine*. It's not blocked off, but it's very dangerous. It is usually filled with water and has very deep hidden/water-filled shafts, not to mention scorpions, black widows and snakes. Also, the slightest tremor could cause it to collapse. Please *don't go in*.



The Dawn Mine entrance! Stop here and turn around; don't go in, as there are snakes, scorpions and black widows, not to mention potential collapse.



You're there! Once you see this very large piece of mining machinery, you know you're there. The mine entrance is on the left, hidden by some large boulders.



There's an interesting mine-related hole along the way.



Directions:

From the Valley or Santa Clarita:

1. Get to the 210 (Foothill Freeway) going east.
2. Take the Windsor/Arroyo exit just past La Cañada.
3. Go left (Windsor).
4. Go right at the next light which is Woodbury; continue for .5 miles.
5. Go left at Lincoln Avenue; continue for 1.3 miles.
6. Go right at W. Loma Alta Drive; continue for .6 miles.
7. At the flashing yellow light, make a left.
8. Follow Chaney Trail for exactly one mile and at the "T," make a right and find a place to park. The big white gate is the trailhead.

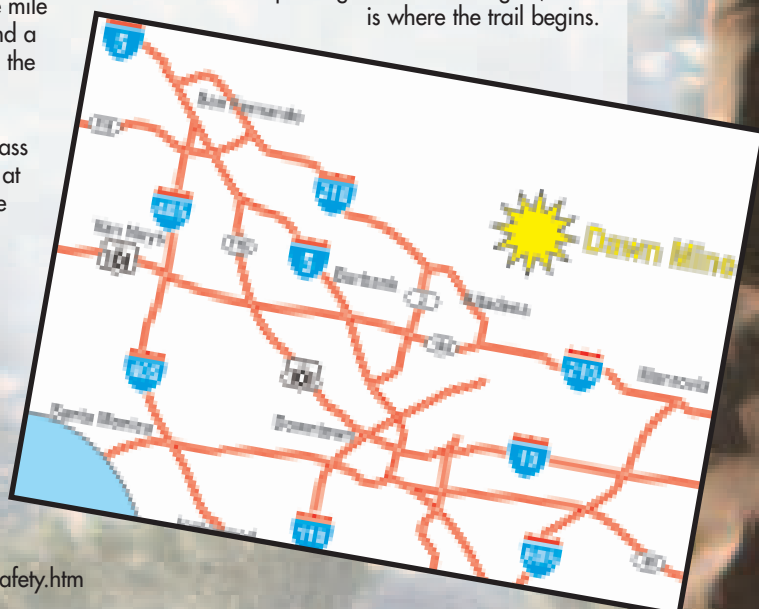
- Make sure you put your Adventure Pass in your window; they can be bought at Sport Chalet, REI, Big 5 and a couple other places.
- GPS Coordinates:
Trail Head:
N 34 12.888' W 118 08.869
Turn left onto Sunset Ridge Trail:
N 34 12.965' W 118 08.602'
Dawn Mine:
N 34 13.573' W 118 07.788

Some helpful links:

- The dangers of entering mines:
www.aaaim.com/echo/v2n3/MineSafety.htm
- Hike details:
www.localhikes.com/Hikes/MillardCanyon_4472.asp
- www.simpsoncity.com/hiking/dawn.html

From the San Gabriel Valley:

1. Exit at Lake Avenue in Pasadena.
2. Go north toward the mountains all the way until Lake Avenue ends.
3. Go left (you'll have no choice) on Loma Alta Drive. Turn right at Chaney Trail (there will be a flashing yellow light), a paved road that winds up the mountain.
4. You'll come to a "T" in the road; on the right will be a white gate, and the left will go downhill to Millard Campground. Go right and try to find parking near the white gate, this is where the trail begins.



February Events

The 16th Annual Pan African Film and Arts Festival

Enjoy America's largest black film festival, showcasing more than 150 new films from Africa, the United States, Europe, the Caribbean, the South Pacific, South America and Canada. This event also showcases 100 black fine artists and craftspeople from the world over with poetry, fashion shows, free forums and interesting panels. This year the festival will honor distinguished singer and actress, the Rev. Dr. Della Reese, with the PAFF Lifetime Achievement Award.

- When: Feb. 7 through 18
- Where: AMC Magic Johnson Theaters, 3650 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Los Angeles
- Cost: Varies
- City Sponsor: Office of the Mayor; Cultural Affairs
- Info: (323) 295-1706 or PAFF.org

Black History Month Celebration at the Zoo

A new weekend-long celebration for the entire family will feature the traditions, culture, people and music of Africa. The L.A. Zoo will participate in this Citywide celebration of African American Heritage Month with featured children's crafts, festive foods, exciting entertainment and much more. Animals from Africa will be featured during zookeeper talks and self-guided tours.

- When: Feb. 23 and 24
- Where: Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, 5333 Zoo Dr., Griffith Park
- Cost: Free with paid admission (\$10 adults, \$5 children 2-12)
- Sponsor: Zoo
- Info: (323) 644-4200, www.lazoo.org

Cabrillo Whale Watch

Join Larry Fukuhara, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Programs Director, in the John M. Olguin Auditorium at 9:30 a.m. for an informative and fun slide presentation, followed by a voyage in search of Pacific gray whales, other marine mammals and sea life, returning at 2 p.m.

- When: Feb. 24 or March 16.
- Where: Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3720 Stephen White Dr., San Pedro
- Cost: \$20 (\$18 for Friends members). Pre-registration required.
- Sponsor: Rec and Parks
- Info: Larry Fukuhara, (310) 548-7562, x223.

Banning Valentine "Tea and Tunes"

Join the Banning Residence Museum for its third annual Valentine Tea and Tunes. Don your fancy hats and gloves for a lovely time. Enjoy a scrumptious tea complete with tea sandwiches, scones and a selection of teas; live entertainment; and complementary tours of the museum. The event is part of the Friends of Banning Museum's Garden Parlor series.

- When: Feb. 11
- Where: Banning Residence Museum, 401 E. M St., Wilmington
- Cost: \$45 (non-members, \$50). Reservations required.
- Sponsor: Rec and Parks
- Info: (310) 548-2005

Ticket Guy Recommends:

This month, Ticket Guy recommends Disneyland! "The winter months are not as crowded as the summer months, and who doesn't feel like being a kid again? And for the fellas, the ladies love Minnie." Get your tickets to Disneyland with the Club's discount in the Club Store.



Did You Graduate from **Cal State Dominguez Hills?**

Attention all **TOROS** who work for
the City of Los Angeles:



There's an effort to establish an alumni network within the City. If you're an alum, please e-mail your name, City mail stop and class year with major/degree earned to mchavez@portla.org. In return you will receive a free gift compliments of your fellow alumni.

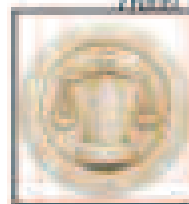
Martin Chavez, Club Rep



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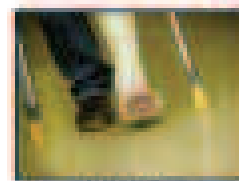


Title Preparation



Home Search

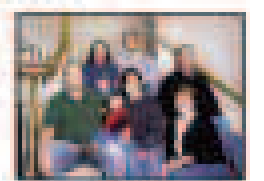
Insurance Services



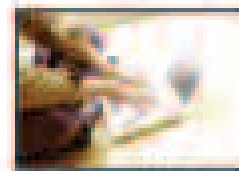
Accident



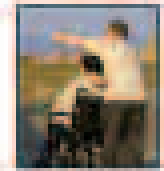
Mortgages



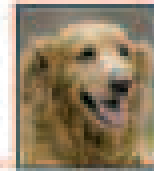
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An Honor For Norma



Norma Torres was honored by the Guatemalan government.

■ **Norma Torres, LAPD Communications and Club Member, gets top honor from Guatemalan government.**

POLICE DEPT. — Norma Torres, 911 Dispatcher for the LAPD, Mayor of Pomona, and Club Member, was honored Dec. 16 by the Guatemalan government's cultural affairs office. She was honored as "a Guatemalan to Be Known."

Norma, who was born in Guatemala, was hon-



ored at a festive event at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre. She is the first Guatemala-born mayor of Pomona.

The event was hosted by the Guatemalan government's House of Cultural Affairs as that office's "most important event ever to take place in the United States," according to a proclamation.

The honor is the highest distinction given by the Guatemalan Congress, according to the proclamation.

Congratulations, Norma!

Ride Your Bike To Work



Council President Eric Garcetti in front of the bike lockers for City Employees who want to bike to work.

■ **Council President Eric Garcetti opens facility for employees who bike to work downtown.**

COUNCIL — On Jan. 16, Council President Eric Garcetti announced that showers, bicycle and shower lockers, and additional bicycle racks are now available for City Employees working in the Downtown Civic Center area.

"If we're going to reduce traffic in this City, then people need to have real alternatives to driving a car to work every day," he said. "A few City Employees already bike to work, but my hope is that these new facilities will make it possible for more people to do it."

"I encourage City Employees who have ever thought about biking to work to give it a try. It helps reduce traffic. It helps our environment. And it's great exercise."

The new facilities are underneath City Hall East on level P3 and will be accessible using city employee ID badges. Employees who want access to the showers must visit the Commute Options and Parking Section to have their badges programmed to allow entry. Employees who regularly bike to work may also be eligible to receive a subsidy through the City's Bike/Walk to Work program, which is administered by Personnel.

Council President Garcetti worked with General Services, Personnel and Transportation to develop the new facilities and implement the process for acquiring access. The Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition provided assistance with making the new facilities effective for cyclists.

For more information on the City of Los Angeles's bike/walk to work options, please visit: <http://www.lacity.org/per/bikewalk.htm>.



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New Bomb Squad Facility

■ **LAPD opens new Bomb Squad facility in Granada Hills.**



Story and photos courtesy Officer Chris Carson, LAPD



The Police Department's new Valley Bomb Squad facility.

POLICE DEPT. — The LAPD dedicated its new Bomb Squad Facility Jan. 10. The event, which featured City dignitaries and others, was held at the new facility, 12001 Blucher Ave. in Granada Hills, within the Department's Davis Training Facility.

The Valley Bomb Squad Facility is an 8,200-square-foot facility, built to serve as Valley Bureau Headquarters for the Department's Hazardous Devices Section ("Bomb Squad"). Deputy Chief Michael Downing is the commanding officer for

the Counter Terrorism and Criminal Intelligence Bureau (CTCIB), which includes the Bomb Squad. The facility will house officers and detectives assigned to the Bomb Squad to speed response times for calls for service in the San Fernando Valley.

The facility was built with funding from Proposition Q. On March 5, 2002, City voters approved a Citywide Public Safety Bond Measure, for \$600 million to improve, renovate, expand and construct Public Safety (Police-Fire-

Paramedic) facilities.

Scheduled to be in attendance were Councilmember Greig Smith, City Councilmember, 12th District; Commissioner Robert Saltzman, Board of Police Commissioners; Sharon Bruno, Proposition Q



Chief William J. Bratton (third from left) receives the key to the new facility. From left: Board of Public Works Commissioner Cardenas; City Councilman Greig Smith; Chief William J. Bratton; City Engineer Gary Lee Moore; and First Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell.



Citizen Oversight Committee; Commissioner Ernesto Cardenas, Board of Public Works; Chief William J. Bratton, Chief of Police; Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer; and Police Administrator III Rhonda Sims-Lewis, Commanding Officer, Administrative and Technical Services Bureau.



Councilmember Greig Smith, Club Member, welcomes attendees to the dedication ceremony.



The project management team for the Valley Bomb Squad project included members of the LAPD; Public Works/Engineering and Contract Administration; ITA; project architect (WWCOT); the general contractor (Bernards Construction); and other members of the Proposition Q Program Management Team.



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*"I'm George. I died.
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Safety Officers give retiring Fire Capt. Delbert Patschull a final water salute as he left the fire station after 27 years of city service.



Sgt. Elliott Wade (left) looks on as Fire Capt. Michael Allomong shakes Capt. Delbert Patschull's hand on his last day at the Fire Station. Other airport safety officers wait their turn to say goodbye.



A happy retiring Fire Capt. Delbert Patschull gets ready to assume the family role of "Chief Granddaddy" to his three grandchildren.

Capt. Patschull Retires

■ **Fire Capt. Delbert Patschull retires after 27 years of service at LA/Ontario.**

Story and photos courtesy Harold Johnson, Principal Public Relations Representative, LA/Ontario

AIRPORTS — Airport Rescue and Firefighting officers at LA/Ontario International Airport (ONT) escorted Fire Capt. Delbert Patschull as he left Safety Base to begin his retirement. Driving past a gauntlet of water-spraying fire trucks, Patschull set off to begin a new career as "Chief Granddaddy" to his three grandchildren.

Patschull retired Nov. 30

from the Los Angeles World Airports after 27 years and 11 months of service to the City of Los Angeles and the traveling public.

During his career, Patschull was assigned to ONT as an Airport Safety Officer in January 1980, was promoted to Senior Airport Safety Officer in September 1989 and Airport Police Sergeant in August 1994, and was appointed Administrative/Training Captain in May 1995.

Patschull provided essential leadership and command direction, greatly enhanced the close working relationship and mutual aid respond with the Ontario City Fire Department, and maintained a high standard of performance.

Congratulations, Capt. Patschull, and have a great retirement!





Safety Officers and staff decorate Capt. Delbert Patschull's car for his final ride home from Safety Base.



At a tropical themed retirement party, Capt. Delbert Patschull holds a commendation from the Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners.

Congratulations!





The Club in the Armed Forces


Jennifer D. Navarro, in training to be a Physician Assistant, is stationed at Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Texas, home of the 82nd Training Wing and the 80th Flying Training Wing. "Your whole family is proud of you, you made it into the 'Blue'."

— Maria Navarro, (Jennifer's mom), Library Department, Arroyo Seco Public Library

If you have a family member in the military and would like to honor them in *Alive!*, please send in a photo and include their name, their branch of military service, where they're stationed, your City department, and any other information about them that you would like to include, to:

Alive! Military Service Recognition
City Employees Club
350 S. Figueroa St. Suite 700
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Honor Those Who Serve



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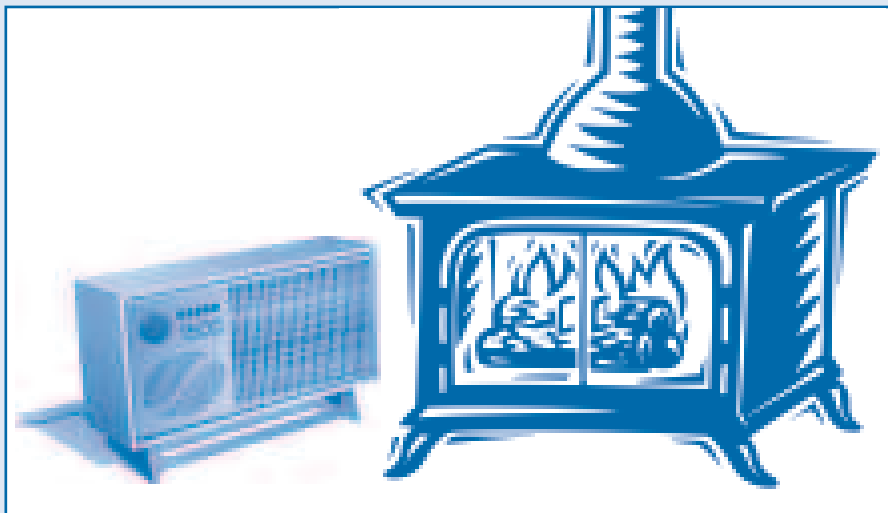
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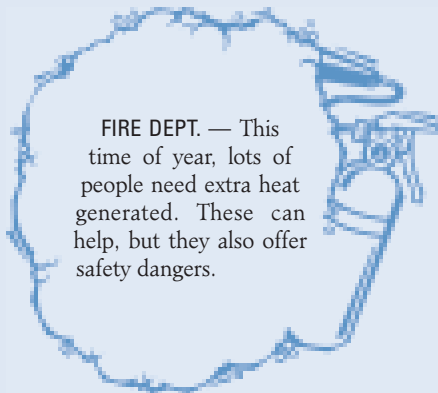
and ask to talk to our Long Term Care Specialist.

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KEEP YOUR COOL When Using Heat Appliances



By Jimmy Hill;
Fire Marshal, LAFD



FIRE DEPT. — This time of year, lots of people need extra heat generated. These can help, but they also offer safety dangers.

Here are some tips to keep you and your loved ones safe and warm.

- Keep space heaters at least three feet from all combustibles.

Before using your fireplace:

- Have your chimney checked by a qualified professional.
- Make sure your fireplace flue is in the open position.
- Make sure a fireplace screen is in front of the fireplace.
- Chimneys should have spark arrestors in place.
- Always allow ashes to cool down before dispensing (and always use a metal container with a tight-fitting lid).
- Never burn trees or newspapers in the fireplace.

Here are some other safety tips:

- In case of power outages, have flashlights available (do not use candles).
- Have sandbags, hand tools and plywood ready for use if you live or work in areas that are prone to flooding or mudslides.
- Never use your oven as a heating source.
- Do not use a hibachi, barbecue or camp stove indoors for heating or cooking.
- Make sure your furnace is working properly. *If you smell gas, dial 911.*
- Change your furnace filter regularly.
- If you have any furnace repairs done, make sure they are done by a qualified/licensed technician.
- When warming your vehicle, remove it from the garage as quickly as you can. Otherwise, gas fumes can collect in your garage.
- Have a carbon monoxide detector and smoke alarm installed and working. Check the battery every month.
- Call 911 if you have any of the following symptoms: headache, dizziness, mental confusion, flu-like symptoms. If you do, you might have carbon monoxide poisoning.

Fire Marshal Jimmy Hill says, "Please remember that this is the rainy season, and Los Angeles must be prepared for flooding and mudslides. Help your family, neighbor and co-workers to learn how to be prepared."

For more information, go to: www.lafd.com

Upon request, the LAFD will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services and facilities.



Last year, Brian Humphrey, dubbed the "Voice of LAFD," is shaved by Councilwoman Wendy Greuel



Last year, Caden Smith, might have been the youngest shave participant. His proud dad is Dale Smith, Fire Station 3.

Fund Razor



■ Get your head shaved and raise

money as part of St. Baldrick's fight against childhood cancer.

FIRE DEPT., POLICE DEPT. — On Saturday, March 15, Los Angeles City Fire and Police personnel – and other City Employees, too -- will participate in their fifth annual combined St. Baldrick's event. Participants, or "shavees" as they are known, collect pledges from friends and family in exchange for shaving their heads. The bald heads signify solidarity with child victims of cancer, who often lose their hair while undergoing treatment. All money raised goes to the St. Baldrick's Foundation and is distributed to doctors and other researchers on the front lines of the war on childhood cancer.

Participants and helpers are needed to staff this event. If you are able to help, please contact Sgt. Greg Doyle at (818) 778-4152, or Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240. If you would like to be a "shavee" or you are interested in pledging, you can sign up at www.stbaldricks.org.

St. Baldrick's Info

- Who:** LAPD and LAFD Personnel
- What:** Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Research
- When:** Saturday, March 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Where:** LAFD Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood
- Why:** Raising money to fight childhood cancer
- How:** Sign up or donate at www.stbaldricks.org. Click on "Find an Event," and locate Los Angeles, Fire Station 89.

For more information, contact Sgt. Greg Doyle, (818) 778-4752, or LAFD Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240.

Haven House

Helping battered women and their children on their way towards a life free of violence.

We need your help to help save lives. You can help in so many ways – cash donations, clothing, food, volunteering. Every little bit helps more than you'll know. Every donation is greatly appreciated – no matter how much. Contact us today at 626.564.8880 to find out how you can help.

For more information on how to donate, please visit our website at www.havenhousela.org or call us at (626) 564-8880.

If you or someone you know needs help, call us now at our **24-Hour Hotline – 1-323-681-2626.**

Haven House is the oldest shelter of its kind in the United States, founded in 1964 to shelter families of violent alcoholics.

Our services include counseling services for women and children in residence and counseling for community clients who are not residents of the shelter.

- Emergency shelter, food and clothing
- Bilingual counseling services for both adults and children
- Assistance with finding permanent housing
- Assistance with finding employment
- Court and social services advocacy
- Assistance with getting welfare
- Legal assistance (TRO's etc.)
- Medical Services





The new Fire Station 67, serving Playa Vista.

Public, Private Partnership in Playa Vista

■ Fire Dept.'s new station in Playa Vista uses unique public/private funding.



FIRE DEPT. — Fire Station 67 opened this fall in Playa Vista is a model of partnership funding: construction funds from the big residential development near LAX; personnel funding from the City, courtesy the hard work of Councilman Bill Rosendahl; and public funds from a pancake breakfast in December to help pay for much-needed amenities.

The new Fire Station was built not from Prop F funds, but by Playa Capital, Inc., the developer of Playa Vista, at a reported cost of \$10 million. In 1995, the LAFD met with the developer to review development plans and discuss life safety and fire safety considerations for the proposed project. After reviewing project plans, the LAFD determined that the complexity, scope and magnitude of the project would require a new fire station to be built in the area, since existing Westside fire stations were inadequate and too far away to meet the needs of the future Playa Vista community and minimum response time goals.

But the new station needed to be staffed. So, last May, City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl secured funds for personnel and equipment at the new fire station. The budget for the next fiscal year earmarks approximately \$1.7 million to the LAFD for staffing, firefighting equipment and a fire engine at Fire Station 67.

Rosendahl said that the funding would enhance public safety for Playa Vista, Del Rey, Playa del Rey and Westchester constituents. "Public safety and protecting our neighborhoods comes first," Rosendahl said. "This budget allocation will allow our communities to be better protected in the event of an emergency." The fire station, which will have a total of 12 staff members, will operate 24 hours a day with four officers at a time -- a fire engine captain, engineer, and two firefighters, one of which will be a paramedic.



The new Fire Station 67, serving Playa Vista.

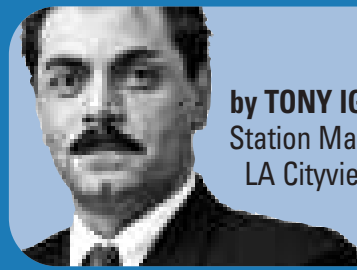
But the station needed more. So on Dec. 8, more than 1,000 pancakes were served during a pancake breakfast to help raise funds for firefighters' living quarters at the new station. The firefighters have little in the way of amenities including cooking supplies, bed sheets and other essentials.

"We need kitchen supplies, small appliances, a couch, and a TV," said Capt. Vince Nixon to the local *Argonaut* newspaper.

The pancake breakfast, which included a silent auction, attracted more than 500 people and raised more than \$15,000 for the cause, including a \$7,500 sponsorship from Time Warner, according to the *Argonaut*.



Tuned In

by TONY IGHANI
Station Manager,
LA Cityview 35

African American Heritage Is One Focus in February

Once again, I wish a happy and prosperous New Year to all *Alive!* readers. This new year, 2008, will be an exciting year for us here at LA CityView 35 as plans are under way to develop great new content and continue on some of our top quality shows including *L.A. This Week*, a two-time Emmy-Award-winning news magazine show, featuring many activities and services of the City of Los Angeles.

As an *Alive!* reader, you should feel comfortable letting us know what programming ideas you may have. We're always looking to better gauge the viewer needs by direct feedback. You can reach at our viewer hotline by calling (213) 473-3978 or email us at ITA.channel35@lacity.org.

Programming Highlights for February

African-American Heritage Month Programming

February is African-American Heritage Month, and in honor of the innumerable African Americans who've left their indelible mark on our history and culture, LA CityView 35 will kick off the celebrations with a recorded broadcast of the City's African-American Heritage Month Opening Ceremony, which took place on the City Hall South Lawn Jan. 28; followed by coverage of events and activities throughout the month, including a poster contest and creative writing competition; and concluding with closing festivities scheduled for Feb. 28 in Leimert Park.

Please visit our Website at www.lacityview.org to view our updated programming schedule.

Aging in LA

Two new episodes of *Aging in LA* make their debut this month.

Long-Term Care Insurance doesn't have many fans, but that may change with the high cost of living longer and the need for security. We will discuss the pros and cons of long-term care insurance and the important elements of planning for long-term health care.

Councilman Tom LaBonge shares his vision of *The Future of Aging in Los Angeles*. Find out what the Councilman sees as the most important aspect of aging in our community.

Airs: Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 8:30 p.m.

Disability Forum

A wide range of topics is featured on the upcoming series of *Disability Forum* programs, hosted by Mitch Pomerantz.

The 2007 Accessible City Expo shows highlights from the exhibition held last October. Both employment opportunities and program and service providers are featured, including Fox Entertainment, Washington Mutual, the IRS, California Mentor, Bethune

Theatredanse, and the City's Personnel Department.

Home Ownership and Persons with Disabilities explores the issues that people with disabilities face when they are looking for a home, or might face as a homeowner after becoming disabled. Guests are Virginia Victorin, vice president of Washington Mutual, and Ester Cadavid, vice president and chief development officer for the Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services organization.

Emergency Preparedness: City Perspectives looks at the efforts of the City to raise the awareness and preparedness level within the disability community. Keith Garcia, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator with the City's Emergency Preparedness Department, talks about these important issues.

Regional Centers: What They Do for Persons with Developmental Disabilities explores California's system of Regional Centers, which are overseen and funded by the State Department of Developmental Services. Guest is Mike Danneker, executive director of the Westside Regional Center.

Airs: Thursdays at 9:30 p.m.

Home Shopping Petwork

In this new installment of *The Home Shopping Petwork*, host Andrew Tarr will introduce you to an innovative program that the City has developed to help smooth over those little disagreements that crop up between neighbors when one of them has a dog and the other is feeling dogged. Canine Court is now in session. And meet a Hollywood couple with a house full of movers and shakers. Actor Jon Gries, Napoleon Dynamite's "Uncle Rico," and his girlfriend, Veterinary Tech Melanie Bellomo, have surrounded themselves with quite an entourage. Plus, meet a whole new set of great pets that are shopping for a home.

Airs: Monday through Friday at 8 a.m.

For airing schedule of the above programs, and for more program listings and information, visit www.lacityview.org.



LA Cityview 35 is the City of Los Angeles' Emmy-award winning government channel. Managed and operated by City employees, LA Cityview 35 serves Los Angeles by bringing government closer to their homes. With innovative and timely programming, citizens now can have an active voice in what happens in their local government.

Contact Tony with your questions: channel35@cityemployeesclub.com

Channel 35 Viewer Comment Hotline: (213) 473-3978

See you on LA Cityview 35!



Youth participants in recent Rec and Parks camp programs enjoy using the new Compostable food service materials, which are environmentally friendly.



Rec and Parks staffer Roosevelt Edwards with two Compostable trash cans for recycling.

