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— SEE PAGE 51

For Club members only!

City Employees Club of Los Angeles • Vol. 10 • No. 6 • June 2011



Serving over 20,000
City and DWP Employees

Alive!



LAFD Training Goes Nuclear!



LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue team simulates a nuclear emergency to prepare for the real thing.

Above, members of the LAFD's CA-TF1 (California Task Force 1) Urban Search and Rescue team take part in a training exercise at LAFD Fire Station 88.

SEE PAGE 6

Alive! photo by John Burnes



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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**DWP Long Term Care Insurance
OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDS JUNE 30**
— SEE PAGE 29

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SEE PAGE 51

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Here at the Club, we don't add extra markups or unnecessary surcharges. We work hard to bring you great Club benefits, and we take your cost savings very seriously. It's part of Celebrating Your Life.



City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

Celebrating the Lives of City Employees.



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A Message From the CEO

LAFD Leads Way to Disaster Preparation

by John Hawkins
President and CEO, The Club

The first in the country. Maybe even the world. And it was right here in the City of Los Angeles.

When I heard the sad news of the earthquake and nuclear power disaster in Japan in March, I couldn't help but think, how do you prepare for something like this? And then, in early May in Los Angeles, I watched the LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 1 do exactly that, which we've chronicled in this month's cover story. According to LAFD Capt. Steve Hissong, this intense simulation was the first of its kind anywhere in the United States.

The planning for the LAFD's radiological disaster started way back in January, so there was no copycatting going on here. And it was smaller in scale than the Japan emergency mostly because it was an exercise, and the LAFD and the FEMA managers wanted to monitor everything carefully. They wanted to learn all that they could.

It was great to know how much the LAFD is preparing for just such an emergency.

Can you imagine wearing a jacket in 90-degree heat? Okay, then take it one step further – can you imagine wearing a plastic suit, sealed and covering your whole body? And then, can you imagine carrying around pounds and pounds of equipment at the same time? And crawling through some dangerous and dark areas? And then rescuing someone, and perhaps carrying them, too? Well, that's what these brave guys did during the exercise. They lasted 30 to 40 minutes. I'm not sure I would have lasted a quarter of that time. Maybe not even a tenth.



Club CEO John Hawkins talks to a member of the LAFD's California Task Force 1.

Here at the Club, we talk about celebrating the lives of City Employees. While we have fun every day, we take our motto very seriously. We celebrate everyone in the City, but it's at moments like this when I really think about what I'm seeing, that I'm really proud of what the City accomplishes. Nice going, guys. Glad you're on the job!

As this is June, that means there are a couple of things that end this month, and who doesn't need a final reminder! First is the open enrollment period for the Club's Long-Term Care insurance product for DWP employees. This is a great opportunity, Club Members, to be smart and forward-thinking. Who could take care of your medical expenses if you're debilitated in some way? Long-Term Care insurance is the answer. I recommend you step up and take advantage of this great chance now. It might not come back again for a long time.

And it's also the final month for applications to our annual Joannie Mukai Club Scholarships. We're very proud to help Club families with these stipends, in a time of escalating college expenses. Every year I'm amazed at the level of quality of our graduates. So get those applications in.

Finally, as I write this, it's nearly Memorial Day, and then after that, Father's Day. It's awesome how many of you sent in photos and greetings to honor your dads. They play such an important role in our lives! I'm a big fan of this feature every year, and I'm happy that so many others are, too.

Speaking of Memorial Day, it's time for me to head home, close the door behind me and have a relaxing weekend while I honor those we've lost in defense of this country. Let's keep them in mind as we begin our great summers ahead. See you next month!

JOHN

(jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)

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LAFD's USAR Task Force 1 simulates a radioactive emergency to be prepared for the real thing.

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The period for applying for the Joannie Mukai Club Scholarship ends this month. Apply now!

20 Medal of Valor

The LAPD honors its bravest with the Medal of Valor.

24 Baker to Vegas

It's that time again where police and safety forces test their long-distance mettle in this challenge cup relay race.

29 Long-Term Care

Hurry! This is the final month for the Club's Long-Term Care open enrollment period for DWP employees.

38 Father's Day

Sit back and enjoy *Alive!*'s annual tribute to Club Dads. Happy Father's Day!



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Alive! Behind the Scenes

Club Photographer Tom Hawkins sets up at the busy simulation site for an overall shot of the main staging area.



Alive! Feature Picture

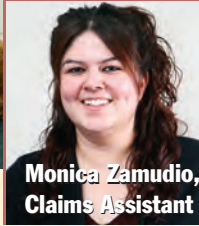
Tom Hawkins,
Club Photographer

Telephone Numbers You Can Use

City Employees Club of Los Angeles	(800) 464-0452
City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX	(213) 620-0398
City Employees Deferred Compensation	(213) 978-1636
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480
City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728
DWP Employees Assn.	(213) 367-3146
DWP Health Plan & Medicare	(800) 831-4778
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361
DWP Paymaster	(213) 367-1106
DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934
DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
LACERS	(800) 779-8328
Local 721	(213) 482-6660
L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(800) 773-2489
Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
Los Angeles Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
Worker Compensation	(213) 473-3400



Cecilia Talbot, Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio, Claims Assistant

You probably won't get to meet Club Claims Manager 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.

Club Members' Praise

"I felt everyone I talked to [in the Club's claims dept.] was very helpful. They took their time to answer all my questions and made sure I understood everything."

— Diane Stanley, October 2010

The Club's claims service was "very good, courteous and helpful. I really appreciated the phone call that the check was being mailed since I don't always check my post office box. This way I was aware that I would be receiving it. I would also like to thank you for the card and all your help."

— Jesse Sanchez, October 2010

The Club's claims service was "excellent. Monica was very nice and helpful. She seemed to have real concern and was comforting while I was going through the death of my husband. Everything that she told me during this awful process was true and very much appreciated. I wish everyone I dealt with were as nice."

— Sheila Knox, October 2010

The Club's claims service was "very efficient and very timely. Your department recognizes that there is an immediate need for your life insurance beneficiary procedures when your loved one dies. It was all done in a fairly quick time frame. The book *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* was very special, and the meaning and intent of the matter was very appropriate for the grief I'm experiencing."

— Nan Thompson, October 2010

Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work: Claims Paid

	Last 12 Months
Life Insurance	\$2,024,780
Long-term Disability	\$1,711,309
Long-term Care	\$368,963
Cancer Insurance	\$50,000

Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months: \$4,155,053



The City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Celebrating the Lives of City Employees

Trust the Club's insurance and claims services when you need them the most. Contact an Insurance Counselor today: **(800) 464-0452**

It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club! Great rates on:

- Accidental Death and Dismemberment
- Long-Term Disability
- Long-Term Care
- Cancer Insurance
- Pet Insurance
- Legal Services
- Auto Insurance

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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.



John Hawkins
President & CEO



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Chief Financial Officer



Robert Larios
Director of Operations
"Sports Dude" and "Chef Larios"

Accounting



Leigh Thompson
Controller



Trinh Pham
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Cecilia Talbot
Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio
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Information Technology



Michael Anderson
Information Technology Manager



Alan Bound
Information Technology Programmer



Summy Lam
Director of Marketing

Club Store



Rachael Brecher
Club Store Assistant Manager



Lupe Medina
Administrative Service Representative



Megan Debolt
Club Store Services Coordinator

Meet the Club Team



Questions? We're here to help.
 Call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

(800) 464-0452

Member Services



Eboné Moses
Club Member Services Counselor



Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor, In-house

2008 President's Award Recipient



Angel Gomez
Club Director of Sales

Accounting, Bureau of Animal Services
 Building & Safety
 Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Administrative Officer
 City Attorney
 City Clerk
 City Council
 Community Redevelopment Agc
 Contract Administration, Bureau of Controller, Office of the Convention Center
 Cultural Affairs
 Disability, Department on
 DWP-Administration
 DWP-Energy Services
 DWP-Financial Services Executive
 DWP-Integrated Support Services
 DWP-Marketing & Customer Svcs
 DWP-Water Aqueduct District
 DWP-Water Services
 El Pueblo De Los Angeles
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 Housing Department
 Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
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 Planning
 Street Lighting, Bureau of

Administration
 Aging
 City Employees Retirement System
 Community Development Dept
 General Services
 Employee Relations Board
 Engineering, Bureau of
 Environmental Affairs
 Fire
 Fire & Police Pensions
 Information Technology Agency
 Library
 Neighborhood Empowerment
 Personnel
 Recreation & Parks
 Sanitation, Bureau of
 Status of Women
 Street Services, Bureau of
 Transportation
 Zoo

2003 President's Award Recipient



Arlene Herrero
Club Products Manager

Police (LAPD) Harbor

LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

—LETTER OF THE MONTH—

Long-Term Care Insurance Is In Martin's Long-Term Interest



Hi there! I just wanted to thank you for offering the Long-Term Care open enrollment. Even though I'm young and working (I turned 52 last month), I have a slightly elevated blood pressure, which has prevented me from getting Long-Term Care. But, thanks to the Club, I was able to enroll, without a physical, during your open enrollment. Thank you so much, seriously. Now I don't have to worry about my kids going broke in the event I need the care. All the best!

— Martin Sethwick, DWP

Glad to hear it, Martin! The Club offers the open enrollment for people just like you. While we caution that each case is handled individually and there are some restrictions, we're glad to be of service. And finally a reminder – the open enrollment period for Long-Term Care insurance product for DWP employees lasts just through June 30. There's no telling when the next one might come. So take advantage! – Ed.

Yet More Proof That Club Has Cheapest Tickets in City

Last week I took the family to the movies, and instead of paying \$12.50 per person I just paid six bucks, thanks to the Club! Keep up the cheap prices, guys!

— Bernard Warshaw,
Transportation

Hi Bernard, it's our pleasure! It's no secret that the Club has the cheapest tickets in the City. Keep on buying them; we'll get more! – Ed.

Semper Fi and Congratulations From One Marine to Another



Dear Club, I just wanted to give a shout-out to Brian Arias and his mom, Maria Sarmiento. Brian was featured in last month's *Alive!* for having just graduated from the Marine Corps boot camp. I was in the Marines for four years, and I know the hard work that it took to graduate. Again, a big congratulations and hoo-rah!

— Angel Gomez,
Club Director of Sales

To Tell the Truth, Story on Polygraph Was Ray's Favorite

My favorite part of the newspaper is reading the feature story every month, and when I saw the story on the [LAPD's] Polygraph Unit, I have to

say that this one is my favorite! The interview with Leonard Salcedo was so interesting that read it several times! I especially liked the commentary about the myth of polygraphs and how they are not administered the way television shows portray them.

— Ray Volero,
General Services

Recent Club Special Event Was Really a Magical One

My family and I went to the Magic Mountain private party [hosted by the Club in May], and it was *amazing!* We had a wonderful time. The lines were short, and we were able to get on all the rides we wanted that evening. The Club really knows how to appreciate City employees. We look forward to going again next time!

— Rhea Jones, LAFD

You weren't alone in your thoughts, Rhea. As usual, the Club's Magic Mountain private party was another complete sellout and another great promotion put together by the Club's Ticket Gal, Rachael Brecher. We love offering these kinds of specials to Club Members. Keep on the lookout for all our future plans. – Ed.

Chef Larios Cooked Plate of Warm Feelings for Earth Day

Hey Club! I wanted to thank you guys for being at the Earth Day program April 21. Your staff was lively and full of spirit! Do any of you have bad days? You guys are always so chipper and happy! I even had a chance to meet Chef Larios, and he was gracious enough to give me his autograph when I asked for it, even when the line to the Club table was 50 people long! Thank you!

— Jackie Gomez, Transportation

Only at the Club Store!

Play Club Store Trivia!

Answer the question correctly, and you could win free movie tickets

This month's question:

In the late 1950s, this park on the ocean was built and intended to compete with Disneyland. What was the name of the park?

Answer:

Pacific Ocean Park

This month's winners:



Leonard Mayagoitia,
General Services,
22 years of City service



Carl Jones,
Transportation,
32 years of City service



Angela Peavy,
Housing,
7 years of City service

Others who played:



Margarita Guevara,
LAPD, 17 years
of City service



Maricela Olmedo,
LAPD, 10 years
of City service



Sherwin Vigilant,
LAPD, 9 years
of City service



Michelle Brown,
Public Works,
28 years of City service



Sergio Valdepena,
Public Works, 13 years
of City service



Cheryl Shanks,
Transportation,
15 years of City service



Ruben De Los Rios,
DWP, 5 years
of City service

Here's how it works:

When you walk up to the Club Store Ticket Counter, you might be asked a trivia question. If you answer it correctly, you'll be entered into a drawing. Every month, we'll give away a pair of movie tickets to three people who gave the correct answer. The winners of the movie tickets are chosen at random; winners can choose tickets to any movie chain the Club Store carries.

- No purchase necessary.
- New questions are introduced toward the beginning of the month.
- Winners aren't eligible to play again for six months, please.
- The Club Store Trivia is available only in person at the Club Store. Only Club Members in good standing are eligible to participate.

The Club Store

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Rosa Calderon,
Personal Insurance Agent



Patty Pulido,
Personal Insurance Agent



Rose Rangel,
Personal Insurance Agent



Suzanne Eggli,
Personal Insurance Mgr

APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE

Representatives from Club partner, United Agencies will be at the Club Store:

June 2 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rosa Calderon

June 9 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Patty Pulido

June 16 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rosa Calderon

June 23 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Patty Pulido

June 30 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rosa Calderon

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(888)801-5522



LAFD

ALIVE! FEATURE

Going Nuclear

LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue Team simulates a radioactive emergency.

Members of the LAFD's California Task Force 1 enter the simulated contamination zone.



Photos by Tom Hawkins, Club Photographer, and John Burnes, Alive! Editor



Amid news of the catastrophic earthquake and subsequent nuclear power crisis in Japan, the LAFD, along with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), held a mock emergency response exercise May 6.

The exercise was held at Fire Station 88 in Sherman Oaks.

The simulation wasn't on that grand of a scale – instead of a nuclear power plant crisis (as in Japan), the LAFD staged a response exercise following a mock earthquake and leak from a radiological facility at a hospital, such as a nuclear medicine facility.

Groups from the main LAFD USAR Team – California Task Force 1 – put on special hazmat suits and went into “rescue” a “victim” or two.

The details follow in the next section.

The LAFD USAR Team

The Los Angeles Fire Department staffs multiple Urban Search and Rescue response teams designed to provide a coordinated response to disasters in urban environments. The response consists of six Type I Heavy Rescue Units plus California's USAR Task Force 1 (CA-TF1). All these teams are designed to provide a coordinated response to disasters in urban environments. Emphasizing locating and extricating victims trapped in collapsed structures, confined spaces, or trenches in largely populated areas, these resources are capable of responding to all local, State and National disasters including earthquakes, hurricanes, widespread tornadoes, and man-made technological and terrorist events in largely populated areas.

The LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue Program is under constant pressure to train, improve, and provide flawless service to the community and the nation. When the public needs help, they call 911 and firefighters respond with courage, knowledge, skills, and abilities. When the firefighters need help,

The “victim” awaits.



- CONTINUED, PAGE 8



Club CEO John Hawkins (right) confers with the LAFD's Deresa Teller, Club Member and head of the K-9 unit of the USAR team, after the simulation exercise involving the rescue dogs.

LAFD

THE Earthquake Simulation

THE SETUP:

There has just been a major earthquake, and a medical warehouse lies in ruins. Victims are trapped in the rubble, and they must be rescued. And one area of the warehouse contains nuclear medicine supplies, so a radioactive leak is suspected.

The LAFD's California Task Force 1 is assigned to perform the rescue.

The USAR team is fully equipped and ready for the rescue simulation.



1 Gathering at a Staging Area

The USAR team gathers at a staging area.



Going Nuclear, CONTINUED

they call USAR.

The Los Angeles Fire Department staffs three levels of urban search and rescue teams. The first is categorized as a Type 1 heavy rescue company. The LAFD staffs six type 1 heavy task forces throughout the City. These companies are capable of the initial attack and in many cases, resolution, of any technical rescue situation.

If the rescue extends beyond the initial attack, the LAFD is developing a Regional USAR Task Force. This Regional Task Force is a 29-member team capable of maintaining continuous operations beyond the initial attack.

For large-scale incidents, the LAFD staffs a self-sufficient 70-member task force. This task force (CA-TF 1) is one of eight in the State of California and is a key component of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) response plan. In addition, CA-TF 1 is one of the 28 FEMA task forces responding to events of national significance.

These units provide structural collapse, trench, confined space rescue capabilities throughout Los Angeles. In addition, these units provide heavy rescue capabilities for the entire Southern California region as part of the OES mutual aid system. ■

LAFD Urban Search and Rescue Team

National Response Team

Here are just a few of the many national deployments of the LAFD's California Task Force 1:

Sept. 11, 2001	World Trade Center terrorist attack
Feb. 3, 2002	2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah (disaster prevention)
Sept. 2005	Hurricane Katrina
Sept. 2005	Hurricane Rita
Sept. 2008	Hurricane Gustav
Sept. 2008	Hurricane Ike

2 Putting on the Gear

Special radioactive-resistant plastic suits are worn. Once they are put on, these are completely sealed from outside air.



Masks and breathing apparatuses are secured. Team members used completely self-contained breathing apparatuses until they can determine the level of radiological contamination.



– continues, page 10

THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW



The Future Is Now



On May 16, *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewed Capt. Steve Hissong, the program manager of the LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue program, to talk about the just-completed radiological emergency simulation. The interview took place at Fire Station 88 in Sherman Oaks. – Ed.

Alive! Thanks for welcoming us today, and to the exercise a week ago Friday. Let's talk about that disaster preparedness exercise. Explain what that was.

CAPT. STEVE HISSONG: That was part of an exercise we do with our California Task Force One, a FEMA [Federal Emergency Management Agency] Urban Search and Rescue national response team. It's a collection of all of our Los Angeles City Fire Department members from all around the City who are part of an urban search and rescue team. We respond nationally to different types of disasters or anything that might be happening. For example, we responded to the World Trade Center in New York. We responded to Salt Lake City for the Winter Olympics. We've gone to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Ike, Gustav. So we've gone to several significant disasters nationally, but they're also a collection of people from our City who specialize in urban search and rescue.

How often do you do these kinds of exercises?

We try to do them at least every two years. It's very difficult for us to get all these members together. We have a red, a white, and a blue team, and we try to get all of them together at least once a year, or every other year at least, to do some kind of a large-scale exercise and work on what would happen if we got a request. It's a method of exercising everything from our call-out all the way through the actual exercise and then cleaning up all the equipment and ready to go for the next one.

How many personnel would be on each of those three?

There are 70 members assigned on that team, and that team is broken down into the different disciplines, from the taskforce leader to the plans chiefs, through the rescue members themselves. There's a HAZMAT component, and then there's the search component. So all of these components comprise one team.

Do you move staff on and off of the taskforce? How does that work?

The team members that are in each one of those disciplines, they start out by getting a certain level of training of the urban search and rescue discipline, and then we might send them through more specialized training. I went through the national training system and got elevated training for each one of those specific disciplines.

Most of the members that are on this team, they do it because of their love and passion for the urban search and rescue discipline. It's a voluntary program. It's not something that they are elected to do. The longer they're on the team, we try to keep elevating their level of training.

And who does your level of training? Is that FEMA?

Most of the training is sponsored through FEMA, yes.

It's a First

Have you done an exercise for a radiological event or a nuclear event before?

No, this was the first time we've ever exercised that component of it. When we were in Salt Lake City for the Winter Olympics, we were preparing for some type of a disaster that had to do with chemicals or a terrorist action, but we've never actually exercised getting into the suits and actually doing an exercise hands-on while we're in those suits.

Are they done frequently throughout the country, or were you the first in the country to do this?

There are actually 28 FEMA Urban Search and Rescue teams throughout the country. We are the first one out of all of those 28 teams to actually exercise it hands-on. There have been

– continues, page 11

LAFD

THE Earthquake Simulation, continued from page 9

3 Vital Signs

Before the rescue team is completely suited up, the vital signs of each member must be recorded as a baseline; conditions within the suits can become oppressive within minutes.

The team member's pulse, blood pressure and temperature are taken.



The small yellow instrument on the left (the team member's right shoulder) is a dosimeter, which measures the levels of radiation that member is exposed to during the mission.

4 To the Rescue

Ready for action! Now completely suited up with masks, radios, dosimeters and breathing apparatuses, the four-man rescue team makes its way to the simulated emergency location.

The team brings a stretcher for any potential "victim."



- continues, page 12

THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW, – continued from page 9

a lot of concepts that have been prepared in how they would respond and how they would act, but nobody has ever actually put the suits on and actually worked in them like we did.

