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SEE PAGE 24

Alive! photo by Summy Lam

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A Message From the CEO

Maps to Our Success

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

Before GPS and navigation systems in my car ... before I could track every movement I made (if I wanted to) with my phone, there was ... the Thomas Bros. Guide. Who didn't have one here in L.A.? In my early days with the Club, driving everywhere to meet Club Members where they worked and learn all about what you did, my Thomas Bros. guide was indispensable. Whether I was going to the Valley, the Westside, the Port, Ontario, Bishop or staying right here downtown, it got me there. It was a map, sure, but it was more than that. It was a way to connect with people I cared (and still care) about.

It wasn't a fancy map. It didn't have promotional pictures. It didn't make suggestions where I could eat breakfast or grab a cup of coffee. But it got me to where I wanted to be, and it became a companion. In a small way, I can give it some credit for the success of serving our Club Members, wherever they were.

How far we've come. I never put it in context; I never thought much about the development of maps in Los Angeles, but of course there was. By reading this month's cover story on **Glen Creason** and the Maps Section at the Central Library, now I know. It made me think a lot more about my relationship with the maps of my early career, and how much they meant to me, and the Club itself.

We can thank former Councilman, Mr. LA **Tom LaBonge**, Club Member, for instigating this month's feature story. He mentioned Glen as the map person at the Central Library as a person we should really talk with.

Alive! editor John Burnes made a note of it – we knew about Glen from his public persona as blogger, author and public speaker. We made official contact and produced this month's graphically beautiful piece.



Glen Creason (right) with Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios in the Library's Map Section.

I hope you enjoy reading – and looking at – the story as much as I did. Those old maps of Los Angeles are awesome. But I have to say, as cool as the pictorial maps are, if you visit Glen and the Maps Section, take a look at some of the early Thomas Bros., Renie and Gillespie street guides. Look up your own neighborhood or City yard, and see how it developed. What those old maps might lack in art, they make up for in their usability. How many jobs, friendships, even relationships wouldn't have happened without them? Who knows, but it's fun to think about, isn't it?

Speaking of learning experiences, can I just say, how amazing are the frequent and fun lessons we are so lucky to get here in *Alive!* from great Club Member **Dr. Ed Krupp**, director of the Griffith Observatory? Here he is again, letting us share in his travels as he documents them in "*Alive!* Around the World." It's a fun and popular feature, but it's more — it seems like every month I'm learning about a new part of the planet because a Club Member took the time to take a photo with *Alive!* and tell us about wherever they are. Thanks, Dr. Krupp, and everyone who shares their knowledge in *Alive!* We're all better for it.

Finally, I'm blown away again – it's a yearly ritual! – by the Valentine wishes that Club Members have composed for their special someone(s). Here in *Alive!* we cover a lot of work-related moments – awards, achievements, promotions, retirements, celebrations, and the like. But we never forget Club Members have personal lives, too. That's as it should be, of course. The work/life balance is critical to our happiness, and here at the Club we're glad so many of you recognize that. So, Happy Valentine's Day to all those people in our lives who make it richer, deeper and really purposeful. (That means you, **Kelley, Mom** and **Hannah!**)

See you next month!

JOHN

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

IN THIS ISSUE *Alive!* February 2016

24 Cover Story:

On the Map

Map Librarian Glen Creason has built the Library's map collection into one of the country's best.

6 Helping Hands

Filipino-American law enforcement association helps train counterparts in the Philippines.

18 Custodian Appreciation

General Services hosts annual appreciation day for custodians.

32 Be Mine!

Alive! presents its annual Club Member Valentine tributes to their loved ones.

11 LAPD Golf

Foundation hosts annual celebrity golf tournament.

7 African-American Leaders

Library exhibits photos of past LA black leaders.