Teaching Kids to Renew

■ **Rec and Parks wins award for its Compostables program, which teaches children to recycle the paper goods they use in their Rec and Parks camping events.**



Photos by JuanCarlos Chan, Photographer, Rec and Parks

REC AND PARKS — The Department of Recreation and Parks received a 2007 Award of Excellence from the California Society of Recreation and Parks (CPRS) for its “Compostable” program at residential camps for children.

The Compostable program, winning in the Maintenance Management and Operations Category, began with a commitment to providing a cleaner environment and helping to raise ecological awareness. Both the Griffith Park Boys Camp and Camp Hollywood Girls Camp provided meals served on biodegradable paper products. All camp meals were served with biodegradable paper products, including plates, bowls and napkins. According to Jon Kirk Mukri, General Manager, Rec and Parks, “This initial effort at two City resident camps is in keeping with the Department’s mission of educating young people on the importance of being good stewards of the environment through conservation and the understanding of ecosystems and wildlife.”

Rec and Parks has made a pledge to environmental sustainability in its camping program by 1) using plant-based, biodegradable and compostable plates and utensils; 2) diverting biodegradable food waste into the Public Works/Sanitation’s food waste recycling program,

and 3) raising the ecological awareness and environmental stewardship of the staff and youth participating in the camp.

While the Department has made a commitment to using recyclable, biodegradable, and plant-derived, non-Styrofoam dining ware products since the 1990s, the Department’s current movement toward using more rapidly compostable dining ware and composting it while educating youth campers about environmental stewardship began in the last few years. The Compostables program gained momentum after Mukri learned about the Disney Corporation’s use of environmentally friendly paper products in food concessions at the Department’s X-Games. He was inspired by this and spearheaded the adoption of similar techniques by his Department. The Department’s boys and girls camps were chosen for a pilot program. After developing and refining the program concept, the Department’s Camping and Forestry Divisions launched the program in the Girls’ and Boys’ Camps in January 2007, beginning first with the use of biodegradable plates and the implementation of a food waste composting program in the camps through a cooperation with the City’s Bureau of Sanitation, followed by the introduction of hot and cold cups, and biodegradable utensils by the summer.

The plant-based biodegradable and compostable products that the campers are using include hot cups that have inner linings made from 100 percent corn instead of petroleum, and are made of chlorine-free paper from sustainably harvested trees. Other products being used are containers made of annually renewable plants such as sugar cane and reeds instead of polyfoam, clear corn-based cold cups, plates made of 100 percent reclaimed and compostable fibers, and utensils made from corn.

Waste in the food service and preparation areas of the camps is organized into three waste containers: a green bin for food waste and biodegradable products; a blue bin for plastic



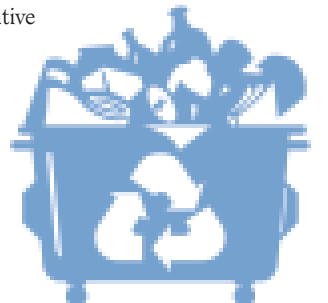
Teaching the camp youngsters about the importance of recycling their lunch paper products is Camp Counselor Coco.

bottles and aluminum; and a black bin for the remainder of the trash. The waste generated from a typical food service establishment is more than 76 percent organic and compostable; therefore, with proper staff and camper training, 70 to 75 percent of all waste should be deposited into the green bin. Acceptable items include fruits, vegetables, meats and bones, seafood, poultry, dairy products, bread and grains, coffee grounds, plant trimmings, soiled paper products, milk cartons, waxed cardboard, wooden crates, eggshells, compostable plant-based utensils, and more. This waste is composted through the City’s food recycling program with the assistance of an outside contractor that picks up the waste and transports it to a composting facility. In addition to waste collection, the contractor also provides training for Department staff, as well as, technical assis-

tance. Together, the two camps serve about 1,000 meals per day in the summertime.

The cost of collecting and processing the food waste from the Girls and Boys Camps is \$1,100 and \$250 per month, respectively, and is paid for by Public Works/Sanitation’s Restaurant Food Waste Recycling Program, designed to collect and recycle all organic waste from restaurants within Los Angeles.

Congratulations to Rec and Parks, and Public Works for the success of this innovative program.



Campostable kitchen staff, from left: Adonna Jackson, Manny Zesati, Roosevelt Edwards and Roseta Everett.

Serve It Up

Youngsters in the Campostables program are using:

- Hot cups that have inner linings made from 100 percent corn instead of petroleum
- Hot cups made of chlorine-free paper from sustainably harvested trees
- Utensils made from corn
- Clear corn-based cold cups
- Containers made of annually renewable plants such as sugar cane and reeds instead of polyfoam
- Plates made of 100 percent reclaimed and compostable fibers



Some of the green-friendly paper products that are part of the Campostables program.

History Comes Alive!

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



Tales From the City Archives

The French in Los Angeles

■ Hynda's guest columnist writes about an often-overlooked group that helped to build the City.

Photos courtesy the Security Pacific Collection, Los Angeles Public Library Photo Archive, Carolyn Cole, director; and the personal collection of Helene DeMeestere.

The French in Los Angeles, 1827-1927

When we evoke the presence of French settlers in North American history, we are quick to mention Louisiana and Canada. Los Angeles, largely associated with immigrants from Asia and Latin America, is hardly a place that leaps to mind.

And yet...

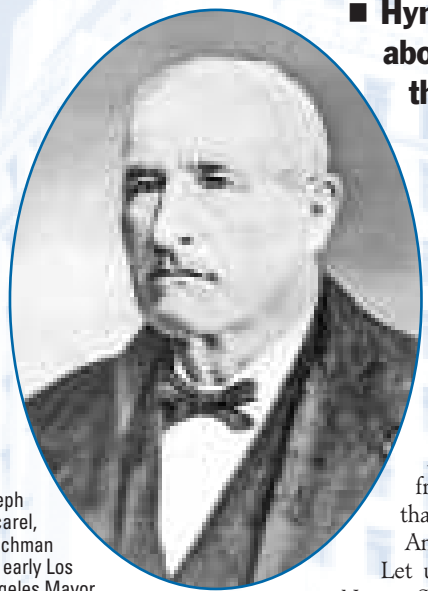
Let us travel back to the year 1827. *El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles de la Porciúncula* has just become part of the Mexican Republic, created five years earlier when Mexico gained independence from the Spanish Crown. That year, though scarcely more than 1,000 residents lived in the area, one of them was a Frenchman, Louis Bauchet, a vintner. Bauchet, who lived for a few years in New Orleans, traveled through Mexico, married, and followed a trail of colonists to Los Angeles, was the first of several French adventurers and pioneers to settle permanently in the town.

Within a few years, Los Angeles saw the arrival of merchants in search of new trade opportunities and sailors on their way to other oceans. Not only were they seduced by the welcoming population, the Pueblo itself, and the vast stretches of surrounding land, but also by the climate, which invites cultivation. Mostly Catholic, those settlers

rapidly learned Spanish, married local women, and baptized their children at the Plaza Church. They absorbed the region's Spanish culture to the point of acquiring a Spanish twist to their names, courtesy of the locals: Louis Bauchet became Don Luis, Joseph Mascarel is Don José, and Charles Baric became Don Carlos. Integration progressed at a remarkable pace.

While Louis Bauchet is recorded as the earliest French pioneer in Los Angeles, Jean-Louis Vignes is considered the father of French immigration to Los Angeles. At 52, the adventurer and native of Bordeaux, France arrived in Los Angeles in 1831 and realized the potential for wine production. As he needed help to develop the vineyard, he called for experts from his home country. And so, a little French colony was well established by 1850. On his 104-acre vineyard in what was to be known as the heart of downtown, he enhanced local grapevines by grafting them to imported French specimens. He became the first person to ship and commercialize California wine throughout the United States. He was known as "Don Luis" by his Mexican peers.

California soon gained visibility abroad thanks to the Gold Rush, news of which reached Europe in 1849 at a time of political turmoil in France. The ideals for which the preceding generation had fought in 1789 during the French Revolution were vanishing, with successive governments intent on restoring the Old Regime to the dismay of supporters of the now lost French Republic. However, the opportunity to emigrate from France to California eased this mood of disappointment. The timing was ideal: The 31st state was emerging just as American democracy was becoming more unified. Not only did California promise new opportunities, but it had the advantage of being close to Mexico, a country with which France maintained close diplomatic relations. Many French émigrés viewed California as a chance to escape an undesirable regime, a place where they could exercise



Joseph Mascarel, Frenchman and early Los Angeles Mayor.

Let me introduce my guest columnist this month — Helene Demeestere, who was born and raised in France and arrived in Los Angeles in 1994. She has a Bachelor's degree in history from the Sorbonne, Paris, and a Master's degree in history from the Universite de St. Denis, also in Paris.

She has also been educated in photography and journalism here in the States as well as in Paris. In Los Angeles she has been the photo archivist for the Mary Pickford Institute; and a part-time research project coordinator for the Los Angeles Central Library Photo Collection, a freelance historical researcher for editorial and visual projects. But her main focus has been on being the historian for the French community in Los Angeles from its inception to today.

Helene asks any of the readers of French descent to please contact her, as she is preparing a directory of French Angelenos. She may be contacted at (323) 850-1570 or Indmstr@aol.com.

I know you will enjoy her article as much as I did!
— Hynda



Guest columnist
Helene Demeestere.



An early French-cultivated vineyard at El Aliso, near present-day Union Station.

long-held principles of equality and democracy within a republic.

Of the many Frenchmen who sailed to the gold fields of Northern California, a few drifted southward, choosing Los Angeles as a place to establish roots. They took part in every aspect of municipal life, contributing their knowledge and skills to city and county administration. Aside from Joseph Mascarel, who was elected mayor, many Frenchmen took seats in the council chambers. Maurice Kremer, fluent in four languages and with six years' experience working as City Council secretary (later known as City Clerk), was elected treasurer of the county and praised for his administrative skills.

Joseph Mascarel, known as "Don José" by his Mexican counterparts, served as the mayor of Los Angeles from 1865 to 1866. (At that time Los Angeles City officials served only one term.) Mascarel governed with an iron fist, prohibiting Angelenos from carrying any weapon whatsoever, including slingshots. Residents also elected him as City (Common) Councilman seven times between 1867 and 1881. The former sailor from Marseilles, France, who began his life in Los Angeles as a vegetable gardener, invested money in land and in 1874 purchased a large homestead in what is now Hollywood, leaving the property to be managed by his two daughters and their families.

Within the City, these French figures wielded considerable economic power: They were founding members of the first important bank, proprietors of reputable businesses, and skilled tradesmen, with occupations ranging from storekeepers and hotel managers to physicians and engineers. Out in the countryside, the French developed and enhanced the quality of local wine and wool. Their knowledge of agriculture and cattle-raising contributed as well to the county's growing reputation.

1850-1880

The period from 1850 to 1880 represents a golden age for French immigrants in Los Angeles despite their rather small numbers. Because of the linguistic similarity between French and Spanish, a shared Catholic faith, and the fact that many of them married into Mexican families, these French settlers were able to merge Mexican and European cultures, providing a definitive advantage when it came to transforming this small Mexican village into a mature American city. Successful and integrated, they also formed a tightly knit community whose members shared the same social agenda.

A majority of them were bachelors, as was often the case with pioneers and immigrants; to support each other in case of death or sickness, they established the French Benevolent Society in 1860. From this organization emerged the construction of the French Hospital, only the second to be built in Los Angeles. The French Hospital provided "free medical care for its members. Charging \$1 per month for membership, it preceded the concept of HMOs. In 1869, the [Benevolent] Society built a hospital ... for its members' use. The nurses were trained at the on-site nursing school and lived together in the hospital's front house." The original hospital was on Colledge and Hill Streets. It was later moved to the new Chinatown area.

Later, the development of railroad transportation in both Europe and the United States and the work of immigration agencies in remote French villages lead larger groups of immigrants to set their sights on Los Angeles. In search of jobs and land opportunities, this fresh wave of newcomers hoped to realize the American dream. As opposed to their pioneer predecessors, they were generally less educated and less keen on adventure. Many had difficulty learning a new language and adapting to work as farmhands and sheepherders. In an increasingly agricultural county, they were also far outnumbered by the massive influx of English-speaking migrants pouring into Los Angeles during the boom of the 1880s.



St. Vibiana Cathedral, overseen and partially financed by an early French settler. The building is no longer used as a Catholic church.



The French Hospital in 1904.

The new French immigrants scattered throughout the county, from the Tehachapi Mountains to San Pedro. And while they were far less likely to get involved in City matters than their predecessors, they were fond of gathering with their peers. Many kept active social lives, organizing picnics, celebrating French holidays, creating French clubs, and publishing French newspapers. A French Quarter sprouted east of the City around the turn of the century, with middle-class residents claiming property on Summit and Pleasant avenues in Boyle Heights and the working class congregating east of the Plaza. Aliso Street became a meeting place for farmers and sheepherders in town for business or a visit to the French Hospital. In the same way, the corner of Alameda and Aliso developed into something of a French neighborhood, with several boarding houses, grocery stores, saloons, stables and shops all catering to the county's 1,800 French residents. A glance at the L.A. City Directory of 1897 reveals businesses with names like "Le Café des Alpes" and "L'Hotel de Bayonne" that echoed the home regions of most of Los Angeles' French immigrants. As the population of Los Angeles climbed to 100,000, more French citizens found employment in the service and hospitality industries. From time to time, one of those immigrants rose from the crowd to distinguish himself as a successful entrepreneur.

One building that remains in today's Los Angeles landscape became a reality during our local "French Revolution." It is St. Vibiana's Cathedral, dedicated in 1876. Louis Mesmer, an Alsatian French baker, arrived in Los Angeles in 1852. Generous and energetic, Mesmer devoted himself to the development of Los Angeles. He donated property for the Southern Pacific Railroad terminal, helped purchase land for the Los Angeles Normal School and in 1872 co-founded the Los Angeles *Evening Express* newspaper. His greatest contribution, however, was St. Vibiana's Cathedral, the construction of which he not only helped finance but personally oversaw.

Also paramount during this period were the French "movers and shakers" of this young, burgeoning community. The entrepreneurs included investors who founded the International Savings and Exchange Bank on Spring Street in 1904 to serve the large influx of immigrants arriving at the turn of the century. Later it merged with a predecessor, the Farmers and Merchants Bank, to become the Bank of America. Among the 13 founders of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank in 1871, two were Frenchmen, former Mayor Joseph Mascarel and Domingo Amestoy.

Jean-Louis Sainsevain, a nephew of Jean-Louis Vignes, a cooper by trade, arrived in Los Angeles in 1839 to work on his uncle's vineyard. In 1862, using lumber from a San Bernardino sawmill owned by his brother, Pierre, he capitalized on his woodworking skills to lay a system of wooden pipes and construct a waterwheel. In doing so, he drastically improved the archaic, unsanitary water system of *zanjas*, or open ditches, that had formerly supplied water to the Los Angeles inhabitants.

After securing water rights from the City, Sainsevain drew water from the Los Angeles River and diverted the water to residents. As advanced as his system was, however, alternating periods of flood and drought proved too stressful for his network of wooden pipes, which burst after several years of pressure.

In 1890, there was the Los Angeles City Water Company on the Plaza. Solomon Lazard, a French Jew, bought out the previous water rights from Jean-Louis Sainsevain. Originally Lazard and two partners established the buyout in 1868. With a 30-year lease on the City's water supply, the Los Angeles City Water Company laid iron pipes and erected a fountain in the center of Los Angeles Plaza. Upon expiration of the lease in 1898, the City underwent four years of intense negotiations to regain control of its water distribution and establish what is now the Department of Water and Power.

Solomon Lazard was also a storeowner on Main Street in the 1860s. But in 1874 Lazard sold his store—by then named The City of Paris—to his cousin and former partner, Eugene Meyer, who relocated it to an ornate building on Spring Street. By the late 1880s it was Los Angeles' largest retail business, specializing in fancy goods and fashions imported from France and Britain. The shop doubled as the French Consulate, with Meyer and the subsequent owner, Leon Loeb, each serving as official representatives of the French government.

Moving from entrepreneurship to colonization, the French community or "colony" wanted to have its own newspapers. Despite its tight-knit nature and relatively small size, the French community was not immune to dissent. In 1896, three different local French language weekly newspapers circulated in Los Angeles, each with a distinct editorial perspective. They were: *L'Union Nouvelle* (1879-1966); *Le Progres* (1894-96); and *Le Francais* (1896-98). The editors of *Le Progres* and *L'Union Nouvelle*, the fiercest rivals, were known to come to blows on the street. *L'Union Nouvelle* survived the longest, enduring until the 1960s.

Despite carving a niche for themselves in Los Angeles, members of the French Colony, as they had come to call themselves, did not forget their motherland. They showed solidarity during tragic and joyful events alike, as reinforced by the fact that some patriots returned to France in 1914 when war with Germany called for soldiers. Later, the ratio of French residents to the general population of Los Angeles decreased for several reasons. After World War I, emigration from France was no longer an option for young men when so many hands were needed at home to compensate for the millions of casualties. The Volstead Act, which prohibited the sale of alcohol in the United States (Prohibition), and the more stringent U.S. immigration laws of 1924, took further tolls on the numbers. At the same time, Los Angeles entered a period of exponential growth, thus minimizing the French presence among the flock of newcomers. Aliso Street, with its proximity to busy railroad stations and expanding warehouses, lost its appeal as a center for the community. As more people purchased cars, they begin to settle farther away from the City's busy and commercial downtown, where the construction of a newer and larger civic center was under way.

By 1927, there was no longer a French Quarter to speak of. On what was once at the heart of the French community, a new construction of a larger civic center was under way with the current City Hall rising up to mark the birth of a new era for Los Angeles.



Standing, from left: Jim Peevey; LAFD Chief Doug Barry; and Capt. Timothy Kelly, Administration Office, LAFD. Seated: Marjorie Peevey and Tim's wife, Linda.



From left: Lt. Richard Hinkle, LAX Airport Police, with Chief George Centeno, Airport Police.



The commencement address was delivered by Major General Paul Mock.

West Point Graduation

■ Police Dept.'s distinguished West Point Leadership Program graduates another class.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

POLICE DEPT. — The LAPD graduated 27 future leaders from its West Point Leadership Program at a ceremony Dec. 6 at the Police Academy.

Of the 27 graduates, eight were from the LAPD; five from the LAFD; and one from the LAX Airport Police.

The principal aim of the West Point Leadership Program is to teach individuals how to think more systematically about leadership, challenges and situations. The course teaches 27 behavioral science and adult education theories, compiled from top universities in the nation. The course requires students to solve realistic law enforcement leadership problems using the WPLP theories, during three different exam settings.

In 1992, Police Commissioner Jesse A. Brewer, a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, identified the most effective leadership training institution, the United States Military Academy at West Point. He coordinated with the Academy's Department of Behavioral Science and Leadership to develop quality leadership training for the Los Angeles Police Department.

In 1994, five members of the LAPD participated in a program hosted by West Point faculty, officially known as the West Point Leadership and Command Program.

In January 1996, the LAPD trained 30 employees assigned to various supervisory and executive positions to be West Point Leadership Program (WPLP) instructors. The program is a 136-hour, four-week course, approved by the Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). The program is also accredited with California State University Los Angeles for Bachelor's and Master's degree credits.

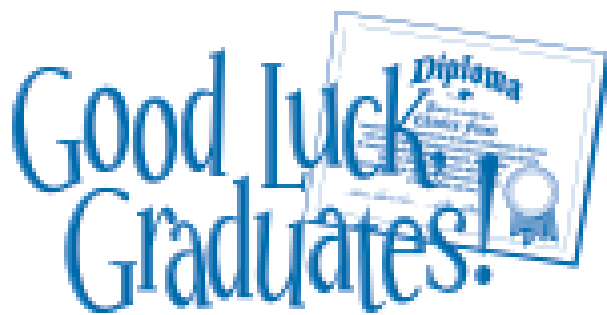
At the ceremony in December, the commencement address was given by Col. Thomas Kolditz. The class speaker was Maj. Gen. Paul Mock, U.S. Army.



From left: Capt. LaPonda J. Fitchpatrick, Airport Police, Club Member; and Sgt. Bernard Fitchpatrick, LAPD Mission Division.



From left: Joe and Nancy Callanan, guests; Alicia Welch, LAFD Captain, Station 59B; and Rita Somnaer, guest.



Demauri and P. Thomas Malin, Major, U.S. Army.



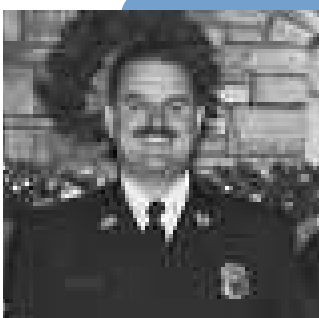
From left: Bill Butler, father; and Patrick Butler, LAFD Battalion Chief, Station 9B, and his wife, Jeanie.



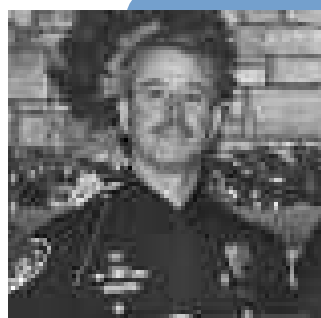
Sgt. Isidore Gutierrez, LAPD Foothill; and Sgt. Ted Reyland, EOD.



From left: Battalion Chief Tim Ernst, LAFD Headquarters, with his daughter, Jessica, and wife, Patsy; and Capt. Karen Richter, LAFD.



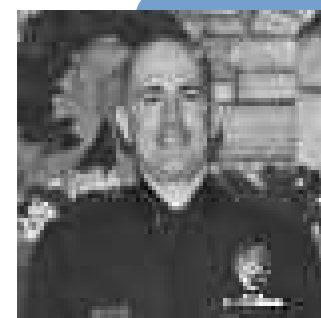
Battalion Chief Patrick Butler, LAFD.



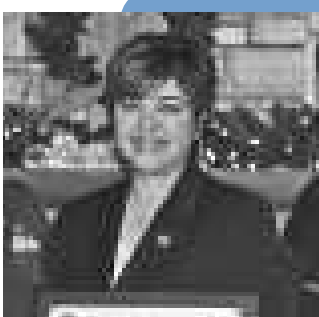
Sgt. Stephen Carillo, Lodi Police Dept.



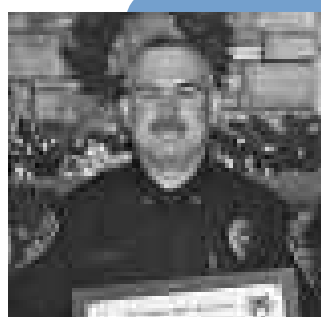
Det. III William Keith Cooper, LAPD.



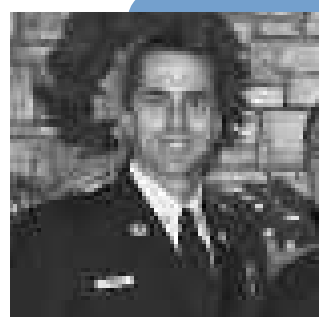
Lt. Robert Davis, LAPD.



Management Analyst II Norma Alicia Delhagen, LAPD.



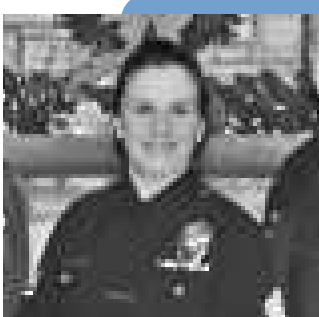
Lt. Joseph Edwards, Petaluma PD.



Battalion Chief Timothy G. Ernst, LAFD.



Commander Tammy Franks, Santa Ana PD.



Det. III Patricia E. Hauck, LAPD.



Capt. LaPonda J. Fitchpatrick, Airport Police, Club Member.



Sgt. 1 Isidore Gutierrez, LAPD.



Yael Hellman, Woodbury University.

The West Point Leadership Program Graduates for December 2007 were:



- Batt. Chief Patrick Butler (LAFD);
- Sgt. Stephen Carillo (Lodi PD);
- Det. III William Keith Cooper (LAPD);
- Lt. Robert Davis (LAPD);
- Management Analyst II Norma Alicia Delhagen (LAPD);
- Lt. Joseph Edwards (Petaluma PD);
- Capt. LaPonda J. Fitchpatrick (LAX PD);
- Commander Tammy Franks (Santa Ana PD);
- Sgt. I Isidore Gutierrez (LAPD);
- Det. III Patricia E. Hauck (LAPD);
- Yale Hellman (Woodbury University);
- Capt. Timothy Kelly (LAFD);
- Lt. Jeremy Mark Kitabjian (LA County PD);
- Maj. Paige T. Malin (U.S. Army);
- Maj. Gen. Paul Mock (U.S. Army);
- Commander William Nimmo (Santa Ana PD);
- Sgt. Bob Oettinger (Benicia PD);
- Lt. Perry Phipps (Visalia PD);
- Lt. Chris Piombo (Lodi PD);
- Sgt. II Ted Reyland (LAPD);
- Capt. Karen Richter (LAFD);
- Sgt. Richard R. Scrivens Jr. (Peoria PD);
- Lt. Dexter Thomas (Ontario PD);
- Sgt. II Ignacio M. Verduzco (LAPD);
- Capt. Alicia Welch (LAFD); and
- Det. III Edgar H. Whyte (LAPD).

Special thanks and congratulations to Officer Annette Olivas (West Point Leadership Program staff) and Sgt. Mike Sayre (West Point Leadership Program Staff, Club Member, for their successful graduating class. And the Club also thanks Sgt. Sayre for inviting us to the ceremony.

Congratulations, graduates!



From left: Col. Thomas Kolditz; Sgt. Mike Sayre, Club Member; and Asst. Chief Jim McDonnell, LAPD, Club Member.



The family of Sgt. Ignacio Verduzco, Audit Division, LAPD, were, standing, from left: Tony Gonzalez, brother in law; and Alicia Gonzalez, sister. Seated: Maria, mother; Sophia, niece; Carlos Verduzco, father; and Sgt. Ignacio Verduzco.



From left: Chief Sandra Spagnoli, Benicia PD; and Asst. Chief Jim McDonnell, LAPD, Club Member.



From left: Sgt. Bernard Fitchpatrick, LAPD Mission Division; and Norma Delhagen, Management Analyst, R&I, LAPD.



From left: Col. Thomas Kolditz; Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; and Asst. Chief Jim McDonnell, LAPD, Club Member.



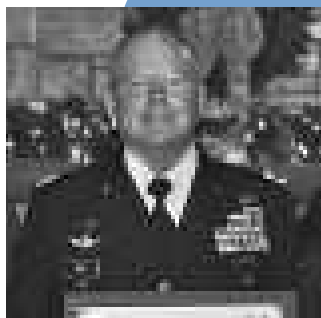
Capt. Timothy Kelly, LAFD.