So that was the first exercise of a task force in the United States for a nuclear emergency?

Yes.

Was this prompted at all or spurred on by the earthquake and nuclear emergency that happened in Japan?

Well, ironically, we started our planning exercise back in January. So the preparation [had begun] in concept. And then when the earthquake happened in Japan in March, it actually solidified the reason why we have to exercise this hands-on. The exercises that we were planning were actually prior to the earthquake. It just made more sense afterwards that we really need to exercise this part of the discipline that we've never done before.

FEMA was here. Was FEMA here both to participate and to judge, or just to participate, or just to judge?

They weren't here to participate. They were here as evaluators. We had evaluators that came from the different taskforces, and they observed our taskforce, because the funding for this is provided by the state of California. FEMA [and the other evaluators] came here to evaluate our team, our effectiveness, but they were also learning just as much as we were. Their teams have never done this before. It was a learning experience for both our team as well as the members that came to evaluate it. They're going to go back to their teams and try other things also.

The Simulation

Now tell me what we were looking at during that exercise. What was different to what they normally do – what they wear or their procedures – to prepare for a radioactive incident rather than a nonradioactive one?

That's a good question, because when we deploy on a normal disaster, for example, we monitor the air to ensure our safety. At the World Trade Center, there were a lot of dust particles within the air, so we wore respiratory protection. Going into an environment like this with the radiological isotopes, there's something more that we have to wear to protect our skin as well as our respiratory. Those suits that you saw – they're almost like a plastic suit. They don't ventilate air, because they protect the skin. So not only are we in an environment where we're wearing a plastic suit that doesn't allow your skin to breathe, we're also working in confines of small, confined spaces.

If you look at, for example, our LAFD HAZMAT teams, when they wear those kinds of suits, they're going in typically to test what kind of chemicals might be there and how they can prevent them from expanding farther. But that team is not into any kind of typical rescue operation. For this exercise, we took two separate disciplines and merged them.

Containment and human rescue?

Exactly, which we've never really done that before. So you're in a suit that doesn't allow your skin to breathe, and yet you're going into these small, confined-space areas to breach the concrete so we can extract a victim. You're doing that in very, very hot environment that wouldn't allow your skin to breathe. It was very stressful on the individuals that were in that environment because they were just exhausted by the time they got out.

Is there a time limit on how long they can be in an active rescue, or an active operation?

That was part of what we were looking at when we were doing this exercise – exactly how long could an individual be in that suit before we just have to say, "That's enough." We learned that right about 30 minutes is about the length of time we want anybody in that suit. Obviously the temperature, the weather itself, is going to alter that a little bit longer or a little bit shorter.

And this is for men who are in really good shape.

Yes.

For 30 minutes, you can just imagine how taxing that would be.

Yes. Some of our members on Thursday [the first day of the exercise] were in the suits around 45 minutes to 50 minutes, and just that extra 20 minutes was just absolutely exhausting for them. The 30-minute mark was a point where they could get out of the suit and still be able to recover in a somewhat [regular] timeframe and be able to go back into it if they needed to, if we had to have a cycle. But by 45 minutes to an hour, they were just exhausted to where they almost couldn't recover in time to try to work them again.

I see. It was that taxing.

Exactly.

Is there an electronic vital sign monitor that sends the data back to a central station? How do you monitor the vital signs during the mission?



Capt. Steve Hissong (left) explains the simulation to *Alive!* editor John Burnes.

'We learned that right about 30 minutes is about the length of time we want anybody in that suit.'

Not ongoing. That was one of the things that we're trying to evaluate – how we could better monitor our individuals without just physically doing it by monitor.

We monitor them prior to going into the suits. We take all their vital signs, and then as soon as they get decontaminated – they go through what's called a decon process, getting cleaned up to make sure they don't have any exposures on themselves. As soon as they get out of that decontamination tent, then we monitor their vitals again. So we're assessing them right before and exactly right after just to make sure that they're okay. Maybe we might need to put an IV in them and try to get some more fluids back into them.

A Limited Exercise

This wasn't the scenario of a Japan, where a nuclear plant had possibly leaked radioactivity. This was more a contained thing.

Yes. The scenario itself was actually a medical warehouse that had collapsed. We had a scenario of two lost victims still inside, and we actually had radiological sources so the detectors actually detected radiation levels.

You did? In that concrete box?

Yes. So the team was actually detecting real radiation inside that environment.

But to answer your earlier question – like any other rescue operation, you have to take it in small grids, and you break it up into small areas. To do a scenario like Japan would take more teams than just one team. You'd have to break it up into small grids, and then prioritize where your most potential victims might possibly be, and then you narrow that down into the one or two buildings that might have a potential rescue operation.

I presume it was a small amount of radioactive material that you used.

Very small, very safe. But [enough so that] the radiological detectors [could] actually pick up a level of radiation in them.

Lessons Learned

What did you learn?

It was a huge learning improvement for us because we've never done anything like this before. The field of urban search and rescue and hazardous materials are usually two very distinct disciplines. To merge those two together, where we had to work hand in hand, took a little bit of learning, too. We had to make sure that our rescue people didn't go in too soon before they actually got their detections and made sure that the environment was safe.

So we were looking at those components working together. We were looking at working in those suits that we had and what the duration of timeframe was. And it gave us an opportunity to really exercise our team, our FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Team, in that discipline that we've never done.

When we go out the door as a FEMA Urban Search and Rescue team [nationally], we're also going with a specific cache of equipment. We're allowed to take only so much equipment. We had to practice with the amount of equipment that we could actually be taking with us. We don't have a continuous supply of equipment like we would here inside the City of Los Angeles. When we go to, for example, New York, when we went to Texas or Biloxi, [Mississippi], we were self-contained, and we brought all of the equipment with us. [In this exercise,] we wanted to make sure we knew exactly what we could and couldn't do.

What was in the decontamination shower?

It was just a little bit of soap and water. Soap and water are one of the main decontamination solutions that we use for just about anything.

Even in a nuclear situation, it's still soap and water?

That's correct.

The breathing apparatuses – do they do any kind of radiological filtering? Are they equipped to do that?

We used two separate types of respiratory protection. We were using an actual self-contained breathing apparatus, where they had tanks on them. And then once they determined what the level of radiation was, then they were able to lower the level of protection down a little bit and used just a filtered system. Those filters are small enough or restrictive enough to reduce any kind of particles to get into their air systems, even on a radiological environment.

But with that being said, they also had to test for a level of radiation that could be detected. For example, in Japan, they had very, very high levels of radiation. The protective suits and everything that we wore allowed us to go to a certain level. It wouldn't have meant that we could have gone into the very core of the radiation leak like they were having at the nuclear plants there. We determined what level of radiation there is and what protection we could have to get up to that level [of protection]. Anything beyond that, even we can't go into it because it would be too high for those suits to protect us.

So what you wore on Friday would not have been sufficient for the levels that they saw in Japan.

That is correct.

What can regular citizens take away from this? I would imagine that L.A. is better protected now because we have more knowledge than we did two weeks ago.

Communities can walk away from this exercise knowing that they're protected, that if anything happens that we can come and protect not only them but we can get to them on almost all levels. Having that comfortable feeling knowing that their department is there to protect them no matter what is a pretty comforting feeling. I'd like to hope that they would all be able to walk away from

LAFD

THE Earthquake Simulation, continued from page 10

5 In the Hole



The USAR rescue team reaches a concrete conduit. The team is very careful not to puncture their suit with any of the dangerous edges or rebar.



Before heading in, the team uses a Geiger counter to check the levels of radioactivity.



At the other end of the conduit lies the "victim."



6 Rescued!

The rescue team makes it through the concrete conduit and rescues the "victim."



7 Radioactive Exposure Check

After completing its mission, the USAR team returns to base camp and the members are checked for exposure to radioactivity.



8 Decontamination Shower

Team members then go through a decontamination soap-and-water shower for neutralization and cleaning before the special gear is removed and a second set of vital signs is taken.



9 K9 Exercise

The earthquake simulation also included a USAR K9 search and rescue unit.

Part of the simulation included a scenario where the K-9 was exposed to radiological material. Above, a member of the decontamination team (in the beige protective suit) decontaminates the K-9 (the exposure to nuclear materials was simulated and not real).



The LAFD search and rescue dog finds the earthquake "victim."



THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW, continued from page 11

this exercise knowing that if we had a radiological environment, like they did in Japan or San Onofre with the reactors that they have there, we can come in and still be able to do our job.

That's a safe feeling!

That's the biggest point here – that the communities and the City of Los Angeles know that their fire department is there for them – and for our nation. I hope that they can be proud of us.

A Big Deal

This was a big deal for our national security, wasn't it?

It was. This was big for us as a department to exercise this part of our abilities, but it was also big because I think it really helped the community. It helped anybody that wanted to know: Are your departments prepared for this kind of an incident? All of the people on this FEMA Urban Search and Rescue team are still the same firefighters that respond daily on responses throughout the community in Los Angeles City. Everything we exercised there for the radiological test are things that we're prepared to do right now in our own neighborhood. It was important that people knew what kind of level of training we were doing, not for just a national disaster but right here in our own backyard.

That's a good point. But conversely, what you learned a week ago Friday is now going to be taught throughout the rest of the country – maybe even the world.

Yes. The training taught other taskforces what they need to do. The lessons that we learned from it, other teams are already taking away from it and learning it right away so they don't have to start from Square One like we did.

Great Crew

Talk about your crew and their courage, and what they have to go through in these sort of uncharted territories.

Our crew, within our fire department, is some of the best of the best. They're the elite. Because Urban Search and Rescue is more of a volunteer-type discipline, it definitely brings out the individuals that truly have the passion to go beyond just firefighting. And that's what this level of team is. It's the elite members of this fire department who collectively come together to provide a higher level of protection, a higher level of rescue and extraction for people. It's from members all around the City of Los Angeles

Fire Department. They're not just all at one fire station. They all come together collectively to build a really cohesive team in this discipline of urban search and rescue.

The Future Is Now

Radiological material is nasty stuff. Did you ever think that this would be something that you'd have to deal with?

No. When I joined the department, I was just ecstatic to get onto the fire department. To be part of the Los Angeles City Fire Department was one of my all-time goals. And in 1990, I started progressively getting into swift water rescue, and urban search and rescue. At that time, we did not have a FEMA Urban Search and Rescue team that responded nationally. That wasn't until 1998, when we actually implemented our team. When I was able to go to New York and provide a service to the community of New York as a national responder, that was something I'd never even dreamed of when I first got on this job. It was a very strong sense of satisfaction knowing that we were able to go beyond just the communities of Los Angeles.

To another level – to provide a radiological extraction, providing safety to us, but also to the community – was not something that I ever thought of when I got on this job. But it's a pleasurable feeling knowing that we can provide that service if we need to.

Radiological material has to be a tough challenge.

Yes. And it's a scary one, too, because it's not something you see. For example, when we fight fires, I can feel the heat levels. I can see the fire. I can see what the dangers are when I'm getting into an area that's getting more and more risky. Radiological environments – I can't see it. You have to know that you're in a bad environment, and all I have to depend on is a radiological detector to tell me that this is really bad.

It's satisfying to know that I'm in a career that helps other people, and to take that to another level is even that much more gratifying.

I had hardly ever heard of radiological environments, or radiological incidents, in my 25 years. But the day that we were having the exercise, on Friday, there was actually an incident at Pierce College where two people were exposed to a radiological environment in a vault. So not only were we suiting up, preparing our members to go into this environment in a training scenario, but members of our fire department were responding to almost an identical situation right down the street. It was very strange and almost surreal, in the sense that we had members that were responding to an incident that was almost a carbon copy of our training environment.

That's unbelievable. And so you suited up for the Pierce College incident the way you did for the training exercise?

Not exactly. They were able to downgrade the level of radiation and contain the environment much easier than we did within our environment in our training scenario. But the response of the companies that responded into that scenario was almost exactly the carbon copy of the response that we were coming into. We just elevated our levels higher for the training exercise. But it was very surreal in the sense that we were listening to this on the radio and watching us actually suiting up and listening to them on the radio on an incident that was so identical to ours.

So you see them rising in frequency?

Yes. People are sending more medical, radiological isotopes that are packaged. We're always on the alert when we see the different types of packages. People send things through the mail that they don't always identify.

And the LAFD is who they call.

Correct.

You're on the other end of that call. And that's why you're prepared.

Yes, indeed.

Great. Thank you so much for your time. We really appreciate it.

Well, I appreciate you coming out and allowing us to talk about it. ■



Capt. Steve Hissong (right) and *Alive!* editor John Burnes.

THE CLUB

Ticket Gal Goes Back in Time

The Club's Ticket Gal, Rachael Brecher, took advantage of the Club ticket discount and visited the Renaissance Faire. "We had a lot of fun," she says. "Well worth the price of discounted admission."

The fair's closed now, but there are lots of other great Club specials. As always, the Club offers the cheapest tickets in town. See the Ticket Page at the back of this issue of *Alive!*



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John Hawkins, Club CEO

John's Picture Perfect Contest

WIN \$25 Walmart Card
 NEXT DEADLINE: June 15
 Happy Snapping!



"I never understood the big deal about the Eiffel Tower, until I stood at its feet. I captured this image not only of an awesome sight, but of a breathtaking moment."

- Julie Cuttrell, General Services, Retired

John's comments: Julie, this is truly a wonderful photo of a beautiful structure. To think that it almost wasn't built due to so many Parisians being against its construction; they thought it would destroy the skyline. *Au contraire!*



"This is a picture of my mom's house in Alhambra with a double rainbow over it."

- Renee Ramirez, LAFD

John's comments: There's nothing like a double rainbow! You don't see them very often, but when you do they are awesome! (I also like double rainbow ice cream!) Nice shot, Renee!



"This photo was taken in Hawaii on the island of Oahu during spring break. We were celebrating my granddaughter SaNae's birthday and her excellent report card. We had a wonderful time. She hiked to the top of Diamond Head volcano. Due to some old back injuries, I could not undertake the trek, but she did. It was the highlight of her trip. And she has the certificate to prove it."

- Debora Fore, Retired

John's comments: Ahhhh, Hawaii, one of my favorite places of all time. And you really captured SaNae in a beautiful setting – the lighting is magnificent. Nice work, Debora!



"We saw this gorgeous cloudscape from the road while heading toward Big Bear in February."

- Robbie Horvath, Public Works

John's comments: Robbie, what an interesting cloud formation. But what makes this shot a winner is the contrast of the darker land mass; it really makes the blue sky and cloud pop!

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

Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



1 Virgin Islands

The adventures of **Mike Boyd, Public Works/Sanitation**, continue:



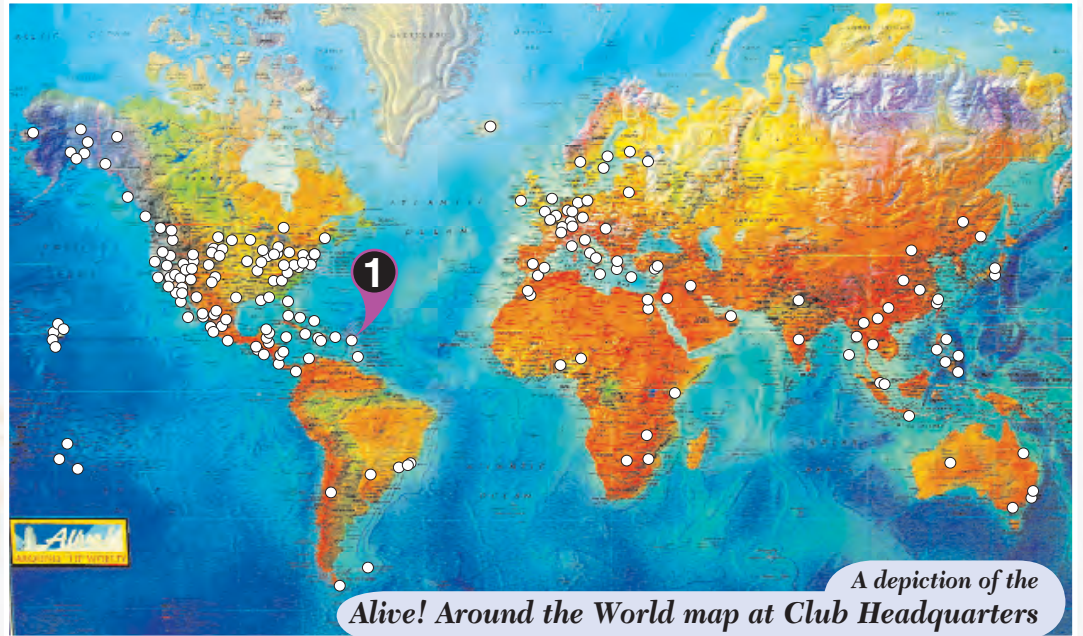
In St. Croix at a national monument celebrating the armed forces of the United States.



On Maho Beach, where the planes fly very low to land at the St. Martin airport.



In Barbados with guide Marvin.



A depiction of the *Alive! Around the World* map at Club Headquarters

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!

Take the Club with you, wherever you go! Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you **holding a copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

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GENERAL SERVICES

Thanks to Public Safety

General Services recognizes top performers.



From left: Officer Kim Bendimez, who was recognized for the most felony arrests, with Lt. Payan, who presented the certificate.



From left: Officer Victor Carrasco, awardee, with Lt. Lucas, who presented the award.



From left: Receipt of Commendations of Appreciation: Officer Victor Carrasco; presenter Chief Newton; and Officer Miguel Maria.



From left: Officer Michael Hwang took three recognitions – Most Impounds, Most Field Release Custody and most Misdemeanor Arrests, with Lt. Beutell, who presented the awards.



From left: Officer Steven Wyno, who received recognition for felony arrests, with Lt. Lucas, who presented the award.



From left: Chief Newton; Officer Alejandro Diaz Valle in receipt of his Commendation of Appreciation.



Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Operations

General Services dedicated a meeting to recognizing its officers with the highest track record over the course of the year.

The meeting was held May 11 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge in Elysian Park.

The top performers and awardees were as follows:

- The Councilmember Greig Smith Award, presented by Lt. Mayorga, went to Veronica Sanchez and Alejandro Diaz Valle.

Investigative Reports, presented by Lt. Payan:

- Garrett Stults, top achiever
- John Wynott
- Spencer Chow
- Lev Shaibi

Parking Cites, presented by Lt. Payan:

- Rodrick Soriano, top achiever
- Kenneth Yha
- George Ebroyan

Impounds, presented by Lt. Lucas:

- Michael Hwang, top achiever
- Ignacio Ruiz
- Ed Maxian
- John Wynott
- Paul Hernandez

Personal Service Citations, presented by Lt. Lucas:

- Victor Carrasco, top achiever
- Garret Stults
- Reynaldo Masangkay

Release Field Custody, presented by Lt. Beutell:

- Michael Hwang, top achiever
- Victor Carrasco
- Daniel Diaz

Misdemeanor Arrests, presented by Lt. Beutell:

- Michael Hwang, top achiever
- Steven Wyno
- Jason Marquez

Dangerous Weapons, presented by Lt. Ingal:

- Steven Wyno, top achiever
- Alejandro Diaz Valle
- Jason Marquez
- Veronica Sanchez

Felony Arrests, presented by Lt. Ingal:

- Kim Bendimez, top achiever
- Justin Tombar
- Jason Marquez
- Steven Wyno

Commendations, presented by Chief Newton and Capt. Montgomery:

- Victor Carrasco, Class "C" Commendation of Appreciation
- Miguel Maria, Class "C" Commendation of Appreciation
- Veronica Sanchez, Class "C" Commendation of Appreciation
- Alejandro Diaz Valle, Class "C" Commendation of Appreciation
- David Bomer, Class "C" Commendation of Appreciation

Medals, presented by Chief Newton and Capt. Musquiz:

- Sgt. Joseph Tafoya, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Manuel Elorriaga, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Felipe Graciano, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Joseph Orlanes, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Gilardo Vizcarra, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Ronald Armstrong, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Isaac Burciaga, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Alejandro Diaz Valle, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Louis Ortega, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award
- Francisco Sarabia, Class "A" Commendation, Lifesaving Award

Congratulations to all those commended, and to all in the Office of Public Safety for keeping us safe in the City!

Special thanks go to Alice Sturdy for her assistance in producing this article.



Chief Newton places a Lifesaving Medal on 10 officers, including Officer Francisco Sarabia.



From left: Don Taylor, Sr. Lead Officer, 23 years of service and Officer John Keers, 20 years of service.



From left: Javier Barragan, Sr. Lead Officer, 8 years of City service; and Robert Payan, Lieutenant, 23 years of service.



Officer Molden, Public Safety Officer and photographer.