PAGE 32

Valentines

City Department Coverage

Airports

- LAX welcomes two new art exhibits.....31
- Association hosts fall picnic at Knott's.....42
- Santa visits elementary students at LAX.....31
- Airport Police graduate four new officers.....8
- Officers from multiple agencies give out teddy bears to pediatric patients.....23
- Airport Police help Santa hand out toys at LAX on Christmas.....8
- LAX Carpenter shop thanks the Club for Christmas party gifts.....38

Club

- Alive!* Presents its annual Club Member Valentine tributes to their loved ones..... 32-35

FALEO

- Filipino law enforcement agency trains officers in the Philippines.....6

General Services

- General Services hosts annual appreciation day for custodians.....18

Harbor

- Port of Los Angeles hosts 17th annual Lobsterfest.....44

LAPD

- Foundation hosts celebrity golf charity tournament.....11

Library

- Exhibit displays photos of L.A. African-American leaders from the 1960s-'70s.....7

Rec and Parks

- Cabrillo Aquarium taking registrations for annual Baja whale adventure.....46

Zoo

- Zoo welcomes a rare Tomistoma, a cousin to the crocodile.....8

Sections & Columns

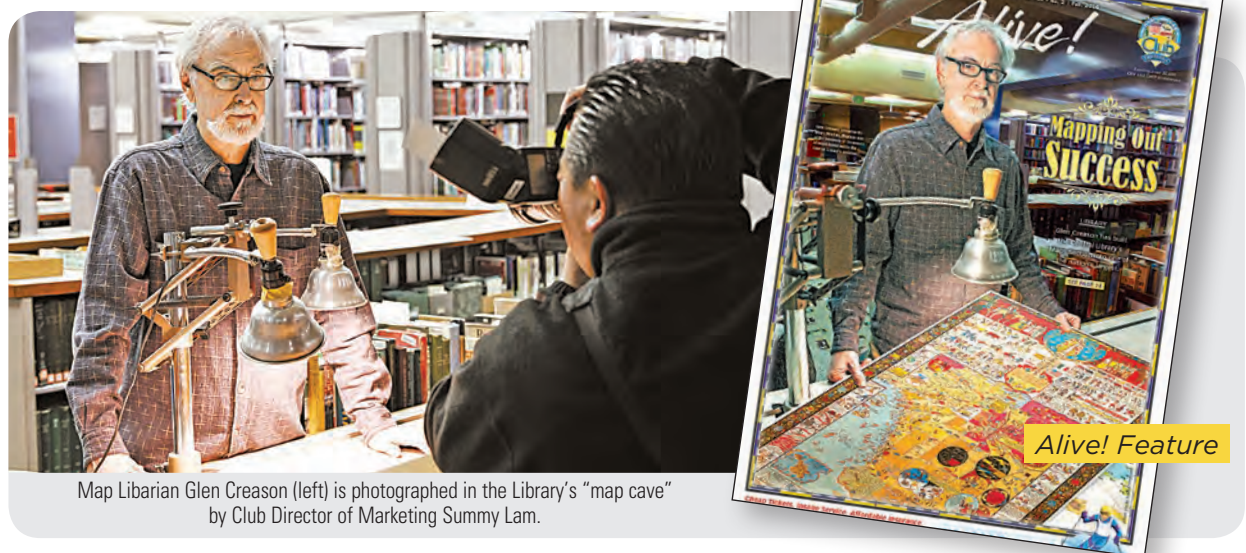
- Adventures With Hal..... 14
- Alive!* Around the World 40
- Be *Alive!* 10
- Births..... 36
- Cabrillo Aquarium This Month..... 22
- Car Club 38
- Classifieds 43
- Club Store 47
- Coloring Contest for Adults..... 17
- Cooking 41
- Deaths 36
- Hstory 19
- Larios in the City..... 46
- Letters 5
- Library Top 10..... 46
- New Club Members..... 36
- Observatory This Month 31
- Peace of Mind..... 37
- People We See 34-35
- Picture Perfect: Best of 2015 30
- Question of the Month 5
- Rest Insured 23
- Retirees Section..... 12-16
- Retirements..... 15
- Reviews: Movies, Video Games & Books 39
- Smart Moves: CBLife..... 22
- Sports 21
- Ticket and Gift Discounts 45
- United Agencies at the Club..... 5

For Retirees: Best Years.....Pages 12-16

Advertiser's Index

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| DWP Federal Credit Union 2 | United Agencies 39 | Club Featured Businesses 7 |
| Paycheck Direct 48 | Pacific Park 23 | Grijalva General Contracting |
| Rosebud Marketing 31 | | Limited Edition Company |
| Sprint..... 44 | | LB Taxes & Notary |
| | | Rosebud Marketing |
| | | United Agencies |

Behind the Scenes



Map Librarian Glen Creason (left) is photographed in the Library's "map cave" by Club Director of Marketing Summy Lam.