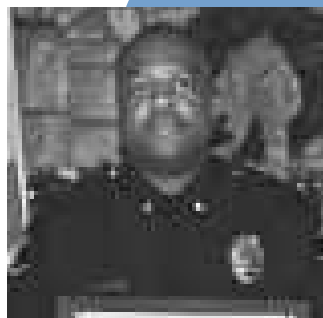
Lt. Jeremy Mark Kitabjian, LA County Sheriff's Dept.



Maj. Paige T. Malin, U.S. Army.



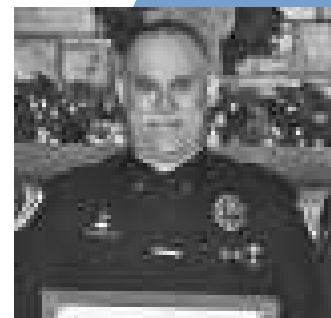
Maj. Gen. Paul Mock, U.S. Army.



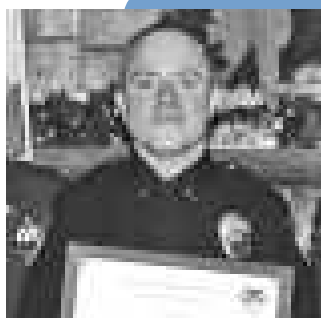
Commander William Nimmo, Santa Ana PD.



Sgt. Bob Oettinger, Benicia PD.



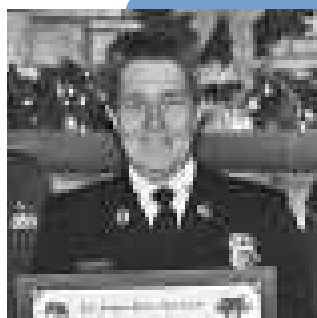
Lt. Perry Phipps, Visalia PD.



Lt. Chris Piombo, Lodi PD.



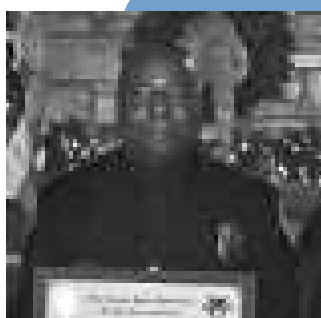
Sgt. II Ted Reyland, LAPD.



Capt. Karen Richter, LAFD.



Sgt. Richard R. Scrivens Jr.



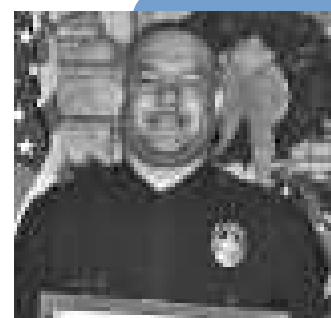
Lt. Dexter Thomas, Ontario PD.



Sgt. II Ignacio M. Verduzco, LAPD.



Capt. Alicia Welch, LAFD.



Det. III Edgar H. Whyte, LAPD, Club Member.

Your Paycheck: It's All You've Got.

You and your family depend on your paycheck. Get injured, and you could be in trouble.

Protect your paycheck with the Club's Long-Term Disability Insurance.

- Did you know that the most common reason for a home foreclosure is a long-term disability?
- It makes no sense to risk your family's financial wellbeing. Protect it!
- The Club's Long-Term Disability Insurance protects your paycheck, whether your injury takes place on the job or off.

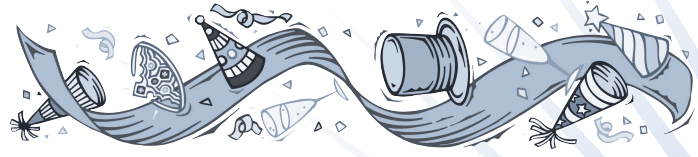
**Affordable.
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Sign up for the Club's Long-Term Disability Insurance now.

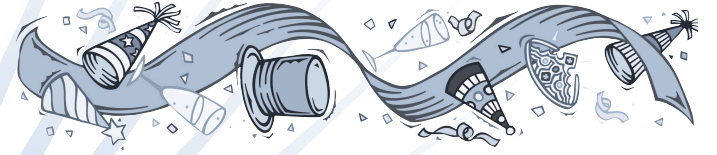
While you still can.

**Call a Club Counselor:
(800) 464-0452**





Special Holiday Party Section



All across the City, you celebrated the holidays. And Alive! was there!

Fun in the City! Part 2

Here in February, Alive! continues its coverage of the City Social Season 2007, with stories and photos from Club staff ... and sent in by you, too.

And don't forget to check out all the photos - from January, too - online! Go to: www.cityemployeesclub.com



From left: New Traffic Officers Garcia and Smith enjoyed the food and companionship of their colleagues.



The food was plentiful as traffic officers got in line.



Officer Mendoza took home a City of Los Angeles watch.



Officer Walters (left) and Social Club Vice President La Tisha Vargas had a terrific time at this holiday luncheon.

A Vermont Holiday, Continued

■ Here's part two of Transportation's Vermont location holiday luncheon.

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Marketing and Communications

TRANSPORTATION — The Hollywood branch of Transportation held its year-end celebration Dec. 12 at the home office.

Alive! ran a story about this party last month. Here are some more pictures!



Officer Villa dropped what seemed a heavy gift, but in reality it was as light as a feather.



From left: Social Club President Robin Smith Gregory; Capt. R.C. Smith; and Santa Claus.



Officer Dickey (right) got a plate of delicious food served by Officer Bowers.

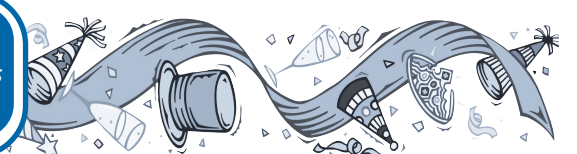


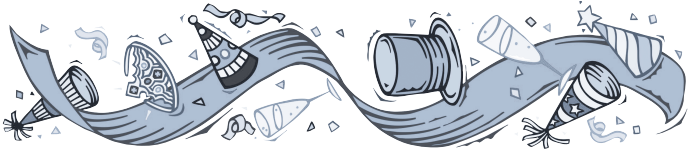
Officer Hatch stood next to the gift exchange table; there were many gifts to exchange.



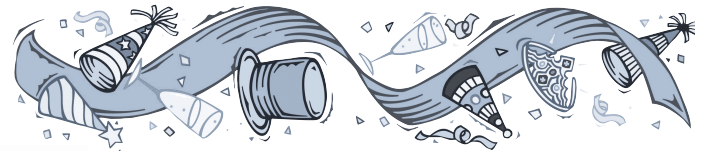
See these photos and more, in color, at cityemployeesclub.com on the Web! Click on Photos at the top of Club home page.

The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!





Fun in the City



From left: Monica and Maurice Jacobs, Construction Equipment Service Worker, Club Member; and Willie Brown, Carpenter, with his wife, Helen.



Mr. and Mrs. Banks, Club Member.



From left: Rosa Carretino, guest; Rochelle Guzman, Clerk Typist, DWP, Club Member; Ralph Carretino, Sr. Gardener; and Efrén Quintana, Gardener, Club Member, and his wife, Piper.



From left: Frank Gandara, guest; Angelica Gandara, sister of Tony Alvarado; and Tony Alvarado, Security Officer, Club Member, and Joanna Rios, his girlfriend.



Tony Gioiello, Chief Harbor Engineer, and his wife, Vanessa.



From left: Tricia Queen and her boyfriend, Marco Ceron, Gardener, Club Member.



From left: Gina Svicarovich, Professional Student Worker; Kedren Pilgram, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member; and Maria Couch, Wharfinger, Club Member.



Standing: Maria Garcia, Custodian, Club Member, and her husband, Federico. Seated, from left: MaryAnne Diaz, guest; and Rafael Diaz, Laborer.



Mary and Mark Emami, Civil Engineer.



Keith Wimberly, Laborer, and his wife, Mable.



From left: Mary Frances Sandoval, Community Program Assistant, Club Member; and Holly Carlson, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member.

Harbor Club Holiday

■ Harbor Employees Club throws a holiday dinner.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

HARBOR — The Harbor Employees Club hosted its annual holiday dinner Dec. 15 at the Ports O'Call Restaurant in San Pedro.

The evening was an intimate affair, with colleagues and guests overlooking the Port of Los Angeles.

The dinner featured lots of great food. More than 200 people were expected to attend.

Thanks to Holly Carlson for her assistance.



From left: Steve Karsten, Plumber, with his fiancée, Annette Connolly.



From left: Marc Wright, Principal Construction Inspector, Con Ed; and Donna Wright, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member.



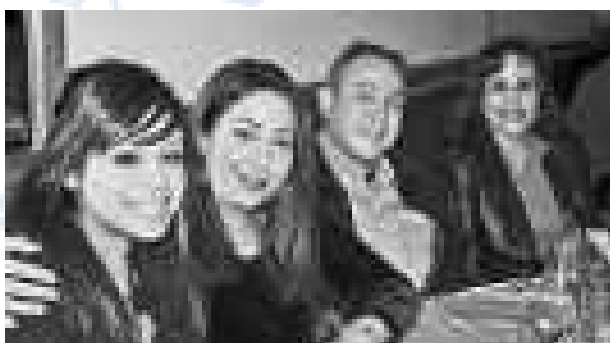
Ramon Asuncion, and his dad, Tom Asuncion, Architectural Associate, Club Member.



From left: Phyllis Morrow, guest; David Cartwright, Gardener, Club Member; and James Williams, Gardener, Club Member, with his wife, Janice.



From left: Lynda Johnson, Sr. MA II, Club Member, and her guest, David Fruth.



From left: Valerie Holguin, guest; Tish Lorenzana, HR Director, Club Member; Richard Lorenzana, Wharfinger; and Viola Holguin, wife of George Holguin.



From left: Dave Chrisman, Carpenter Supervisor, Club Member; Mimi Gutierrez, Civil Engineer Associate II, Club Member; Michael Canlas, Port Police; and Jessica Bautista, MA, Club Member.

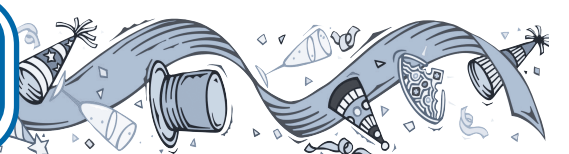


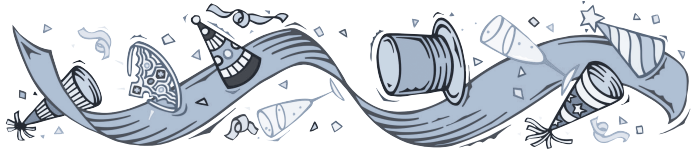
Standing, from left: Kai Makaena, guest; and Jennifer Reyes, Risk Manager. Seated: Chrizelle Quevedo, Student Worker; Daryl Pan, Student Worker; and James Bersales, guest.



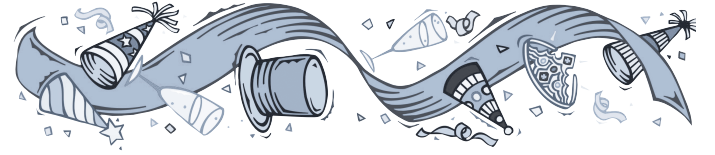
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Fun in the City



The "Village People" dancers from Public Works/Accounting.



Housing Dancers, from left: Lu Ibarreintos, Susana Verdejo and Teresita Roque.



The CDD Holiday Dancers.



Mae Abeleda, Chief Accountant, CDD.



From left: Yolly Huang and Yolly Antonio.

Accounting For the Holidays

Accountants Association throws festive event.

Story and photos by Rhod de Vera, LAMAAA President



The line dancing was led by Larry Campita from the Controller's Office.



Rhod de Vera, LAMAAA president, delivers the welcome address.



Craig Bloomquist, Director, Bureau of Accounting.

HOUSING — The Los Angeles Municipal Accountants and Auditors Association (LAMAAA) held a well-attended Christmas Holiday Luncheon Dec. 6 at the historic Mayfair Hotel. The festive event was attended by approximately 160 officers and members and was highlighted by a record number of performances from different departments.

The opening remarks welcomed the capacity crowd and thanked attendees for their overwhelming support. The program was hosted by Yolly Huang, newly promoted Chief Accountant, Controller's Office; and Bernie Apolonio, Principal Accountant, Transportation.

A number of invited keynote speakers delivered their special messages and holiday greetings to the attendees:

- Craig Bloomquist, Director of Finance, Public Works/Accounting;
- Faith Mok, Director of Finance, Rec and Parks;
- Mary Jane Aquino, Chief Accountant, Convention Center;
- Mae Abeleda, Chief Accountant, CDD; and
- Guido Marucut, Chief Accountant, Transportation.



Josie Quiocho, grand raffle prize winner.

A nonstop program of performances was provided by members from different departments who took turns showing off their talents:

- The Christmas Choir from Housing/Accounting set the mood by opening with Christmas carols and also provided more holiday singing to close out the event. It was complemented by a group dance, choreographed by Susana Verdejo;
- An all female "Village People" performance of "YMCA" from Public Works/Accounting, led by Juanita Inton, former LAMAAA President;
- A line dance performance from Rec and Parks, led by Rose Reyes, Chief Accountant;
- "A Christmas Wish," a short play with a dance number performed by accounting staff from CDD, led by Mae Abeleda, also a former LAMAAA President; and
- "Are you smarter than a Treasury Accountant?" from the Treasurer's Office.



Housing Choir, from left: Cesar Cunanan, Rene Posadas, Richard Herdedia, Loralie Roxas, Lilibeth Co and Anabell Luna.



Housing Christmas Choir, from left: Anabell Luna, Wane Jeerapet, Maria Cavigao; Vangie Baello, Helen Limtao, Teresita Roque and Susana Verdejo.



Marilu de Vera leads a line dance.



From left: Esrelita Yong, Perla Veneracion and Lu Ibarreintos.



From left: Mary Jane Aquino and Perla Veneracion.

After the performances, Larry Campita and his dancing friends from the Controller's Office opened up the dance floor by leading some line dance steps.

The event was made even more memorable with a previously unannounced big-ticket raffle. Among the prizes given away were a Nikon digital camera, a photo printer, a 22-inch flat screen monitor, and two tickets to a Celine Dion concert. The winner of the grand prize, a Toshiba laptop computer, was Josie Quiocho, from the Controller's office.

Organizational support was provided mainly by Transportation/CDD staff headed by Marilu de Vera, who took charge of the check-in, the raffle and the setup. Additional support was provided by Housing for the DJ sound system, photo processing and control of the raffle prizes. Photo and video coverage was provided by Cris Salandanan and Malu de Vera.

The event was deemed successful when attendees were overheard exclaiming the ballroom was too crowded and the time was too short. It's time to plan for a bigger and longer event next year!



Housing Dancers, from left: Teresita Roque, Wane Jeerapet and Perla Veneracion.



From left: Perla Veneracion, Carmela Espiritu, Lu Ibarreintos and Bernie Apolonio.



Dancers from Rec and Parks, led by Rose Reyes.

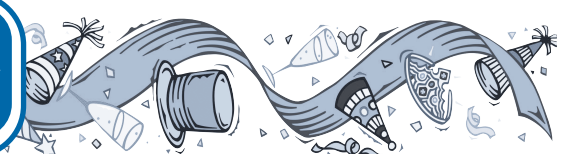


The "Are You Smarter Than a Treasury Accountant?" quiz.



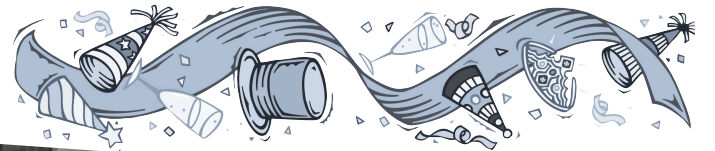
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Fun in the City



Committee members, front row from left: Niesa Lewis, Cora Soriano, Mirela Chavez, Grace Benedicto and Michelle Chambers. Back: Zita Davis, Debra Anderson, Sandra Oxford, Pamela Williams and Amelia Marucut.



The 2007 Belle and Beau of the Ball: Kendra Musgrove and Joe Rouzan.

Community Development

■ Community Development hosts holiday fun.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor; Photos courtesy CDD staff

CDD — The Community Development Department hosted its holiday party Dec. 14 at the Mayfair Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Employees enjoyed an evening of food and dancing. Thanks to CDD staff for sharing the story and the photos.



The 2006 Belle and Beau of the Ball: Lisa Salazar and Greg Burks.



From left: Olga Zavala-Edwards, PDO, 77th Jail; George Coe, Sr. DO, MJS; and Suzanne Meuser, Sr. CT, Club Member.



Stella Garcia, SDO, Van Nuys, and Michael Ellington, PDO, Training.



From left: Lt. Rick DeMartino, LAPD Communications, and his wife, Valerie; and Sandy Wallace, Sr. MA II, and her husband, Jeff.



Standing: Christine and Cheung Ben, DO, Van Nuys. Seated: Orlando Yap, PDO, Van Nuys, Club Member, and his wife, Jovi.



Amber Nevarez, guest, with Juan Sanchez, Sr. DO, 77th, Club Member.



From left: Esteban Orozco, DO, Hollywood, Club Member; and John Grogan, SDO, MJS, Club Member.



LaDonna Moore, Accounting Clerk, Club Member; and Michael Carter, DWP.



From left: John Basilio, SDO, Wilshire; and Michael Ellington, PDO, Training.



Standing: Michael Potter, DO, MJS, and his wife, Monica. Seated, from left: guests Danette Chale and Juan Cedeno.



From left: Monica Orozco, guest; Consuelo Barnette, guest; Mario Solis, DO, Parker Center; and Sylvia Solis, Sr. Clerk Typist, Personnel.



From left: Judy Martin, PDO, Van Nuys, Club Member, and her husband, John.

Jail Division Celebrates

■ LAPD's Jail Division hosts holiday party.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Photos by Daniel Wang, Club Photographer

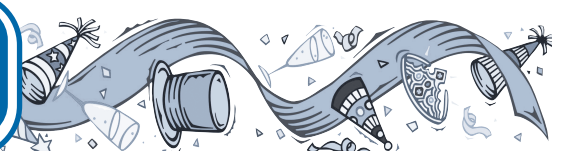
POLICE DEPT. — The LAPD Jail Division hosted its annual holiday party Dec. 15 at the Ports O'Call Restaurant in San Pedro.

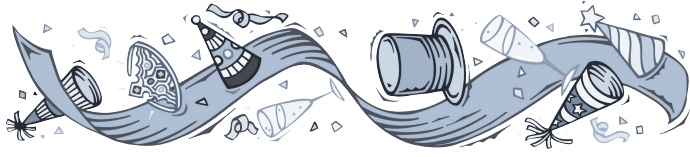
The celebration featured good food, good music and good company.

The Club thanks Catalina Alvarado and Michael Ellington for their assistance.

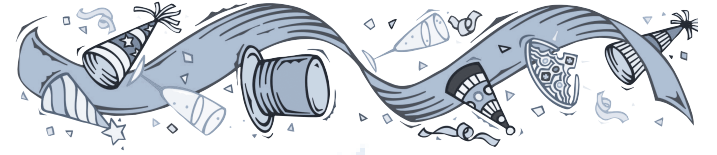
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Fun in the City



Richard Benbow, CDD General Manager, and Amelia Medina, Sr. Project Coordinator.



Cora Soriano, Event Host, Management Analyst II.



Cynthia Abellanosa, Management Analyst II, and Jose Daco, Auditor II.



Angel Ancajas, Principal Accountant I, and Theresa Clemente, Community Program Director.

A Filipina Holiday

■ CDD's Filipino contingent throws a holiday party.

Story and photos by Alive! staff

CDD — The Filipino group with Community Development threw a culturally correct Christmas party Dec. 12.

The luncheon took place in the Garland Building.

Thanks to Cora Soriano, Management Analyst II, for assisting us.



Nilda Pascual, Management Analyst II, and Arturo Gaerlan.



From left: Richard Benbow, CDD General Manager; Manet Milner, Retired Sr. Management Analyst II; and Greg Dimmitt, Sr. Management Analyst II.

Accounting for The Holidays

■ Office of Accounting celebrates the holidays.

PUBLIC WORKS — The Office of Accounting held its holiday celebration Dec. 19.

The event was held at the Reef restaurant in Long Beach. During the program, four employees were presented 30-year City service pins, commendations and watches. They are Christi Guymon, Ninfa Malabayoc, Kyong Choi and Thelma Gunasekara.

Thanks to Craig Bloomquist, Director of the Office of Accounting, Public Works, for his assistance in producing this article.



Holiday entertainers.



Members of the General Accounting Division, Public Works.



Members of the Sewer Construction and Maintenance Fund Financial Accounting Division.



Service pin recipients, from left: Assistant Director Jean Su; Retired Assistant Director Eli Tumbuon; Recipient Christi Guymon; Recipient Ninfa Malabayoc; Recipient Kyong Choi; Director Craig Bloomquist; and Recipient Thelma Gunasekara.

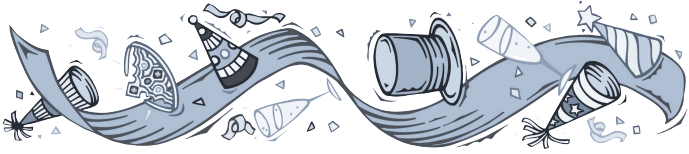


The dancers perform.

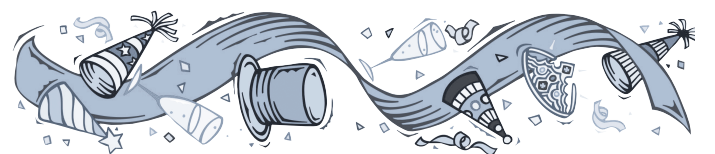
See these photos and more, in color, at cityemployeesclub.com on the Web! Click on Photos at the top of Club home page.

The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!





Fun in the City



From left: Chrystal Gilliam, Legal Secretary, 28 years of City service; Leo Cabrera, Equipment Operator, 32 years of service; Joy Rendon, Legal Secretary, 20 years of service; Frank Rendon, Equipment Operator, 18 years of service; and George Koury, Real Estate Officer, 8 years of service.



Mark Weisenberg, Storekeeper, 18 years of City service.



From left: Mike Sharp, Machinist, 14 years of City service; and Dan Hargrove, Plumber, 24 years of service.



Albert Baca, Mechanical Helper, 22 years of City service.



Danny Ponce, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, 5 years of City service.

Harbor Breakfast

Harbor hosts holiday breakfast.

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Marketing and Communications

HARBOR — Harbor employees hosted their annual holiday breakfast Dec. 19.

The event was held at the Construction and Maintenance Yard.

Thanks to Masha Hematabadi for inviting the Club and assisting with this article.



Kenneth Henderson, Street Maintenance Worker I, 22 years of City service.



Larry Wilson, Motor Sweeper Operator, 5.5 years of City service.



Eric Rubio, Gardner Caretaker, 7 months of City service.



John Gloster, Heavy Equipment Operator, 35 years of City service.



Jane "Extraordinaire" Heitkemper, Gardner Caretaker, 8 months of City service.



Yolanda Adams, Procurement Aide, 10 years of City service.

Arturo Garcia, Gardner Caretaker, 4.5 years of City service.



From right: Jessica Rivie, "jack of all trades, master of none," 29 years of City service; John Humphrey, Equipment Operator, 18.5 years of service; and Ken Stanberry, Real Estate Associate, 5 months of service.

A Contract Admin Holiday

Contract Administration hosts their holiday party.

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Marketing and Communications

PUBLIC WORKS — Contract Administration held its holiday party Dec. 20.

The event was held in their office building downtown.

Thanks to Sharon Reddit, Executive Assistant and Club Rep, for her assistance in producing this article.



From left: Arturo Aranda, son; Melina Aranda, daughter; and Irma Aranda, Executive Administrative Assistant II, 34 years of service.



From left: David Tang, Principal Construction Inspector, 20 years of City service; and Jim Garrison, Sr. Building Inspector, Building & Safety, 21 years of service.



From left: Alfred Garcia, Construction Inspector, 3 months of service; and Scott McKeen, Construction Inspector, 8 years of service.



From left: Divina Bautista, Management Analyst II, 1 year of service; Paola Valencia, Management Assistant, 8 years of service; Brenda Arroyo, Management Analyst II, 2 years of service; and Mario Noriega, Inspector, 14 years of service.



From left: Carl Baker, Assistant Inspector, 8 years of service; Jason Stoerber, Assistant Inspector, 2 years of service; and Everett Bennett, Assistant Inspector, 1.5 years of service.



From left: Joy Reynosa, DWP, 8 years of service; and Alem Kahsay, Management Analyst II, 20 years of service.



Paul O'Carroll, Sr. Electrical Inspector, 19 years of service; and Julie Gutman, Public Works Commissioner.



From left: Dennis Kiley, Construction Inspector, 6 years of service; Mario Noriega, Inspector, 14 years of service; Victor Suriel, Construction Inspector, 6 years of service; Mike Chung, Sr. Construction Inspector, 19 years of service; and Marianne Gomez, Payroll Supervisor, 28 years of service.



From left: Usha Papa, Management Assistant, 2 years of service; and Ripsime Ter-Galstyan, Management Assistant, 9 months of service.



Sharon Reddit, Executive Assistant and Club Rep.

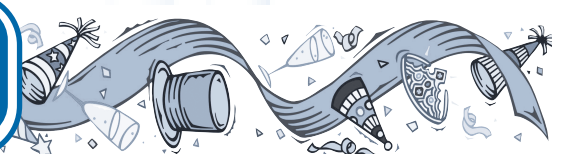


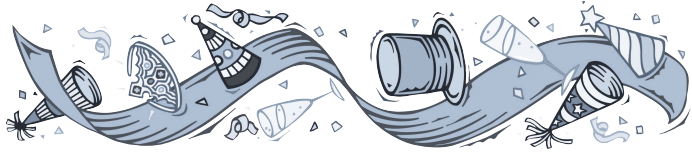
From left: Barry Jones, Airports, Construction Inspector, 4 years of service; and Todd Eller, Construction Inspector, 1 month of service.



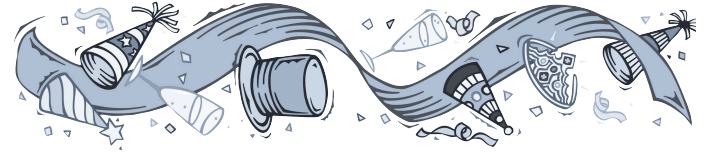
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Fun in the City



From left: Susan Burns, A.K.A. the Grumpy elf; Judy Ruiz, Santa's Helper, Club Member; Mrs. Claus, Club Member; and Sgt. Romo.



Organizer Amy Case, PSR, Club Member, with nieces, Presley, Jason, 1; Shelby, 3; and Emily, 9.



Mickey Gomez with Santa.



Organizer Stephanie Burkhart, PSR III, Club Member, with her sons Andrew, 5; and Joseph, 15 months.



Andrew, son of Stephanie Burkhart, with Santa.



Santa and Mrs. Claus.