John Hisserich, Council Member Paul Krekorian's Office.



Kevin Regan, Assistant General Manager, Rec and Parks.



From left: Lydia Marquez, Sr. Clerk Typist, 15 years of City service; and Enriqueta Albidrez, Clerk Typist, 5 years of service.

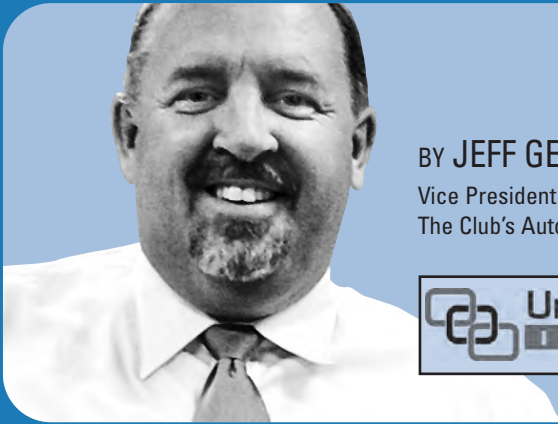


From left: Chief Newton; Carmen Trutanich, City Attorney; Tony Royster, General Manager; and Capt. Musquiz.



From left: Capt. Kevin Montgomery, Officer Francisco Sarabia, Sr. Lead Officer Joseph Orlanes, Sr. Lead Officer Manuel Elorriaga, Sr. Lead Officer Phil Graciano, Chief Gary Newton, Officer Isaac Burciaga, Officer Alejandro Diaz Valle, Sr. Lead Officer Gil Vizcarra, Officer Luis Ortega, Sgt. Joseph Tafoya, and Capt. Richard Musquiz.

REST INSURED



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



When Not to Submit a Claim

Sometimes things happen that are a bummer, but not that major of a problem. How do you know whether or not you should bother submitting an insurance claim?

First, let's talk about auto insurance claims. These claims are a little tricky, so it's important that you follow prudent advice.

The insurance company has the right to adjust your claim to the best of its ability. If you get involved in the claim and make things worse, the insurance company has a right to deny all coverage instead of helping you out. This is frequently the problem with people who try to handle their own claims.

Say you are in a parking lot and back into someone who is also backing out of their spot. The only damage is a broken taillight on the other car, so you say, "Oops, my fault," and offer to replace the taillight. A few days later they call you, and you write a check for \$125, thinking the matter is resolved. Then you get a notice in the mail six weeks later from an attorney saying that the person suffered "Trauma to the neck and upper torso upon impact with your vehicle," and they are suing you for \$15,000. If you turn the claim over to the insurance company at that point, they might claim that you broke the terms of your policy by not reporting the claim "in a timely manner" after the incident, and deny coverage.

A simple rule to follow is: If there is anyone on, in or near the car, or the police are called for any reason, then turn in the claim!

But if there is not even the slightest possibility of someone submitting a bodily injury claim, then you may want to consider paying the claim yourself.

Comprehensive coverage covers losses arising from, among other things, fire, theft, vandalism, and impact from flying objects. These claims generally do not affect your premiums. Collision coverage covers losses as a result of a collision with anything attached to the earth's surface. These claims mostly likely affect your premiums depending on the degree of fault attributed to you.

The other area for us to consider is homeowner's claims.

Keep in mind that you bought insurance to help you pay for damage to your property. Not everything is covered, but since you bought the coverage you should

not hesitate to use it when you need it. Insurance companies are heavily regulated by the state they operate in, and just like any business, they prefer happy customers over angry ones. Keep this in mind when deciding whether or not to submit an insurance claim.

Not surprisingly, insurance companies are allergic to claims. With increasing frequency, they are adding surcharges on premiums at renewal (or some may even drop your policy altogether) for a single claim in the past year.

Homeowners insurance companies have been struggling financially over the past few years, so they've been trying to get back on track by boosting premiums and dropping customers that cost them a lot of money. As a result, many homeowners insurance companies won't renew your coverage if you submit just two small claims within a few years. Because of this, it's best to avoid filing a small claim.

A good rule of thumb is, don't submit any homeowner's claim worth \$1,000 or less, or if your deductible is higher than \$500, then use 1.5 times your deductible as the rule.

Another thing to consider is the "second claim." Most carriers will not cancel you for having one claim, but many will consider doing so if you have two claims in a three-year period.

To get some benefit from taking on so much of the risk yourself, raise your deductible to at least \$1,000. Some folks with decent emergency funds are even increasing their deductibles to \$2,500. Raising your deductible from \$250 to \$2,500 could cut your premium by up to 30 percent!

If you have one claim in 10 years that costs the insurance company \$10,000, you will probably remain in good standing with them as long as you pay your premiums.

Insurance agents are required to inform the insurance company of any claim that we know about even if it isn't submitted to them as a claim. Every time you call us, we are obligated to say, "You need to submit this to the insurance company."

Be safe and have fun!

United Agencies is the Club's partner is 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.

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.

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

CA License # 0252636

LAPD

Women Officers Symposium

LAWPOA hosts training and development symposium.



Story by Arlene Herrero,
Club Products Manager;
Photos by Angel Gomez,
Club Director of Sales

More than 450 attended the Los Angeles Women Police Officers and Associates (LAWPOA) Professional Training and Development symposium. The event was held March 22 at the Kyoto Hotel and Gardens.

The Club was a gold-level sponsor of the event.

Congratulations on another successful symposium!

Thanks to Sgt. John Vasquez and Det. III Deborah Gonzales, both Club Members, for their assistance and invitation.



From left: Elizabeth Ochoa and Deborah Hernandez.



At the registration table, from left: Venus Pelaez, Toni Diaz, Club Member, and Leticia Loredo.



Club Product Manager Arlene Herrero explains the benefits of joining the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.



Opening remarks were delivered by LAWPOA President, Det. III Deborah Gonzales, Club Member.



Host was Mary E. Grady, Public Information Director, LAPD.



The keynote speaker was Dr. Gary Namie, "The Work Doctor," on "Workplace Bullying: Correction and Prevention."



The National Anthem was sung by Officer Rosalind Curry, Club Member.



From left: Officer Tanya Rodda; Jeff Cox, Career Development; Michelle Weiler, MAII, Post Liaison Unit, Club Member; Crystal Garcia, Bard College; and Anna Ruiz, Clerk Typist, Post Liaison Unit, Club Member.

FREE MOVIE TICKETS!

When your review gets published.

– SEE PAGE 51

THE CLUB

Club Scholarship Deadline June 30!

Time's running out! Applications for Club Scholarship are available online and at the Club Store.

Deadline is noon, June 30, 2011.



Pick up your application for the Joannie Mukai Memorial Club Scholarship at the Club Store, or download an application today! The Club's scholarship program is named after the late Club Board Member Joannie Mukai.

The 2011 Mukai Club Scholarship Program, which expects to grant 10 awards, is now accepting applications.

All materials must be physically in the Club Store and Service Center downtown, 120 W. Second St. by noon, June 30, 2011.

Ten college scholarships are available. Each recipient will receive a stipend of \$1,000.

Those eligible include Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2011.

"We know that college is very expensive, and we want to do something special to meet the challenge," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "We expect to offer 10 awards."

"Every year, we're amazed at the quality of the applicants. We expect this year to be even better."

You can pick up an application at the Club Store and Service Center, 120 W. Second St. downtown, or download an application at: www.cityemployeesclub.com/scholar.asp

"We fully support the dedication of our Club families to taking care of the educational needs of themselves and their children," Hawkins contin-

ued. "We want to help them in every way possible. We look forward to giving back."

Eligibility requirements:

- All Club Members and their spouses, and children of Club members under the age 25, are eligible to apply. Club members must be in good standing.
- The successful candidate must attend an accredited four-year college or university full time in the fall semester 2011. Current high school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in Fall 2011 are eligible.
- Candidates will be judged for academic excellence, community service and financial need.
- Ten (10) scholarships are expected to be awarded, in equal amounts of \$1,000 (each).
- Deadline: Applications must be in the Club Store and Service Center, 120 W. Second St. downtown, by noon June 30, 2011. All applications must be physically in the Club office at that time to be eligible. Sorry, but the Club is not responsible for delays in delivery.
- Decisions will be made by Club personnel and will be considered final.
- Club Store and Service Center address: 120 W. Second St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Send questions to: scholarship@cityemployeesclub.com



Sabrina Amaro received a stipend last year as part of the Club's Scholarship Program.

Congratulations, GRADUATES

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

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

Make sure you tell us:

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

Digital photos are preferred. Send them to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

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

to: **Grad Photos**

**City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 W. Second St., Los Angeles, CA 90012**

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



LAPD

Ten Awarded Medal of Valor

Police Dept. honors ten with its highest medal for bravery in the line of duty.

Stories and photos courtesy LAPD

The LAPD was scheduled to honor 10 of its finest as part the department's Medal of Valor ceremony.

The event was scheduled to be held May 26 at the Grand Ballroom at Hollywood and Highland. LAPD Chief Charlie Beck was scheduled to give out the awards.

This year's honorees:

- Det. Rafael Acosta
- Officer Benjamin Aguilera
- Officer Owen Berger
- Sgt. Dan Gardner

- Det. Daniel Hanabusa
- Officer Custodio Ponce
- Officer Roy Reza
- Officer Rudolph Rivera
- Officer Jose Salazar, and
- Officer Thorsten Timmemans.

The stories of their bravery follow.

The Medal of Valor is the LAPD's highest honor and is awarded to officers who distinguish themselves by conspicuous bravery or heroism above and beyond the normal demands

of police service. To be awarded the Medal of Valor, an officer would have performed an act displaying extreme courage while consciously facing imminent peril.

The medal is awarded by the Board of Police Commissioners and is presented by the Chief of Police in the name of the Department at the annual Medal of Valor awards ceremony. The award consists of a medal, ribbon, and citation. The Medal of Valor was first presented in 1925, and the awards ceremony is made possible thanks to the generosity of the Los Angeles Police Foundation.



Officer Custodio Ponce

■ Gang Suppression

On Feb. 1, 1996, Officer Custodio Ponce and his partner, both assigned to the Hollenbeck CRASH Unit, were on routine patrol for gang suppression. They were on patrol in the Ramona Gardens Housing Project when they saw a male drinking from an open bottle of beer on the street. Officer Ponce's partner recognized the suspect and knew him from a prior contact.

The suspect began to walk away when he noticed the police vehicle approaching. Officer Ponce put the vehicle in reverse and drove past the suspect to tactically position the vehicle in front of the suspect. As the suspect approached the intersection of Murchison Street and Lancaster Avenue, he took out a gun and aimed it at the officers. The suspect ran around the corner and out of view.

Immediately Officer Custodio Ponce gave chase, driving the vehicle around the corner into a driveway. The armed suspect continued running when he slipped and fell on the pavement. Believing this would be a great opportunity for them to detain the armed suspect, Officer Ponce stopped and exited the vehicle. He deployed to

the front left fender of the vehicle. The suspect stood, turned toward both officers and began shooting, shattering the window of the front right door. Officer Ponce's partner returned fire at the suspect.

Unbeknownst to Officer Ponce, he did not put the vehicle in park, but instead he had put it in neutral. Officer Ponce's partner began to exit the vehicle when the vehicle started rolling backwards, knocking him to the ground. The suspect continued his attack on the officers by firing at them as he tried to escape. Officer Ponce, with his cover rolling backwards, and the armed suspect simultaneously continuing his attack on both him and his partner, quickly looked for additional cover but was unable to find any.

Officer Ponce, in defense of his life and the life of his partner, returned fire at the suspect as he looked for additional cover. The suspect continued his attack on the officers as Officer Ponce moved to a block wall to reengage the suspect. Both officers fired additional rounds at the suspect. The suspect dropped to his knees and spun around the corner out of the officer's view.

Officer Ponce repeatedly ordered the suspect to the drop his gun. The suspect failed to comply and fired several more rounds. Officer Ponce fired back several rounds at the suspect who dropped the gun and collapsed to the ground.

Officer Ponce's partner put the vehicle in park and put a broadcast call for backup and approached the suspect. Officer Ponce and his partner took the suspect into custody without further incident. The suspect was taken to a nearby hospital where he died.

Officer Ponce was taken to the hospital. He sustained gunshot wounds to his left hip and left leg, above the knee, and received wounds to both hands from glass fragments. The 9-mm bullet had barely missed the spinal cord. Due to the position of the bullet, doctors decided not to remove the bullet from his left hip, and Officer Ponce was released a few days later. After only a month, Officer Ponce returned to full duty.

Officer Custodio Ponce's outstanding teamwork, communication skills and tactical expertise enabled him to prevail during a life-threatening experience.

OFFICER OWEN BERGER, OFFICER THORSTEN TIMMERMANS, SGT. ROY GARDNER

■ 'House of Horrors'

In the early morning hours of Nov. 7, 2007, Officer Owen Berger and Officer Thorsten Timmermans were working Southeast Area patrol. The officers received a radio call of a man with a gun and two hostages inside the location. While responding to the call, they asked for a better description of the suspect but arrived at the scene before they could be given one.

They exited their car and noticed the front of the home was completely dark. At that time they met with Sgt. Roy Gardner, and all three approached the house together.

The officers made their way down the side corridor of the house and into the backyard. They saw that the back door was standing open and three women had exited the house. The officers then identified themselves and approached the women. The women told the officers the suspect was gone and everything was alright. Doing their due diligence, the officers told them they still had to check the house.

Suddenly, one of the women turned and ran back into the house. Officer Berger, fearing for the safety of the woman and disregarding his own, ran into the house after her. Officer Timmermans followed his partner after stopping a second woman from going inside.

Once in the house, Officer Berger saw the woman go through a bedroom and into a hallway.

As he cleared the bedroom and entered the hallway, he now saw the woman in an adjoining hallway with a man holding her. As he confronted the man, he noticed movement down the darkened hallway. Suddenly shots rang out as he came under fire from the suspect who was hiding.

The suspect fired two shots at Officer Berger, one of them hitting him in the right arm and penetrating through it. After being hit, he was able to move into a nearby bathroom for cover.

Sgt. Gardner heard the shots and ran into the bedroom where he fired several rounds at the suspect. Officer Timmermans heard the shots as well but was unable to see the suspect because of a wall separating the bedroom and hallway. He then saw a muzzle flash at the corner of the doorway from the bedroom hallway and realized

the suspect had moved forward and now had a barricaded shooting position. The suspect was now firing toward the bathroom where Officer Berger was.

Fearing for his partner's life, Officer Timmermans fired his weapon through the wall in an attempt to stop the suspect or force his retreat from his position. The suspect did move and began firing back through the wall at Officer Timmermans.

Knowing Officer Berger was hit and despite numerous rounds being fired through the wall at him, Officer Timmermans moved to the doorway in an attempt to locate his partner. Not able to find him, he moved to the backyard.

Moments later, Sgt. Gardner exited the residence with Officer Berger. All three safely exited the premises, broadcast a help call and a perimeter was established. The suspect was later taken into custody without further incident.

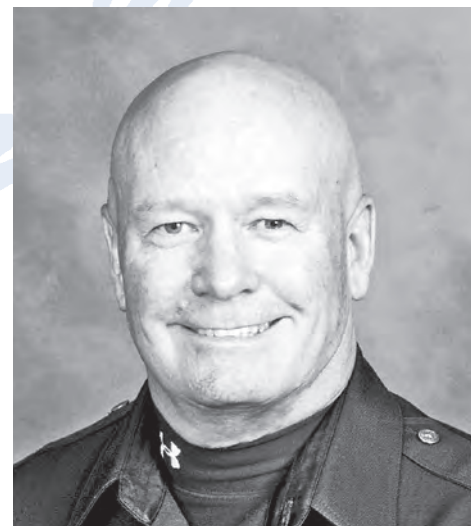
Officer Owen Berger, Officer Thorsten Timmermans, and Sgt. Roy Gardner are commended for their courage under fire, teamwork, and dedication. Their heroism, gallantry, and remarkable resiliency are traits not found in your average individual. It is these qualities and actions that make them worthy of the Department's highest honor.



Officer Owen Berger



Officer Thorsten Timmermans



Sargeant Roy Gardner

**DET. RAFAEL ACOSTA, DET. DANIEL HANABUSA, OFFICER RUDOLPH RIVERA,
OFFICER JOSE SALAZAR, OFFICER BENJAMIN AGUILERA, OFFICER ROY REZA**

■ Search Warrant Shootout



**Detective
Rafael Acosta**



**Detective
Daniel Hanabusa**



**Officer
Rudolph Rivera**



**Officer
Jose Salazar**



**Officer
Benjamin Aguilera**



**Officer
Roy Reza**

This incident put a group of officers in danger in a shootout in a small dark room, never knowing how many armed suspects they were up against or their exact location. Their actions define courage and heroism.

On June 25, 2008, Hollenbeck's Enforcement Detail had been conducting surveillance for three days in preparation for a search warrant. The officers were waiting for the right combination of dangerous street gang members from the Krazy Ass Mexican criminal street gang to assemble at the location that was suspected of manufacturing and selling illegal narcotics including cocaine, crystal methamphetamine and PCP. Police surveillance had observed narcotics sales activity. Longtime gang members had been very active in the location, so the surveillance team called to have the search warrant served that afternoon.

Det. Rafael Acosta, Det. Daniel Hanabusa, Officer Rudolph Rivera, Officer Jose Salazar, Officer Benjamin Aguilera and Officer Roy Reza, along with seven other officers, assembled and planned to serve the search warrant.

The Narcotics Unit had studied the location and suspects' actions to the finest details. The plan covered every detail and included the use of a rented bobtail truck to conceal their approach to the location. Each officer's individual role and activity during the service of the search warrant was planned. The entry team was very well aware of the dangers of confronting members from this particular gang.

The officers put on their gear and climbed into the rear of a rented bobtail truck. The team truck drove slowly into an alley behind the target location, a fortified bungalow with surveillance cameras. At the front of the entry team was Det. Hanabusa, followed by Officer Salazar, followed by Det. Acosta. Next was Officer Aguilera, and the tail was Officer Rivera. When the suspect refused to allow the officers to enter, the door was breached using a tool to break through the door and enter the rear door's threshold. Officer Reza was assigned to stay outside and secure the perimeter of the residence.

The sequence of events unfolded in less than 30 seconds. Each individual officer and the suspect's actions happened simultaneously. The heroism and decisions made by these officers during this intense event came under the most stressful of conditions. With complete disregard for their own safety, each officer displayed the highest form of sacrifice and bravery to protect his fellow brother in law enforcement.

Det. Hanabusa was the first to go through the door that led into a tiny dark kitchen. Immediately and without warning, he came under attack by heavy gunfire. Det. Daniel Hanabusa's ballistic helmet was struck by gunfire just above the right eye, which knocked him to the ground. While on the floor in a seated position, Det. Hanabusa returned fire when a second shot struck him on the left knee.

The suspect, whose exact location the team of officers were unable to determine, was crouched down, hands wrapped around a gun.

Officer Salazar observed the suspect firing his pistol and Det. Hanabusa down on the kitchen

**Each officer is
recognized for their
heroism; unwavering
bravery in the line of fire;
quick reaction; and
making sound decisions
that saved lives and
avoided other injuries.**

floor. Officer Salazar walked toward the suspect holding his service pistol, firing six to seven rounds at the suspect from a decreasing distance. Det. Hanabusa yelled, "I'm hit, I'm hit." When Officer Salazar saw that Det. Hanabusa was shot and unable to move, he kicked into rescue mode. Det. Acosta entered the tiny kitchen and heard Officer Salazar yell, "Officer down." Officer Salazar reached down and grabbed Det. Hanabusa by the back of the vest and shirt collar and began to drag him away from the gunfire. As he pulled him toward the rear door of the dark kitchen, Officer Salazar continued firing at the suspect with his free hand.

Det. Acosta observed the rescue efforts begun by Officer Salazar. Det. Acosta saw muzzle flashes coming from where the suspect stood and fired two to three rounds of cover fire for Officer Salazar and Det. Hanabusa. Realizing Officer Salazar needed assistance pulling Det. Hanabusa out of the narrow kitchen doorway, Det. Acosta

stopped shooting, reached down and pulled Det. Daniel Hanabusa across his position, then fired four more rounds at what he believed to be multiple suspects firing at them.

Officer Aguilera stepped into the kitchen as Det. Hanabusa went down. Officer Aguilera observed muzzle flashes and felt rounds coming by him. Although he was unable to see the suspect, Officer Aguilera fired one single round of cover fire as Det. Hanabusa was dragged through the dark kitchen. Officer Aguilera backed out of the doorway to make room for Officer Salazar and Det. Hanabusa.