Alive! Feature

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Letters to the Editor

The Club Store Comes to Lori



I was so excited to see the Mobile Club at our station. I hate the drive to downtown Los Angeles. What a great idea!

– Lori Griner, Traffic Officer II, Transportation

You're welcome, Lori! Glad you enjoyed the Mobile Club Store's visit to the Valley Transportation Yard on Saticoy St. Sales Director Angel Gomez (pictured with Lori) sets up the Club Store's mobile version wherever Club Members are.

For information about upcoming scheduled visits, write to Angel: angel@cityemployeesclub.com

It's Sweetie Pie's, And So Is She

I love the City of Los Angeles. On my Tuesday route in the North Hollywood District there's a restaurant I frequently go to due to a T.V. show based out of St. Louis – TJ's Sweetie Pies (in the original Phil's Diner space). Can you believe I got to take a picture with one of the cast members the night I took my family back to eat? The cashier says, "It's Miss Tuesday from the trash truck." I absolutely loved that they recognized me out of uniform, but I still represented LA City with my City jacket on.

It's another one of my great finds in this beautiful City I work for.



Chermaine at Sweetie Pie's.

– Chermaine Fontenette, Public Works/Sanitation

Everett's Ride Brings Back Memories of the High Plains

The Call of the Open Road — what a colorful and interesting story about City employee Everett Bennett riding on his road chariot motorcycle to Sturgis. We very much enjoyed the front page. The story brings back memories when I visited the Black Hills National Forest as well as Mt. Rushmore in South Dakota. Beautiful area. Thanks to Everett and Alive! for making this story possible for us all to read.

– Lawrence Jennings, Retired

Retirees Holiday Party Brings Back the Good, Tough Times

It is a safe bet to say that we all enjoyed our time at the RLACEI holiday party. It is always fun to catch up with old colleagues from years past and laugh at some of the fun and not-so-fun times. We love seeing Ed Harding as well as Mike Wilkinson and Lorenzo Porter and his wife, Shirley. The folks at RLACEI do such a wonderful job of making the holiday season so festive with great food, prizes and music. Have a wonderful year, and I'm looking forward to the next event.

– D. Miller, Retired

Club Office Depot Deal: How Low Can It Go?

I went to Office Depot and picked up a bunch of new ink cartridges, and the total went from \$204.23 to \$122.54. That is so wonderful! What a terrific price difference. This is such a savings generator that I can take to the bank. Thank you for making this available to members like me – my membership is so worth it.

– Gilbert Garza, LAFD

Club Softball Season Could've Kept Going, It Was That Amazing

I wish to thank Commissioner Lady Smith, the umpires and the Sports Dude, Robert Larios, for the amazing softball season. As a fan, I truly enjoyed watching the games. Some of us wished the season kept going but we know that at some point the players need rest. For those who missed the championship games, my condolences to you because it was a hot night of softball action. And the trophies were beautiful!

Congratulations to the Blue Dragons and the Killawatts for winning their divisions and all the teams that played.

– John Trujillo, Public Works

Robert's Question of the Month

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer
rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com



Fellow Club members answer the Question of the Month

"What's the first thing you'd do with a winning \$100 million lottery ticket?"



"Build a charitable organization called Fertilizing the Future for Children."

–Terry Drake, Concrete Finisher, Rec and Parks, 24 years of City service



"Buy my dream house!"

– Cesar Fashen, Carpenter, Rec and Parks, 1 year of City service



"Take world-destination vacations like Bernie Contreras!"

– Louie Campos, Mechanic, Rec and Parks, 10 years of City service



"Buy every classic car ever made!"