Spyder, 4, with his mom, Vicky Arujo, Custodian of Records, Club Member.



Back, from left: Alma Flores, PSR, Club Member, with her sister Yadiria Flores, and nephews Julian, 7; Anthony, 9; and Jason, 5.



Jennifer Lindstrom, PSR III, Club Member, and her husband, Bentley, with Breanna, 22 months; Katelyn, 4.



Julian, in Dodge blue, with Santa.



Dimitri, who's on the good list, accepts his gift from Santa.

Christmas for Kids

■ LAPD Valley Communications hosts Christmas party for children of employees.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Member

POLICE DEPT. — LAPD's Valley Communications Division hosted a party for children of employees Dec. 8 at the Valley Communications Building.

There was lots of food and activities, and Santa paid a visit on a 1928 Roadster, thanks to LA Exotics. Approximately 40 to 45 kids were on hand.

The event was organized by PSRs and Club Members Amy Case and Stephanie Burkhart. Thanks to Jean Sarfaty and Lt. Stan Ludwig for their assistance.



Justin with Santa.



Vincent with Santa.



From left: Satya, 3; Angel, 2; Bella, 5, daughter of Club Member Robert Lopez; Logan, 12; and Surya, 5.



Matthew accepts his gift from Santa.



Emily Bennet with Santa.



Back, from left: Ryan Jr. III, 8; and Taylor, 9. Seated: Ryan Sims; his wife, Tenecia Davis, PSR, Club Member; and Riley, 4.



From left: Emmanuel San Diego, PSR, Club Member, with his wife, Lisa; Evan, 5; nephew, Andrew, 3; and son, Justin, 2.



See these photos and more, in color, at cityemployeesclub.com on the Web! Click on Photos at the top of Club home page.

The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!



We've got LAKERS BASKETBALL tickets!

See Kobe take on the NBA's best!

| OPPONENT | DATE | TICKET PRICE |
|----------|-------------------|--------------|
| Atlanta | Tuesday 2/19/08 | \$28 |
| Portland | Wednesday 4/02/08 | \$28 |

(All seats are upper level)
All games are held at the Staples Center

PLEASE CALL "TICKET GUY" FOR DETAILS
1-888-777-1744

OR VISIT THE
CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM



LAPD AND LAFD PROUDLY PRESENT



Shaving the Way to Conquer Kids' Cancer



*We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.
Sir Winston Churchill*

- Who:** LAPD and LAFD Members (All City Employees, family and friends welcome too!)
- What:** 2008 St. Baldrick's Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Research
- When:** Saturday, March 15, 2008 from 9am to 3pm
- Where:** LAFD Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, North Hollywood, CA 91605
- Why:** To Raise Money for Fighting Childhood Cancer
- How:** Sign Up or Donate at www.stbaldricks.org

For additional information please contact:
LAPD Sergeant Greg Doyle @ 818-778-4752 or LAFD Firefighter Danny Wu @ 626-590-6240

Newsbriefs

STORM PREPARATION:

Public Works/Sanitation has prepared all its facilities for the recent rainstorms and placed them on wet weather alert.

- All critical and known problem locations prone to flooding were inspected and prepared for the storms.
- Debris and clogged catch basins in critical locations prone for flooding were cleared.
- All 45,000 catch basins owned by the City were cleaned at least once prior to the rainy season.
- Prior to the storm, all wastewater and storm water pump stations were inspected and emergency backup generators and equipment were prepared and dispatched strategically.
- Staff coverage was increased to provide necessary storm response and all crews were placed on 12-hour shifts.
- Additional resources and crews were placed on standby and could be called in as needed.
- Crews patrolled and inspected known sewer and storm drain locations prone to flooding to respond and mitigate any problems.

Residents can minimize flooding by preventing loose debris and trash from floating down into catch basins and storm drains. Also, the public is asked to conserve water use and minimize discharge into the sewer system during the storms. To report flooding problems or for assistance, call 3-1-1, the City's toll-free, 24-hour, information and access Hotline.

SILVER LAKE MEADOW:

Council President Eric Garcetti announced his plan to make the northeast area of the Silver Lake Reservoir known as the Meadow accessible to the public for daytime use. The plan includes landscaping, benches, a path for walking, and a fence that would allow the space to be secured after dark.

"The Silver Lake Reservoir is a treasured asset in this neighborhood, which will be enhanced by the addition of the new, safer walking path along Silver Lake Boulevard and the opening of the Meadow as a tranquil space for contemplation, strolling, and bird watching," Garcetti said.

He worked with hundreds of Silver Lake residents during the last year to develop the proposal and has created a Meadow Advisory Board comprised of Silver Lake residents and other community stakeholders to finalize the details of this plan.

"This is a very fair compromise that considers a community discussion that has been going on for nearly a decade and a huge amount of recent input from local residents," said Shelley Marks, President of the Committee to Save Silver Lake's Reservoirs. It addresses the concerns of people who have questions about security, access and habitat."

Garcetti was to co-host a meeting to discuss his plan for the Meadow and get feedback from community stakeholders Jan. 26.

For Retired Club Members



The Best Years

City Retiree Associations:

DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, President
Phone: (626) 445-7376
E-mail: vinmar@altrionet.com

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association



Robin J. Welborn, President
Phone: (323) 283-4441
Fax: (626) 285-1461
E-mail: larfpa@pacbell.net or
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,
Temple City, CA 91780

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



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

Change of Address?

If you change your address, notify Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 713, or write to her at 8372 Arnett Dr. Huntington Beach, CA 92647. Also notify LACERS.

Have News About Yourself?

Contact Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 709.

Upcoming Events:

April 10: Membership Meeting at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center, 1 p.m.; lunch at noon if you have made reservation.

June 4: Retirees Golf Classic, Alhambra Golf Course.

RLACEI:

Will LACERS Buy A New Building?



By Phil Skarin,
RLACEI Publicity Chair

President Ed Harding reports:



Ed Harding

"I want to congratulate Beth Bedsole on her appointment as the new editor of *El Pueblo*, and her editorial assistant, Chris Edling. I have met them, and I am sure they will do a great job.

"I am entering my 14th year as President of the Retired L. A. City Employees, Inc., and I have enjoyed every

minute of the past 13 years. Working with all of our very capable Directors has made my job an easy one.

"Vernon Sipes, a retired Superintendent of Street Maintenance and a very good friend, had a stroke on Christmas Eve and died Jan. 5. Vern was 68, with 31 years of City service, and was a Vietnam Vet. He was buried at the Riverside National Cemetery Jan. 10.

"I wish to congratulate my step-grandson, Tom McLurkin Jr., Deputy City Attorney, for his promotion to the U.S. Army

Reserve: "The Commanding General of the Army will change command of the 75th Legal Support Organization to Full Bird Col. Tom McLurkin, Jr., on Jan. 20 at Moffet Federal Airfield."

"I hope everyone had as nice of a Christmas and New Year's Day as Martha and I had. We spent this time in our new second home in Nevada. It snowed three days while we were there, my First White Christmas."

Legislative Update:



Ken Spiker

Ken Spiker, our elected Commissioner to the LACERS Board of Directors, reports that the State Supreme Court has agreed to hear the case of six members of the San Diego Retirement

Board, who are charged with violating state conflict of interest laws.

The six San Diego Board members had voted for a plan that allowed the city to put less money into the retirement system than required. In exchange, the city boasted retirement benefits for city workers. Prosecutors stated that the deal led to a \$1 billion benefit deficit.

If the Supreme Court does not change the appeals court decision, retirement boards, which are required to have employees and retirees sit on their board by law, would be unable to function properly. LACERS would be one system affected.

Two-dozen retirement systems, including LACERS, requested the Supreme Court to hear the case, which currently affects state employees, public school teachers and numerous other retirement systems.

We all are hoping the court renders a decision early this year.

Building Search

For years, Board members of LACERS

and the Fire and Police pensions departments have been looking for new or different office space.

Committee members, with the help of a prominent real estate company, have searched for a building downtown to rent or buy. Also, they are also considering buying space to build a new building.

Currently on the list to buy is the Times Mirror Building on the corner of First Street and Spring. Tours of the building have been conducted for Board members and staff of both departments.

When the committee is finished with their search, they will present their recommendation to both Boards.

I personally would prefer building our own building to meet the needs of both departments, with extra space to rent to other City departments. I believe we could offer better rental rates than the City is now paying other City departments. I believe we could offer better rental rates than the City is now paying. Other City departments would be permanent tenants and would help pay off the cost of the new building.

Richman Initiative:

Proponents of the Public Employees Benefits Reform Act, also known as the Richman Initiative, had until Jan. 15 to gather enough signatures on petitions to qualify it for the ballot. If it passes, it will

require substantial changes and reductions in pensions and benefits for future retirees. Stay tuned.

State Costs:

The Public Employee Post-Employment Benefits Commission, created by the governor, has reported that the costs of retiree health-care benefits for both state and local governments would be about \$118 billion over the next 30 years and that money should be set aside now to fulfill the promised benefits. But the benefits are justified, the report concluded.

LACERS Statistics:

Here are the current financial statistics:
Total value of the fund (close of business Nov. 30, 2007): **\$11,508,220,000**
Retiree checks issued monthly (as of Dec. 31, 2007): **15,151**
Average retiree monthly allowance (as of Dec. 31, 2007): \$2,698.70
Surviving spouses receiving an allowance (as of Dec 31, 2007): **3,224**
Average surviving spouses' monthly allowance (as of Dec. 31, 2007): **\$1,558.77**
Average retiree age (as of Dec. 31, 2007): **71.78**
Average number of years served (including buyback; service retirement only): **27.37**

RLACEI Website

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

Contact LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 360 E. Second Street, second floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans.

The Best Years

ADVENTURES with HAL!



By Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Retiree Hotlines

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

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

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

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| • Edward Harding | Ext. 703 |
| • Phil Skarin | Ext. 709 |
| • Robert Wilkinson | Ext. 704 |
| • Jerry Bardwell | Ext. 706 |
| • Harold Danowitz | Ext. 707 |
| • Jack Mathews | Ext. 712 |
| • Helen Salgado (membership) | Ext. 713 |
| • Americo Garza | Ext. 710 |
| • Neil Ricci | Ext. 714 |

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers for 2008

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

Committee Chairpersons for 2008

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

Directors

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



Next Stop: Botswana

■ Hal and entourage continue their African safari adventure.

On May 16 we were picked up at the Cape Grace Hotel at 5 a.m. for our South African Air flight to Johannesburg, where we were to connect to our flight to Maun, Botswana. Our tickets said we were to be on Air Botswana, but when we started to board the aircraft I noticed that the name of the airline was Intensive Air, which did little to abate our nervousness. We also had to identify our luggage on the tarmac before we could board the plane. All in all, the flight to Maun was uneventful and we landed about noon.

Botswana, formerly Bechuanaland, is a landlocked south African country, boarded by Zambia on the north, Zimbabwe on the east, Namibia on the west, and South Africa on the south. A long-neglected British protectorate, it achieved its independence under democratic rule in 1966 and soon after discovered three of the world's richest diamond-bearing formations. It enjoys a stable government and has high health, educational and economic standards. However, it is largely a wilderness of vast spaces – savanna, desert, wetlands and salt pans with few roads. It has a population of 1.5 million and the official languages are English and Tswana.

After we passed through immigration and customs, we were met by a representative of Wilderness Safaris. This is where the feared "weighing of the bags" was to take place. We were limited to 26 pounds each, and that included our cameras, so I'm sure that we were all over the limit. The weigh-in was conducted without a problem, and we were ready to board our flight to Mombo Camp -- situated in northern Botswana on the northern tip of Chief's Island within the Moremi Game Reserve in the Okavango Delta -- for a three-night stay. This would be the first of five small planes that we would take between

our camps. Our first plane was a Cessna Caravan, which seats 12 passengers. The plane was full, and our flight to Mombo was only about 30 minutes. The plane flew at about 5,500 feet, but because the elevation in the area is about 3,500 feet we had a great view of the landscape and did see some animals along the way. We landed on a small dirt airfield and were met by our guide, Okwa, in a large Land Rover, which had three tiers of seats behind the driver.

The drive to the camp took about 20 minutes, along narrow dirt and sometimes very sandy roads. These roads were originally trails the animals used to get to water or grazing areas, and they continue to be used by the animals today. This area is part of the Kalahari Desert, and even though it is a delta area with lots of water, the desert sand is just below the surface. There were lots of acacia trees, palms, and some hardwood, but this is not a jungle; in fact it is a lot like the high deserts of California. On the ride to the camp we saw families of warthogs, and just before we reached the camp we saw our first giraffe standing by the side of the road, eating leaves from the top of a tree. We knew we were starting to see the Africa that we had hoped for.

The staff of the camp came out to greet us, and we were taken to a large lounge area and offered refreshments while we were given an overview of the camp and our activities. We also had to sign a hold-harmless waiver in case we were eaten by a lion, or some other bad thing happened.

Camp Mombo has nine tented rooms built on teak walkways and platforms above ground. Rooms are superbly furnished, with a large king-size bed, seating area, and a bathroom with double sinks and showers. There was a large veranda overlooking the open plain in front of the camp, with a large day bed for watching the animals, and an outdoor shower. As we freshened up, I looked out over the plain and could see a number of



The type of plane we used to fly from camp to camp.



Cape buffalo walking through the water. I later found out that five of the buffalo lived in the camp under the tent next to ours.

The common areas of the camp included the dining room, pub, a lounge area, a bema (a seating area around a large fire pit), a deck and plunge pool. The schedule for our activities at Mombo, and this would be almost the same for the rest of the camps, was a wake up call at 6 a.m., a light breakfast and then a game drive until about 11 a.m. (we would stop about 9:30 a.m. for snack). At noon we would have a large brunch and then a chance to relax until about 3 p.m., when tea would be served, which included a light snack to hold you until dinner. We left for our evening game drive about 3:30 p.m. and, after stopping for sundowner cocktails, we returned about a half-hour after sunset. At our next two camps we were allowed to stay out later after dark, when you can see the nocturnal animals. We returned to the camp between 7 and 7:30 p.m. and had time to clean up before cocktails and dinner. The food at all of our camps was outstanding, even though the cooks were natives who did not eat this type of food and had never been to formal cooking school. The food was mostly Continental, leaning toward English, but with the use of local products and produce. We had game two or three times, and it was always some type of antelope.

The weather had been what we expected – in the low 80s during the day and into the 50s



A lioness waiting to hunt.

ADVENTURES with HAL!



Stopping for Sundowner.



More Sundowners.

at night. On the evening drives we had large ponchos, which helped keep us warm. During the day we were allowed to walk around the camp, but after dark we needed to be escorted by staff anytime we left our tent or when we returned to our tent after dinner. Because Mombo is in a national reserve, the guides do not carry weapons, but in all the other camps they were armed and carry the weapons even in the camp.

Our first game drive was very exciting as we were seeing the animals for the first time. I'm ashamed to admit that after a while we became very selective in what we wanted to see, but at that point it was all new. We saw large herds of impala, wildebeest, zebra, giraffe and troops of baboons. Of course what we wanted to see were the big five: elephants, lions, leopards, hippopotami and rhinoceroses. We stopped for our sundowner cocktails at a hippo pool and saw one of hippos walking into the pool; we didn't know it then, but is very rare to see a hippo out of the water except at night. We saw our first lioness getting ready to begin her evening hunt for food. We parked about 30 feet from her and she never even looked at us. Our guide told us there had been no hunting in this area for more than 15 years, so the animals were not afraid of humans. They were used to the Land Rovers, too; as long as we stayed in the vehicle, we would be fine. After watching the lioness for a while, we got a call over the radio that a leopard was near. It was getting dark, but the chance to see a leopard was too good to pass up, and we started cross-country to see if we could spot it. We reached the location and were able to see it as it was hunting an impala. Dusk was falling fast and it

was hard to see the animal, but when I looked at my videotape I could see it clearly. While we were sitting there something must have startled the leopard because it ran directly under our vehicle, something the guides had never seen before. We returned to camp satisfied that we had a good game drive.

Before dinner, the camp staff put on a show of native dancing, and after our dinner we sat around the bema with the other guests and enjoyed an after-dinner drink and listened to the night sounds of the delta while looking at a star-filled sky. We were escorted to our tent and got ready for bed. As I put my feet under the covers I felt something soft and warm, and I figured I was about to be done in, until I discovered it was a hot water bottle to help cut the night chill. We laid in bed that first night listening to the sound of the animals, which never seemed to stop.

On our morning game drive, we all noticed the smell of wild sage that was always in the air. This morning we saw our first bull elephant; this would be the only one we would see in this area, as the annual migration from the north had not yet begun. But because it was our first elephant we took an awful lot of pictures. Little did we know that we would see large breeding herd at our next camp. We were able to get out of the vehicle and do a short nature walk with our guide. He gave us instructions on what to do if we were charged by an animal – the number one rule was not to panic, and number two was to get out of the guides' way if he needed to run (only kidding!). We saw many different types of plants; the natives use many for medical and other needs. We also were given a course in animal droppings (dung),

which was in endless supply. On the way back to camp we spotted a female cheetah with two cubs. We were able to get very close to them and watch for about 45 minutes, as the cubs played and the female kept a watchful eye and surveyed the area.

On our afternoon drive, we came upon a pride of lions that was just finishing eating a Cape buffalo. The lions were all full, with their bellies extended, and lying in the tall grass. The males were taking turns in guarding the kill from about 100 vultures that were just waiting for their turn in the trees above. There was not much left of the buffalo, except for its rib cage and its skin and hoofs. We saw the cheetah family again and stopped at a hyena den, where we saw on female hyena that was babysitting three cubs.

In addition to all of the animals, there were many species of birds our guide pointed out to us as we drove around the bush. Northern Botswana has more than 500 different species and subspecies of birds. We met guests at Mombo who came to the area just to see the birds.

We were leaving for our next camp on the morning of May 19, so we decided to sleep in and have a relaxing morning sitting on the veranda, watching the animals in front of the camp. It was my birthday, and the staff surprised me at brunch with a card and a bottle of champagne. After brunch we took the short drive to the airstrip to catch our flight to Duma Tau, our next camp. Our plane was another Cessna Caravan, and the short flight was just as uneventful as we hoped for.

Duma Tau is located within the Linyanti Reserve, which is bordered on the north by the Linyanti River and to the east by the Chobe



Our cabin at Camp Mombo.

National Park. The Linyanti River is the boundary between Botswana and Namibia. We were picked up at the airfield by our guide, Peace, and his tracker, Rock, in an open Land Rover. It was about a half-hour drive to the camp, and along the way we had to stop to allow a large herd of elephants to cross the road.

The camp has nine tented rooms on a raised deck, with many of the same amenities as Mombo, but not quite as luxurious. While the tents and common areas were raised off the ground, the walkways were on the ground because of the number of elephants and other animals that make their home within the camp. "Norman," the resident elephant, was always around the camp, and we made sure to check his location before we left our tents. After dark our guides, who were armed, walked us to our tents.

The staff at Mombo must have called the staff at Duma Tau and told them it was my birthday, because in our tent was a gift of a book on the Chobe National Park. We also had more champagne on our afternoon game drive. Because this was a private reserve, we were able to continue our afternoon drive until well after dark. Using a white light, we were able to see the nocturnal animals. Before we drove back to camp for dinner, we followed a female lion along the road. The tracker was shining the light directly into the lion's eyes, but it did not seem to bother the animal. At our next camp, they used a red light, because they said the white light bothered the animals. It seemed to us that nothing bothered the animals, except those higher up on the food chain.

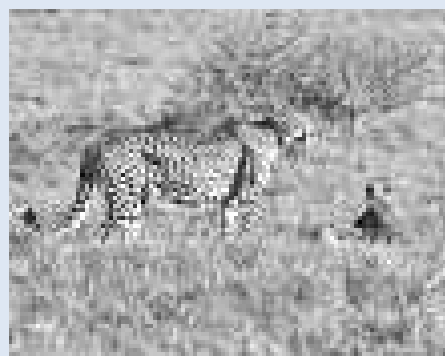
We spent three nights at Camp Duma Tau and had game drives each morning and evening; on one afternoon we took a walk in the bush. This area is known for its large concentration of elephants, and we saw them everywhere. One afternoon we saw giraffes



sparring and impalas fighting. We also saw a large pack of wild dogs, which we found out later is very rare to see. One evening we took a boat ride on the river to see the hippos, which would charge us if we got too close. On the way back to shore we watched a pack of wild dogs stalking a family of waterbucks antelope. They had already bitten the young waterbuck, but the stag was able to fend off the dogs. We saw the waterbucks the next day and the one who had been bitten was okay. We did see a number of animals that had been attacked and wounded, but had managed to survive.

One of the nicest experiences we had was a lunch by a pool of hippos. We were not told in advance and were wondering why we were not going back to camp for lunch, when we came upon the pool, where a table had been set up and a brunch prepared for us, complete with champagne. It was a wonderful way to enjoy a meal.

We enjoyed our stay at Duma Tau, but were eager to get to our next stop – Victoria Falls.



A cheetah with cub.



An angry elephant.



Evelyn keeping warm.



With our guide.



The Land Rover that carried us.

RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

Bob Cutler, retired Personnel Analyst, gives classes to help employees prepare for their next job interview. Call him at (310) 937-5678 to make arrangements, or email him: BC510@aol.com.

Cheryl Rogers lives in Santa Barbara and is a commissioner on the County Housing Authority. She bikes and volunteers at a clinic. Call her at (805) 957-1987.

Ken Wang retired five years ago, and was a street designer. Now he is building a house in Alhambra on a 45-foot slope.

Esther M. Long worked as an Administrative Assistant for former Councilmen Art Snyder and then Tom Bradley. She recently had open-heart surgery and is recovering at a facility in Apple Valley. Her cell phone number is (760) 408-1714.

John Iwamiya retired as a Construction Engineer 14 years ago. He writes, "I will be going on my fifth short term mission trip through my church to Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina for three weeks."

Rose Valido, one of the winners in the 2007 Retirees Poetry Contest, writes, "Thank you for your kindness in considering some simple rhymes as worthy of a prize. Thank you for your encouragement, the willing service you provide and the joy you spread around."

Happy first anniversary to **Frances Cota** and **John Schulz**, who married on Jan. 6, 2007, in Wofford Heights, Calif. Fran was a regular winner in our Poetry Contest.

The **L.A. Federal Credit Union** has opened a new full-service branch in El Monte, at 9204 Flair Dr., Suite A. LAFUCU also collected 700 toys for its annual "Toys for Tots" drive.

LACERS can help you care for a family member, a friend or yourself. If you are enrolled in a LACERS medical plan, you are eligible for Evercare-Solutions for Caregivers. Experts are available 24/7 free of charge. Call (866) 896-1895 for assistance.

If you move, or change your address, contact Membership Chair Helen Salgado at (800) 678-4145, ext. 713, or write to her at 8372 Arnett Dr., Huntington Beach CA 92647. Also notify LACERS, Alive!, El Pueblo and LAFUCU.

If you have news about yourself or other retirees that you'd like to share, send it to Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411, or phone (818) 784-0130.

To find out the latest retirement news, visit www.rlacei.com

LACERS

Employee of The Quarter

■ Shirley Howard is LACERS' Summer Employee of the Quarter.

LACERS — The Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) chose Shirley Howard as the summer 2007 Employee of the Quarter.

Shirley Howard, who has worked at LACERS for many years, was honored Dec. 6 by her fellow employees during the Quarterly Exemplary Staff Recognition luncheon. The employee of the quarter is selected by senior staff based on a record of excellent work during the quarter.

LACERS General Manager Robert Aguillo Jr. presented Shirley with a desk plaque, commemorating her hard work and diligence, as well as a \$200 savings bond. Shirley accepted the plaque and said, "Thank you for this award. I'm very pleased to have been simply nominated."

Shirley works in the Health Benefits Administration Division, where she handles



Shirley Howard accepts her desk plaque for being named Summer Employee of the Quarter at a ceremony last December.

the largest of LACERS medical plans for retired City Employees.



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

The Wings of Love

Love is like a beautiful butterfly,
Delicate, elusive and alluring.
Looking for a little nectar
From a generous flower.

Lifting low spirits with its wings as it flies towards the sun,
And laughing at mortals too heavy to fly.

— Phil Skarin

RLACEI's Toll-Free Number

RLACEI — The Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc. group has established a new toll-free helpline number that can be accessed free of charge throughout the United States.

The number is: (800) 678-4145

Call the Helpline to reach the officers of RLACEI. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership, call the helpline. Each officer's extension is listed.

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Edward Harding x703 | Jack Matthews x712 | Americo Garza x710 |
| Harold Danowitz x707 | Robert Wilkinson x704 | Neil Ricci x714 |
| Phil Skarin x709 | Jerry Bardwell x706 | Helen Salgado x713 |

Retiree Question of the Month

Alive! asked retirees...

What's the best movie you ever saw at a drive-in?



"I'm too old to remember."
— Robert Large Sr., Retired, General Services



"I've never been to a drive-in."
— Howard Steinberg, Retired, Controller's Office



"Rebel Without a Cause, with James Dean and Sal Mineo."
— John Gomez, Retired, Rec and Parks



"Although I didn't see it at a drive-in, my favorite Christmas movie was White Christmas."
— Ella Garza, wife of Americo Garza



"The Good, the Bad and the Ugly."
— Curtis Hopson, Retired, Public Works/Street Services



"The Color Purple."
— Elvie Walker, Retired, Public Works/Street Maintenance



"Gone With the Wind."
— Altrechia Hopson



"Gone With the Wind."
— Herbert Hyman, Retired, Public Works/Street Maintenance



"Breakfast at Tiffany's."
— Gene McPherson, Retired, Public Works



"The Ten Commandments."
— Calvin Haney, Retired, Rec and Parks



"Moses."
— Marilyn McPherson, Retired, Rec and Parks



"Casablanca."
— Tony Alvarez, Retired, General Services

THE BEST YEARS



The many Harbor floats, that make up the City's official entry into the Rose Parade Jan. 1, make their way down Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena.



Councilwoman and Club Member Janice Hahn and LAFD Chief Douglas Barry ride aboard the *LAFD Boat 2* float.

The Harbor, on Parade



■ Harbor produces an eye-catching collection of floats for the Rose Parade.

Story and photos courtesy Port of L.A.

HARBOR — The Port of Los Angeles made its first entry into the Rose Parade Jan. 1 with a unique combination of six separate vessel floats celebrating the Port's diverse operations with the themes "the place where the world comes together." The Port's float is the official City of Los Angeles entry into the Rose Parade, marking the City's 110th consecutive entry and earning it the title "longest-running float entrant in the parade."

The Port's float was created by veteran Rose Float designers Phoenix Decorating Company and was decorated by Port and City employees, and other volunteer groups, over the past month.

The vessels creating the Port's entry included:

- *The S.S. Los Angeles* container ship was complete with electrical plug to highlight the Port's commitment to clean operations and as the only place in the world where container ships "plug in" to electrical power while at dock. The container ship float will be carrying Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Harbor Commission President S. David Freeman and Port Executive Director Geraldine Knatz.