After Officer Acosta exited the kitchen, Officer Rivera observed the armed suspect in the kitchen doorway, firing his pistol at the officers as they were exiting the location. Officer Rivera, in defense of the lives of his partners and of his own life, moved towards the gunfire and fired at the suspect a total of three times. He then moved toward the rear of the location to an area of cover.

When he heard the exchange of gunfire, Officer Reza immediately put out an "officer needs help" call over the radio. When he heard Det. Hanabusa yell he had been shot, Officer Reza left his position of cover and crawled along the perimeter of the outside kitchen wall, past the bullets being fired over his head to reach the wounded detective and pull him out of the kitchen into an alley outside the location.

At the rear of the location, the officers began to render aid to Det. Hanabusa until a rescue ambulance arrived to treat and transport him to a local hospital. Det. Hanabusa sustained a single gunshot wound to his left knee.

The armed suspect took his own life with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. The investigation revealed the suspect had fired a total of eight rounds from his .45 caliber pistol. He had also sustained multiple non-life-threatening gunshot wounds to his left hip and left ankle. A second suspect inside the residence surrendered to police officer shortly after the shooting ended.

Each officer is recognized for their heroism; unwavering bravery in the line of fire; quick reaction; and making sound decisions that saved lives and avoided other injuries. Each officer responded like the highly trained professionals they are to ensure the public's safety. Each officer also displayed sound tactics and communications skills that resulted in a team effort to extract a wounded officer.



LAPD MEDAL OF VALOR

History Comes Alive!

Tales From the City Archives



by Hynda Rudd
City Archivist (Retired)
and Club Member

IN MEMORIAM:

Dr. Doyce Nunis Jr.

■ The City has lost its pre-eminent local historian.



Dr. Doyce B. Nunis Jr.

Historian Doyce Blackman Nunis Jr., distinguished teacher, author, editor and beloved dean of the southern California community of scholars, died Jan. 22. He was 86. He had been in failing health for the past year.

Professor Nunis began his lifetime of service as a teacher at El Camino College, where he quickly attained tenure. He was then offered the post of field historian at UCLA, assigned to locate and acquire manuscripts and papers and to create a program in oral history. He subsequently accepted a professorship at USC, where he continued teaching history and heading the department for the rest of his academic career. He was the recipient of USC's Award for Teaching Excellence and more recently he was given USC's Distinguished Emeriti Award.

He was a passionate advocate of original research, setting an example for his students in using primary documents including personal letters, journals and public records to construct an understanding of the past. He pursued his research through the nation's libraries and collections, going to St. Louis for the materials relating to the fur trade and to Baltimore for early railroad papers. As a Guggenheim Fellow in 1964, he searched in London through documents of the Hudson's Bay Company and went on to search the files of the London Public Records Office,

the archives of the House of Lords and the papers at the House of Commons. He drew upon these materials to write his first book, *Andrew Sublette, Rocky Mountain Prince, 1808-1835*. In all he authored more than 70 articles and wrote or edited more than 40 books.

His subjects ranged from the history of the frontier west to the history of science and medicine to American political thought. He was fond of the art and architecture of the European Renaissance and traveled widely to appreciate it firsthand. He was devoted to the opera, chamber music and the symphony, giving substantial support to the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra.

Doyce had a special fondness for working with the collections of the Huntington Library and in turn brought to the staff's attention many newly discovered documents, including the papers of Los Angeles pioneer, Benjamin D. Wilson. He was given the archive by Wilson's granddaughter, Anne Wilson Patton, sister of General George S. Patton. Recognizing the value of the collection, Doyce requested that the gift go to the Huntington Library, where it would be available to future generations of scholars.

Professor Nunis supported the Historical Society of Southern California for decades, serving as editor of the society's scholarly publication, *Southern California Quarterly*, for

As the reader shall see, Dr. Doyce B. Nunis Jr., a retired professor of history at the University of Southern California and the most knowledgeable historian of local interest, has died. He was truly a renaissance man in every sense of the word. Not only was his expertise of California history broad-based, but he gave to the local community, namely the City and County of Los Angeles, outstanding and everlasting contributions in book form, including *Los Angeles and Its Environs in the Twentieth Century: A Bibliography of a Metropolis, 1900-1970*, which was updated from 1970 to 2000 and can now be found on the University of Southern California's database.

Doyce was very involved with the City. A giant among scholars, he assisted me when I had an idea that a history of Los Angeles City government from 1850 to 2000 needed to be written. He was the first person I contacted with my concept. After much discussion, we called for an advisory board to meet for further exploration. It was then decided the history of this monumental City government should be looked at, as a work-

ing whole, through the different departments that truly give this government its total personality. Many of these agencies, bureaus and offices of today were seen originating as committees as far back as the 1850s, when the City of Los Angeles had very humble beginnings. The two-volume history of our City government is titled *The Development of Los Angeles City Government: An Institutional History, 1850-2000*. Dr. Nunis wrote the prolog.

He also gave of his time very generously when this newspaper, *Alive!*, did a feature story in October 2006 on the 250th birthday of our City. That issue of *Alive!* features a great interview with him. If you don't know much about the City's history, or you want to dispel some of the common myths about the City's founding, I recommend you read it for a good, basic knowledge.

The following comes from the original memorandum. It was written by Patricia Adler-Ingram, Ph.D., Executive Director, Historical Society of Southern California.

— Hynda

43 years. He was founding chair of the Santa Barbara Mission Archives and of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at San Fernando Mission. His service in the preservation of the archives was recognized by Pope John Paul II with the order of Knight Commander of the Pontifical Order of St. Gregory.

He was a committed student and interpreter of the documents relating to the Spanish colonial era in the southwest, editing a bilingual reference book, *The Founding of Los Angeles: A Bilingual Edition*, for publication by the Historical Society of Southern California.

For this work and an earlier anthology titled *Southern California's Spanish Heritage*, King Juan Carlos II of Spain bestowed on him the Orden de Isabel la Católica.

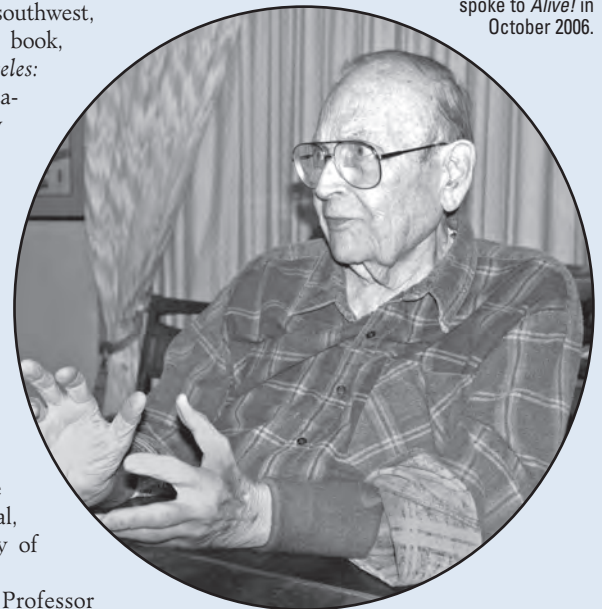
Professor Nunis was an officer of the rare book collector's organization, the Zamorano Club, of the Westerners' Los Angeles Corral, and of the Historical Society of Southern California.

In a recent interview Professor

Nunis said, "I have found historical research to be an unending chain of questions with one link drawing you on to the next. It is a grand pursuit."

A Memorial service was held at the Chapel of Saint Vibiana in the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Los Angeles Feb. 18.

Dr. Doyce Nunis spoke to *Alive!* in October 2006.



THE CLUB

Club Cruise: Don't Miss the Boat!

2011 Mediterranean Cruise
12-night cruise from Barcelona to Venice on board the Nieuw Amsterdam

- Barcelona, Spain
- Monte Carlo
- Livorno/Florence/Pisa, Italy
- Civitavecchia (Rome), Italy
- Messina, Italy
- Nafplion, Greece
- Katakolon/ Olympia, Greece
- Corfu, Greece
- Dubrovnik
- Venice, Italy

Travel Europe and explore some of the most magnificent port of calls around the Mediterranean.

See Page 16

For more information on this cruise, please contact our Club Travel Expert.
Kristy Adler
Club Travel Expert
CRUISE and RESORT, Inc.
kadler@cruseandresort.com
Tel. - (818) 990-4290 or (888) 652-6400, ext. 101
C19W050330-40

Club Members are signing up for greatest Club event ever – a Mediterranean cruise! Act now and get a great Club deal!

This October, you and your fellow Club Members and families can cruise Club style! And if you act now, you can lock in an excellent rate and a great Club benefit!

Come along on the 2011 Mediterranean Club Cruise, a fantastic 12-night adventure aboard Holland America's *Nieuw Amsterdam*. See Barcelona, Monte Carlo, Rome, Greece, Venice... and more.

If you book by July 1, you can get \$100 in shipboard credit, courtesy the Club! See the ad in this issue for all the details. Don't delay!

CONVENTION CENTER

Earth-Aware Students

Convention Center presents third "earth-aware" event for high schoolers.



Convention Center staff and high school students at the Earth Aware event.

Story and photos courtesy Xiaochu Hu, Convention Center

On April 28, the Convention Center managed its third annual "Earth Aware... Doing Our Share" community event at the Santee Education Complex. Roughly 300 biology and chemistry students attended the event and participated in educational earth-friendly activities in support of environmental awareness. The morning kicked off with a ceremonial tree planting with Councilwoman and Club Member Jan Perry.

Councilwoman Perry gave the students a brief but inspiring talk about her environmental initiatives and participated in the planting of a new shade tree on the school grounds. The Convention Center's Chief Engineer, Rey Castro, gave the students a brief lecture about the LEED certification process and the Center's solar program. Afterwards, students visited the various display booths. Convention Center staff set up booths focused on LEED certification and water conservation efforts. The DWP was on hand to educate students on water and power conservation. Convention Center's Executive Chef, Brett Lewis, prepared three types of salsa from organic fruits and vegetables for students to taste. The ingredi-

ents were donated by Fresh Point Organic Foods. After receiving a stamp at each booth, the students received a commemorative Earth Aware T-shirt.

Pouria Abbassi, Convention Center General Manager and CEO, and Phillip Hill, Assistant General Manager and Chief Operating Officer, addressed students about the importance of environmental initiatives and community involvement. They also participated in the dedication of the new tree, which was planted by student volunteers.

The students signed a poster board, which will be displayed in the offices of the Convention Center.



Santee students display the T-shirt they received at the Earth Aware event.

Healing Children

Bienvenidos is a compassionate community of care dedicated to healing children and their families.

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This ad is possible thanks to the generosity of Terrance Yeager

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BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2011

Results of

Baker to Vegas: A Race in the Desert



This year's edition of the grueling footrace sees a number of City teams do well.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager; Photos by Arlene Herrero and Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

The annual Baker to Vegas Relay Challenge Cup was held April 16-17. This was the Club's seventh year of sponsoring City teams; this year, the Club sponsored four teams: LAPD Communications, Port Police, LAPD Gang Narc/IA/EOD/FID and LADOT/G.S.P.D. This amazing foot race is an annual

event for public safety organizations throughout the world. The relay race is a 120-mile, 20-stage foot race between Baker, Calif., and Las Vegas and is considered the "Super Bowl" of law enforcement and the champions are the best, in terms of physical fitness and logistics the police world has to offer. The race was created by and is man-

aged by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, and the City Employees Club is grateful for their leadership. The overall winning team was the LA Sheriff's Dept./MCJ, which took first place in the Open Category and finished the race in 12 hours, 53 minutes and 37 seconds. This year, 261 teams created more traf-

fic on the racecourse, creating a challenge for us to shuffle back and forth for the pictures. Thanks to the teams we sponsored for sharing their experiences. Special thanks to Anita Whited, Officer Alex Castillo, Officer John Long, Lisa Pallares, P3 Tom Deluccia, Chuck Foote, Officer Tony Adler and Milan Romero.



Go!

OFF THEY GO!



Club Product Manager Arlene Herrero takes names down for the photo captions.

RUNNING RUNNING RUNNING

Port Police Team

Sr. Lead Officer Alex Castillo, Port Police, reports:

"Our Los Angeles Port Police Baker to Vegas Team was motivated and excited to compete for another 'mug' this year. We believed we had a faster and stronger team than in previous years. However, the extreme heat of Death Valley caused one of our runners to fall out in Leg 3. Our runner suffered from heat exhaustion and was airlifted to a nearby hospital for treatment. According to our follow vehicle support staff, our runner was .2 miles away from the finish line when he began to run in place. The strange stop from him moving forward and running in place surprised our alternate runner, who jumped

out of the vehicle and noticed that our runner was not responsive. Before losing consciousness, our runner was put inside our follow vehicle and taken to medical staff. Medical staff for Baker to Vegas determined he suffered from heat exhaustion and was airlifted to the hospital. Luckily for our Police Department, that officer was treated and cleared on the same day with no significant injuries. This caused us a 10-minute penalty, which is the first penalty our Baker to Vegas Team has ever received. We missed the mug by approximately 13 minutes this year. But we are determined to come back strong next year (2012) and mug again."



Team 132: Sgt. Glenn Twardy, Club Member, on Leg 2, consisting of four miles.



Team 132: Port Police Officer Phillip Heem, Club Member.



Team 132: Port Police, from left: Det. Ed See, Club Member; Officer William Yocham, Club Member; Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Leg 1 Runner, Club Member; Lt. Mike Kettelkamp, Club Member; and Officer Rudy Meza, Team Captain, Club Member.



The Team 132 Port Police follow-vehicle crew.



Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Club Member, is off to a great start for Team 132 Port Police.

BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2011

the Big Race



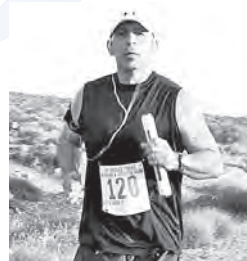
Top, from left: Dana Tipton, Officer Kendra Williams, Lt. Edward Trahan, Officer Mark Corral, Team Captain Officer Alfonso Lagos, Lt. Joaquin Mendez, Assistant Chief Michael Hyams, Airport Police Chief George Centeno, and Officers Hans Bergmann, Tom Pendola and Jerome Evans, team co-captain. Bottom: Officer Gerard Kilayko, Sgt. Floyd Johnson, Officer Starla Reader, Officer Greg Iwamiya, and Officers Faramarz Farnia, Kimberly Ojeda, Miguel Lozano and Michael Ahumada.

Airport Police

Airport Police photos by Madeleine Flanagan.

Sgt. Belinda Nettles reports: "Airport Police entered in the 'Mixed' category, which consists of five women and 15 men per team. We placed 15 out of 26 teams in our category, with a time of 17 hours 30 minutes and 41 seconds. Airport Police was 116 out of a total of 262 teams, an improvement in the completion time of the race. The team will

continue to strive for a Relay Cup. A special acknowledgement is extended to Officer Starla Reader. She was the number one female on leg 15, a 5.5 mile run, rated the fourth most difficult leg to run of the 20-stage race. Her time was 47 minutes and 45 seconds, only three minutes more than the current female record of 44 minutes and 34 seconds."



Officer Mark Corral, Club Member.



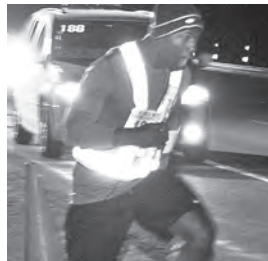
Officer Sur, Club Member.



Officer David Ayala, Club Member, hands off the baton to Officer Adela Lopez, Club Member.



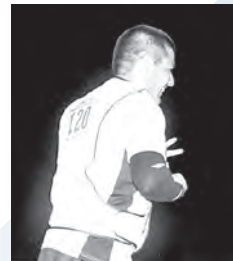
Baker to Vegas Captain, Officer J. Evans, and Sgt. Sam Pittman (with camera).



Officer Raymond Woods, Club Member.



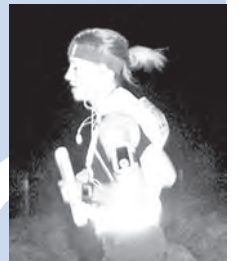
APD Canine Officer Kendra Williams-Quiros, Club Member.



Officer Ciro Benitez, Club Member.



Officer Miguel Lozano, Club Member, passes the baton to Officer Gerard Kilayko, Club Member.



Officer Starla Reader.



From left, representing LAX Police: Peter Trance, P3, Club Member; Officer Jennifer Camacho, Club Member; Madeleine Flanagan, Sr. MAI, Club Member; Officer Rosalia Olguin, Club Member; Leg 6 Runner Officer Kendra Williams, Club Member; and Sgt. Harold Evans.



Officer Greg Iwamiya, Club Member, crosses the finish line.



Team 120: Airport Police.



Officer R. Rouzan, Club Member, and Manahan, Club Member.



Officer Corral and Sur, both Club Members.



Team 120: Airport Police.



Officer Michael Ahumada and Chief George Centeno.

LAPD Combined Divisions

Dennis McNeal reports: "Despite the well-more-than 105-degree heat, the GND [Gang and Narcotics], PSB [Internal Affairs], ESD [Emergency Operations] and FID [Force Investigation] combined running team performed well. The team 'mugged' as they finished in 12th place (mixed invitational), a slight drop in placement compared to last year's race but a strong finish nonetheless.

"One frightening moment occurred at the end of the 1st leg of the race when runner Edgar Ramos completed his leg strong but then began complaining of pain. As it turned out, Officer Ramos became severely dehydrated and his body had reached a temperature of a soaring 104 degrees. The on-scene medics tried valiantly to reduce his temperature by placing him in a virtual bed of ice. That attempt proved to be not enough to reduce his temperature so he was immediately airlifted to a nearby hospital, where he was treated for his condition and

released a few hours later.

"Another highlight of the race was at the very end when it was time for retired Det. Ron Hodges to take it home. It seems to have been a tradition for the past few years to allow Ron to finish the race, as he is the most talented runner in our team. Don't let his mature handsome looks fool you. Ron should be coined "The GND Rabbit" because of his lightning fast speed... just ask all the young Officers he gracefully passed on the way to the finish line with his swat-dog smile.

"This was our first year to run with combined Divisions, who all gave it their best. We would also like to thank those people who worked as support and other behind-the-scene duties. Without their efforts, the performance of our team would not be possible.

"The team looks forward to next year's race with confidence, pride and tradition!"



Team 76: LAPD Gang Narcotics/IA/EOD/FID.



Team 76: A follow vehicle.



Team 76: Officer Edgar Ramos.



Club-sponsored Team 76 LAPD Gang Narcotics/IA/EOD/FID proudly shows off its mug!

BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2011

BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS



Team 200 LAPD Communications celebrates its victory and brings home a mug!



Team 200: LAPD Communications Team Captain Anita Whited, Club Member, on Leg 7 with 6.2 miles.



Team 200 LAPD Communications Maria Coronado, Club Member.



From left: Sr. PSR I Berta Ugas, Club Member, proudly holds the mug for Team 200 LAPD Communications with her husband, Sgt. II Delaney Jones, WELS/OMBUDS.

LAPD Communications

The Club's participation started seven years ago when then-Club Member Dan Basilgo and Club Member Anita Whited from LAPD Communications approached us to sponsoring their team.

Anita Whited reports about this year's entry: "This year's Communications running team once again proved to be one of the best teams ever to compete. Every team member showed up on time, ran hard, improvised and problem-solved when necessary. And necessary it was when the team follow vehicle broke down on Stage 13, leaving our runner having to depend on other teams for water. It took a group effort to get stranded teammates back to Las Vegas. Two personal vehicles at different times were

transformed to be the follow vehicle for the remaining seven legs of the race. The runners conditioned themselves properly to withstand the heat and hills of this race. They completed each leg strong, standing on their own two feet like true champions. We completed this race proudly, penalty free. Our entire team met the challenges, which were to come home safely, way under 200, penalty free, with a mug in our hands. Mission accomplished."



Surrounded by fellow runners and support is Capt. Justice, Team 200 LAPD Communications.



Team 200 LAPD Communications.



From left, representing LAPD Communications: PSR II Carlos Marsh, Club Member; PSR II Gloria Martinez, Club Member; and Sgt. Marc Archuleta, Leg 10 runner, with his wife, Gloria Archuleta.



Team 200: LAPD Communications follow vehicle.

LADOT/General Services P.D.



Team 148: A Transportation/General Services Police Dept. member as he enters the exchange.

"Team 148 [Transportation, General Services Police Dept.], comprised of officers from both departments, trained hard for this race. With a start time of 1 p.m., our team took off into the desert heat and completed the grueling challenge with no penalties, no injuries and a final time of 18 hours and 2minutes! We placed 19th out of 30 teams in our category and 153 out of 259 overall."