–Julio Lopez, Gardner Caretaker, Rec and Parks, 10 years of City service



"Pay off every penny of every debt!"

– Bernie Contreras, Equipment Mechanic, Rec and Parks, 21 years of City service



"Share my winnings with the less fortunate in my family and the public through charities."

– Louis Suarez, Retiree, Rec and Parks, 34 years of City service



"Pay off the mortgage on the house ASAP!"

– Randy Lowry, C&M Supervisor, Rec and Parks, 34 years of City service



"Start with making sound purchasing decisions and investments so that I don't lose it all."

–David A. Fossett, Playground Repairer, Rec and Parks, 26 years of City service

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Note: The Club Store will be closed Monday, Feb. 15, in honor of Presidents Day.

FALEO



Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Director of Product Development, and Lt. Ron Lizardo

Training Trip

Through goodwill, law enforcement association helps train officers in the Philippines.



Gervie De Vera accepts the FALEO LA challenge coin from Lt. Ron Lizardo as a token of appreciation for being such a great host and allowing the training to take place at the Cebu Pacific Conference and Training room.

Last November, members of the Filipino American Law Enforcement Officers LA chapter traveled to the Philippines to perform goodwill training of local officers with best practices. It's FALEO LA's second annual goodwill training trip.

The training took place On Nov. 16-19, when the FALEO LA Training Team worked with the Ninoy Aquino International

Airport (NAIA) Police; the Philippine National Police (PNP) stationed in the town of Balaoan, La Union Province; and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Administration on defensive tactics, narcotics identification and familiarization, and active shooter scenarios.

FALEO LA also donated police equipment to the NAIA Police Dept. and to the PNP stationed in Balaoan. Donated equipment included body armor, ballistic helmets, police leader gear, handcuffs and police batons.

FALEO is an association of public safety professionals of Filipino descent who promote fraternal relationships and cultural awareness in their communities. The local chapter includes members from the LAPD, the State of California Health Services/Investigations Branch, the State of California State Metro Police Dept., the California Highway Patrol, and other agencies. The trainers are considered experts in their field and are designated trainers for their respective agency.

Members of the FALEO LA training team who made the trip included:

- Officer Arldwin Flores, a Sr. Firearms Instructor and Rangemaster at the LAPD Academy, who presented defensive tactics training to both Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Police and the Philippine National Police (PNP) in Balaoan;
- Officer Peter Tulagan, LAPD, is an expert in policing against illicit narcotics. He presented narcotics identification and familiarization techniques to both NAIA Airport Police and PNP in Balaoan;
- Lt. Martin Rivera, State Metro Police Dept., presented active shooter training for the NAIA Airport Police and basic first aid and CPR for PNP in Balaoan; and
- Lt. Ronald Lizardo, California Dept. of Health Care Services, an expert in investigating drug diversion and fraud, acted as trip coordinator.

As part of the trip, the FALEO LA team also donated backpacks, school supplies, chocolates and money to the students of Banaybanay elementary schools in Amadeo, Cavite Province.

The FALEO LA team would like to thank:

- Officer Reynaldo "Bong" Delacruz (Officer in Charge), NAIA Police Dept.;
- Mayor Al-Fred O. Concepcion, Mayor of Balaoan, La Union;
- Capt. Froilan Sanchez, NAIA Police Dept.;
- Gen. Neri Ilagan, NAIA Police Dept., Chief;
- Architect Antonio Turalba, President, Active Group, Inc. for the accommodation in Balaoan;
- Mary Jane Turalba, Treasurer, Balaoan, La Union; and
- Lt. Donald Salvador.

Finally, FALEO LA accepts donations for their future outreach. Those interested in donating should contact Donald S. Salvador, dsalvador69957@yahoo.com



FALEO LA members with some of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport PD participants.



Some of the students line up for treats donated by FALEO LA and handed out by Arlene Herrero, Club Director of Product Development and FALEO LA Director; Officer Arldwin Flores, FALEO LA Past President; Lt. Ron Lizardo, FALEO LA Second Vice President; and Lt. Martin Rivera.