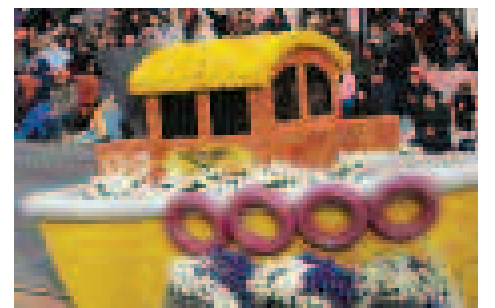
- *The Love Boat* cruise ship celebrated the Port of Los Angeles Cruise Center as the home to the 1977-86 television series and the West Coast's largest cruise port today, with more than one million passengers passing through each year. This ship also sports an electrical plug as the Port of Los Angeles also prepares to "plug in" cruise ships in 2008.

- *LAFD Boat 2* fire boat depicted the Port-based mega-fireboat, Warner Lawrence, the world's largest, most powerful and technologically advanced fireboat in service at the Port of Los Angeles. The \$9 million boat purchased in 2003 by the Port of Los Angeles can stream water more than 200 feet into the air and could fill up an average-sized swimming pool in 10 seconds. This float will also stream some water as it carries Los Angeles Councilwoman Janice Hahn and Los Angeles City Fire Chief Douglas Barry.

- *Catch of the Day* fishing boat was a salute to the major commercial fishing and cannery operations that employed tens of thousands of people at the Port during the first half of the 20th century. The local fishing fleet still operates today and brings in millions of pounds of squid, shrimp, shark, swordfish, lobster, rock cod, halibut, sardines and slime eel on an annual basis. This float carried two Port employees who were selected through a drawing: Stacey Allen, a 28-year employee who works in the Engineering Division, and Vanessa Guillen, a three-year employee who works in the Marketing Division.

- *L.A. Port Police SAFE* (Secure Around Flotation Equipped) boat represented the Port's own dedicated police force of more than 120 officers. The Port Police SAFE boat is used to escort cargo and passenger vessels in and out of the Port, patrol 3,300 acres of water and transport the Dive Team during everyday Port Police operations.

- "*Wilmington Tug*" tugboat was named after the original tugboat operator that served the Port of Los Angeles 100 years ago and paid homage to the vital work these small harbor craft perform every day.



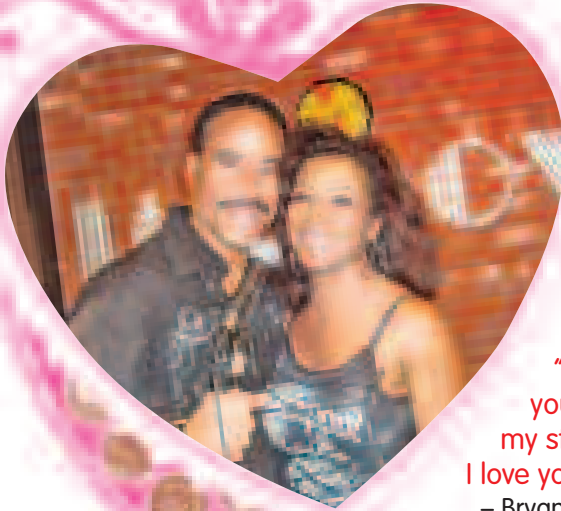
The *Wilmington Tug* float.



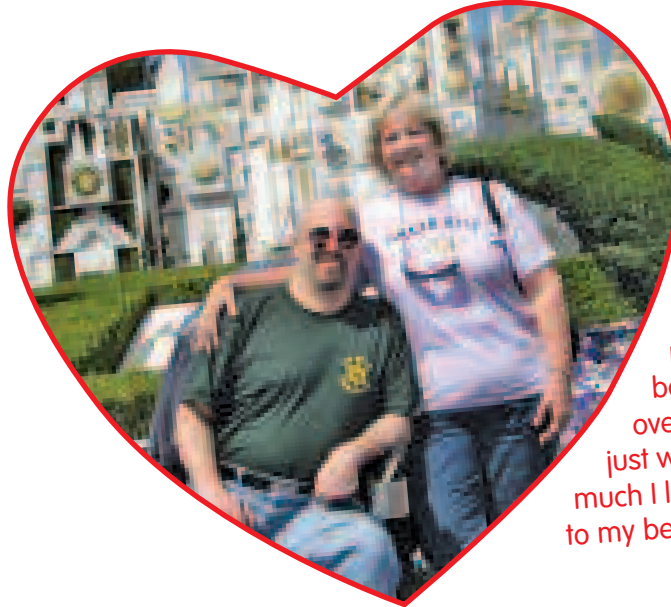
Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Harbor Executive Director Geraldine Knatz ride aboard the *S.S. Los Angeles Container Ship* float.



The many Harbor floats, that make up the City's official entry into the Rose Parade Jan. 1, make their way past their viewing stands along Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena.



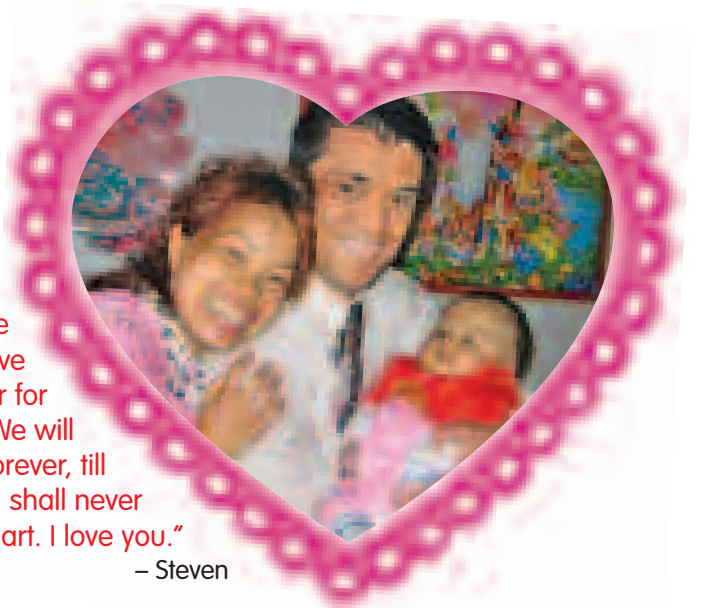
"Theresa, you are my stage. I love you!"
- Bryan Jackson, Airports



"Ron and I met online before the Internet came to life. We've supported each other through good and some pretty rough times. We've been married for over 15 years, and I just wanted to say how much I love being married to my best friend!"
- Jean Sarfaty, LAPD, Club Rep

Be My

"My wife and I went to the same high school but didn't meet for 10 more years. We both survived two terrible marriages each. We have been together now for 24 years, and I'm more in love with her every day. Laurel, you truly are my Valentine. I love you."
- Russell Harris



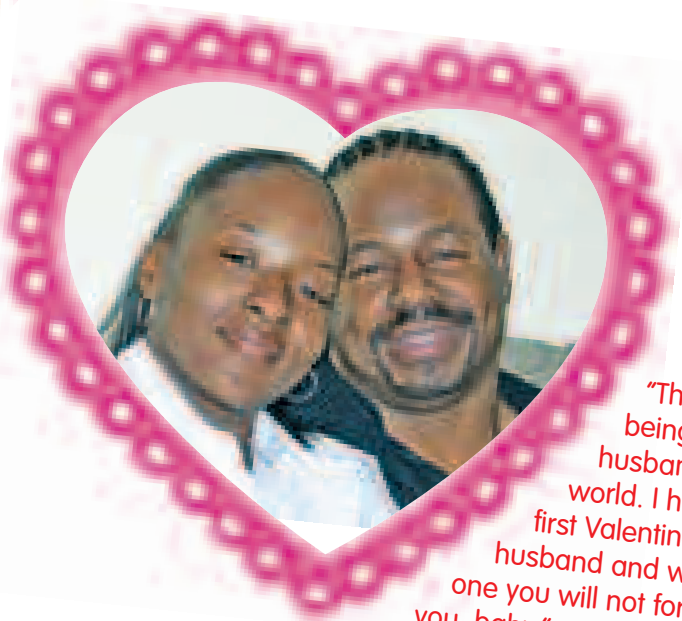
"So far away, and yet, every minute of the day, our love grows stronger for one another. We will be together, forever, till eternity, and shall never be apart. I love you."
- Steven



"Robert, thank you for being dedicated to God, me and our daughters. You are the love of my life."
- Love, your wife, Denice



"David, you are the best thing that has ever happened to me. I am so thankful to have you in my life. I love you."
- Maria Gambino, LAPD



"Thank you for being the best husband in the world. I hope our first Valentine's Day as husband and wife will be one you will not forget. I love you, baby."
- Mrs. Ronique Jazmine Barker



Lisa (Customer Service Rep., DWP) and her husband Johnny Wiley, have been married for 10 years and have two children, Aleena and Anthony. "Ten years and still glowing! Happy Valentines' Day."
- Lisa Wiley, DWP

"To the two Valentines in my life – I will love you forever."
– John Hawkins, Club CEO



"50-plus wonderful years. Elke, you are the love of my life."

Ivan Forbes, Retiree, Club Member and owner of the Greenest House in Los Angeles

"To Lani and Gary, affirm your love for one another each and every day. Congratulations on your upcoming wedding!"
– With love, Diana



Club Valentine

Love is in the air at the Club! Thanks to all who chose to share their love here in *Alive!*, and happy Valentine's Day to all who are in love, or hope to be soon!

Happy Valentine's Day!



"Fifteen years together, 13 years of marriage and five kids later, you still give me butterflies. You have my heart forever. I love you!"

– Lisa Solis, DWP Customer Service Rep, to Steve Solis, DWP Meter Reader



"Edwina, you're the best thing that ever happened to me."

Love you, Michael

"To my Beautiful Valentine Denice, May God bless our marriage and our love. I will love you like Christ loved the church my love"

– Love, Robert



"Bruce, I love you with all your idiosyncrasies. Happy Valentine's Day!"

– The Mrs



"Thank you for all the good times, and I will always love you."

– Eddie Pree

Love and the City



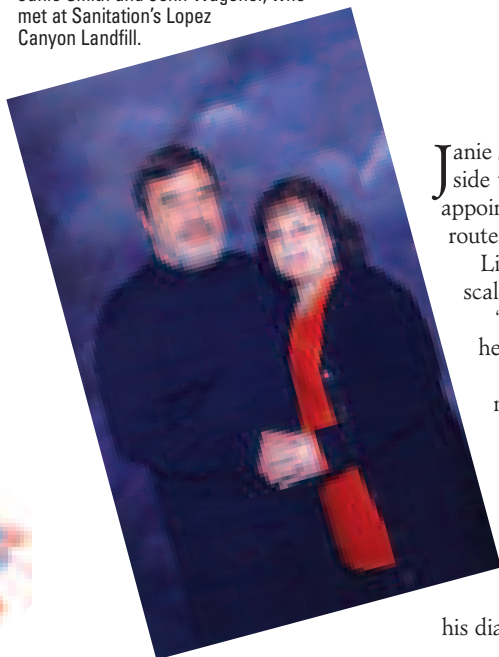
■ A special Valentine's Day look at seven couples who fell in love while working for the City.

By Yvonne Liu, Office of Finance, Club Member; Photos courtesy of the couples

On this Valentine's Day, some of our co-workers are remembering their Valentine with an extra fondness for a location the rest of us might call "work." For example: Can a bar near the 911 Communications Center be romantic? Can a weighing station at a landfill be a magical place for love at first sight?

These City Employees had the good fortune of meeting and marrying each other while both were employed by the City. They share their stories of how they found love while wearing their City uniforms, and how they found their spouse in their office building, in the next cubicle or across their desktops.

Janie Smith and John Wagoner, who met at Sanitation's Lopez Canyon Landfill.



Not So Down in the Dump

Janie Smith started with the City as a Clerk Typist Dec. 26, 1979. In June 1988, she left the Police Academy to try working outside the City. She had such a bad experience out there that she returned to the City three months later. This time she was appointed by Public Works/Sanitation at Lopez Canyon Landfill, weighing the refuse trucks after they returned from their routes.

Little did she suspect that she would fall for a man in a green uniform. Refuse Truck Officer II John Wagoner came into the scales for his truck to be weighed.

"At first [John] kept asking me out, but I said no - because I did not like to date people I worked with," Janie said. "Finally he stopped asking. I began to wonder why he stopped, so I asked him out."

In December 1988, Janie transferred back to the Police Academy to the same position that she left, and then was promoted and returned to Lopez Canyon Landfill, Administrative Office. Between those two stints, Janie and John got married in Las Vegas in 1995.

In 2001, John transferred out of the same work location to Van Norman Mulching Facility, which, at that time, was a subsidiary of Lopez Canyon. Last year, Van Norman Mulching Facility closed, and John returned to Lopez Canyon Landfill. Janie and John are reunited at the workplace and drive to work together.

Janie and John will both retire next year, Janie with more than 30 years of City service and John with more than 20 years.

"My husband and I met at the dump and will retire at the dump," Janie said. "I like to think that my husband found his diamond at the dump — me!"

911: Help! I'm in Love

Three years ago, Police Service Representative II Christina Najjar had a really rough day at work. After work, she was looking for her trusty friend, Paul, to go have a drink with her. That night she couldn't find him, but she found a husband instead.

John Craig, 41, is also a Police Service Representative II working for LAPD Valley Communications Dispatch Center in West Hills (VDCD). At the time they started dating, he had already worked with Christina in the same office for two years. She had been working there for five. They are still working in the same office together.

"I was surprised that Christina asked me if I wanted to go have a drink because we had never really spoken prior to this," John said, "I am very glad that I did not decline the offer."

"We kept our relationship quiet [from the office] for a couple of months until a coworker asked if we were dating after noticing us walk to our trucks before and after our shift," Christina said.

Christina and John were engaged in Maui July 24, 2006. They saved up the cost of a big wedding for a down payment on a house. They were married in a civil ceremony at a small beach backdrop in Ventura in August of the same year.

They have been married for 17 months.

"People who work together stay together," Christina believes.



Christina Najjar and John Craig, who met at the LAPD's 911 Valley Communications Center.



Swept Off the Carpet



Sheree Herts and Nick Adams met when Nick installed carpet in the office of then-Councilman Joel Wachs, Sheree's boss.

In 1990, Sheree Herts, Field Deputy and Senior Citizen Specialist for former Councilmember Joel Wachs in the Van Nuys City Hall office, contacted General Services to coordinate installation of new carpet.

Nick Adams of General Services/Building Maintenance arrived with samples of the new carpet to show her. She was impressed with both the carpet samples and the man who brought them. Nick and Sheree felt something special and became good friends from working on the project.

When asked what was the most memorable event during their first year together, Sheree said, "We won the Daily News contest for describing the most romantic date. Our answer, dinner at Geoffrey's off the cliff-side of Malibu, was published in the Daily News on Valentine's Day."

Bejeweled by a collection of drawings of hearts by movie stars, Geoffrey's décor sent Sheree's heart aflutter.

"My sister and I always loved hearts," she said. "In fact, the reporter made a remark that my maiden name should have been Heart, not Herts."

Nick and Sheree were awarded with a dinner at Geoffrey's and a photo op to celebrate their first Valentine's Day together.

A year and a half later, in November 1992, Sheree and Nick were married at the Woodland Hills Marriott Hotel. Unusual as it may be, Sheree was given away by not one, but two important men in her life— her brother, presiding Worker's Comp Judge Larry Greenblatt, and former Councilmember Wachs.

"Without Councilman Wachs, we would never have met," Sheree and Nick recalled graciously.

Nick retired in September from General Services after 23 years of City service. Sheree Adams, who is the Senior and Clergy Liaison to Councilman Dennis P. Zine of the Third District, is starting on her 41st year of City service.

Together Sheree and Nick are blessed with three children from Nick's previous marriage, four grandchildren (not counting another baby grandson on the way), two Shetland sheep dogs, and one cat.

Once From Piper Tech, and Again

"If the love is still there, you have a chance with each other no matter how much time you were separated," Debbie Rettig said.

Debbie, a Communication Information Representative II with ITA's 3-1-1 Center, met her husband roughly halfway in her City career of 25 years.

Fifteen years ago, Debbie, a Clerk Typist who was working for General Services at the time, met her husband, Printing Press Operator Walter Griffin, while taking a walk during her break. He saw her, they went on a date, and two months later, they were married.

In 1994, Debbie and Walter ran into some troubles and got divorced. She sought a transfer and moved on to another assignment with Building and Safety.

She had not seen nor heard from Walter in 13 years. But last year, he called her and they started dating again.

"We are a bit older now — I'm 50, and he's 54," Debbie reflected. "We are more settled now and understand each other better."

Since they did not have children together, she believes that that made it easier for them to get back into each other's lives.

When asked if they will marry each other again, Debbie said, "Yes, we are talking about it."

Bowled Over

Latrice Jones and Gabriel Boyd met in an LAPD bowling league.



After working for the City for nearly two years, Latrice Jones, Police Service Representative (PSR), decided along with other PSRs to start a bowling league together. They were looking for some exercise to balance out the sedentary duty handling 911 calls.

In November 2003, she and her team went bowling at the Del Rio Lanes in Downey. They bowled with a men's group in the neighboring lane.

Since Latrice has had been bowling since she was in the sixth grade, she felt fairly confident about her positioning and delivery.

"I was bowling and I kept feeling somebody is looking at me," Latrice recalled. "My friend said, 'Latrice, I think you have an admirer.'"

Gabriel Boyd, who has been working for Airports since 1998, was impressed with a woman with a passion for bowling like himself.

They started dating, and a few weeks later they found out that they had a lot more in common besides bowling. They also work for the same employer, the City of Los Angeles.

Latrice and Gabriel bought a house together in August 2006. Gabriel proposed in October 2006, and they had a June wedding in 2007.

"He works graveyard, so I only see him for a few hours each day," said Latrice, who is now a Senior Clerk Typist for another LAPD Division. "It's good because we miss each other."

Love and Fitness at the DWP Gym

Erika Gutierrez-Ascencio also met her husband in the same building. She was starting new at the DWP as a Senior Clerk Typist in a limited position. After work, she went downstairs of the John Ferraro Office Building to sign up at the YMCA gym for employees.

Saul Gutierrez, as her fitness consultant, found that they have great chemistry together.

"She asked me out," said Saul, who was then 20. Erika, who was 23 at the time, had never before considered dating any man under 26. They met in November 2003 and got married three months later, in February 2004.

"Through the gym, we had many mutual friends, so we didn't try to keep [our relationship] a secret," Erika remembered.

Saul was selected as a General Service security officer soon after they met. He enjoys his work patrolling various City buildings and facilities.

Now, in her sixth year of City service, Erika has been promoted to Secretary at Public Works/Sanitation, Solid Resources Recycling Division. Erika and Saul have one daughter.

"My general health and nutrition has improved a great deal since meeting him," Erika said, "[because] we would eat lunch together as often as we could."

Hearts on Fire

In 1980, the City strongly encouraged employees to carpool cut down traffic congestion. Paramedic trainee Lynn McKay approached a fellow trainee, Rex Roth, about carpooling. Rex hesitated to join the carpool group, thinking how much he would hate to give up his freedom of driving alone. Lynn thought, what a jerk!

Eventually Rex realized the convenience of sharing driving and joined the group. Moreover, he found that he and Lynn were even better partners outside of the Fire Tower where they were training.

"Back then, nobody dated a female firefighter," Rex said. "The [Los Angeles] Fire Department didn't accept females until 1977 and in 1980 Lynn graduated from the third class with female paramedics."

It was not hard keeping their dating relationship a secret. Lynn and Rex worked on their separate assignments at the stations and they carpoled on the way home. They were so good at keeping it quiet that when they got married three years later, in 1983, and finally told their colleagues, many of them still couldn't believe it.

With 27 years of City service behind her, Lynn McKay Roth is now a Fire Inspector I in the Filming Division.

It seems that having worked in the same department for years, Rex has developed a deep appreciation for Lynn's professional achievement. "Lynn is quite possibly the fourth highest ranking female in the Los Angeles Fire Department," Rex said, proudly.

Rex left the City on disability in 1997 after 17 years of City service. He now teaches full time at Roosevelt High School under LAUSD. Between the two of them, they've covered some of the busiest fire stations in the City.

They celebrate the 25th year of their marriage with a grown-up daughter who attends Marquette University in Wisconsin.





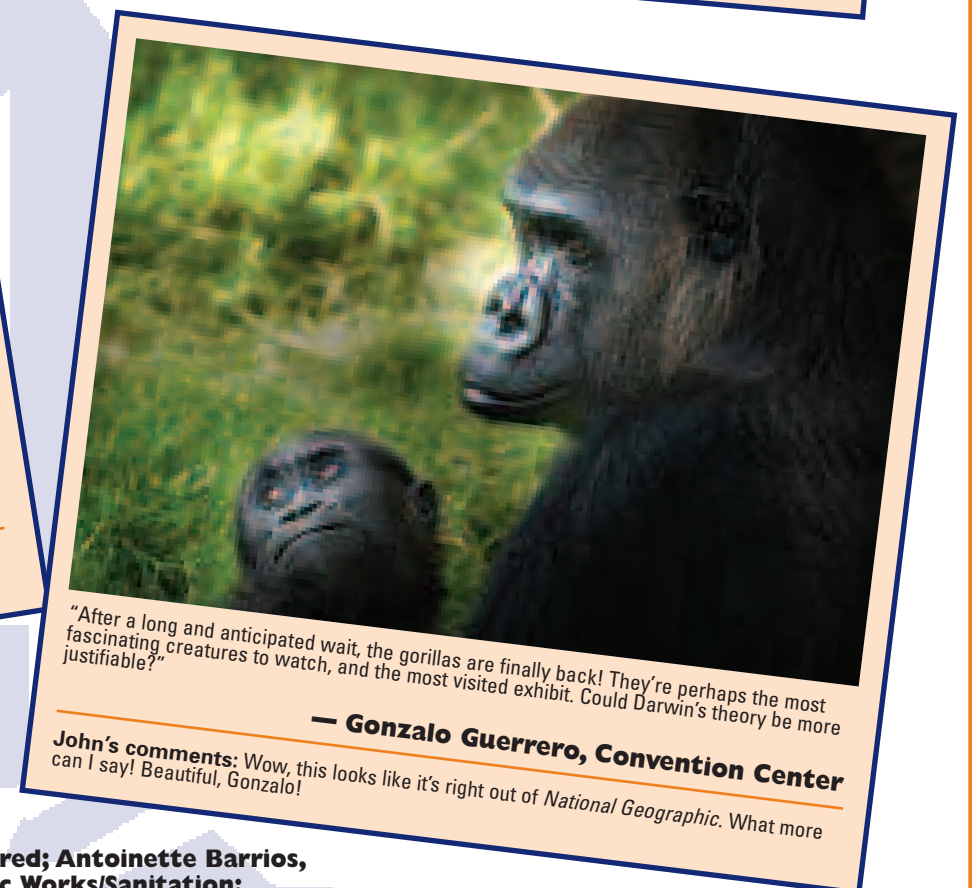
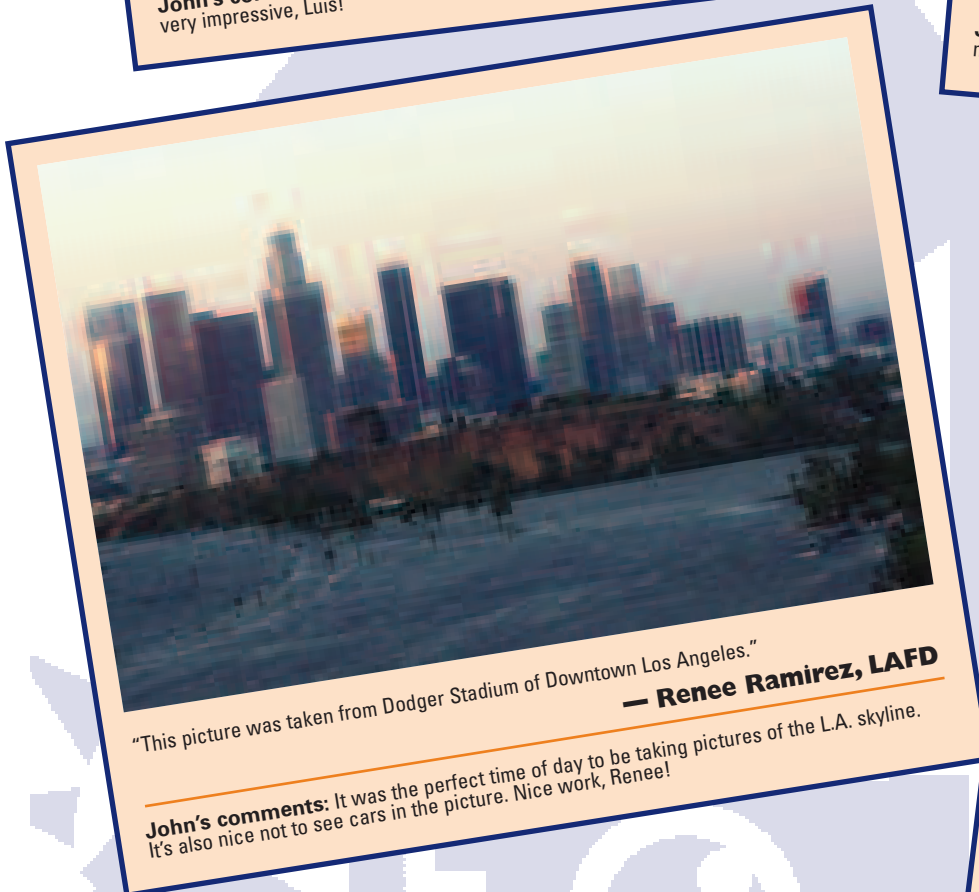
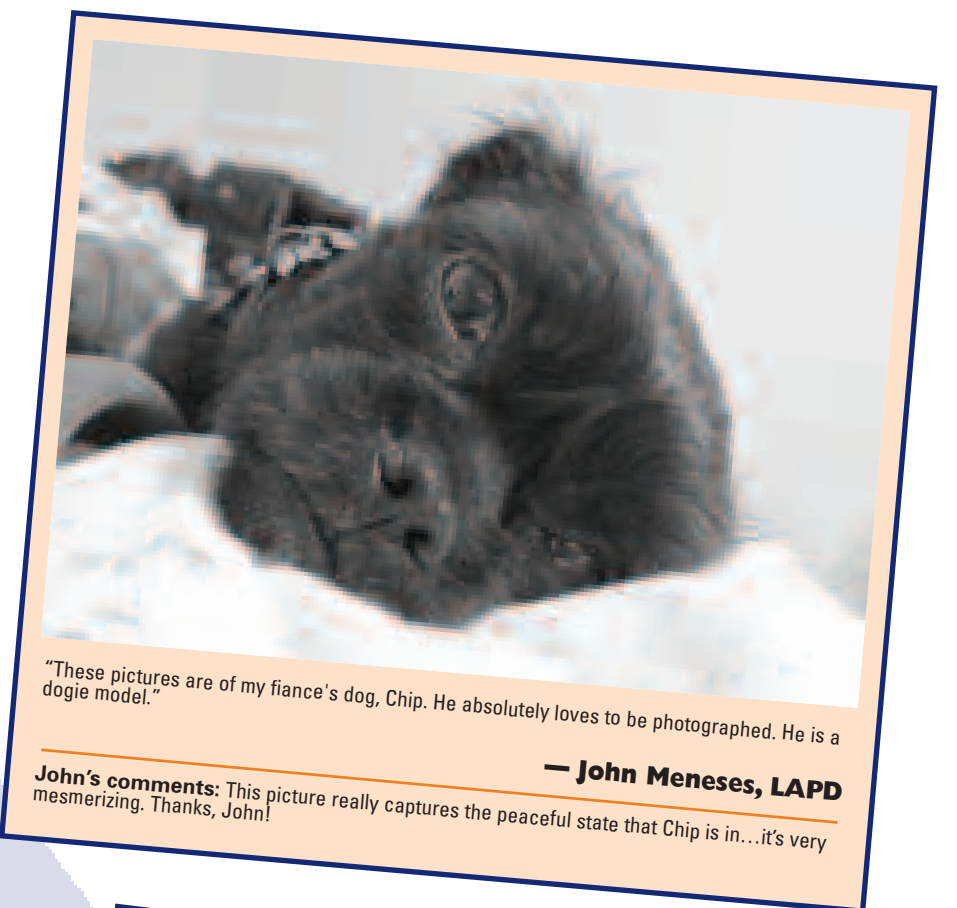
John's Picture Perfect Contest



For February, we have four winners!