GO! GO! GO!



Club-sponsored Team 148 Transportation/ G.S. P.D outside the Hilton Convention Center.



Team 148: A Transportation/General Services Police Dept. member surrounded by his friends and family who came to cheer him on.



Team 148: Transportation/ G.S.P.D at the finish line.



Team 148: Transportation/General Services Police Dept., from left: Al Armijo, Retired; Sgt. Ilona Wade, Club Member; Traffic Officer Art Ledesma, Leg 15 runner; Leg 1 runner Traffic Officer Luis Hernandez, Club Member; Leg 2 runner Officer Lisa Jones, Club Member; Volunteer Frances Williams; and Support Team Coordinator Sgt. Diana Armijo.



Team 148: Transportation/General Services.

BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS

BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2011

BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS



Team 77: LAPD Foothill station.



The race line.



Team 102: Chuck Foote will start the race for his team, LAPD (Retired) Team McTaggart, as he listens in on the baton announcement.



Team 102: Chuck Foote is closely monitored by his follow vehicle.



From left: Chuck Foote, Team 102 LAPD (Retired) Team McTaggart; and Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Team 132 Port Police, Club Member.



Team 93: LAPD Wilshire Area.



From left: Officer Mark Corral, Club Member, looking energized to run another 7.5 miles, with Sgt. Sam Pittman, Airport Police.



Team 103: Hollenbeck alongside Team 200 Sr. PSR1 Berta Ugas, Club Member.



Team 65: LAPD Topanga Station.



Early on, the teams are within a short distance of one another.



Team 262: Maria Davalos, P2, LAPD Women's Team.



Team 110: LAPD West Valley.



Team 90: LAPD Mission Station.



Team 90: LAPD Mission.

THE HOME STRETCH



Team 151: LAPD Pacific Station.



Team 151: LAPD Pacific Station.



From left: Assistant Chief Mike Hyams, catcher for Officer Mark Corral, Leg 8 runner, Club Member.



Team 125: LAPD PAB on Leg 3.



Yul Johnson, Club Member, catches runner Quincy Mirage, Club Member.



Team LAPD: Topanga Station.



Team 161: City Attorney on Leg 3.



Team 134: LAPD North Hollywood Station.



Team 114: LAPD Metro Black.



Team 103: Hollenbeck takes off on Leg 6.



Medics were busy as runners filled the beds under the medic tent.



Team 115: Jail Division Leg 2 runner.

BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS

BAKER TO VEGAS RUN 2011

BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS



Team 132: Los Angeles Port Police at the fishing line.



DOT Officer Milan Romero, Club Member, is congratulated for finishing.



From left: PSR II Sharlene Sutherland, Club Member; PSR II Kiyoko Clemons, Club Member; PSR II Donelle Nubia, Club Member; and PSR II Teresa Azevedo, Club Member.



Team 18: LAPD Metro Blue at the finish line.



Police Chief Charlie Beck enters the finish line area.



Team 102: LAPD (Retired) Team McTaggart. LAPD Chief Charlie Beck had the honor to run to the finish line.



From left: Dep. Sara Pineda; and Transportation Training Officer Milan Romero, Leg 20 runner, Club Member with his wife, Debbie.

FINISH LINE



From left: PSR II Randi Miller, Leg 19 runner, Club Member; and Lyman Doster, P3.



Team 77: LAPD Foothill Station has a runner sprinting to the finish line.



From left: Club Board Member David Muraoka and his wife, Laura, both retired with LAPD Jail Division and come out to support Team 115 LAPD Jail Division.



Team 115: LAPD Jail Division at the finish line.

BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS

HURRY!**CLUB INSURANCE**

FINAL MONTH



for Long-Term Care

Open Enrollment

(for DWP employees only)

Apply now for this rare opportunity for Active DWP Employees to apply for Long-Term Care insurance – with no physical required – runs now through June 30.



The clock is ticking on a great opportunity for DWP employees to apply for Long-Term Care insurance!

Everyone should have Long-Term Care insurance. And from now through June 30, the Club is hosting an open enrollment period for Active DWP Employees to sign up.

An open-enrollment period means that most of those who apply for this affordable product will be accepted. Don't miss the chance – the Club hasn't had a DWP Open-Enrollment period for Long-Term Care insurance since 1999. So be sure to take advantage!

What is Long-Term Care insurance?

It's insurance that pays you from \$1,000 up to \$5,000 per month, depending on which plan you apply for, should you become incapacitated over a long period of time. The policies pay you for up to four years (if covered in a facility) or eight years (if covered at home). The policies pay the insured, so there's no need to send receipts back and forth to the insurance company.

Rates are affordable. There are some restrictions to who will be accepted into the plans. But most will be. It's a rare opportunity for Active City Employees to take advantage.

The Club's Open-Enrollment Period for Long-Term Care insurance takes place now through June 30.

LTC Seminars for the DWP: Take Advantage!

Two seminars remain before time expires. Find out about why Long-Term Care insurance from the Club is such a good idea for DWP Employees.



Downtown location!

June 9 and 16

Seminar Location:

Kyoto Grand Hotel
120 South Los Angeles St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Seminar Times:

8:30 a.m. • 1:30 p.m.

Reservations are necessary and can be made by calling (213) 225-1796 or email: info@cityemployeesclub.com



Applications can be completed at the seminars. Counselors will be on hand to assist you. The seminars will go step by step through the application process and calculation of rates.

Space is limited. Refreshments provided. Free parking at the hotel.

Seminars are open to all active DWP employees.

See you at the Long-Term Care insurance seminars!

Talk to your Club Counselor today! (800) 464-0452

Questions? Call the LTC Hotline! **(213) 225-1796**

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 **high resolution photos** with the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!*, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

Airports	Armando Nunez	Frederick Hand	Dammeron McBride	PW-Street Services	Gustavo Martinez Jr.	Other
Charles Fisher	Charlene Barnes	LAPD	Sarah Richardson	Michael Gutierrez	Rene Ochoa	William Alvarado
Humberto Garcia	Harbor	Nathan Baez	Gideon Tay	Langston Phillips	Jonlyn Rodgers	Marjorie Avila
Daphne Goss	Dory Boyd	Warner Castillo	Rachelle Williamson	George Watson	Ashli Wilbourne-Hamer	Andrew Bell
Tai Lee	Dwayne Boyd	Raymond Corrales	PUBLIC WORKS	Armando Gutierrez	DWP	Ricardo Campos
Maximino Quiroz	Kecia Brooks	Josh Fillingner	PW-Contract Administration	LaMar Williams	Stephen Bond	Mizraim De Luna
Rena Ravelo	Devon Dunham	Rene Gonzalez	William Benson	Diego Valencia	Sergio Chavez	Shannon Fisher
City Attorney	Glenford Gabourel	Chad Hall	Brian Lindsey	Rec and Parks	Carl Dunham	Patricia Gutierrez
Lori Kemp	Leigh Smith	Elodia Lopez	PW-Engineering	Jonathan Diaz	Marco Elizarraras	Arthur Hutton
Building and Safety	Olivia Tan	Peter Rosales	PW-Sanitation	Marcela Magallanes	Licia King	William McCarthy
Suneeta Atyam	Housing	Rashall Sanchez	Clark Tapia	Silvia Ruiz	Henry Lopez	Armando Navarro
Margarita Tuck	Barry Craddolph	Aaron Thompson	William Schafer	Liahna Terry	Arnold Moore	Chanda Peters
City Council	ITA	Sylvia Astengo	Doreen Mallyan	Transportation	Daniel Pacheco	Miguel Sanchez
Donna Currens	Frank Aguilera	Rhonda Brown	Sokhavibol Ty	Angelique Anderson	Robin Phelps	Henry Sierra
LAFD	Library	Tiffany Butler	Brandy Green	Marvin Bailey	Michael Ravel	Allen Smith
Mark McCracken	Rose Howard	Joy Cawthon	Damien Powell	Al Cohen	Retired	Sabi Valdez
Finance	Chanel Knight	Victor Encarnacion	Anthony Cardenas	Sergio Flores	Lynne Lynne	Monica Zarate
Micaela Cabral	Jose Lango	Monique Gross	PW-Street Lighting	Dorothy Fonseca	Donna Donna	
General Services	Planning	Camille Howard	Sylvester Fuentes	George Garcia		
Raymund Santos	Monique Acosta	Ryan Jackson		April Johnson		

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

Aldrete, Adolfo, LAPD, 22
 Albright, Clifford, Public Works, 30
 Brown, Nathan, DWP, 24
 Dinger, Charles, Public Works, 23
 Harper, Barry, Public Works, 22
 Naso, Gregory, DWP, 8
 Sandy, Dilys, LAPD, 21
 Stinson, O'Rell, Transportation, 23
 Willis, Danny, DWP, 31

Retired

Allsup, Donald, DWP, 16
 Berg, Robert, LAFD, 33
 Blyth, Robert, Public Works, 38
 Breetwor, David, DWP, 24
 Brinkley, Sylvia, Public Works, 39
 Brown, Isaiah, Public Works, 25

Canan, Lawrence, DWP, 18
 Clark, Richard, DWP, 28
 Crenshaw, Albert, DWP, 27
 Cuffee, Joe, DWP, 29
 De Guzman, Jesus, Controller's, 13
 Delgado, Guadalupe, Public Works, 36
 Doolin, Thomas, DWP, 32
 Duvall, Walter, Harbor, 31
 Ector, Linda, Airports, 28
 Eisenberg, Steven, LAPD, 30
 Golston, Damita, Public Works, 7
 Griffith, Clarence, Rec and Parks, 23
 Hamilton, Gene, Airports, 21
 Harris, Lyle, DWP, 36
 Heaton, Harold, DWP, 31
 Holleman, John, Library, 30
 Jessen, Isabel, ITA, 20

Johnson, Ezell, Public Works, 27
 Johnson, Richard, Transportation, 31
 Judy, Margaret, DWP, 16
 Kuebel, Nancy, CDD, 22
 Larson, Albert, Rec and Parks, 24
 Leonard, Earl, Public Works, 34
 Lynn, Lewis, DWP, 31
 Marusich, Juanita, Animal Services, 26
 Markowitz, David, DWP, 20
 Marquez, Larry, DWP, 20
 Mettler, James, Airports, 6
 Mihalina, George, Public Works, 24
 Minami, Betty, City Clerk, 33
 Moore, Mildred, DWP, 21
 Morefield, Warren, DWP, 32
 Muraoka, Ken, Rec and Parks, 26
 Novobilski, John, DWP, 27
 Peck, John, Public Works, 14

Porterfield, W.G., Public Works, 30
 Riola, Alexander, ITA, 30
 Ristow, Richard, Transportation, 31
 Rogers, Sandra, DWP, 32
 Romo, Arturo, General Services, 24
 Rosenbaum, Arthur, DWP, 48
 Rueda, Marcelino, LAFD, 10
 Savko, Michael, LAFD, 32
 Silk, Marcella, Library, 11
 Skidmore, Harry, DWP, 13
 Smith, James, DWP, 44
 Spence, Marion, Rec and Parks, 41
 Stoter, Jack, City Clerk, 9
 Tharpe, Willie, General Services, 14
 Turner, Ernest, Public Works, 33
 Vera, Tony, Public Works, 32
 Whaley, Robert, Public Works, 30
 Wilson, Mark, DWP, 19

Peace of Mind

Double Open Enrollment For DWP Employees

BY TIFFANY SY

The Club's Peace of Mind Expert



There is excitement in the air at the City Employees Club! DWP employees who are actively working can participate by the end of this month in our Open Enrollment for Long Term Care – and until the end of July for Life Insurance. Time is running out, so don't miss this opportunity!

What do you gain by participating in our Open Enrollment event? We've removed the multiple forms with questions about your health and medical underwriting (we know how much you enjoy filling out extra paperwork and completing diagnostic lab test, but we yanked it from the equation anyway).

Open Enrollment means no medical underwriting, so your benefits are guaranteed to issue! Our plan allows you the freedom to take this plan with you anywhere in the United

States to any board licensed nursing care facility, assisted living facility or in the comfort of your own home. Long-term care insurance (LTCi) is a type of insurance designed to cover the costs in the event you need assistance and offer protection against exhausting your assets and pension income. Our group-exclusive LTCi provides a monthly benefit toward nursing care facility services, assisted home care, or informal care, which are typically not covered by traditional health insurance or Medicare. The benefit is paid out as a monthly indemnity, in the form of a check payable to the insured and it is a non-taxable benefit.

The Long Term Care event is open to DWP employees only – spouses and parents are eligible to apply but will have to qualify through medical underwriting.

Our Open Enrollment for our Group Term Life insurance begins now until July 31 for active DWP employees. The good news is that we have also included spouses to enroll for up to \$50,000 of guaranteed life insurance coverage per person. You must be a City Employees Club Member and working for DWP during the time of enrollment. You and your spouse must be 50 years of age or younger to qualify. Also, you must not have been previously declined coverage, withdrawn or cancelled your application with the City Employees Club.

If you already have a life insurance plan with us, you may increase your life insurance by \$50,000 each. The total amount of coverage must not exceed \$200,000 of life insurance for each person. You are eligible to apply for more than \$50,000 – any amount over \$50,000 or

over \$200,000 total of life insurance will require medical underwriting.

Once this opportunity ends, it's over. This is not an annual event, so it won't be here next year or the following. To sign up, we've made it easy with a shortened form. To request an enrollment kit, please contact me at (213) 620-0388 ext. 202 or come see me at the Club Store where you get all your discount tickets and City Seal merchandise.

Long Term Care insurance workshops are offered at the Kyoto Grand Hotel adjacent to City Hall East. Seats are limited so book your spot today! See page 29 for times and dates.

Contact me at
info@cityemployeesclub.com



Graduations



Le'Lani A. Brown graduated from San Diego State University with a bachelor of arts degree, majoring in economics with a focus in pre-professional studies. She is the daughter of Roy Brown and Zara Madison. Zara works for DWP.



Matthew D. Carter-Lofton graduated from Cal State/Dominguez Hills with a bachelor's degree in communications and was a member of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity. He plans to become a sports announcer or an FBI agent. He's the son of Rondee Carter-St. Ange, LAPD.



Edward R. Cruz Jr. graduated from the University of Southern California with a bachelor's degree in architecture. Eddie won a Mukai Club Scholarship in 2006. He's the son of Maria Cruz, City Attorney's Office. *Congratulations from the Club, Eddie and Maria!*



Katie Adler is graduating with honors from Chaminade College Preparatory High School. She plans to attend Syracuse University, where she has been accepted into the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. She is the daughter of Dori Adler, LAPD Communications. *"Congratulations Katie! We are very proud of your many achievements. Love, Mom and Dad."*

Alive! is delighted to publish graduation photos of Club members and their children. Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Births



Mikayla Rose Cardoza, born in April to Anthony and Molis. Anthony is a Housing Inspector, Housing. Mikayla is the granddaughter of Gilbert C. and Lilly, and Cynthia C. and Frank. Grandad Gilbert is a Machinist Supervisor, DWP.



Caleb Luke Alvarado, born April 2 to Al and Rebecca Alvarado. Al is a Detective, Port Police. Caleb completes their "starting-five lineup," they report, joining siblings Amanda, Paris, Elijah, and Noah. "Our team is ready to play, and we couldn't be happier!"

Have a photo of a recent newborn? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Military



Does someone in your extended family serve their country as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard? Send us a photo – either formal or on duty, along with your name, City department and relationship to the subject. Send photos to *Alive!* in the Military, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Send digital photos to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Special Achievements



Bryan Sarfaty has announced his engagement to Cori Johnson. Bryan is the son of Ron and Jean Sarfaty, Club Rep, LAPD Communications. "Ron and I wish them both a lifetime of love, health, wealth and happiness," says Jean. Congratulations, Bryan and Cori!

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? Send to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Quinceañera

Have a photo of a recent quinceañera? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Weddings

Have a photo of a recent wedding? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Retirements

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Adauto, Robert	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	20	Hughey, Kenneth	Dep. City Attorney III	City Attorney	13	Norman, James	Ref. Coll. Truck Oper.	Public Works	23
Alvarez, Ruth Elenia	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	31	Ige, Wayne	Investment Officer	LACERS	23	Park, Ellen E.	Tax Comp. Officer III	Finance	29
Blunk, Mark R.	Chief Benefits Analyst	LACERS	34	Inouye, Robert	Pr. Admin. Asst.	Housing	14	Perez, Carlos	Truck Oper./One Man	Public Works	30
Briscoe, Jeffrey A.	Pr. Animal Keeper	Zoo	33	Itomura, Richard	Architect	Public Works	24	Rudolph, Tom W.	Welder	General Services	25
Dutton, Paula E.	Comm. Info Rep. III	Airports	15	Johnson, Richard	Str. Lit. Elec. Supv. III	Public Works	19	Ramirez, Ralph	Wast. Treat. Oper. III	Public Works	40
Frederick, Cornell	Ref. Coll. Truck Oper. II	-	35	Jones, Annie	Crossing Guard	Transportation	4	Shaw, Ronald Jose	Maintenance Laborer	Public Works	22
Germann, Carolyn	Librarian III	Library	16	Khawar, Saleem	Sanitary Engineer	Public Works	10	Suruki, Frederic T.	Occup. Trainee II	General Services	5
Gonzales, Lisandro	Financial Mgmt. V	Controller's	22	Lee, Mei Chen	Accounting Clerk II	Finance	26	Tate, Earnestine	Security Officer	LAPD	30
Guzman, Pedro Jr.	Equip. Mechanic	General Services	28	Levy, Deborah Joyce	Animal Keeper	Zoo	24	Thomas, Avis F.	City Att. Admin. Crd. III	City Attorney	30
Harbaugh, Lyle	Motor Sweeper Oper.	Public Works	14	Loe, Nancy Virginia	Pr. Librarian II	Library	21	Uyeda, Betty	Per. Records Supv.	ITA	15
Harvey, Hernando	Street Use Insp.	Public Works	37	Mayreis, Rex A.	Librarian III	Library	2				
Hill, Gwendolyn	Sr. Legal Clerk	City Attorney	24	McKinnon, Theresa	Council Aide IV	Council	31				

the pet club

Your friend is waiting for you!



The City Employees Club partners with Animal Services each month to showcase some of the pets that are available for adoption.

This Month's Pets For Adoption:

Layla

Layla is a 10-month, 7-pound Chihuahua/Jack Russell terrier mix whose family moved and could not take her with them. She is an inside-only dog who is friendly with people and other dogs.

ID #A1210096: South LA Animal Care Shelter.



fred

Fred is a 1-year-old, 44-pound boxer mix who was owner surrendered due to landlord issues. He is people-friendly, knows how to shake hands and walks well on leash!

ID #A1209223: South LA Animal Care Shelter.



bella

Bella is a 3-year-old, 14-pound, Lhasa Apso mix. She had a makeover at the shelter, and now she is ready for her new home! Bella needs a houstraining refresher course, but she is a lover and eager to learn!

ID #A1210108: South LA Animal Care Shelter.



Lulu

Lulu is a 5-year-old, spayed orange tabby. She is already litter-box trained and an indoor-only cat. She is very loving and looking for a new lap to snuggle on.

ID #A1209777: South LA Animal Care Shelter.



Snowflake

Snowflake is a 18-month-old white medium-haired cat. She is friendly and very social and looking for a new family to delight with her antics!

ID #A1208757: South LA Animal Care Shelter.



Meet Your New Hope coordinator!



All of this month's animals are available for adoption at the South Los Angeles Animal Care Center, 3612 11th Ave., Los Angeles 90018. **Tomika Johnson** is the New Hope Coordinator, and she can be contacted at (213) 485-0117.

Please don't miss our special Father's Day Special Discount Adoption Days, June 14-19 at all six Animal Services shelters and Mobile Adoption locations! Go to www.lanimalservices.com for details.

LACECA

It's Cinco de Mayo!

Latino employees association holds third annual Cinco de Mayo celebration.

Story by Lupe Durazo, Executive Secretary, LACECA

The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Assn. (LACECA) held its third annual Cinco de Mayo event on May 5 at Señor Fish downtown.

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the victory of the Mexican militia over the French army at the battle of Puebla in 1862.

Members, friends, coworkers and guests enjoyed an evening of dancing, door prizes and, best of all, tacos and *cerveza*.

Door prize winners were Ruben Vasquez, ITA; Charles Rogers, DWP; and Hilda Alvarado, DWP.

A special thanks goes to our "Grito" contestants, who made it such a memorable night: Charles Rogers, DWP; Luis de la Torre, DWP; Raul Lemus, Personnel; Ben Avalos, DWP; and, last but not least, our brave Grito winner, Laura Hernandez-Lares, DWP.