Start snapping today, and send us your best results! Four winners will receive a \$25 WalMart Card.

WIN FOUR PRIZES
\$25 WalMart Card
NEXT DEADLINE: February 15
 Happy Snapping!



Runners Up:

Jimmy Lee, Community Development; Russell Harris and Rick Lowry, retired; Antoinette Barrios, Public Works/Engineering; Daniel Garcia, Harbor; Cecille Consebido, Public Works/Sanitation; David Jones, Housing; Amandita Alvizures, Planning; and Jennifer Smith and Thomas Starkey.

RULES:

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

PAY OFF YOUR HOLIDAY BILLS WITH PORIP



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A REWARDING CAREER

\$1,000 INCENTIVE FOR ALL

Active and Retired City Employees

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- Recruit a Candidate who will succeed in an exciting and rewarding career as a Police Officer or Reserve Police Officer with the Los Angeles Police Department.
- Submit the PORIP card to the Personnel Department.
- Encourage your candidate during the selection process.

For more information and payment details, visit JoinLAPD.com/PORIP or call the PORIP Analyst at 213-473-9088. Please visit JoinLAPD.com for test locations.

City of Los Angeles
Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program (PORIP)

RECRUITER

Name: _____ Job # (if any): _____
 Address: _____ Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Recruited via: Public City Employee Former City Employee

Recruiter Agreement - Must Be Signed to Qualify for \$1000 Bonus

I agree that I am a current or retired employee of the City of Los Angeles, and I am participating in the recruitment incentive program being administered by the City of Los Angeles, under general City supervision as Police Officer.

I understand that:

1. Candidates may proceed for selection process to filling the position and prior to this (2008) are not eligible.
2. Payment will be made by Public Safety Recruitment Bureau (PSRB).
3. Payment will be made for successful hire only from 60 days after the candidate's last successful hire date to the bonus. (Start date of hire must be 20 days after 1/1/08) and will be paid in full.
4. I will receive a letter with recruitment and hiring fees through PSRB.

Other conditions may prevail accordingly. Recruits must meet recruitment requirements and be additional City employees from the Public Safety Recruitment Bureau (PSRB). The bonus of \$1000 will only be paid to the Recruit (Member).

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit completed card to: 708 S. Temple Street, Ste. 100
Los Angeles, CA 90012 Attn: PORIP Analyst (213) 473-9088

City of Los Angeles
Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program (PORIP)

CANDIDATE

Name: _____ Job # (if any): _____
 Address: _____ Phone: _____
 Email: _____

What position are you seeking for?
 Recruited via: Former City Employee Former Police Officer

Candidate Agreement
Please Read Carefully and Sign Name in Order to Qualify

I acknowledge that by my name in the position stated I become a Police Officer. I am the Police Officer who is being recruited from after May 1st, 2007. I am hereby being recruited by Public Safety Recruitment Bureau (PSRB) for the position of Police Officer. I understand that this card will be submitted to the Public Safety Recruitment Bureau (PSRB) and will be used to determine my eligibility for the \$1000 bonus. I will receive a letter with recruitment and hiring fees through PSRB.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit completed card to: 708 S. Temple Street, Ste. 100
Los Angeles, CA 90012 Attn: PORIP Analyst (213) 473-9088

Public Safety Recruitment Bureau (PSRB) Only



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GENERAL
ADMISSION

\$49

SAVE \$15

PER PERSON

A Full Day of Fun!

REGULAR
ANNUAL PASS

\$64

SAVE \$10

PER PERSON

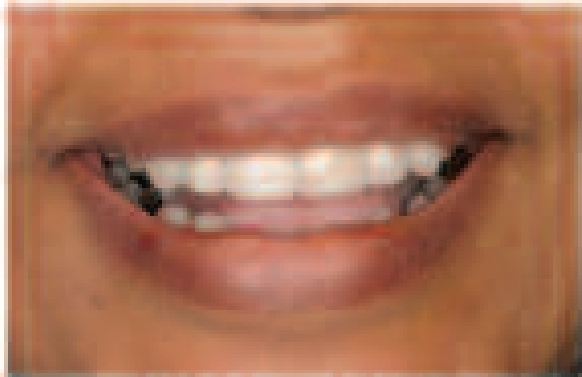
Buy a Day, Get a Year Free!

For Tickets Call Member Rewards 888-777-1744

A MORE BEAUTIFUL SMILE IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK!



IN AS LITTLE AS TWO WEEKS...



Call (213) 488-0174

for FREE CONSULTATION

Your insurance may cover part of your new smile!

Located Conveniently in Downtown Los Angeles
in the World Trade Center 350 S. Figueroa St. #551
Validated Parking on Figueroa St. 213.488.0174

Dentistry by Dr. James C. Ferg, a UCLA Certified Dentist



City Savings

With the City facing a looming budget crisis, Councilwoman Wendy Greuel proposed 10 new efficiencies and revenue-generating policies that would save the City millions of dollars.

"We are facing a budget crisis," Councilwoman Greuel said. "These common sense proposals are an important first step in trying to balance the City's books. We need to be more disciplined in how we spend taxpayer's money."

The City is facing a budget deficit of \$75 million. If Measure S on the February ballot is not approved, the City will face a \$345 million deficit.

"We must use our current financial situation to fundamentally reexamine our spending policies and place a heavier emphasis on fiscal responsibility," Councilwoman Greuel said. "The City must explore new efficiencies and revisit past proposals to continue providing the essential services to every Angeleno."

Councilwoman Greuel has asked the City's Administrative Officer and the Chief Legislative Analyst to report back in 30 days with how these proposals can be implemented and exactly how much they will save the City.

- Councilwoman Greuel's proposals include:
- Streamline the City's building and permit process;
 - Review past proposals to eliminate or consolidate City Departments;
 - Change the City's surplus property ordinance so

that 100 percent of the proceeds from the sale of surplus property will be deposited in the City's General Fund instead of being split with the council district where the property is located;

- Require departments to provide bi-annual updates on fee reviews to the Mayor and Council in the Mid-Year and Year-End Financial Status Reports;
- Create incentives for council districts to participate in the Street Furniture Advertising program by only allowing participating council districts to receive revenue from the program;
- Request City departments to report back on potential opportunities to generate additional revenue through advertisements or sponsorships;
- Review all City services that may be accessed by other jurisdictions and determine whether the City can recover the costs associated with providing that service;
- Investigate the value of the City selling its services to other jurisdictions;
- Determine whether a fee differential can be charged for residents from neighboring cities accessing City services (e.g. using the City's golf courses);
- Seek to reopen City contracts based on current economic conditions to reduce cost.



Councilwoman Wendy Greuel

NOW OFFERING UP TO \$10,000* SIGNING BONUS



For a limited time, LAPD is offering a signing bonus of up to \$10,000* for qualified candidates. Eligible individuals may even qualify to have their Federal Loans forgiven. If you, or some one you know, is looking for a career, not just a job, the LAPD is the place for you! Experience what it means to make a difference in your community, while earning an excellent salary and benefits. Apply today!

* Visit JoinLAPD.com/BONUS for signing bonus details, eligibility and expiration. For student loan forgiveness, please visit JoinLAPD.com/college.html

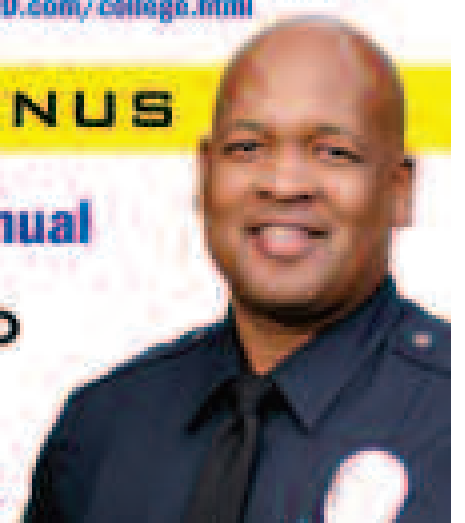
866.444.LAPD • JOINLAPD.COM/BONUS

Learn more about all our programs when you visit us at our annual

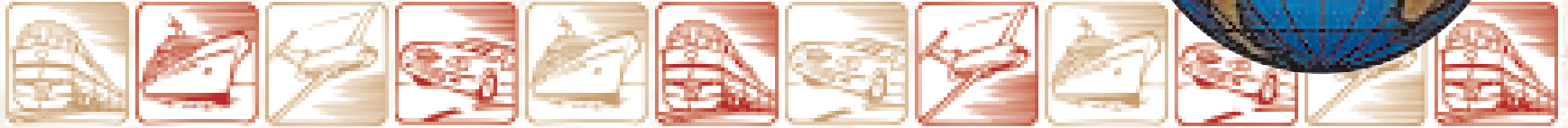
BLACK HISTORY MONTH RECRUITMENT EXPO

SATURDAY, FEB 23, 2008 AT 8 AM - 1 PM

Crenshaw Christian Center 7901 S. Vermont Ave. LA, CA 90044



Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



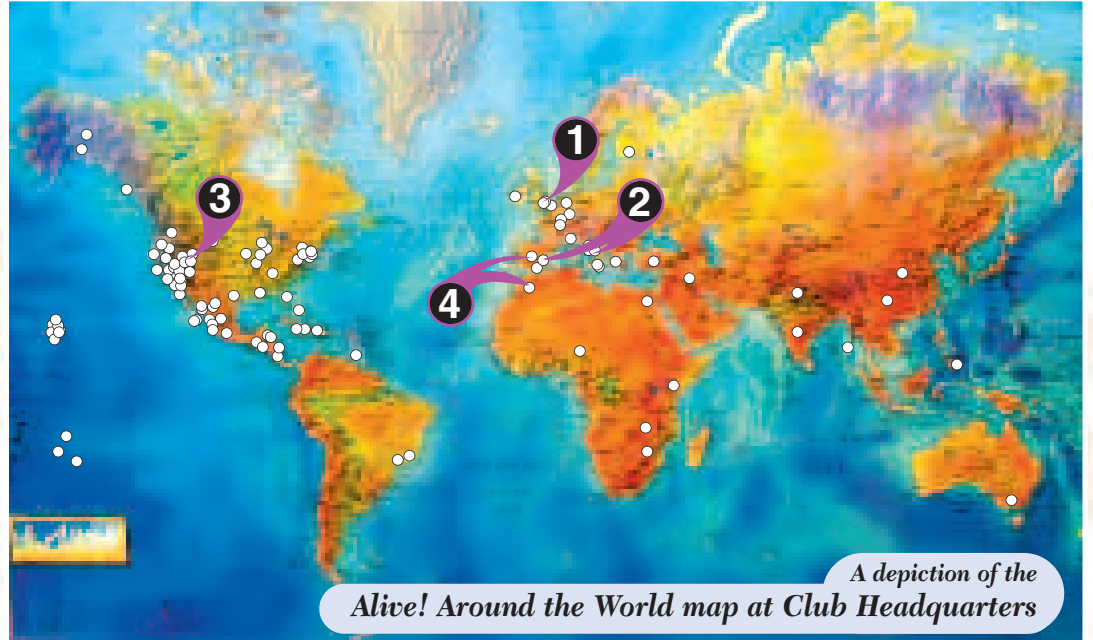
1 Prime Meridian, England



"Earlier this month, on a trip to London as part of the City's delegation to the World Leadership Forum, I also returned to the Old Royal Observatory, Greenwich, and the Prime Meridian. I have not been back there since my first visit in 1973. It is obligatory to stand with one foot in either hemisphere, and so here we demonstrate that. East meets West in *Alive!*"

Best celestial wishes, — Ed Krupp

Dr. Krupp, Club Member, is the Director of the Griffith Observatory. —Ed.



A depiction of the *Alive! Around the World* map at Club Headquarters

Take the Club with you, wherever you go! Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a photo with you holding a copy, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

When you send digital photos through the Internet, please send the full, original digital file yourself, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print. We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!

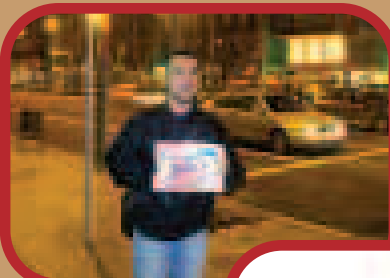
3 Park City, Utah



"Here is a picture from a trip last summer to Park City, Utah, the home of the Sundance Film Festival. Luckily, nobody recognized me while we were there!"

— Bob Hill, DWP

2 Barcelona & Milan



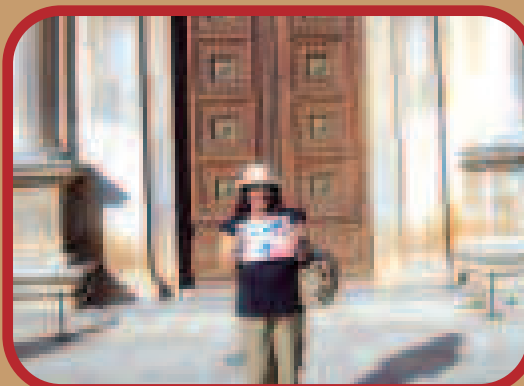
"This picture was taken in Barcelona, Spain, near the Estacio de Franco train station on the way to take the EuroRail. I had been there a week and forgot to take a picture until the last minute."



"This picture was taken in Milan, Italy, in front of the castle of Milan (Castello Sforzesco). After spending seven days in Barcelona, Spain, I went to Milan, Italy, for another seven days via EuroRail. I made sure this time I took a better picture showing a more appealing background."

— Daniel Garcia, Harbor

4 Spain & Morocco



"Here are two new photos of the latest places that your newspaper got to travel to. The first one was taken at the Castle of the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. The compound contains a watchtower and beautiful gardens that date back to the ninth century. The Alhambra is on a hilltop, which gives you a spectacular view of the city of Granada. The second photo was taken in Tangiers, Morocco. Just outside the city walls is the Souk, where you can see traditional products being made and sold. Walk through the archway into the medina and encounter a Medieval world as you pas through the narrow lanes of the old town."

"Thank you again for such a fun and informative newspaper. I am your biggest fan!"

— Renate Siskind, DWP



Brazil

Hi Renate: So sorry for not identifying you in the previous photo, which we're reprinting here. And thanks for sending these in. *Alive!* loves to travel, and you are kind to take it along!

— Ed.



Life insurance:

How Much Is Enough?

■ Many Americans with life insurance are so under-insured that if they die, their families won't be able to maintain their standard of living.

Loss of the deceased's income can have a devastating financial impact on a family. Assets may have to be sold to cover heavy medical expenses, final expenses and living costs. Recent reports from LIMRA International found that:

- Many married couples fail to plan for the eventual death of one spouse before the other, which can have serious consequences, especially when the survivor is the wife (*Public Misperceptions About Retirement Security – Closing the Gaps, 2007*).
- 22% of families with dependent children admit they would have immediate trouble meeting everyday expenses and another 26% could only cover expenses for a few months if a primary wage earner died (*Facts About Life, 2006*).
- 45% of widows and 37% of widowers say their spouse was inadequately insured. (*LIMRA Web site, 3/2007*).

The stark fact is that many Americans – nearly one-third, according to the 2006 LIMRA report – still don't have life insurance, and many of those who do have coverage often don't have enough to really make a difference:

- On average, U.S. households report they should own enough life insurance to replace six years of income, but only owned enough to replace their income for 2.8 years.

Getting the coverage you need

When you consider these facts, you may find that your family would not be adequately protected should they lose you and your income.

"Typically, term life insurance offers you the most life insurance protection for your money," explained Robert Larios, the Director of Marketing and Communications for The City Employees Club of Los Angeles. "It becomes even more affordable when you can purchase it at an attractive group rate. If there is a gap between the amount of life insurance you have and the amount your family would need, term life insurance may be the most economical way to close it."

What to look for in a plan

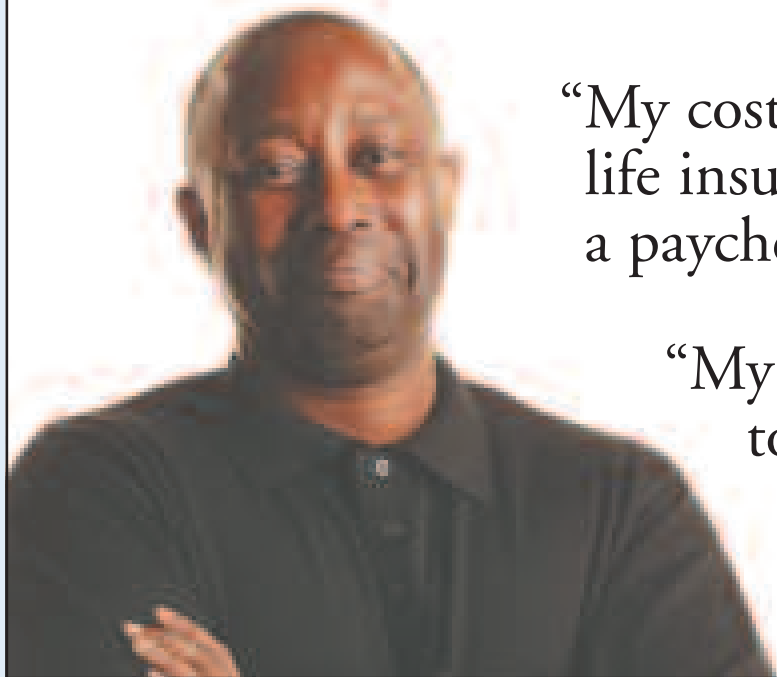
When evaluating term life insurance plans, here are some things to consider:

- Can you get the amount you need to adequately protect your family?
- Can you also get coverage for your spouse?
- Will the premiums for the amount of coverage you want be easy for you to handle?
- Is it easy and convenient to apply for?
- Is the underwriting company highly rated and financially strong?

The City Employees Club of Los Angeles has selected a Group Term Life Insurance Plan underwritten by a member company of American International Group, Inc., The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York. This company has been awarded an A++ (Superior) rating from A.M. Best. This rating reflects The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York's superior overall financial strength and operating performance when compared to A.M. Best's standards. The rating is current as of October 1, 2007. For the latest A.M. Best's ratings and A.M. Best's Company Reports, please visit the A.M. Best Web site at www.ambest.com.

Club members are eligible to apply for this Club-sponsored plan at economical group rates. To apply, call The City Employees Club of Los Angeles at 1-800-464-0452, or review the plan details in this issue of *Alive!* and apply today with the application printed in this month's publication.

For active and retired City or DWP employees



"My cost for \$100,000 of life insurance? Just \$6.00* a paycheck."

"My advice? Take a minute to apply today."

See how economical this plan can be for you – see the chart below.

Life Insurance from the Club is a smart, easy choice

As little as \$2.75 per pay period! Get \$50,000 to \$300,000 of term life insurance coverage at economical group rates – for example, a 29-year-old can get \$50,000 for \$2.75 per bi-weekly pay period.

Both you and your spouse can apply. Your spouse can apply even if you don't.

Fair pricing built right in! If we collect more premium than we end up needing for claims and expenses, we give the excess back to you! For 77 of our 79 years, insured members have received a Term Life premium refund!

Typically no medical exam needed** if you're under age 50 and apply for up to \$100,000. If an exam is required for higher amounts, it will be scheduled at your convenience and at no cost to you.

You can take your coverage with you. This plan is portable, and stays with you even if you change jobs.

*Example for a 30- to 34-year-old.

**Issuance of a Certificate of Insurance or payment of benefits may depend upon the answers given in the application and the truthfulness of those answers.

No need to write a check! Payroll deduction makes premium payments easy and automatic.

Double your benefit for just a few dollars more. An economical way to double your total death benefit is to choose the same amount of Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance (AD&D) as your term life coverage. Just complete Step 3 of the application. There's never a medical exam required for Accidental Death insurance. And the cost is just \$1.25 per \$25,000 of coverage, regardless of age:

- \$50,000 for \$2.50/month
- \$100,000 for \$5.00/month
- \$200,000 for \$10.00/month

Apply in minutes! Just complete and return the brief application at right to apply. >>>

Quick and easy to buy! Find your economical group cost below, based on your current age. Then select the premium amount most comfortable for your budget – \$50,000, \$100,000, \$200,000. Or choose any other amount from \$10,000 up to \$300,000, in increments of \$10,000.

Term Life Insurance premiums based on bi-weekly payroll deductions

| Age | \$50,000 | \$100,000 | \$200,000 |
|----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| Under 30 | \$2.75 | \$5.50 | \$11.00 |
| 30-34 | 3.00 | 6.00 | 12.00 |
| 35-39 | 3.75 | 7.50 | 15.00 |
| 40-44 | 5.25 | 10.50 | 21.00 |
| 45-49 | 7.75 | 15.50 | 31.00 |
| 50-54 | 12.75 | 25.50 | 51.00 |
| 55-59 | 21.50 | 43.00 | 86.00 |
| 60-64 | 30.75 | 61.50 | 123.00 |
| 65-69 | 55.00 | 110.00 | 220.00 |
| 70+ | (Renewal only, \$10,000 benefit, \$12.50/month) | | |

Just \$1.20 bi-weekly covers all dependents over 6 months to age 19 (23 if a full-time student) for \$10,000 each (subject to state variations).

DWP employees please note: Because your deductions occur once per month instead of bi-weekly, your premiums are 2 times the premiums shown. Coverage amount reduces to \$10,000 when you reach age 70. Maximum benefit for those individuals 70+ years of age is \$10,000. The bi-weekly cost is \$12.50. For retirees, insurance ends at age 60. After age 60, you're eligible for the Retiree Life Plan.



Questions?
Call 1-800-464-0452

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

Underwritten by:
The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York
New York, New York
A member company of American International Group, Inc.

The underwriting risks, financial obligations and support functions associated with the products issued by The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York are its responsibility. The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York is responsible for its own financial condition and contractual obligations.

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It's easy to make your family's future more secure – apply at right in minutes!

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

MIB DISCLOSURE

Medical Information Bureau (MIB) Disclosure Notice: (Must be retained by the applicant) Information regarding your insurability will be treated as confidential. The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York, or its reinsurers may, however, make a brief report thereon to MIB, a not-for-profit membership organization of insurance companies, which operates an information exchange on behalf of its Members. If you apply to another MIB Member company for life or health insurance

coverage, or a claim for benefits is submitted to such a company, MIB, upon request, will supply such company with the information in its file.

Upon receipt of a request from you, MIB will arrange disclosure of any information it may have in your file. Please contact MIB at 866-692-6901 (TTY 866-346-3642). If you question the accuracy of information in MIB's file, you may contact MIB and seek a correction in accordance with the procedures set forth

in the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. The address of MIB's information office is Post Office Box 105, Essex Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02112.

The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York, or its reinsurers, may also release information in its file to other insurance companies to whom you may apply for life or health insurance, or to whom a claim for benefits may be submitted.

7 EASY STEPS TO APPLY >>>

1. Complete the personal information for yourself, and your spouse, if applying.
2. Select the amount of Term Life you want for your family and answer the brief health questions.
3. Decide if you also want Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) coverage.
4. Designate your beneficiaries.
5. Sign and date the application – make sure your spouse also signs the application if he or she is applying.
6. Complete and sign the Payroll Deduction Authorization, including your Social Security number, name and department name.
7. Cut out the application, fold and mail it to:
The City Employees Club of Los Angeles, World Trade Center, 350 South Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

No checks to send! Once your coverage is approved, your premium will be conveniently deducted from your paycheck. If you have any questions, please call us at 1-800-464-0452.

Note: Club membership is automatic when you apply for coverage. As a member, you have access to discounts and savings on movies, theme parks, shopping and more for a payroll deduction of only \$4.50 per month (active employee) or \$2.50 per month (retired). By signing the Payroll Deduction Authorization (at right) you authorize these monthly deductions. Membership fees may change from time to time.

Summary of plan details

Effective date: For term life, you will be insured on the first of the month coinciding with or next following the date United States Life approves the request, provided the required premium is paid. You must be actively at work on the date the insurance is to take effect. If you are not, the insurance will take effect on the day you return to work. Spouses, if applying, must be able to perform the normal activities of a person of like age and sex, in good health, on the date insurance is to take effect. If not, such insurance will take effect on the day they resume such activities. For AD&D, coverage will take effect on the date United States Life states in writing. You must be actively at work on the date the insurance is to take effect. If you are not, the insurance will take effect on the day you return to work. Spouses, if applying, must not be hospitalized on the date insurance is to take effect; if they are, insurance will take effect on the day after they are discharged.

Eligibility: You are eligible to apply if you are a member of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles (LACEA) and actively working full time.

Date insurance ends: As long as you continue to pay premiums, the group policy remains in effect, and insurance does not end for your class, your coverage will not end. In addition, AD&D coverage will not end unless you cease to be a member in good standing with the City Employees Club of Los Angeles (LACEA), with respect to spouses, if applying, the date marriage ends by divorce or annulment, and with respect to children, the date eligibility ends.

Exclusions/limitations: Certain exclusions apply. See your Certificate of Insurance for details. For term life, if a person commits suicide within two years from the date coverage takes effect, liability will be limited to the return of premiums paid, plus interest. Accidental death exclusions include: No benefits are payable for loss caused by suicide or intentionally self-inflicted injury; insurrection, war or act of war; physical or mental sickness or treatment of that sickness; voluntary intake of poison, gas, fumes, unless taken as prescribed by a physician; committing a felony, or an attempt to do so; being intoxicated or under the influence of a narcotic, unless prescribed by a physician; and flight in any type of aircraft in which you are the pilot, licensed or unlicensed, or a member of the crew.