The LACECA Executive Board and the Cinco de Mayo Committee extends a special thanks to our gracious host, Jesse Pimental, General Manager, Señor Fish, for the use of his facility and his time and effort in making our Cinco de Mayo event a great success.

Also thanks to Elizabeth Henriquez, Leonor Garcia, Fernie "Elviz" Ramirez and others who contributed to this great event. *Muchas gracias. Hasta 2012.*

Follow us on Facebook or www.LACECA.org for upcoming events.



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For Retired Club Members



The Best Years

FOR RETIREES ONLY



By Mary Beetz,
RLACEI Publicity Chair

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



James R. Wilke, 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?

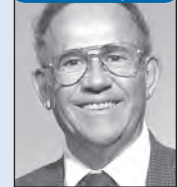
Contact Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 709.

RLACEI:

Prescriptions Through the Mail Could Save Money

President, Ed Harding reports:

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

"I would like to thank *El Pueblo* and *Taix Restaurant* and all who remembered my birthday.

"Since Spring Break came during my birthday, Martha was able to go with me to our second home in Nevada, where we have four children who put themselves out in celebrating my birthday.

"I have received several

requests from retirees who live in the Valley to have at least one of our general membership meetings at the newly reconstructed Van Nuys Senior Citizens Center. Therefore, I have asked Americo Garza, our Entertainment Director, and his committee to visit the center and see that, if it can accommodate our retirees, we

should have our April 12, 2012, general meeting there.

"I am looking forward to seeing all our golfers at our 33rd annual golf tournament at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course. We are going to have another great lunch, and several golf trophies as well as a lot of raffle prizes."

LACERS Update by Mary Beetz:



Mary Beetz

"Prescriptions by Mail: You can save money by using generic drugs instead of brand-name drugs. You can save even more by having your prescriptions sent by mail order instead of having them filled at your local retail pharmacy.

"SCAN and UHC Secure Horizons have similar offers using their mail order prescription drug benefit.

"To find out if using generic drugs as an alternative to brand-name drugs is right for you, first talk to your physician. Then contact your LACERS medical plan to learn more about the benefits of ordering your prescription drugs through their mail order service. To compare prescription drug copays, visit the Medical Plans Comparison Chart in the 'Health Benefits' section of LACERS Website (www.lacers.org/retired).

"Here's a chart to see possible cost savings by ordering through the mail:

Cost for 90-day Supply of Brand Name Drug from In-Network Pharmacy:	
Anthem:	\$75
Non-Medicare Kaiser Permanente:	\$75
Cost for Generic Equivalent through Mail Order:	
Anthem:	\$10
Non-Medicare Kaiser Permanente:	\$20 (for a 100-day supply)
Mail Order Savings:	
Anthem:	\$65
Non-Medicare Kaiser Permanente:	\$55

"Website Workshop: You're invited to attend a LACERS Health Plan Website Workshop and get hands-on training on how to use your medical and vision plans' Websites, as well as an introduction to the LACERS Website. This workshop will teach you how to:

- Find a doctor/primary care physician and urgent care center near you
- Order prescription drugs online

for delivery by mail

- Take advantage of your health plans' disease and wellness programs
- Save money by ordering generic prescriptions and eyeglasses online

"The Health Plan Website Workshop is scheduled for July 21. Currently, LACERS is not taking reservations for the workshop. Information on when to call LAC-

continued on page 35

RLACEI UPCOMING EVENTS:

Here's a listing of all the RLACEI events, dates and locations for 2011:

June 9: Golf tournament, Alhambra Municipal Golf Course, 630 S. Almanson St., Alhambra. Start: 7:30 a.m., lunch 12:30 p.m.

Aug. 11: Annual picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park, Los Angeles. 11:30 a.m.

Oct. 6: Annual corporation meeting and elections, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. 11:30 a.m., meeting 1 p.m.

Dec. 1: Holiday party, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles, noon.

Call (800) 678-4145
ext. 701 for reservations

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!

Hal with a new friend in Ensenada.

2010 Club Excellence
Award RecipientBy Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Helen Salgado. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, and LAFCU.

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

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

• Mary Beetz	Ext. 711
• Hal Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Michael Karsch	Ext. 704
• Gary Mattingly	Ext. 702
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Phil Skarin	Ext. 709
• Ken Spiker	Ext. 705
• Tom Stemnock	Ext. 708
RSVP:	Ext. 701

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

Mary Beetz: Publicity Chair
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer
Edward Harding: President
Michael Karsch: Treasurer
Phil Skarin: Director
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President
Tom Stemnock: Second Vice President

Committee Chairpersons

Hal Danowitz: Bylaws
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating
Helen Salgado: Membership
Phil Skarin: Publicity and Parliamentarian
Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative
Tom Stemnock: Audit
Tom Stemnock and Phil Skarin: Golf

Directors

Mary Beetz
Americo Garza
Michael Karsch
Neil Ricci
Helen Salgado
Phil Skarin
Michael R. Wilkinson

One Last (Big) Dinner,
Then Home

■ Hal and Co. conclude their cruise to Hawaii and back again.

My wife, Evelyn, and I are aboard the Golden Princess, sailing to Hawaii on a 14-day cruise from San Pedro. Don and Myrna, our cousins, are with us. We have been on board for 10 days. We pick up the story as we sail toward our last stop in Ensenada, Mexico, and then home to Los Angeles.

We moved the clocks forward, and we awoke about 8 a.m. We had that day and the next at sea before we made our stop in Ensenada. It was much cooler that day, and it looked like we were heading into bad weather. Maybe a little rain.

Evelyn and I worked out, and then I had breakfast. Our Chef's Table dinner was scheduled for that night, and I intended to be ready for all the food and wine.

We were nearing the end of the cruise, so I checked out our bill to see if all of the credits we were to receive were there and that all of the charges were correct. While on the ship you don't use cash; everything is charged to your cabin account, even the tips for the staff. Automatic tips go to your room steward and the dining room staff. Bar staff add 15 percent to your tab. If we received extra service, I like to give a little more directly to the person. Our room steward cleaned up after our cocktail parties, and the young ladies in the International Cafe had been very nice, as had the chef in the Sky Bar, who produced the special parties. These were private receptions each night for suite passengers with different themes and appetizers.

I took the bridge lesson that day. We had lunch in the International Café, and I ate very lightly because of the Chef's Table dinner to come.

We played bridge that afternoon, and we came in fourth out of eight east/west players. We might have done better, but the instructors played east/west also, and they came in first and second.

We slept in that morning and ate a light breakfast to recover from the Chef's Table dinner the night before. On this cruise there

were three Chef Table dinners held for a total of 28 passengers. The cost is \$75 per person. Executive Chef Jeremy Showden prepared a different menu for each dinner. Ours was the last one for the cruise.

The eight of us were met in the International Cafe at 6:45 p.m. by the *maitre d'hôtel* Neville Saldanha. We were provided white lab coats and taken into the galley, where we were instructed on washing our hands. There we met the executive chef, who led us to a table where we had four different hors d'oeuvres and champagne. He explained the workings of the galley and the staff. After that, we returned to the Bernini dining room, where a special table had been set for us. The sommelier was there to discuss the wine selection and answer questions. The presentation and quality of the food were outstanding. The main course was roasted filet mignon, scallops and lobster. There was more food than we could eat. Each course with wine was explained by the executive chef and the *maitre d'hôtel*. A photographer took a group photo. Each lady was given a red rose and the official Princess cookbook. They made special note of our

anniversary with a cake (something we really needed at the time; we had it sent to our cabin), and the staff sang happy anniversary. We finished up with a cheese course, a wonderful chocolate dessert served in a sugar bowl created from mouton sugar and special homemade candy prepared by the executive chef. We left the dining room around 10 p.m. Both of us would do this again. It was a truly epicurean delight. No detail was overlooked. It was a dinner to remember.

The next day was our last day at sea, and I just relaxed on deck. The weather was overcast but not cold, and the sea was calm.

We played our last duplicate bridge game that afternoon.

That night was the last formal night, and we had invited some friends of Myrna's to have drinks with us in our cabin and then go to dinner. The dinner that night featured lobster, but because I had it the night before, I chose pheasant, which I didn't remember ever eating. It tasted like chicken. We brought our anniversary cake to the dining room and had it for dessert. I was surprised at how good it was.

The next day was our stop in Ensenada.



Hal and Evelyn at the Chef's Dinner.



We were to get there around 2 p.m. That next morning, the sun was bright, but the seas were very rocky; it was our first experience of the movement of the ship. The ship really creaked as it rolled around. This might have been because of the way it was built – in modules, with materials to make it flexible. Evelyn and I were in the gym, which had turned into a ghost town. After breakfast, we all played the last bingo session, where the final coverall was worth \$4,200. We did not win, as usual. We docked in Ensenada at 2 p.m. Since the last time we have visited about 20 years ago, officials have greatly improved the port area. There was a shuttle from the dock to the main street. The cost was \$2 going and \$1 coming back to the ship. The shuttle people also provided a city tour for \$15 (a lot less than the ship), and it included a ride back to the ship. Princess Cruises tells you none of this. Ensenada is the third-largest city in the

Mexican state of Baja California, about 70 miles south of Tijuana.

The city is backed by small mountain ranges. Due to its location on the Pacific Ocean and Mediterranean latitude, the weather tends to be mild year-round. The winter rainy season is short and the area is prone to prolonged droughts. Ensenada sits in the heart of a wine country that is widely regarded as the best in Mexico.

The weather was good with a clear sky and not too warm.

We spent more than an hour walking the main drag. Places like Hussong Cantina and Papas and Beer are still there, and they had a large store selling logo merchandise. There were a lot of nice shops and restaurants.

We came back to the ship to pack. We had to have all of our bags outside our cabin by 11 p.m. Because we were driving home, we were going to have an easy time getting off the ship. Our time for disembarking was 10:05 a.m. We have to be out of the cabin by 8 a.m. After breakfast, we could hang out in one of the dining rooms until it was our time to disembark.

For some reason, we gained some weight, so our first task was to lose the extra pounds.

We docked in L.A. early that last morning. We were up at 6:30 a.m., and we were out of the cabin by 8 a.m. as requested. Disembarking was no problem, and we were home by noon.

I enjoyed the cruise. While I don't recommend it for someone who wants to see Hawaii in detail, it is a great vacation just to relax.



Evelyn in her lab coat before the Chef's Table Dinner.



Executive Chef Jeremy Showden.

LACERS Update



continued from page 33

ERS to make reservations and the workshop schedule can be found in your upcoming June paycheck flyer.

“Changing Plans: In general, you can make changes to your LACERS health plan or enroll in another health plan only during LACERS Open Enrollment period (Oct. 15 – Nov. 15) or within 60 days of your retirement effective date. Because LACERS administers a group health plan, enrolled members cannot change health plans for the entire plan year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31).

“The exception is a need for a health plan change due to a qualifying event. Qualifying event is defined as a change in family status, such as a marriage, domestic partnership, the birth or adoption of a child, legal separation, divorce, termination of a domestic partnership, moving in or out of a LACERS HMO plan zip-code service area, or turning age 65 and becoming Medicare eligible. A change in your health condition is not a qualifying event. For more information, contact LACERS at (800) 779-8329 or read the online

Health Benefits Guide by visiting the LACERS Website (www.lacers.org/retired).

“Member news: I received a letter from Trinidad Carlos Quiroz, wanting to share some information of a retired coworker and friend, Winfred Calhoun, who retired after 20 years with the City of Los Angeles.

“Mr. Calhoun is doing commercials for Triple AAA Club on Channel 9 and can be seen around 12:15 to 12:25 p.m. He also models for the Triple AAA Club Magazine.”

“Thank you, Mr. Quiroz for sharing this information.

“Contact Us: I know there are retirees out there with news or information about themselves, their family or other retirees. I am sure readers would enjoy reading about life after retirement rather than the obituary column. Send them to: mbeetz4841@aol.com or (800) 678-4145, ext. 711

“As a wise man once said: ‘I shall retire and grow old, but never lose life’s zest, because the road’s last turn will be the best.’”



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Take a look at how **United Agencies** stacks up against the competition!

	COMPANY	(90041 Zip Code)
California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey	Farmers	\$2,375
	GEICO	\$1,527
	Allstate	\$1,310
	State Farm	\$1,246
	21st Century	\$1,113
	United Agencies	\$964

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People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

Checking Up
With Thomas

- First visit: Aug. 2010 -

Meet Thomas Mozzone.

AGE: "I'm 55."

BIRTHPLACE: "Prince Georges County, Md."

MARITAL STATUS: "I was married for about 10 years in the '80s, but that fell through."

FAMILY: "None that I know of. I was orphaned when I was pretty young. From what I understand, my dad went to prison and my mom gave me and whatever kids there may have been up for adoption. I was sent to the St. Joseph's Catholic Orphanage in downtown Atlanta. I pretty much grew up on the streets of Atlanta. By the time I was 18, I cleaned up my act and went to college."

WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "I came to L.A. ten years ago after spending a year in Key Largo, Fla. I was part owner of a restaurant there but was swindled out of my investment. When I arrived in L.A., I had nothing and struggled to find a job."

EDUCATION: "I received a B.A. in information systems from Georgia State University. I was a computer geek."

STRONGEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "I remember the day JFK was assassinated. I remember running down the street, saying, "The Government got killed, and then I looked in the sky and saw God. It was weird."

RELIGION: "I'm very religious... I believe in God and am a Christian."

DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS? "I have tons of friends."

WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "In a tent behind the new police parking structure."

WHAT WAS THE LAST JOB YOU HAD? "I was the doorman for a ritzy clothing store called Comme de Garcon down on Fourth Street. I was making \$8 an hour."

FAVORITE SPORT: "Baseball."

FAVORITE MOVIE: "2001: A Space Odyssey, Easy Rider and Cool Hand Luke."

FAVORITE ACTRESS: "Julia Roberts."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "Stevie Ray Vaughn."

FAVORITE CANDY: "I don't eat candy, but if I did it would be a Snickers bar."

FAVORITE TV SHOW: "I love *The Twilight Zone*."

WHAT'S THE LAST BOOK YOU READ? "*Master of the Game* by Sidney Sheldon."

ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Keep positive, don't dwell on the past."

IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

"A comfortable place to live."

IF YOU HAD \$1 MILLION, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT? "I'd give a lot of it away to people who have helped me out while down here on the streets."

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE IRAQ WAR? "I think there are ulterior motives."

FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY: "I love the view you get from the Downtown YMCA."

IF YOU WERE THE MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES, WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO HELP THE HOMELESS? "Renovate some of these old buildings to provide shelter for the homeless."

LAST THING EATEN: "Cup o' Noodles about two days ago."

WHO OR WHAT ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST HELP TO YOU?

The LA Burrito Project. Once a week they come down on their bikes and deliver burritos to the homeless. [To find out more about the Burrito project go to: www.myspace.com/burritoproject/videos In the first video, Thomas Mozzone is briefly interviewed. Check it out and leave a note that you discovered them through *Alive!* It's an awesome program that is making a difference with very little resources.]

ARE YOU ON ANY MEDICATION? No, I don't even like taking aspirin.

MILITARY: "I was in the Army for a short time. I jumped out of a plane in Ranger training. Then, the war ended and they sent me home."

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "It was my bicycle until someone stole it right out of my hands last week."

WHAT DO YOU CARRY AROUND WITH YOU? "Electrical tape, a pen, pepper spray, and random jewelry."



The Club gave Thomas shaving cream, t-shirts, a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, \$20 and some bottled water.

The interview took place July 21 at Third and Main Streets downtown

Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Director

Help Thomas With a Bike

Thomas's bike was stolen from him. Can you help by donating a new or used bike, or even some bike parts?

Thomas says he can put a bike together from parts. Contact John Hawkins, CEO of the Club, who will take it from there: jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com. You will be doing a very good thing.

Thomas and his bike in August 2010.



In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, Director of Member Services Angel Gomez and New Project Coordinator Noelle Kauffman, 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.

AIRPORTS

One New Airport Police Officer

Airport Police swears in new officer.



From left: Assistant Chief Brian Walker, Chief George Centeno, Officer Carly Oliver, Airports Commissioner Michael A. Lawson, and Assistant Chief Michael Hyams.

Story and photo courtesy Sgt. Belinda Nettles, Airport Police

Carly Oliver, a new police officer, joined the ranks of the Los Angeles Airport Police following her graduation from the Los Angeles Police Academy near downtown Los Angeles April 22.

Airport Police Chief George R. Centeno attended the graduation for Officer Oliver and performed the swearing-in ceremony. Assistant Chiefs Brian Walker and Michael Hyams as well as Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) Board of Airports Commissioners President Michael A.

Lawson were also present.

Officer Oliver was selected to be part of the Color Guard during the ceremony by her academy peers and navigated through the academy process with extreme focus and ease.

"It is an honor to have another graduate from the Los Angeles Police Academy join our Airport Police family," Chief Centeno said.

The next step for Officer Oliver is to complete a six-month Field Training Program. During this training, she will be assigned to a Field Training Officer (FTO) before she is released and assigned to the Patrol Services Section.

The Club congratulates Officer Oliver for her great achievement!

LAPD

LA Has 4 'Top Cops'

18th annual national TOP COPS recognizes four LAPD officers for bravery.

Four of LA's finest have been recognized for their bravery by a national association.

The National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) President Thomas J. Nee and Executive Director William J. Johnson recently announced NAPO's list of winners and honorable mentions for the 18th Annual TOP COPS Awards

NAPO has announced that the LAPD has been recognized with four personnel chosen to receive the award:

- Officer II Gilberto Rendon Jr.
- Officer II Richard Garcia
- Sgt. Greg Garcia, and
- Sgt. John D. Shah.

Each year since 1994, NAPO has presented the Top Cops Awards ceremony to help educate the American public about our nation's heroes and to pay tribute to law enforcement officers in federal, state, county, and local agencies from across the country for actions above and beyond the call of duty during the preceding year. All Top Cops are nominated by fellow officers through an independent selection committee of national law enforcement representatives.

The ceremony was held May 12 in Washington, D.C.

Congratulations!



At the National Association of Police Organization's Top Cops awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., were award recipients from the LAPD's Newton Division. From left (in uniform) are Officer II Richard Garcia, Officer II Gilberto Rendon, Sgt. John Shah and Sgt. Greg Garcia. Also shown is Newton Division Capt. Mark Olvera.

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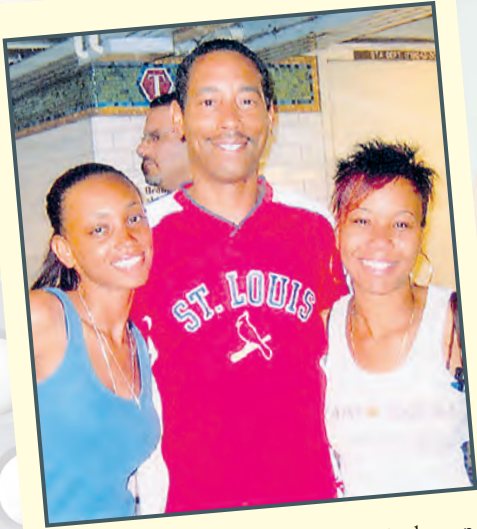
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"Daddy/Da, you are our rock. Words can never express our love for you." (Dad is Darryl C. Prince, Transportation)

- Daughters Shannon and Ivy, grandchildren John and Skye



"Happy Father's Day! Thanks for always being there for all of us. We appreciate everything you do for us! We love you!"

- Cheryl Garcia, LAPD



"Happy Father's Day, Daddy. We love you!" (Dad is Dan Hibma, LAFD FS 20)

- Jake and Emily



"John, thank you for being such a caring and involved father to our children. It means so much. Happy Father's Day! We love you."

- Aleena, Anthony and Lisa

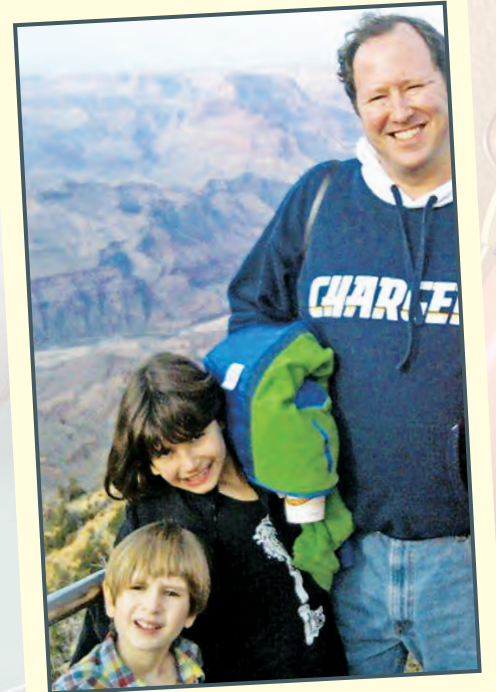
Here are the personal messages sent to *Alive!* by some very loving and grateful children who wanted to pay tribute to their dad.

Happy Father's Day!



"Happy Father's Day John!!! Thanks for being the most wonderful father to Noah, Isaiah and Hannah. Without you we'd be lost! We love you to the moon!"

- Love, Kelley, Noah, Isaiah, Hannah and Bella



"Hi Daddy! Happy Father's Day! We love you so much and enjoy our adventures together!"

- Love, Cassie and Eddie



"Si alguna vez te llegaras a preguntar si te necesito tanto. La respuesta sera 'si' porque no importan los anos que hayan pasado, dentro de mi corazon siempre sere esa pequena nina que te adora y necesita. Feliz Dia del Padre de tu hija Sonia Galan, con todo mi amor."



To Richard Sturm: "Happy Father's Day, Daddy! You are the best dad in the whole world, and we love you very much!"

- Love, Ricky and Sophie



"Aaron, you are our hero, our strength and the glue that holds our family together. We love you so much. Happy Father's Day!"

- Love, Ryan, Jordan, Baby and your wife, Brenda Shaw



"The love and care of a father is as essential as sunlight in our lives. It is his protection that shelters us, his guidance that leads us and his love that fills us with joy! We love you, Daddy!" (Dad is Bobby Harris, DWP.)



To Larry Lieswald, Retired: "Pa we love and miss you. Happy Father's Day to the best Grandpa in the world. You make our day when you come to see us."

- Love, Brian and Aubrey



"Dad, Happy Father's Day to the best dad in the world. We love you."

- Debbie (DWP), Sandy, Tommy, Anna, Chris and Angie Ferrer



"Happy Father's Day! We love you so much, and we couldn't be any luckier to have a dad as great as you! You mean the world to us! We're happy you are our daddy." (Dad is Club Member Gabriel Estevane, Public Works/Sanitation.)

- We love you, Corina and Clarissa



"For the best daddy in the world - Ray Guerrero! We love you and thank you for being the silliest, funniest and craziest dad ever. Happy Father's Day!"

- XOXO, Mom, Dom, Alys and Jay



"Happy Father's Day, Dad. I love you." (Dad is Chuck Rubin, Equipment Operator, ISS)

- Stephanie Sturm



"Happy Father's Day to the most amazing, awesome, fun, loving and very special daddy!"

- From Addison and Collin



"No father and no husband, but a Happy Father's Day to my three nephews - Christian, Gabriel and Lu. Thank you for all the love, and especially for my three grand-nephews and three grandnieces."

- Gina Caguaiat, Public Works/Engineering, Retired



"A father carries pictures where his money used to be." - author unknown. We love you so much, Daddy! Thanks for all you do." (Dad is Farhad H. Dormani, DWP)

- Megan and Kian (and Mommy) Dormani



"Dear Dad, Thanks for being that one person that I try to aspire to be like. You are the perfect example of what a Father should be... Happy Father's Day!"

- John Hawkins, Club CEO



"To the three greatest men in our lives: Bill Lantz, and Richard and Richie Pereida. Thank you for all you do. Happy Father's Day! We love you with all our hearts."

- Your kids, grandkids and wives: Tina, Sonia, Becky, Jessica, Krystal, Jerry, Jacob and Jacqueline



"Para mi Papá, con todo amor y gratitud de compartir su juicio y fortaleza de la vida. Happy Father's Day!"

- Robert Larios, Club Director of Operations



"Dear Dad, There are no words to express how grateful we are for everything you do for our family. We could never have asked God to bless us with a better Father. We love you!" (For David Jamgotchian, JILA Assoc., part of your Alive! design team)

- Olivia, Daniel and Andrew

From all of us at the Club,
to all the Fathers,
HAVE A GREAT DAY!





Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT
Collin Sousa	1.5	John Sousa	Airports
Brett Cluster	2.5	Dennis Basilio	DWP
Hailyn Topete	2.5	Paul Alvarado	Public Works
Jack Christopher	3	James Christopher	DWP
Sophie Chou	4	Gene Chou	DWP
Althea Cobarrubia	4	Alner Cobarrubia	Airports
Gracie Deniz	4	Maria Deniz	Public Works
Michaela Ling	4	Irene Ling	LAPD
Christopher Lopez	4	Ricardo Lopez	Transportation
Jack Rigney	4	Patrick Rigney	Sanitation
Lily Rigney	4	Patrick Rigney	Sanitation
Christopher Rios	4	Christopher J. Rios	Public Works
Addison Sousa	4	John Sousa	Airports
Maliya Alvarez	5	Clifford Milar	DWP
Jaylin Couch	5	Maria Couch	Harbor
Alicia Daniel	5	Irary Daniel	LAPD
Jenna Fleming	5	Joe Fleming	LAPD
Samuel Funches	5	Gloria Funches	LAPD
Jaylene Garcia	5	Louie Garcia	Public Works
Sydney Hernandez	5	Edward Hernandez	Rec and Parks
Suji M. Hong	5	Yono Hong	DWP
Carter Lam	5	Cynthia Lam	LAPD
Tyler Lujan	5	Maria Lujan	LAPD
Amaya Maynard	5	Norma Mcphoy	Airports
Jessica Molina	5	Armando Tapia	Retired
Nicolas Rainbird	5	William Rainbird	DWP
Joaquin Ramirez	5	Angie Ramirez	General Services
Aileen Ramirez	5	Bertha Cuevas	Rec and Parks
Dylan Thome	5	Christine Thome	Harbor
Raymond Trinh	5	Thai V Trinh	Public Works
Michelle Truong	5	Nee Truong	ISM
Camryn Camacho	6	Ericka Holliday	LAWA
Alyssa Caton	6	Thomas R. Caton	DWP
Isabella Cerda	6	Karen Malory	Retired
Josie Chow	6	Gene Chow	DWP
David Delgado	6	Charles Garcia	Public Works
Cheyenne Garcia	6	Gilbet Garcia	DWP
Krystal Harrell	6	Melonie Harrell	Airports
Hannah Hawkins	6	John Hawkins	Club Staff
Alejandro Lopez	6	Lisa DeRonde	LAPD
Lorenzo Quirante	6	Lawrence Quirante	LADBS
Tyler Sousa	6	John Sousa	Airports
Savanna Ulloa	6	David Miner	Harbor
Lyna Vasquez	6	Edward Medina	DWP
Nathan Zordilla	6	Katie Zordilla	-
Angel J. Cooper	7	Aracely Galicia	Transportation
Samantha Espinoza	7	Sergio Espinoza	DWP
Alexander Guder	7	Karl Guder	General Services
Melisa Gutierrez	7	David Gutierrez	DWP
Iman Holmes	7	Edward Holmes	Public Works
Alexus Mercado	7	Edgar Mercado	DWP
Natalie Mercado	7	Luz Elena Ruiz	Animal Services
Mikhail Morrison	7	Michael Morrison	DWP
Janelle Otto	7	John Otto	Transportation
Elisa Ruiz	7	Robert Ruiz	DWP
Jonathan Sandoval	7	Noe Sandoval	DWP
Juliet Verdugo	7	Edward Medina	DWP
Desirae Davis	8	Shawn Davis	DWP
Claudia Deloera	8	Jorge Deloera	Rec and Parks
Kaylee Gabon	8	Audie Gabon	DWP
Jordon Greenwood	8	Beverly Greenwood	PSR
Rickisha Johnson	8	Helen Mclain	Retired
Maia Melendez	8	Carlos E. Ojeda	Retired
Daphne Narvarez	8	Gilbert Narvarez	Public Works
Zacary Oghigian	8	George Oghigian	General Services
Peter Otoshi	8	John T. Otoshi	DWP
Renata Salazar	8	Mayra Salazar	Public Works
London Wright	8	Hope P. Wright	LAPD
Brandon Debolt	9	Megan Debolt	Club Staff
Josalyn De Florencio	9	Alex De Florencio	DWP
Nick Fischer	9	Ruis Fischer	DWP
Jessica Funches	9	Gloria Funches	LAPD
Valerie Funches	9	Gloria Funches	LAPD
Kate Gabon	9	Audie Gabon	DWP
Alyssa Garcia	9	Reuben Sepulveda	DWP
Emily Hibma	9	Daniel Hibma	LAFD
Maya Horvath	9	Robert Horvath	Public Works
Tara Lam	9	Cynthia Lam	LAPD
Rita Odabashian	9	Rodolfo Garcia	Public Works
Mia Rohaly	9	Karen Rohaly	Library
Manuel Vasquez	9	Edward Medina	DWP
Alyssa Vera	9	Graciela Vera	Airports
Anthony Wiley	9	Lisa Wiley	DWP
Viviana Arredondo	10	Jaime Arredondo	Airports
Natalie Arroyo	10	Carlos Arroyo	DWP
Haley Chen	10	Tiffany Sy	Club Staff
Haley Chun	10	Reginald Chun	City Attorney
Imelda Franco	10	Imelda Vega	DWP
Gabriel Honore	10	Bill Honor	Rec and Parks
Celine Millanponce	10	Manuel Hernandez	Housing
Alexandra Ozuna	10	Lynda Ozuna	Finance
Maru Pena	10	Nichole Pena	LAPD
Katerina Plascencia	10	Gustavo Plascencia	City Attorney
Daniela Tapia	10	Daniel Tapia	DWP
Percy Williams	10	Robert Williams	-
Shyarre Wright	10	Simboa Wright	Public Works
Karen Yip	10	Daisy Cheung	DWP
Bailey Barry	11	Edward Medina	DWP
Tommy Borunda	11	Eleanor Borunda	Airports
Araly Cruz	11	Mardoquero Cruz	Public Works
Alyssa Curiel	11	Jennifer Curiel	Animal Services
Jonah Flores	11	Cheryl Garcia	LAPD
Alessandra Gardner	11	Renne Gardner	Housing
Julianne Jimenez	11	Valente Jimenez	DWP
Michelle Jimenez	11	Jennie Avila	Personnel
Hector Olivares	11	Yoly Ortiz	Public Works
Joseph Otoshi	11	John T. Otoshi	DWP
Sofia Salcedo	11	Rafael Salcedo	DWP
Joselle Domingo	12	Joe Domingo	Airports
Nina Gardner	12	Charles Ybarra	DWP
Jessica Padilla	12	Leo Padilla	Housing
Laura Reyes	12	Alfredo Reyes	Public Works
Kyassandra S.	12	Robert Stefanovich	Airports
April Tate	12	Dorothy Tate	Transportation
Vicente Alvarado	13	Paul Alvarado	Public Works
Allyson Johnson	13	Leon Thomasian	Retired
Melissa Lava	13	Amy Lava	ITA
Brook Tomilin	13	David Tomilin	LAPD



Winner
5 & under
YEARS OLD

Emily Aragon, 5

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Hannah Montana"
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Strawberries
 • BEST FRIEND: Andrea
 • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO SEAWORLD: Because it is so much fun.
 • PARENT: Jorge Aragon, LAPD.

Winner
6 to 7
YEARS OLD



Jeannine Rodriguez, 6

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Sesame Street"
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Apple
 • BEST FRIEND: Cesar
 • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO SEAWORLD: Disneyland, because she loves small world.
 • PARENT: Jose Rodriguez, Maintenance Laborer/Sanitation.



Winner
8 to 10
YEARS OLD

Vian De La Torre, 9

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Wizards of Waverly Place"
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Banana Wheels with Peanut Butter
 • BEST FRIEND: Kiana
 • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO SEAWORLD: Because I haven't been there in a long time.
 • PARENT: Anthony De La Torre, Sign Painter/LAWA.





Congratulations to the WINNERS! of our Club Coloring Contest!

Congratulations to the winners of *Alive!*'s last coloring contest. Everyone who turned in a design is a winner in our opinion! But our top four participants win 4 Free Tickets to SEAWORLD!

Look for our next contest in the July edition of *Alive!*

Jonathan Valmonte, 11

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Adventure Time"
- FAVORITE SNACK: Easter Candy
- BEST FRIEND: Anthony
- WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO SEAWORLD: Disneyland, my mother used to work there.
- PARENT: Brillando Valmonte, Procurement Supervisor/General Services.



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Peters Canyon Regional Park

— Orange, CA



Angel Jr., Aden, Angel and Dakota by the Peters Canyon trail sign.



Dakota, Kathy, Aden, and Angel pose under a tree.

Hello again!

This month we travel to Peters Canyon Regional Park in Orange. We hiked the entire park, from the parking lot all the way to Lower Peters Canyon Reservoir (the far end of the park). We took this hike on Mother's Day, and we all went for a brisk walk, including our baby girl, Dakota (our family dog). The length – 5.5 miles – was amazing. I really should give more credit to my two little guys – Angel, 10, and Aden, 8 – for being such troopers. They helped with the dog, running along the way, and basically having a great time.

The trail has a few steep areas but they are short and not too bad. The hike and the people were all very friendly; I would recommend this hike to all ages.

Special note: Please be aware of the bikers. Some of them are considerate, but I found a few who should go and take a class on safety. Going down a hill at more than 25 mph leaves little time for warning. Accidents are sure to happen if these riders are not more considerate and careful. Be proactive and look out for bikers!

History

Peters Canyon Regional Park was originally part of Rancho Lomas de Santiago. During those Spanish days, Peters Canyon was called Canon de las Ranas or Canyon of the Frogs. This was attributed to the canyon's drainage into the Cienega de las Ranas or Marsh of the Frogs, known today as Upper Newport Bay.

In 1897, the rancho was purchased by James Irvine, who leased the canyon to several farmers. Beginning in 1891 and continuing after the Irvine purchase, James Peters, for whom the canyon is named, dry-farmed barley and beans in the upper part of the canyon. Peters built his home and planted a eucalyptus grove near Lower Peters Canyon Retarding Basin.

In 1899, sportsmen from Orange and Santa Ana introduced golf to Orange County. A nine-hole course was laid out by the Santiago Golf Club. Greens were made of oil-soaked sand and fairways of native soil. A red clubhouse was built on the ridge that now extends into Upper Peters Canyon Reservoir. The conspicuous building was seen by those who crossed the canyon between the El Modena Grade and Irvine Regional Park, hence the name Golf Canyon came into use.

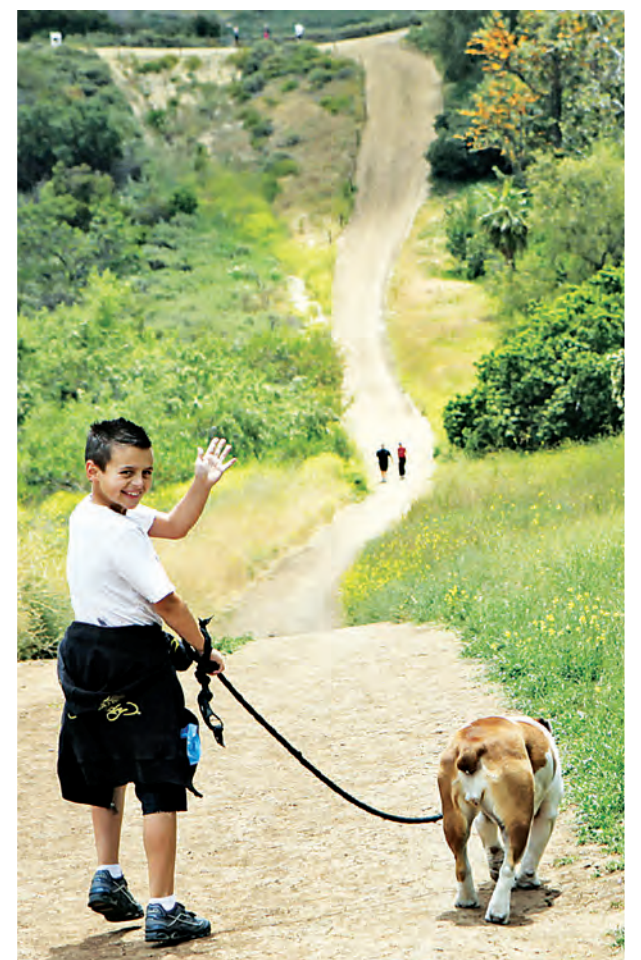
During World War II, Peters Canyon was used as a training area for the U.S. Army. Camp Commander, as it was known, was established in the eucalyptus groves near Little Peters Lake, or what is known today as Lower Peters Canyon Retarding Basin. Mock battles were staged between Camp Commander and Camp Rathke, an Army post two miles away in Irvine Regional Park.

On March 3, 1992, the Irvine Company donated 354 acres of Peters Canyon to the County of Orange to be preserved as open space.

The Hike

The park offers a variety of trails, providing opportunities for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. The East Ridge View Trail provides a panoramic view of Peters Canyon and the surrounding area. Visitors can enjoy the beauty of Upper Peters Canyon reservoir while traversing the Lake View Trail. Peters Canyon Creek Nature Trail guides hikers through lush groves of willows and rare black cottonwoods supported by a running creek. Visitors will encounter the park's grassland, coastal sage scrub and riparian habitats as well as eucalyptus groves on the Lower Canyon Trail. Most of the trail is very well kept.

I loved this place for all the different things to see and the continuous changes in the landscape. This is



Angel Jr. and Dakota begin the long path with a very steep climb.



Angel's
Be Alive!

Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales

Send your photos to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com.
 I would love to see them!



Aden, Angel Jr. and Dakota with the park reservoir in the background.



Be careful of bikers along the trail.

one of the most relaxing trails I have been on in a few months. You simply follow the trail and find yourself enjoying the great outdoors, looking all around and losing track of time. Everything about the hike is wonderful except for the few bikers with no consideration for safety. I would recommend this hike to all my Club Members and their families.

We took our time taking photos, taking short stops for snacks and admiring all the beauty surrounding us. The Lake View Loop is just that, a loop around the lake and a big steep climb getting up to a nice viewing spot of the lake. There will be a point where you can take Peters Canyon Trail, and that will send you all they way to the Lower Reservoir; then your 2.5-mile hike turns into a 5.5-mile adventure. This is very nice and interesting trail with lots of side trails along the way. We were lucky enough to see another snake. So, go out and find a trail. I am sure you will have lots of fun and, for only \$3, you can't go wrong.

You can be the big adventure person for your family and in the same breath help keep everyone fit and healthy, too.

I want to send out a very special Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers in the world, especially the ones in our Club family.

Don't forget to bring your camera and take plenty of photos. Send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. Bring water, snacks and maybe some sunscreen.

Until next month,
 be safe and
**Be Alive!,
 Angel**



Angel, Dakota, Aden, and Angel Jr. looking back.



One of the many snakes you may be lucky to see.



Special park posting.

Peters Canyon Regional Park

8548 E Canyon View Ave.
 Orange, CA 92869
 (714) 973-6611

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

- DISTANCE:** 5.5 miles
- ELEVATION GAIN:** 518 feet
- DIFFICULTY:** Moderate
- HIKE TIME:** 2 hours
- TRAIL CONDITION:** Mostly dirt roads

TRAIL ACTIVITIES

Mountain biking, walking, jogging, bird watching, lake.

PARKING

Dirt parking area.
Fee: \$3 per day.
Hours: 7 a.m. to sunset daily.
 There are portable toilets in the parking lot and at the end of the canyon.



Aden and Angel Jr. pay \$3 for parking.

DIRECTIONS

From Interstate 5, take the Jamboree Road exit. Head northeast on Jamboree for approximately five miles to Canyon View Avenue. Turn left. The park entrance is about a quarter mile down the road on your left.

PW, ANIMAL SERVICES

Recycle Linens, Help a Pet

Public Works, Animal Services team up for a good cause.

Story by Michelle Mikesell, Public Works, and Miki Shaler, Animal Services; Photos by Michelle Mikesell

On April 28, Public Works and Animal Services held an event to highlight a program that encourages reuse and animal care at the same time.

Held in conjunction with a weeklong recycling fair downtown, the event encouraged City Employees to donate their old linens so that they can comfort the animals waiting for adoption at City animal shelters.

The City Employees Club donated tickets to the LA Zoo as raffle prizes.

The Linens Reuse Collection Event was created by the City Facilities Recycling Program (CFRP) to continue to educate City employees about reuse as well as benefit Animal Services. The collection event ran April 25 - 29, with the large collection event April 28 in conjunction with the City Hall Farmers Market. Reusable bags were given to everyone who donated a linen object. CFRP collected 20 large bags of linens.

The City is dedicated to making sure that the animals in shelters receive the best care possible until they find new homes. Until the right adopter comes to find his or her perfect match, we try to make all the animals as comfortable and as happy as possible. Linens can be dropped off at any of the six Animal Care shelters.