This is a summary of benefits only and is subject to the terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of Group Policy Nos. V-189,706, V-189,709, and V-189,710, Form No. G-19000. Coverage may vary and may not be available in all states.

Cut out the application, fold and mail it to:

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



Programs underwritten by The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York A member company of American International Group, Inc.

Application for Group Term Life Insurance City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Employee Term Life Insurance • Spouse Term Life Insurance • Accidental Death and Dismemberment

STEP 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| CITY/DWP EMPLOYEE | Last Name | | First Name | | MI | Social Security Number | | | | City Dept.# /DWP Empl.# | |
| | Street Address | | | | | Work Phone () | | Height (ft.-in.) | | | |
| | City | | State | ZIP | | Home Phone () | | Weight (lbs.) | | | |
| | Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY) | | Place of Birth (City/State) | | | Age | E-Mail Address | | <input type="checkbox"/> Male | <input type="checkbox"/> Married | <input type="checkbox"/> Female |
| SPOUSE | FILL OUT ONLY IF SPOUSE IS APPLYING FOR COVERAGE. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Last Name | | First Name | | MI | Social Security Number | | | | City Dept.# /DWP Empl.# | |
| | Street Address | | | | | Work Phone () | | Height (ft.-in.) | | | |
| | City | | State | ZIP | | Home Phone () | | Weight (lbs.) | | | |
| Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY) | | Place of Birth (City/State) | | | Age | E-Mail Address | | <input type="checkbox"/> Male | <input type="checkbox"/> Female | | |

STEP 2. COMPLETE THIS SECTION IF YOU WANT TERM LIFE INSURANCE

Choose the plan and indicate the benefit amount desired: (You may purchase in increments of \$10,000 to a maximum of \$300,000.)

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employee | Total Coverage Amount Desired: \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse | Total Coverage Amount Desired: \$ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dependent Coverage | Total Coverage Amount Available: \$ 10,000 |

| | EMPLOYEE | SPOUSE |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Have you ever had chest pains, disease or disorder of the heart, liver, kidneys or lungs, high blood pressure, albumin or sugar in his/her urine, diabetes, cancer, tumors or ulcers? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. Have you, or your spouse if applying, during the past 5 years, consulted any physician or other practitioner or been confined or treated in any hospital or similar institution? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. Have you used tobacco or nicotine in any form during the past twelve months? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

If you answered "Yes" to any parts of the above questions, give details below. Use a separate sheet of paper, sign and date it if more space is needed for answers.

| Question # | Name of Proposed Insured | Condition | Date Occurred | Duration | Degree of Recovery | Names & Addresses of Physicians, Hospitals or Clinics Consulted |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------------|----------|--------------------|---|
| | | | | | | |

STEP 3. COMPLETE THIS SECTION IF YOU WANT GROUP ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE

Choose the plan and indicate the benefit amount desired:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employee | Total Coverage Amount Desired: \$ | \$25,000 to \$300,000 (available in increments of \$25,000) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse | Total Coverage Amount Desired: \$ | \$25,000 to \$300,000 (available in increments of \$25,000) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Plan | ■ Family plan covers spouse for 50% and children for 20%. ■ Spouse but no children = 60% coverage. Children but no spouse = 25% coverage. | |

STEP 4. DESIGNATE YOUR BENEFICIARIES

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Primary Beneficiary: | Relationship: |
| Secondary Beneficiary (Optional): | Relationship: |

Beneficiary of spouse will be the City/DWP Employee unless otherwise specified on a separate sheet of paper.

STEP 5. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING, THEN SIGN AND DATE BELOW TO APPLY.

AUTHORIZATION AND DECLARATION OF EACH PERSON GIVING A STATEMENT OF INSURABILITY

I hereby authorize any licensed physician, medical practitioner, hospital, clinic, or other medical or medically related facility, insurance company, the Medical Information Bureau, or other organization, institution or person that has any records or knowledge of me or my health, to give to United States Life or its reinsurers any such information. Such information will pertain to my employment, or other insurance carrier or medical care, advice, treatment or supplies for any physical or mental condition. This includes that information obtained in connection with the preparation or procurement of an investigative consumer report as defined under the Fair Credit Reporting Act(s). To facilitate the rapid submission of such information, I authorize all said sources, except the Medical Information Bureau, to give such records or knowledge to any agency employed by United States Life to collect and transmit such information.

I understand that this information will be used by United States Life solely to determine eligibility for insurance. I understand that I may revoke this authorization at any time. I agree that such revocation will not affect any action which United States Life has taken in reliance upon this authorization. I understand this authorization will not be valid after 24 months from the effective date of coverage, if not revoked earlier. I know that I should retain a copy of this authorization for my records. I agree that a photocopy of this authorization is as valid as the original. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all statements made above are true and complete.

I understand that my application for group insurance will be accepted or declined on the basis of these statements. Insurance will take effect only if a certificate is issued based on this application and the first premium is paid in full (a) during the lifetime of all proposed insureds; and (b) while there is no change in the insurability or health of such person from that stated in the application.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files a statement of claim containing any materially false information, or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act, which may be a crime. Fraud provisions vary by state.

| | |
|-------|--|
| Date: | Applicant's Signature: X |
| Date: | Spouse's Signature (if applying for insurance): X |

NEW POLICYHOLDERS: Club membership fees will be automatically deducted.

G-19027L

AG5539

Group Policy Nos. V-189,706, V-189,709, and V-189,710

STEP 6. COMPLETE AND SIGN THE PAYROLL DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION.

Payroll Deduction Authorization

Social Security #: _____ Name: _____ Department: _____

To: **Controller—City of Los Angeles, or Fire and Police Pension, or City Employees Retirement System, 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.

Sign Here

| |
|----------|
| X |
|----------|

City/DWP Employee _____ Date _____

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

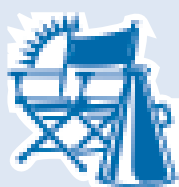
Code _____ Deduction _____

ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews by Fellow Club Members

Your Reviews

You can be a reviewer! Have you just seen a great movie or DVD? Read a great book? Been to a great play or musical? Write a brief review. It's easy! See the instruction box.



100 Words or Fewer

Here's how to submit your review. *Alive!* accepts entertainment reviews of 100 words or fewer. We might not print them all, especially if we receive multiple reviews for the same movie or DVD. Follow these rules:

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For DVDs and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- Have fun!
- Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.
- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: *My Score: X (out of 5)*.
- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.

MOVIE REVIEWS

**I Am Legend**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This movie starring Will Smith follows the same story line as the 1971 *The Omega Man*, starring Charlton Heston. They're both great movies, and this one will also definitely not disappoint you!

Sharing the same previous character's name ("Neville"), Smith plays a scientist, the only human immune to the deadly plague, and he fights to find a cure. The action is non-stop, with a few emotional scenes that make you say to yourself, "This is only a movie." Smith's acting is superb; the graphics are incredible; and there's not a dull moment! The previews, which usually show only the best scenes, do not misrepresent this movie. If you like action, this is one you should not miss!

— Jean Sarfaty, LAPD

**Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street**

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Sweeney Todd is a musical horror film about a barber (Johnny Depp) who's been cast out of society by a crooked judge for "acting foolish." After

a lengthy exile, the barber returns with a vengeance and a new name, and he hooks up with a delusional baker (Helena Bonham-Carter). Eventually, they become partners in crime.

The film depicts a bleak and run-down world where corruption is the status quo and spilled blood fills the streets. Cannibalism, class hierarchy, deceptive business practices, and broken families are other themes this film explores.

— Erin Knight, LAPD

**Alvin and the Chipmunks**

Rated PG

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

I thought *Alvin and the Chipmunks* was a funny movie. After I had seen the funny trailers for this movie I begged my parents to take me. I liked it because the chipmunks

did funny things and you hardly get to see chipmunks talk and sing in the movies. I usually like animated movies more than regular films, but I liked this one. The movie had a little bit of animation. The chipmunks were the only characters that were animated.

The main movie characters were Dave Seville, played by Jason Lee, and Ian Hawk, played by David Cross. The voice of Alvin was Justin Long; the voice of Simon was Mathew Gray Gubler; and Theodore was Jesse McCartney.

One of my favorite parts was when the chipmunks escaped from a cage. The character, Ian Hawk, was mad because he got left with the stuffed animals inside the cage instead of the chipmunks. I had so many favorite parts and this was one of them.

This movie made me laugh a lot. I hope they make a part two.

— Christopher Cordero, son of Catherine Cordero, DWP

Alvin and the Chipmunks**My Score: 5 (out of 5)**

In the history of movies, there have been moments when animals talked. Well, in this movie, there are three hilarious talking chipmunks and they're back and they're animated!

Alvin and the Chipmunks is a hit! Alvin's voice is Justin Long, who is from *Herbie: Fully Loaded*. The voice for Simon is Matthew Gray Gubler, who is from the TV show *Criminal Minds*. Theodore's voice is Jesse McCartney, who has a list of song hits. Dave Seville is played by Jason Lee, who was a pro skateboarder when he was a teenager. Now Jason Lee is the star of the TV show, *My Name Is Earl*.

The chipmunks were discovered by Dave Seville when the tree company cut down the tree that the chipmunks lived in. The tree was sold to a company called Jett Records, where Dave tried to sell one of his songs to his friend named Ian Hawke. The chipmunks saw Dave and followed him home.

I suggest you go with your family to watch the movie because everyone will love it, and the music is so energetic, it'll sound better at the theatre.

— Devyn Cordero, son of Catherine Cordero, DWP

**National Treasure: Book of Secrets**

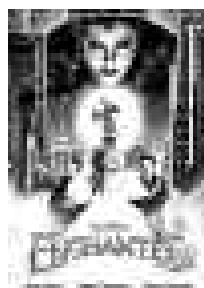
Rated PG

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

I didn't think I was going to like this movie as much as I did. It really surprised me that I really enjoyed seeing this movie. I thought the first movie was okay, but wasn't so

sure that I wanted to see a sequel, but I'm really glad I did. Nicolas Cage and Jon Voight work well together, and I love the part Justin Bartha played. This movie kept my interest the whole time. It's a good family movie.

— Gwen Lew, DWP

**Enchanted**

Rated PG

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Do you know in your brain that Disney's animated romantic musicals (*Beauty and the Beast*, *Cinderella*, *Snow White*, *The Little Mermaid*) are ridiculous, and yet you find them irresistible?

So does *Enchanted*, a joyous, hilarious and inspiring Disney movie musical that makes fun of its true-love roots and yet believes in them completely.

There would be no *Enchanted* without the amazing charm of Amy Adams, who plays Giselle, a classic Disney princess banished from her fairy tale animated world onto the mean streets of real-life New York City. Throw in songs by Alan Menken (*Beauty and the Beast*, et al) and Stephen Schwartz (*Wicked*), and you have a gently irreverent romp that's all heart, but diminished somewhat by the movie's only bad move, a regrettable animated dragon sequence at the end.

Take the kids if you want, but I've heard adults say they want to see it again, by themselves. It's that good.

— John Burnes, Editor, *Alive!***P.S. I Love You**

PG-13

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Hilary Swank stars in this movie about love and loss. Hilary and Gerald Butler, who plays her husband, turn in outstanding performances. You will experience a full range of emotions with this movie.

It's a great love story.

Part of the movie is filmed in Ireland, so you will be treated to its beautiful scenery. Kathy Bates and Lisa Kudrow also are in this movie and turn in fine performances. I highly recommend this movie.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

**Juno**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Funny and upbeat, this is the touching story of how Juno, a pregnant high school girl, tries to keep her baby and give it up for adoption to a deserving young couple. All ages will be entertained as the off-

beat and all-too-human heroine tries to overcome some of life's disappointments with good will and a sense of humor.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Juno**My Score: 5 (out of 5)**

I really enjoyed this movie about a high school girl named Juno, who finds herself pregnant after being with her boyfriend.

It was done very cleverly. With so much of this going on in the world today, it might be helpful in today's society. I wasn't sure where the movie was going, and there are a few surprises. I enjoyed this movie I would recommend this movie to everyone.

— Pat Saucier

**Charlie Wilson's War**

Rated R

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

This movie was educational, covering the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in late 1979. Tom Hanks plays Charlie Wilson, a Congressman from East Texas. Julie Roberts plays

a wealthy Texas socialite who gets Wilson interested in helping the Afghans fight the Soviets. Philip Seymour Hoffman plays a CIA agent who helps Wilson.

I liked this movie because it explained what was going on during that period of time. Though it is more of a serious movie, at times it was very funny and I think worth seeing.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

**Alien vs. Predator: Requiem**

Rated R

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

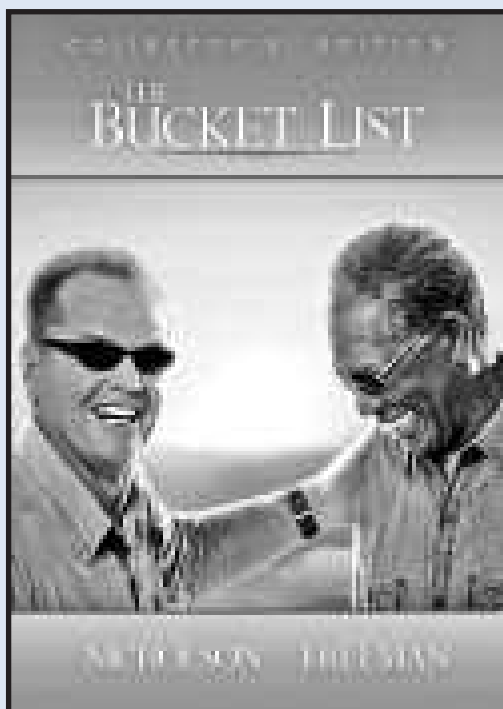
I hate to say it, but this limited-budget sequel should have been a straight to video presentation. The story was weak, its limited special effects

were masked by rain and nightfall, and the actors were inexperienced unknowns and it showed.

The concept of *Alien vs. Predator: Requiem* is great, but with a limited budget it will never stand up to their original respective *Alien* and *Predator* franchises. The *Alien* and *Predator* series have run their courses; both have decent actors, good directors and a respectable budget for special effects. I left the theatre feeling robbed and duped by the producers of this movie.

— Chuck Beas, DWP

The Bucket List



PG-13

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

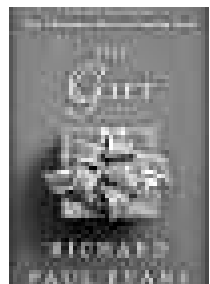
Still need a resolution for 2008? See this movie.

The characters, played by Morgan Freeman and Jack Nicholson, meet while sharing the same hospital room. One's a wealthy bachelor, and the other a mechanic with a family. When they both find out they have a year to live, they decide to make a "bucket list," things to do before they "kick the bucket," things they only talked about doing. Together they trek the globe and discover it's not so much what you have but who you have in the end.

It's a little slow to start, but once it gets going, the funny moments will leave you laughing so hard you cry tears of joy and of sadness. You'll want to rearrange your priorities in life after this movie.

— Lisa Solis

Book Reviews



The Gift
Richard Paul Evans
Fiction
335 pages
Simon and Shuster
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Number-one *New York Times* best-selling author Richard Paul Evans's book, *The Gift*, tells the story of businessman Nathan Hurst, who has Tourette's Syndrome and hates Christmas. He meets a young mother, Addison, who has two children, Elizabeth and Collin. Collin has cancer and has a special gift of healing.

Every time Collin heals someone, his illness gets worse. At first, Nathan didn't know about Collin's special gift until his Tourette's was cured after Nathan touched him.

This book is an inspiring story of a mother struggling to keep her son alive while people from all around the world are flocking to him to help heal them of their illnesses.

It's a truly inspiring story of faith and hope.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel



Last-Known Victim
Erica Spindler
Crime Fiction
443 pages
Mira
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Six female right hands are found in an empty refrigerator left by the serial killer known as The Handyman in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

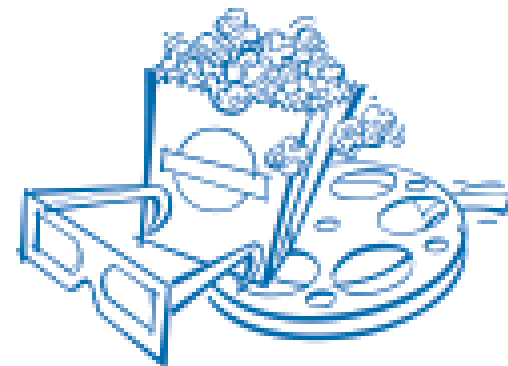
Capt. Patti O'Shay is a by-the-book cop whose police captain husband was murdered when he surprised looters during the post-storm chaos.

In August 2007, Patti, still grieving after her husband's murder, is assigned to work on another female murder victim found missing her right hand along with her husband's badge found next to the body.

Yvette Borger, an exotic dancer, receives encrypted love notes signed by The Artist, which is quite similar to The Handyman's work. Patti must find The Handyman before she becomes his last-known victim.

This book is an intriguing story of murder and suspense in a city transformed by disaster.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel



DVD Reviews



This Is England (2006)
Unrated
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This is England is a low-budget independent film about a low-income boy in England who gets recruited into a group of skinheads. Set amidst the Falklands War in the 1980s, the film features an impressive reggae and ska soundtrack. Much of the film looks like it was shot on handheld video, and features excellent performances by a number of child actors. It's also a tense and explosive drama that explores national identity, the need to belong, and gang mentality.

— Erin Knight, LAPD



Halloween (2007)
Rated R
My Score: 0 (out of 5)

The most frightening part was when the movie was over and I realized it had been distributed worldwide. The most terrifying part was when realized my money had gone to waste. What happened to horror films with suspenseful mystery and imagination? Instead they hastily disrobe themselves, revealing brutality and unintelligence.

The original *Halloween* was John Carpenter sipping a rare fine wine. This Rob Zombie-directed piece was chugging champagne from the bottle in bad taste. I am still waiting for a good horror flick that hits the spot with all of us true horror fans. Michael Meyers' life in this movie wasn't as interesting as it should have been.

— Robert Garcia, Airports



The Lives of Others (2005)
Rated R
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

The 2006 Oscar winner for best foreign film, *The Lives of Others* (in German, with English subtitles) is a remarkable movie. In East Germany just before the Berlin Wall fell, the Stasi (secret police) monitored their political enemies. The film tells the story of a successful playwright (played by Georg Dreyman) and his longtime companion (Christa-Maria Sieland), a popular actress. Both are big stars in the socialist state.

A Stasi wiretapping expert, Capt. Wiesler, spies on the couple, while he grows disillusioned with his career, his totalitarian government, and life in general.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Theatre Reviews



Girls Night: The Musical
Coronet Theatre/through June
My Score: 3 (out of 5)

This is a cute show about four gals getting together at a karaoke bar to celebrate the engagement of the daughter of their deceased friend.

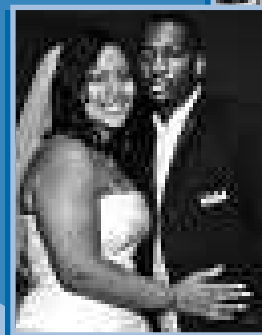
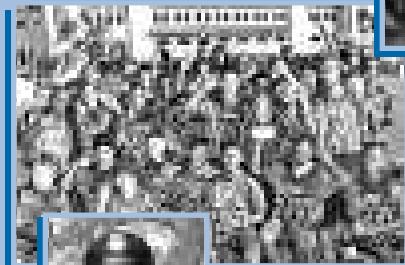
They talk about their lives while each taking turns getting up and singing songs from the 1970s, which I really enjoyed. It is a fun show, but I felt something was missing from making it a great show.

It is playing at the Coronet Theatre on La Cienega.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

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OR send paper photos (please don't send the only one you have!) to:

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

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

New Member Information:

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|--------------------------|---|---------------------|--|
| Last Name | First Name | MI | City Dept./DWP Empl.# |
| 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 |

Payroll Deduction Authorization

Social Security #: _____ Name: _____ Department: _____

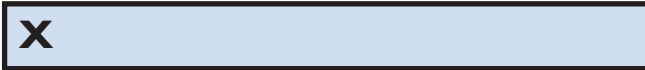
To: **Controller—City of Los Angeles, or Fire and Police Pension, or City Employees Retirement System, or Paymaster—Department of Water and Power**

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

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Code Deduction

Sign Here


City/DWP Employee Date

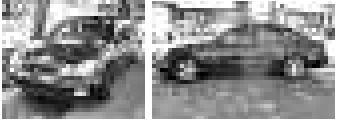
I was referred by:

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| Work Phone () | Club Member Number | |

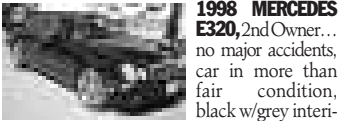
CLASSIFIED ADS *Alive!*

Members Marketplace

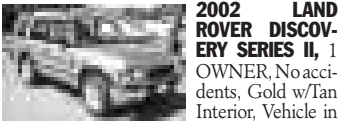
New Ads This Month!



1998 Lexus GS 400: Good Condition, Clean Title, Navigation, 6-Disc CD Changer, Sun/Moonroof, Black/Black Leather Interior, Power Everything, Heated Seats, Climate Control, Traction Control. Private Party, \$8499, Serious callers (310) 480-8249 or email PJLexus@yahoo.com



1998 MERCEDES E320, 2nd Owner... no major accidents, car in more than fair condition, black w/grey interior, chrome 18" rims w/new tires. A STEAL @ \$5,700.00 (Blue Book \$7,500). Call Kevin at (323) 251-0655



2002 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SERIES II, 1 OWNER, No accidents, Gold w/Tan Interior, Vehicle in Excellent Condition (Pampered), Premium Sound System, Power Everything, Leather, Dual Moon Roofs, Prem Wheels, and Tow Pkg. A Steal @ \$9,500.00!! (Blue Book \$11,500) Call Kevin at (323) 251-0655

FOR RENT: Lovely apartment in Inglewood (4-units). 1 bed/1 bath, kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage. Downstairs unit. New paint, carpet, windows and fixtures. Very quiet. 82nd/Crenshaw. Close to public transportation. Call for more details (310) 365-1868.

Chrome Rims - set of 4, 17" Universal 100 spoke wire wheels with low profile tires. Asking \$500. Call (818)339-5172 or e-mail ernestowicab@yahoo.com. Will negotiate or trade.

Cemetery: Four plots in one lot. 1,2,3 &4. Forest Lawn, Covina Hills, Golden Dawn section. \$1300 each, or all 4 for \$5000. Call 951-845-1302, ask for Richard.

Timeshare 4 sale Las Vegas Club de Soleil, 2 bedroom unit close to the strip. Take over payments \$257.42, Call (661) 718-2192 ask 4 Gina or Jackie

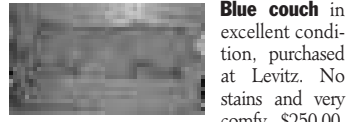
Duplex for rent (upstairs) 3+1 quiet area near downtown across the street from Elysian Park. Rudy Godinez 323-780-4804 Price: \$1400



Electric Recliner Easy Chair: Like new, only used for one month. Great for person that has difficulty getting up from sitting. Beige \$350.00 Call: Bob 213-503-6262

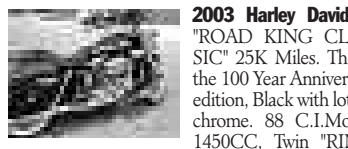


2006 Harley Davidson Softtail For Sale: Special Custom - All Chrome, Z-Bar - Low Mileage (700 mi.) Asking \$16,000 OBO, Call (323) 697-4960



Blue couch in excellent condition, purchased at Levitz. No stains and very comfy. \$250.00. Please call 323-344-0767 or e-mail tracey@snh-cpa.com

Man's 14kt Gold Ring: Center is a 1853 gold coin, surrounded by 18 tiny diamonds, with the emblem of Christ on the cross on each side; \$800.00 obo; Phone: 661-824-5231 or eris2001@sbcglobal.net



2003 Harley Davidson "ROAD KING CLASSIC" 25K Miles. This is the 100 Year Anniversary edition. Black with lots of chrome. 88 C.I. Motor/1450CC, Twin "RINE-HART" Pipes, Fuel Injected, Twin Cam Gear drive "Not Chain Drive" Harley Davidson Race tuner with Laptop Interface/Programmable Factory Alarm & new Rubber. Asking \$16,500.00 kkaufman001@roadrunner.com



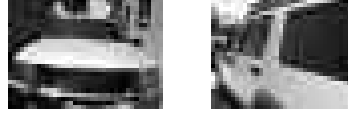
2004 CHEVROLET IMPALA: 42,000 miles, burgundy, gray interior, chrome rims, salvage title, runs great, Contact Sergio 323-708-3410

1979 YAMAHA 750 SPECIAL- motorcycle. 32,000 original miles. Black Gold, Factory saddlebags, trunk, shield, custom seat. Mint condition. \$2,000.00 OBO (626) 333-5962

2005 Toyota Sienna LE, only 10,800 miles. All power. Good condition. \$19,900. Call Kathy at (626) 821-9180.

2004 TENT TRAILER, indoor/outdoor shower, toilet, A/C, heat, microwave, fridge, stove, cable ready, CD player, sink, sleeps 6 adults, gas BBQ. \$10,000 OBO contact: lorarobert@sbcglobal.net

1965 VW Bug primered, chrome rims, new carb & new gas tank \$1,300 obo, call 818-212-3144



2006 FORD EXPLORER, 12,367 mi, all air bags, abs, full ac, ps, cc, tilt, leather, p/seats, p/windows, tint, stereo, pdl, p/mirrors, loaded! low mileage running boards- tow pkg- 3rd row seat, clean-loaded \$22,600, 562-866-3928

2006 FORD EXPLORER, 12,367 mi, all air bags, abs, full ac, ps, cc, tilt, leather, p/seats, p/windows, tint, stereo, pdl, p/mirrors, loaded! low mileage running boards- tow pkg- 3rd row seat, clean-loaded \$22,600, 562-866-3928

1968 Ford Pick-up 1 owner orig paint & engine \$1,500 obo, call 818-212-3144

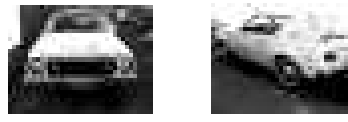


Mini Cooper S 2006 Convertible. White, Engine: 4-Cyl., Supercharged Transmission: 6 Speed Manual (stick), Miles: 12,500. \$26,500. Call Manuel (626) 340-1858.

Honda Truck 4 Tires + 4 Rims Size 17 sales \$550.00 Good Cond. Ph. 323-298-7750

2000 Harley. Reduced price: \$13,500 FIRM. First Come first Gets. Email kkaufman001@roadrunner.com

Camplight 2000 Tent Trailer. Slide out dining room, electric lift, indoor and outdoor shower, toilet, refrigerator, stove, air condition, heat, sleeps 7. \$5,000



1976 Gremlin, only 63,000 miles. Garaged. All original. \$1,500 firm. Call Tariq at (323) 665-7121.



1995 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200, 13,000 miles. Forward controls. Sissy bar. Lots of chrome. Runs and sounds perfect. Small scratch on tank but priced to sell. \$4,200.00 OBO. (661) 510-9671

1969 Volkswagen Bus. Bed, table, new transmission. "C mon hippies!" \$4,800. Cell: 909-565-8197, Home: 909-484-1971. Ask for Seano.

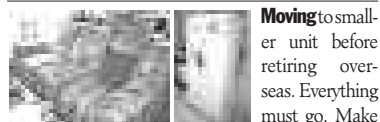
1963 Mercury Comet. Stock, runs, needs fine tune but nice! \$4,000 firm. Cell: 909-565-8197, Home: 909-484-1971. Ask for Seano.

Electronics/Computers

Used **Panasonic PV-L750 camcorder** in excellent working condition, complete with carrying case. Asking \$400 OBO. Contact # (310) 408-6431 in Torrance.

Used **HP 5650 printer** in excellent working condition. Asking \$25. Complete with cables and software. Contact # (310) 408-6431 in Torrance.

Furniture



an offer & take it with you. Call Leslie Harbour 310-780-6397 for appointment.

Dining Room Table: Spanish style dark wood dining room table with 6 chairs. Excellent condition! \$850 or OBO. Contact Jeff (562)316-8165

Homes/Rentals/Land

Death in the family forces **sale of two (2) lot parcels at Prescott Lakes** Resort and Golf. At Prescott Valley Arizona. Amenities includes all year round golf, membership and unlimited use club facilities. 1 parcel is .59 acres for \$127,500.00. 2nd parcel is .47 acres for \$119,000.00, both parcels are valued at over \$280,000.00. Seller is motivated. Please contact Joe at 818-288-4269 or 805-306-0684 or at buni_hon@yahoo.com

Condo for rent in Highland Park - 2 bedrooms 1 bath, includes water, 2 car garage, gated, washer/dryer on site \$1300.00 call (323) 351-0694 or (323) 351-0695

For Rent - Apartment: residential neighborhood in Northeast Los Angeles. 2-bed/full bath, kitchen, living room, dining room and garage. Convenient to markets, public transportation, and freeways; \$1200 a month. Call (213) 952-0835

Condo for rent in Highland Park - 2 bedrooms 1 bath, includes water, 2 car garage, gated, washer/dryer on site \$1300.00 call (323) 351-0694 or (323) 351-0695

Lone Pine House For Sale: 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, Lg Den/Fireplace, Patio, Garage, Shed, \$240,000.00 760-872-4206



Montebello Townhome for sale - \$489,000 (11 miles from Downtown LA) 4 Bd 3 Full bath 1947 sq. feet Gated Community cathedral ceilings pool and tennis court **Will help with second** Please contact George at (323) 376-5324, gjiwe@yahoo.com

Guest house for rent: Lovely refinished 2 Bedroom Rear House (very quiet). 1 Year Lease. Washington and LaBrea. \$1,350/ \$650 Deposit. Call (310) 308-1523.

Apartment for rent in residential neighborhood in Northeast Los Angeles, 1-bed/1 full bath, kitchen, living room and garage. New paint and carpeting. Convenient to markets, public transportation, and freeways \$800. per month. Call John (213) 952-0835

El Monte Condo for sale: 3BD/2.5BA/1511 sq.ft. 2 car garage/gated community. Being offered with seller financing, take over payments. Only 5% down, \$1995/mo. 3 months no payments. Tax benefit available. Call Rodolfo (888)255-9999

House FOR SALE- Roseville, CA. Built 2000, 2158 sq.ft 3-4 bdrm/2 bath 3 car garage, Inrdry, covered patio. 90 min from Lake Tahoe. (916)704-0088

Apartment For Rent: Nice 1 Bedroom Apartment Inglewood, California Area. Mr. Rich (323) 296-1547

Rental in W. Lancaster: 4 bdrm, 1.5 bath, new carpet, fresh paint, new appliances, two-story, dishwasher, washer and dryer. Sec. 8 ok. Rent is \$1600 plus low deposit. I will work with you. If interested call, 818-776-1206.

House for rent - Pomona. 4 Bd, 2 Ba, FR, FP W/D hkup, lrg bk yd, dbl carport, crdt chk, no pets, \$1,600 + deposit. 2533 Cathy Ave. (310) 419-0558

4BD/2BA House for rent, near elementary school, large corner lot. Asking \$1600/mo plus \$1600 security. Must obtain renters insurance. Large back yard, outdoor pets OK, 2 car detached garage w/2 remotes, includes microwave, dishwasher, stove. If interested email Rhonda N1487@lapd.lacity.org



Palm Springs Vacation Rental. Newly built, fully furnished in gated community. 10 minutes away from Downtown PS. Sleeps 6. Spacious master bedroom w/private bathroom. Go to www.vrbo.com/142384

House for Rent: contemporary modern style 2 beds and 1.5 baths with 1 gated parking spot & hardwood floors near chinatown, dodger stadium, gold line, little tokyo, olvera street, pasadena and downtown convenient to public transportation, freeways, markets and shopping washer and dryer on property available 9-1-07 for \$1200 a month call 323-919-1163

House for Rent. 2bd/1ba. Large yard. Access to horse & bike trails. Pet friendly. No smoking. Near 210/605 Fwy \$1400/mo. 626/890-7361

House for Sale: 7259 Louise Ave. Van Nuys, CA 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, Detached Bonus room, Fireplace, 3-car garage, workshop, Private Master Suite Offered at \$579,300 Call Frieda Scott, 310 897 7178

House For Rent: Quiet residential neighborhood in Whittier. Beautiful single story 3 bdrm, 1 bath, large kitchen, living room with fireplace, separate laundry room, detached 2 car garage, covered patio, and big yard with trees. Very clean. New carpet, tile, paint and mini blinds. Ceiling fans. Gardener included. Excellent location with convenient shopping and easy freeway access. Email pictures available. \$1,800 per month. Call Stephanie at (626) 810-6384

Home for Sale: Spacious Las Vegas 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage home with new furniture and appliances included. \$339,900. Call Nathaniel (702) 577-8926. Virtual Tour: www.tucasa360.com/vt/NB5541LonesomeBiker

Playa Del Rey condo 1 bdrm, 1 ba, 2 pk sp, laundry, walk to beach \$1500 month 310-306-2750

West L.A. Town Homes for Sale - Brand New 3bd, 2 1/2 ba. Gated parking, balconies sundeck approx 1700 sq ft. surround Sound, etc \$725K - \$825K. Call Russ at (818) 983-4095

CONDO FOR RENT IN EL SERENO AREA 2 Bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 master suite with bath tub and separate shower, walk-in closet, pool privileges, (includes water and cable), kitchen, inside washer and dryer, backyard patio, pool, Jacuzzi, private park, bbq area, recreation room, 24 hr. gate security, parking and guest parking, beautiful view of city lights and mountains, close to college and downtown Los Angeles. Deposit \$2,000 and monthly rent is \$2,000. Contact Rosie @ 323/821-5058.

House for Rent - Small 2br, 1bath home in Alhambra, 6 miles f/downtown, \$1,300/mo. Contact Mario (626) 458-2976

Master Suite for Rent \$1,000- 1 closet and I walk-in closet, includes cable and water, pay only 1/3 electricity, has own shower and bath tub, pool and spa, 24 hr. gated security, shared washer and dryer (located in condo) private patio and yard, private park, bbq area, recreation room, parking and quest parking, beautiful view of city lights and mountains, close to college and downtown Los Angeles. Contact Rosie @ 323/256-2186

House for rent. Small 2BR, 1BTH home in Alhambra. 6 mi. from downtown. \$1,300/mo. Call Mario at (626) 458-2976.

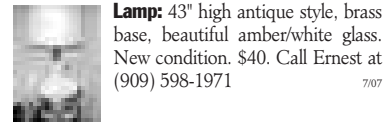
Household Items

Above ground pool for sale: 10' by 24' (4 feet deep) round metal frame pool. \$350 (originally \$650). Only used one time for a party. Contact Omar (909) 376-5176.

Used Telescope, \$200, Galileo-1000X135. Has tripod. Manual included. Call Earl @ 323-292-7358.

Microwave Oven. Westinghouse. 1.1 Cubic Foot, 1000 watts. Sacrifice at \$25. Call Ernest at (909) 598-1971

Craftmatic Adjustable 3ft X 7ft twin size bed electronic hand control, variable speed wave massage system, purchased 1-30-03 \$1200 call (562) 989-4664 (310) 732-4707



Lamp: 43" high antique style, brass base, beautiful amber/white glass. New condition. \$40. Call Ernest at (909) 598-1971

Cross-stitched Arts - Beautiful home décor, no frame, prices are negotiable. Call Nida & leave a message (909) 800-3207.

Ionic Breeze: Regular \$350, out-the-door for \$300. Alle-germ free your environment. As-Seen-On-TV. Brand new in the box. Call Joe (323) 750-7005 or JEDA3R@hotmail.com

Microwave, \$30.00, call 323-721-3854.

Brand new dryer for sale. \$350.00 OBO. Email address: modupe5376@aol.com or call Tayo at (909) 730-7181

Miscellaneous

HEARING OFFICERS NEEDED: The Los Angeles Fire Department is looking for retired Senior Management or Personnel Analysts to be Hearing Officers for the Brush Clearance Unit. If interested, please send resume to: kathy.dade@lacity.org

Cemetery Plots: Forest Lawn Memorial Park - Hollywood Hills, Church Yard Section Lot 3279 -Space 3 and 4, Lot 2279 -Space 3: 5,400 each. Call Paula @ 818-374-3385 or email: jennmiralja@msn.com

Bouncer House 4 Sale. 13ft by 13 ft. Clown Themed. \$1500. Javier. 626-917-3941

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

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

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



2 Oakland Raiders Season Tickets. These are 40yard line tickets located 3 rows from the field. I have all home games available. Contact Joe 909-519-8683 or email me at raiderjo@roadrunner.com for a great picture of seats. GO RAIDERS!

Oakdale Memorial Parl. 2 in 1 plot in Glendora, CA. Space 4, Lot 3131, Lawn Eternal Peave. A full package (includes casket, headstone) retail value \$8,000, asking for \$7,000 OBO. Call 626-379-3106.

Carpeting for sale. Plush, burgundy, used, in good condition; approx. 51 yds. \$250. Call Connie 323-351-4689

8-inch Porche Alloys. 5 lug. \$500 firm. Cell: 909-565-8197, Home: 909-484-1971.

Wheelchair ramp for a van, hydraulic. \$1,200 or best offer. Ask for Carole 626-960-3309.

Sports / Exercise



Elliptical For Sale: \$450 OBO. "Slightly" used Space Saver w/fan. Contact C. Starkey at ellip4sale@yahoo.com

Travel / Timeshare

Cabo San Lucas Timeshare for Sale: Pueblo Bonita at Sunset Beach, 5 star resort, RCI membership, 1 bedroom, 2 bath, kitchen, sleeps 4-6. One week anytime, two weeks this year. Under priced at \$17,900. Call (760) 873-6425 or (760) 920-0032

Las Vegas Grand Desert Timeshare - for sale. Asking \$30,000 with amenities, plus 182,000 bonus points. Call (310) 522-0051.

TIMESHARE RESORT RENTAL in Cancun, Mexico. Beautiful Cancun Sunset Club, close to shops, restaurants and nightlife. 7 days \$500.00. Sleeps 4. Call Gina (818) 265-5940 home or (818) 395-3552 cell.

BED AND BREAKFAST in Klamath Falls, Oregon. For the best view of the lake and the most competitive price, come stay with us when traveling through or visiting Klamath Falls. Call Jerry Klippness and Helen Hall, 2371 Lakeshore Dr., Klamath Falls, OR 97601, (541) 850-2586.

Collectibles

Various Beanie Babies from McDonald's \$2.00 - \$5.00 each. Call Greg (951) 235-3815.

Sports Memorabilia - All Sports and Non-Sports Cards. 25 Cents and Up, OBO. Greg (951) 235-3815.

NFL Ceramic Mugs/Tankards - 28 Teams, LA Rams, LA Raiders, Cowboys, Dolphins, etc. Past/Present NFL Teams, 5 3/8" Tall. (805) 338-1990.

ESTATE SERVICES - Appraisal or Liquidation of Fine Art, Collectibles and Coin & Stamp Collections. Call Michael (626) 592-2929.



I BUY SILVER & GOLD U.S. coin collections, large or small. Please call Michael (626) 592-2929.

Wanted

City employee alto sax player looking for band to jam and perform. smooth jazz, cool jazz, real book tunes, ballads, funk. If.2005@sbcglobal.net

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

Wanted: YOUR TOY TRAINS, any age, any size. Call Mike (818)-831-0846.

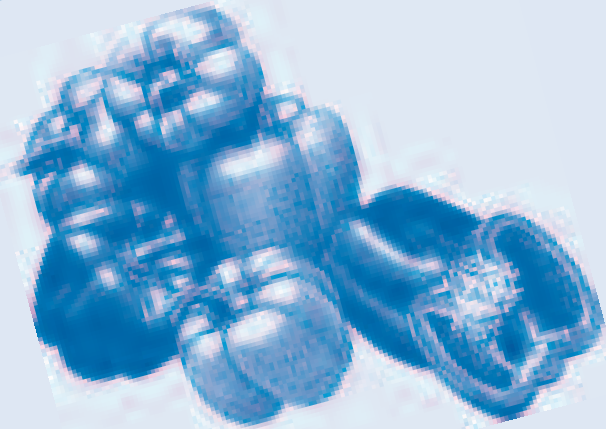
Cooking with the Club

by
Chef Robert Larios



Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0398 or e-mail us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com.



Ring That Bell (Pepper)

DIRECTIONS:



Step 1: Have your bell peppers washed and other ingredients ready. Dice your jalapeños, white creamer potatoes, scallion and garlic. Set aside.



Step 3: Rotate the peppers once they begin to brown and turn black on the skin surface. Make sure you get it like this on all sides. This is what you want!



Step 5: Sauté your diced ingredients and add salt and pepper to your preference. Here is where you add the pine nuts. Be sure that the ingredients are sautéed to a golden brown color. Medium heat is the way to do it.



Step 7: Remove bell peppers and begin scraping the skin off of them. You may even use a knife and your hands to peel the skin. Don't worry if you can't get all of the skin removed.



Step 2: Roast the bell peppers on an iron skillet, or grill, or in the oven, etc. I'm using an iron skillet. Medium-high to high heat is best. Watch out for the smoke!



Step 4: Once the peppers have the burned black appearance on the surface, bag the peppers in a paper bag or Ziploc bag and seal. This will help steam the peppers; once cooled, you'll be able to peel the skin easily. Let steam for about 15 to 20 minutes. Set aside.



Step 6: In the meantime, on medium heat, take about 1.5 pounds of ground beef and place in a pot or pan to sauté and brown. Add the sautéed ingredients to the browning ground beef and stir until all ingredients are incorporated and mixed together.



Step 8: The tops of the bell peppers should be removed and hollowed out by removing the seeds on the inside.



Step 9: Grate or slice your favorite cheese and place some at the bottom inside of the bell peppers. Add the ground beef mixer next until it fills the peppers to the brim. Lastly, add more cheese to top them off.



Step 10: You may heat in an oven to melt the cheese some more, but the residual heat from the cooking and sautéing should do the trick. Serve!

It's amazing that the bell pepper exists for our cooking delight! What a versatile vegetable! It's used in so many ways and in so many cooking styles that it's unthinkable how food would be if it didn't exist. We've all seen the variety of colors – from green, orange, red and yellow, and even the uncommon purple. The colors vary because it depends when they're cultivated – green is the least ripened and red the most; the reds have been on the vines the longest. What's common in all the varieties is that they're all filled with a great dose of vitamin C.

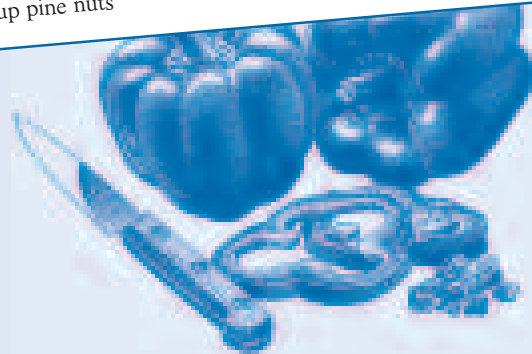
With so many uses for bell peppers, I've decided to stay with the theme of quick and easy cooking by making Stuffed Bell Peppers. This recipe calls for a mix of ground beef, potatoes, scallion, garlic, onion, and yes... pine nuts. Why pine nuts? Because this is my cooking column and I can do what I want with it! In all seriousness, I just like the nutty and slightly crunchy texture they provide. You are free to use other types of nuts like peanuts or cashews.

I like my bell peppers roasted so that I can peel the skin-like coating around them. Experimenting with a variety of cheeses is a good idea, too, but any cheese that has an easy time of melting in heat will work, like mozzarella or Monterey Jack.

Stuffed Bell Peppers

INGREDIENTS:

- 1.5 pounds ground beef
- 2 white creamer potatoes
- 1 medium scallion
- 2 jalapeño peppers
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 small sweet Hawaiian onion or small red onion
- 1/4 cup pine nuts
- 1 orange bell pepper
- 1 red bell pepper
- 1 green bell pepper
- 1 yellow bell pepper
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Your favorite cheese that melts well: mozzarella, Jack, etc.





CLUB GIFTS

FOR YOUR SWEETIE

L.A. City T-shirts

LA City "B-Label" T-Shirt (with Depts.)
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL XXXL**

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Size: XXXL
\$13

Back

Available Colors:
 Grey
 Black
 Navy Blue

ITEM: #LAC-5000

LA City "B-Label" Sweatshirt (with Depts.)
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL**

Member Price:
\$22
 per shirt*

Size: XXXL
\$23

Available Colors:
 Navy Blue
 Black

ITEM: #LAC-6000

Long Sleeve "Classic" T-shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL**

Available Colors:
 White Sport Gray Indigo Blue

Member Price:
\$15
 per shirt*

Size: XXXL
 Available Colors:
 Sport Gray Indigo Blue
\$16

Back

ITEM: #T1500

LA City "Alma Mater" T-shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL**

Member Price:
\$8
 per shirt*

Available Colors:
 Gray Black Navy Blue

ITEM: #LAC-2000

LA City T-shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL**

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Back

Available Colors:
 Black Navy Blue

ITEM: #LAC-3000

LA City "Olde English" T-shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL**

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Back

Available Colors:
 Black Navy Blue

ITEM: #LAC-4000

Short Sleeve "Classic" T-shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL (all colors)**

Available Colors:
 Texas Orange Sport Gray White* Leaf Green Indigo Blue
 Light Pink Maroon Blue Dusk Orange Olive

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Non-Member Price:
 \$25 per shirt
 *Plus tax and shipping

*White available with front pocket.

Size: XXXL
\$13

Available Colors:
 White Blue Dusk Indigo Blue Sport Gray

Size: XXXXL
\$14

Available Colors:
 Indigo Blue Sport Gray

Back

ITEM: #T1000

L.A. City Polo Shirt

LA City Polo Shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL**

Member Price:
\$18
 per shirt*

Front

Available Colors:
 White
 Black
 Navy Blue
 Pink

Close-up of Embroidery

ITEM: #PS1000

DWP T-shirts

DWP "Bold" T-Shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL**

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Back

Available Colors:
 Black Navy Blue

Front

ITEM: #T3000VWP

DWP "Classic" Long Sleeve T-Shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL** **Size: XXXL**

Member Price:
\$15
 per shirt*

*Plus tax and shipping

Back

Available Colors:
 Gray

Front

ITEM: #T2500VWP

Water & Power T-shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL XXL**

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Back

Available Colors:
 White Navy Blue
 Black Orange

Front

ITEM: #T2002WP

Available Colors:
 White* Navy Blue
 Black Orange

*White available with front pocket.

Front

ITEM: #T2003WP

Available Colors:
 White Navy Blue
 Black Orange

Front

ITEM: #T2001WP

Back

Size: XXXL
 AVAILABLE COLORS:
 Blue Dusk Charcoal
\$13

Front

ITEM: #T2000VWP

City Girl "Classic" T-shirt

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Size: XXXL
\$13

V-Neck Style Colors:
 White Key Lime
 Black Violet
 Caribbean Blue

Crew Neck Style Colors:
 Hot Pink Cherry
 Heather Gray

Cherry

ITEM: #T-W1000

City Girl "Retro" T-shirt

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Size: XXXL
\$13

V-Neck Style Colors:
 White Key Lime
 Black Violet
 Caribbean Blue

Crew Neck Style Colors:
 Hot Pink Cherry
 Heather Gray

Caribbean Blue

ITEM: #T-W2000

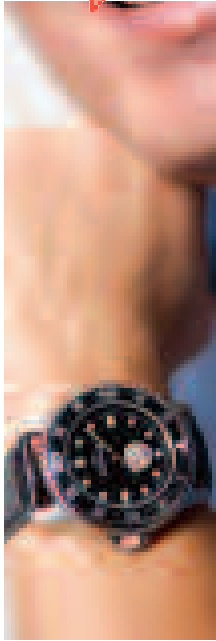


CLUB GIFTS

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 www.cityemployeesclub.com
 and click on "Ticket Express"

Diver Watches with City Seal

These watches have been meticulously crafted using only high-quality quartz movements. These new diver watches, above, are made from solid stainless steel and genuine leather.



February Special!
\$25

Men's Watch, Silver
 ITEM: #WGS3000
 PRICE: \$25.00*

Ladies Watch, Two-tone gold and silver
 ITEM: #WGSV1000
 PRICE: \$25.00*

Mens Large Seal, Stainless Steel Band
 ITEM: #WS2500
 PRICE: \$55.00*

Mens Large Seal, Leather Band
 ITEM: #VL2600
 PRICE: \$45.00*

Mens Small Seal, Stainless Steel Band
 ITEM: #WS2501
 PRICE: \$55.00*

Mens Small Seal, Leather Band
 ITEM: #VL2601
 PRICE: \$45.00*

Mens Small DWP Seal, Stainless Steel Band
 ITEM: #DWPWS2700
 PRICE: \$55.00*

*Plus tax and shipping

City Seal Hats with Script

High quality embroidered ball caps!

Seal w/Script
 NAVY: #H1989
 PRICE: \$10.00



Seal w/Script
 BLACK: #H1613
 PRICE: \$10.00



Member Price:
\$10
 per hat*

Seal w/Script
 KHAKE: #H1991
 PRICE: \$10.00



Seal w/Script
 ORANGE: #H1990
 PRICE: \$10.00



*Plus tax and shipping

City Department Dolls

Each custom made "City Bear" stands 10" tall and is dressed in meticulously detailed and accurate uniforms.

Size: **10" high. Stand not included.**

Member Price:
\$20
 per doll*

*Plus tax and shipping



Department of Transportation
 ITEM #BDOT



General Services
 ITEM #BGSD



DWP
 ITEM #BDWP



Sanitation Department
 ITEM #BBOS



Street Services
 ITEM #BSTS

DWP Hats



DWP-Hat
 BLACK: #9501
 PRICE: \$8.00

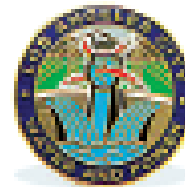
Member Price:
\$8
 per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping



DWP-Hat
 NAVY: #9496
 PRICE: \$8.00

City Seal Lapel Pins



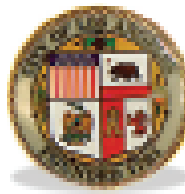
DWP Enamel Lapel Pin
 3/4" Diameter
 ITEM: #LP4
 PRICE: \$10.00



"The Classic" Enamel Lapel Pin
 3/4" Diameter
 ITEM: #LP3
 PRICE: \$10.00*



Gold Embossed Lapel Pin
 3/4" Diameter
 ITEM: #LP2
 PRICE: \$5.00*



Full-Color Silkscreened Lapel Pin
 3/4" Diameter
 ITEM: #LP1
 PRICE: \$5.00*



CHERRY WOOD BOX AVAILABLE FOR \$3.50*
 ITEM: #LPB-1

*Plus tax and shipping

Historical Books

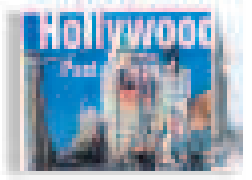
Club Discount Price.....\$25* (\$32.95 Retail)
 An excellent review of what these areas looked like in their humble beginnings compared to the present day. Photographs by the world famous George Ross Jezek.



Los Angeles
 Views of the Past & Present
 ITEM: #B1488



Orange County
 Views of the Past & Present
 ITEM: #B1544



Hollywood
 Views of the Past & Present
 ITEM: #B1659

Decals



LA City Decal, 3" Diameter
 ITEM: #DECLAC2000 • PRICE: \$2.50*
 *Tax included



DWP Decal, 3" Diameter
 ITEM: #DECWP1000 • PRICE: \$2.50*
 *Tax included

City Seal Clock

\$15 Each*



ITEM: #C8003

Size: 10" Diameter
Battery operated (AA)

*Plus tax and shipping

IMPORTANT ORDERING INFORMATION

Ordering something for your sweetie? Order online (www.cityemployeesclub.com) by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12, and specify overnight shipping for delivery by Wednesday, Feb. 13 (just in time for Valentine's Day, Feb. 14). (You'll need to create an account, if you haven't already done so, to log in.) Or come to Club Headquarters up until Feb. 14 (during normal business hours) to pick up the perfect Valentine's Day gift for your City Sweetie. (Take the DASH - it's easy!)

FOR EASY ORDERING OF DISCOUNT TICKETS AND CLUB MERCHANDISE:

ONLINE

Go to **www.cityemployeesclub.com** and click on "Club Store"

MAIL

Complete the order form to and mail to:
Ticket Guy
 City Employees Club of Los Angeles
 350 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 700
 Los Angeles, CA 90071

PHONE

(888) 777-1744

FAX

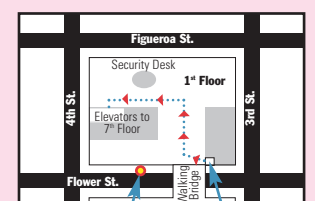
(213) 620-0398

PICK-UP

350 South Figueroa St. Suite 700

Take the Dash "A" Route and get off at the World Trade Center stop. Take the outside elevator to the 1st floor. Go west into the building and then make a left. Take the main elevators to the 7th floor.

For Dash routes, go to: www.ladottransit.com/dash/routes





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 Los Angeles

Do You Have The
P O W E R



ORDER NOW

Members \$8
 Non Members \$20

Available in
 Navy & Black
 Exclusively
 at



ORDER ONLINE
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