Cecilia Law-Lines, Collection, won the raffle donated by the Club.

In addition, Animal Services accepts the following donated items:

- Clean used blankets/towels
- Newspapers
- Dog/cat bowls (stainless steel only)
- Small and medium-sized rectangular litter boxes
- Jingle cat toys
- Unopened cat treats
- Gallon jugs of white vinegar
- Laundry detergent
- Fabric softener sheets
- Non-clumping cat litter
- Unopened dog treats
- Unopened dog and puppy food (wet/ dry)
- KMR formula milk replacement for kittens
- Cat and dog shampoo and conditioner
- Grooming aprons
- Combs, brushes, and hair dryers
- Reptile supplies
- Turtle supplies
- Rabbit supplies
- Hamster supplies
- Bird toys
- Leashes, collars, and harnesses
- Heating pads
- Hand sanitizer
- Mops
- Brooms
- Dust pans
- Bleach
- Dog beds
- Cat beds
- Doggie sweaters
- Cat condos and cat scratchers
- Puppy pens (30 inches or higher)
- Parvasol/Parvo Away
- Pooper scoopers
- Collapsible crates
- Digital cameras

ZOO

Tadpole Time

Hundreds of rare tadpoles hatch at the L.A. Zoo.

Photo by Tad Motoyama/LA Zoo

The Zoo has successfully bred the highly endangered mountain yellow-legged frog, marking the L.A. Zoo's first success at breeding this species. Between the four male and six female frogs housed at the Zoo, hundreds of eggs were laid in March, and more than 200 tadpoles hatched in April. These tadpoles will remain at the Zoo for the coming months to allow them to mature, and this summer they will be released into the wild in an ongoing collaborative effort to save the species.

This marks the first time the mountain yellow-legged frogs have successfully bred at the L.A. Zoo and only the second time they've ever been bred at a zoo. Last year the San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research bred and released these frogs' eggs.

Native to the mid- and high-mountain streams

of Southern California, where the water is extremely clean, these frogs face a number of challenges including habitat destruction, pollution, climate change, Chytrid fungus and the introduction of foreign species into their environment. Amphibians are very sensitive to minor changes in the environment and tend to be the first affected when something does change. With only two hundred adult frogs remaining in the wild, these tadpoles are important to the survival of the species.

The Zoo has been working with the Fresno Chaffee Zoo and the San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research to breed and release these frogs. When the tadpoles are reintroduced, they will be monitored by Zoo staff as well as the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Forest Service and the University of California.

The mountain yellow-legged frogs and tadpoles are currently off exhibit.



A close up of the rare tadpoles at the Zoo.

REC AND PARKS

Surf Bard

Annual Shakespeare by the Sea program returns to Pt. Fermin Park in June.



Previous year's Shakespeare by the Sea presented a production of *Love's Labour's Lost*.

Photos by M. Elliot.

Two Shakespeare plays headline the 2011 season of Shakespeare by the Sea.

The comedy *Much Ado About Nothing* and the tragedy *King Lear* open at Pt. Fermin Park in San Pedro in June. Shakespeare by the Sea is partially sponsored by Rec and Parks. Admission is free.

The City portion of the program's schedule is:

Much Ado About Nothing

This is a classic romantic comedy about the battle of the sexes: Beatrice and Benedick create fireworks as they fight mutual attraction with razor-edged wit.

- June 9-11, 23 and 25, July 1; 8 p.m. (7:30 p.m. pre-show)

King Lear

King Lear is "the ultimate family drama: intimate and explosive, tender and heartrending, a supreme masterpiece and a triumph of dramatic imagination."

- June 16-18, 24, 30; July 2; 8 p.m. (7:30 p.m. pre-show)

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

Point Fermin Park is at 807 Paseo del Mar, San Pedro.

www.shakespearebythesea.org/



Previous year's Shakespeare by the Sea presented a production of *As You Like It*.

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

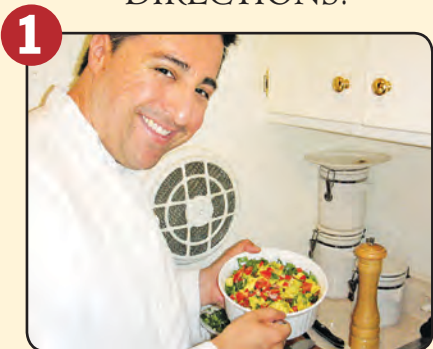
Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios



DAD GRUB: CHICKEN AND BEEF BURRITO SUPREME

DIRECTIONS:



1 Prepare all your ingredients. Wash, dry and dice the red peppers, radishes, jalapeños, cilantro, tomato, garlic, and avocados. In a mixing bowl, combine all the diced ingredients. Add the salt and pepper with the lemon juice. Mix lightly. This is your avocado Pico de Gallo.



2 In a large sauté pan, add the extra virgin olive oil and the cubed sirloin steak. In another pan, add the chicken. Season them with paprika, parsley, celery seed powder, salt, pepper, and cumin. Let sauté over medium heat until cooked through or golden brown. Now is a good time to cook the rice – place in a pot of water and boil. Cook your black beans as well.



3 Place green salsa in a small bowl and add diced jicama in it to add the crunchy texture. In a hot iron skillet, place the large flour tortillas on the surface one at a time. Cook each side about 20 seconds.



4 Take one of the four tortillas and begin adding the cubed sirloin, chicken, rice, cheese, sour cream, avocado Pico de Gallo, green salsa and black beans. Roll your tortilla, add a few pieces of diced red pepper and jalapeños, and plate to serve.

Here's a great recipe for Father's Day: a chicken and beef burrito supreme. It is not just any burrito supreme, but my dad's favorite. So, in honor of him, I share the recipe with you!

When you look at the list of ingredients, you might think there are too many and it is too complicated. But it really is easier than it looks. To help see where everything goes, I have separated the ingredients into groups – general, green salsa, and avocado Pico de Gallo.

There is a lot of room for substituting ingredients if you don't have the ones listed in this recipe or wish to add your own flair. Enjoy, and Happy Father's Day to all the fathers in the world!



Chicken and Beef Burrito Supreme

INGREDIENTS – Burrito:

- 1 pound chicken breast, cut into strips
- 1 pound sirloin steak, cubed
- 4 large flour tortillas
- 1/2 cup shredded cheese, Monterey jack and cheddar
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 cup rice

Makes 4 Servings

- 1 can black beans
- 2 tablespoons paprika
- 2 tablespoons parsley
- 1 tablespoon celery seed powder
- 2 tablespoons cumin
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

INGREDIENTS – Green Salsa:

- 1 cup green salsa

- 1/4 cup jicama

INGREDIENTS – Avocado Pico de Gallo:

- 1 red pepper, diced
- 2 jalapeños
- 1 juice lemon
- Sea salt and pepper, to taste
- 2 radishes

- 1/2 cup cilantro
- 1 large tomato
- 1/2 cup diced green onion
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 2 Hass avocados

Cooking TIDBIT:

If you don't have sirloin steak to cube, feel free to use ground beef.

[A Cook's Dictionary]

Radish:

From the Latin radix, meaning "root," the radish is the root of a plant in the mustard family. Its skin can vary in color from white to red to purple to black (and many shades in between). The flavor can be mild to peppery, depending on factors including variety and age. Though radishes are most often used raw in salads, as garnishes and for crudités, they can also be cooked.

– From the *The New Food Lover's Companion*, Sharon Tyler Herbst, 1995, Barron's Educational Series.



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



Enjoy!



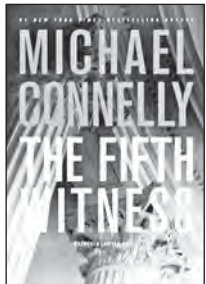
Food Factoid:

Did you know the first mass-produced salsa sold in the United States was in 1941? It was La Victoria salsa.

REVIEWS BY FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS

ENTERTAINMENT

Book Reviews

**The Fifth Witness**

Michael Connelly
Crime fiction,
448 pages
Little Brown & Co.
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Mickey Haller, the L.A. lawyer, has hit hard times and is forced to handle foreclosure defense cases. When one of his clients, Lisa Trammel, is accused of killing banker Mitchell Bondurant, all the evidence points to Lisa, and Mickey has to prove beyond reasonable doubt her innocence.

Mickey learns that Mr. Bondurant had dealings in the black market. Mickey knows he is close to learning the truth when there is an attempt on his life. Mickey creates the greatest defense of his career in a trial that includes the mysterious fifth witness.

This latest thriller featuring Mickey Haller as the attorney working out of his Lincoln Town Car is an intense and thrilling story to the end.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel

**The Border Lords**

T. Jefferson Parker
Crime fiction,
384 pages
Penguin
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Charlie Hood, Los Angeles Sheriff's Deputy, is working with his partner, ATF agent Sean Ozburn, who is deep undercover in the illegal gun-selling business south of the border. Sean goes deep undercover with the North Baja Cartel working across the Mexican border to uncover gunrunners responsible for the illegal gun trade.

When all the gang members are brutally slain, Hood uses Seliah Gravas, Sean's wife, to get him out after he is convicted of the crime. Upon returning, Sean and Seliah come down with a mysterious disease. It turns out that they both contracted rabies from a rabid bat.

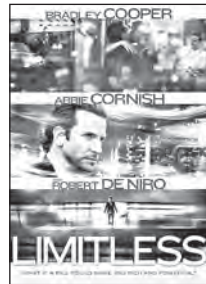
Hood must determine whether his friend Sean's strange behavior of chasing his demons when he was undercover was his way of coping under stress or if he is just crazy.

This novel is filled with action-packed thrills sure not to disappoint the reader.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel



MOVIE REVIEWS

**Limitless**

Rated PG-13
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This movie is about a writer (Bradley Cooper) with a severe case of writer's block who begins his dedicated day of setting down to start his book: it starts with five words that he quickly erases. Eventually a friend introduces him to NZT, a drug that enables him to use his brain to his full potential. Also starring Robert De Niro, this movie will keep you on the edge of your seat with action! It has a fresh new story line that keeps you guessing. Very entertaining!

— Jean Sarfaty, LAPD

**Water For Elephants**

PG-13
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Robert Pattinson is a veterinary student who leaves school after his parents are killed. He joins a traveling circus as its vet and falls in love with the wife (Reese Witherspoon) of the circus' headmaster/owner (Christoph Waltz).

This is a slow-moving but interesting and old-fashioned romance, with an excellent cast (Waltz is a perfect villain), and an elephant (Tai/Rosie) that is unforgettable. I particularly enjoyed the back-scenes of the circus, its culture, and the "circus lingo." This may not be the "greatest show on earth," but *Water For Elephants* is still entertaining and worth the price of admission.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

**The Conspirator**

PG-13
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Following the Lincoln assassination, Mary Surratt (Robin Wright) is charged as a co-conspirator. James McAvoy plays the Union soldier-attorney who, despite his own feelings, is forced to find the truth and defend her.

This is a slow-moving but engrossing historical drama that sheds light on the attitudes of a nation mourning the death of its great president. Filmmaker Robert Redford attempts to draw parallels between the post-Civil War era and today's post-9/11 views toward justice. Although not entirely successful, the film is a remarkable effort in giving a glimpse for a time that was both confusing and dark.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

**African Cats**

Rated G
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

The lion pride featured in *African Cats* is as compelling as a human family. This G-rated "cat melodrama" portrays life in the savannah through beautiful close-ups and suspenseful chase sequences, never showing too much blood, gore, or death. The voiceover, while heavy-handed in places, fits the action perfectly. The cats all have names, which makes them more identifiable to children. I highly recommend this film for children and adults who enjoy watching and learning about big cats.

— Erin Knight, Public Works

**Bridesmaids**

Rated R
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Bridesmaids is the funniest movie I have ever seen. We were laughing from the beginning to the end. There is a lot of competition between the bridesmaids trying to prove who is the best planner, one who has everything and one who tries to bluff her way through the expensive nuptials alongside the other bridesmaids. Each one learns something about themselves and how to make their own life better.

— Patty Saucier, Retired

**Fast Five**

Rated PG-13
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

They're back! All the favorites of the past movies are cast together in this fifth installment of the franchise and probably the most exciting one. The story continues from the last movie as Paul Walker (Brian O'Connor) and Vin Diesel (Dom Torretto) are fugitives on the run. This time they all meet up in Rio de Janeiro where the cars are fast, the people are beautiful and a drug kingpin has something they want. Agent Hobbs, a U.S. Marshal (Dwayne Johnson/The Rock) is right on their trail as the group tries to pull off the perfect heist all the while trying to stay under Hobbs' radar. There are lots of action scenes, car chases and hand-to-hand combat, even a little about family. It's a thoroughly enjoyable movie. I thought this was perfect to end the series, but if you wait until the credits are over, there is a scene that's far-fetched, but a good cliffhanger for another sequel.

— Chuck Beas, DWP

Theatre Reviews

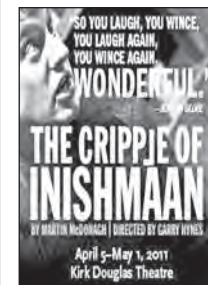
**The Official Blues Brothers Revue**

California Theatre of Performing Arts/San Bernardino
Musical/production has closed

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This musical, based on the Blues Brothers characters from *Saturday Night Live*, pays homage to the original movie with Wayne Catania performing the role of Jake and Kieron Lafferty as Elwood. With the blessing of John Belushi's widow, Judy Belushi Pisano, and Dan Aykroyd, this musical originally was performed during the Legends of the Concerts tour and then toured nation-wide. Wayne and Kieron are in early production on a television show based on the Blues Brothers characters. This high intensity, audience participation musical, which got everyone to sing and move to the music of the Blues Brothers, was fantastic.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel

**The Cripple of Inishmaan**

Kirk Douglas Theatre, Culver City
Drama/production has closed

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Around these parts, meaning Southern California, you might get to see a play by famed British (of Irish descent) playwright Martin McDonagh; the playwright is hot right now, and there are productions of his works quite frequently.

But you rarely get to see his plays done natively; that is, by a native Irish troupe. The well-respected Druid Theatre, from Galway, Ireland, stopped at the Kirk Douglas Theatre in April for a week of *The Cripple of Inishmaan*. Needless to say, the combination of words and actors was outstanding. It was the best production of McDonagh I've seen in awhile.

And the play, too, was a treat. Normally, McDonagh's plays can feature comedy so dark or violent that the show is hard to take. *Inishmaan*, while still very critical and at times withering, found its heart at the end. The resolution might have seemed a bit artificial, but I didn't really care. I was smiling too much.

— John Burnes, editor, *Alive!*



Your Reviews



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.
- All reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and exclusive to *Alive!* (not offered to another outlet). Violations could end your ability to be published in *Alive!*
- 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.

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.

CLUB SPORTS

Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • June 2011

Sign Up for Club Sports Leagues

Contact Robert Larios, the Sports Dude, for registration information:

- sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com ■ (800) 464-0452, ext. 134
- www.cityemployeesclub.com

Sign Up Mondays!

Stop by the Club on Mondays (8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.) to sign up for any upcoming Club sports league!

Come meet Robert Larios, The Sports Dude



JOIN THE Club Softball League!

It's Softball Time Again!

With the Dodgers and Angels officially in spring training, you know it's time to get organized for the 2011 Club Softball League Season!

The first two Club Softball League seasons were a huge hit, with ten teams battling it out for the Club Cup. Get in on the fun for 2011! Fill in your applications now.

For 2011, the Club Softball League is expected to start in June. So get those applications in! Applications are available at the Club Store and Service Center.

Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Registration Deadlines:
 - Deadline for teams is June 15, 2011
 - Deadline for individual players is June 30, 2011
 - Season Opening Day is scheduled to be July 6, 2011
- All players must be Club Members in good standing, spouses of Club Members, or must have been part of the same City Employees team the year before the Club took over the league (2008)
- It's all in good fun!
- Parks/fields are still being determined.
- The Club is looking for City teams in the Harbor area! Speak up, and perhaps we'll be able to field a league division in the Harbor area.



JOIN THE Club Basketball League!

Hoop It Up for Season Three!

Calling all City hoopsters – and hoop stars! Join the upcoming third season of the Club Basketball League.

All Club Members are eligible to join. (For now, the league is for men only.) League memberships are paid for by the Club.

"We have had two great seasons of Club basketball," said the Club's Sports Dude, Robert Larios. "Come on aboard for Season Three.

"With great fans coming by to cheer on their favorite team, plus great competition, the Club's basketball league is full of energy and good times. Come on out and show your stuff!"

The past two seasons of Club basketball have been played at the Expo Sports Complex in Exposition Park. Other venues are possible.

Games may be played at 7, 8 or 9 p.m. Thursdays. Playoff and championship games are planned, to match the championship games from the first two seasons.

"It's another great service the Club provides," the Sports Dude says. "So sign up!"

All participants must be Club Members in good standing.



An all-new Shamu show that explores the exhilaration of the sea, set to a global rhythm.

NEW FOR SUMMER 2011



Follow the journey of a sea turtle's life in this immersive, new interactive attraction.

One amazing adventure after another.



\$55 All Ages
(REGULAR \$69.99 & \$61.99)



\$45 All Ages
(REGULAR \$69.99 & \$61.99)

Celebrate the wonders of the sea at SeaWorld® San Diego. Experience the Shamu® show, plus thrilling rides and amazing animals. And enjoy *Blue Horizons*®, a one-of-a-kind dolphin spectacular. Create memories that last a lifetime at SeaWorld San Diego.

To purchase tickets, visit us at www.cityemployeesclub.com or call (888) 777-1744.

Fun Card not available online, please call (888) 777-1744 to order.

Fun Card offer valid through May 31, 2011. Fun Card not valid for admission May 29, July 3–4 & Sept. 4. Not valid with any other offers, promotions, discounts or Annual Pass purchase. Other restrictions apply. © 2011 SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved.

Visit us online at www.CityEmployeesClub.com



City Employees Club Store

Monthly Featured Merchandise

Available Exclusively to Club Members

Gift For Dads

Products of the Month

City Seal Hat Overstock Sale
- City Seal and City Seal with Script Hats Only -

\$5 each

 Los Angeles City Stainless Steel Watch \$65	 Men's City Watch (Round Face) w/ Leather \$29.99	 Los Angeles City Stainless Steel Travel Mug \$12.99
 City of Los Angeles Tie Bar \$14.99	 City of Los Angeles Expandable Computer Bag \$34.99	 City Seal Embossed Wallets \$12

LA City Department T-Shirts

 Animal Services Department \$12	 Bureau of Street Services \$12	 Department of Transportation \$12	 Department of Building and Safety \$12	 Housing Department \$12	 World Airports \$12
 Information Technology Department \$12	 Harbor Department \$12	 General Services Department \$12	 Rec & Parks Department \$12	 Department of Public Works \$12	 Lanyard - City of LA \$4.99

Club Apparel

More Merchandise Selection at www.CityEmployeesClub.com

 City of Los Angeles Kid's T-Shirt \$8.99	 Women's Los Angeles City Classic T-Shirt \$10	 City Girl Classic T-Shirt \$10	 City Girl Retro T-Shirt \$10	 Women's Tank Top City of LA \$8.99	 Men's Tank Top City of LA \$8.99
 Go Green City T-Shirt \$10	 City Seal One Color T-Shirt \$10	 "B Label" T-Shirt with Departments \$10	 LA Hall T-Shirt \$10	 Los Angeles City French Terry Zip Hoodie \$37	 City Seal One Color Hoodie \$35



Second Day FREE!

Save up to \$25

on a LEGOLAND® Resort Hopper Ticket valid for admission to LEGOLAND California, SEA LIFE™ Carlsbad Aquarium and the world's first LEGOLAND Water Park. PLUS get a 2nd day FREE before 12/31/11!

DISCOUNT TICKETS

can be purchased at the LA City Employees Club (888) 777-1744.



Water Park open seasonally. Visit www.LEGOLAND.com for hours. LEGOLAND Water Park is located in LEGOLAND California and requires same day use as LEGOLAND visit. Both visits must be used before 12/31/11.

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- Cars 2 – 6/24
- Bad Teacher – 6/24

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Tickets are good for one admission to any movie at any AMC theatre in the U.S. AMC Silver Experience tickets exclude special engagements. Subject to surcharge at IMAX® and Premium locations or for Digital 3-D or other special presentations. *Actual percentage of discount varies based on individual theatre pricing.



John Messed Up

He Ordered Way Too Many Hats

John really messed up this time. Now we have way too many hats in stock and no where to put them! These extra hats must go! There are no limits on the quantity purchased.

\$5

ON SELECTED STYLES

(City Seal & City Seal with Script Hats Only)
Regular Price \$8