Lt. Victor De Leon, Ninoy Aquino International Airport PD, accepts the FALEO LA challenge coin from Lt. Ron Lizardo, FALEO LA Second Vice President.



Day 1 of class with FALEO-LA.



FALEO LA team with Capt. Froilan Sanchez, Officer-in-Charge Delacruz and some of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport PD participants.



Officer Delacruz, Officer in Charge, Ninoy Aquino International Airport PD, thanks everyone for attending.



FALEO LA team members with participants at Balaoan, La Union.



Lt. Martin Rivera demonstrates one on one.



LAPD Officer Arldwin Flores, Club Member, presents defense tactics.



LAPD Officer Arldwin Flores shows best practice on handcuffing technique and safety.



Officer Peter Tulagan talks about synthetic drugs on the rise.



Metro State Hospital Lt. Martin Rivera, Club Member, discusses an active shooter scenario.



Self-defense tactics are demonstrated by Lt. Ronald Lizardo and Officer Arldwin Flores as officers of Balaoan, La Union look on.



Two boxes filled with backpacks and additional school supplies were donated by FALEO LA to local schools.



Participants partner up and practice.



Officials transfer the equipment donation by FALEO LA to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport PD, as accepted by Capt. Froilan Sanchez.



Lt. Ronald Lizardo, FALEO LA Second Vice President, accepts a certificate of appreciation from Capt. Froilan Sanchez, Ninoy Aquino International Airport PD.



More than 300 students lined up at Banaybanay Elementary School in Amadeo, Cavite.



Officer Peter Tulagan talks about different types of synthetic drugs to some of the police officers of Balaoan, La Union.



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Library

Story and photos courtesy Library

The Picture of Leadership

Special Exhibit at the Central Library, downtown

Firsts, Seconds and Thirds:
 African-American Leaders in Los Angeles
 During the 1960s and '70s, From the Rolland Curtis Collection

Library hosts photo exhibit of L.A. African-American leaders in the 1960s-'70s.



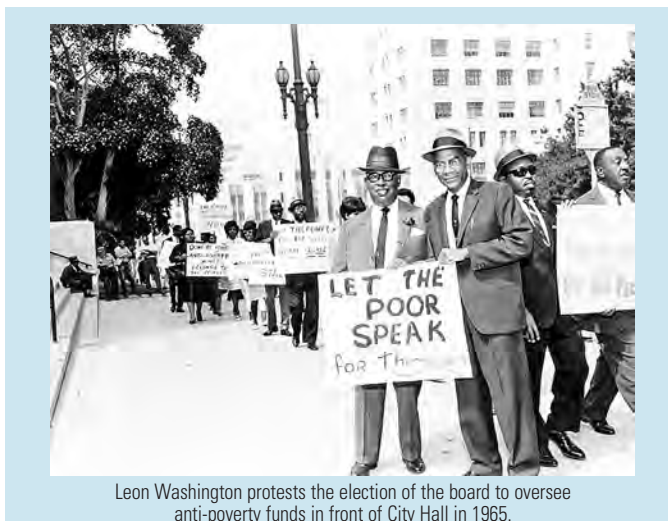
Madame A.C. Bilbrew receives a resolution from Councilman Billy Mills in 1956.



Mervyn Dymally (right) meets Muhammad Ali (left) at a Compton NAACP meeting in 1966. Dymally was the first African American elected to the state Senate, and California's first African American Lt. Governor.



Yvonne Brathwaite Burke speaks at a rally for Pat Brown, circa 1966.



Leon Washington protests the election of the board to oversee anti-poverty funds in front of City Hall in 1965.

Now on exhibit at the Central Library downtown is "Firsts, Seconds and Thirds: African-American Leaders in Los Angeles During the 1960s and '70s, From the Rolland Curtis Collection."

Civil Rights took shape in 1960s Los Angeles as African Americans broke color barriers and began to occupy positions in government. Progress during this time extended past politics, to the realm of entertainment, commerce, public service and activism. It is in the midst of this exciting time that Rolland J. Curtis took thousands of photographs while serving as a Field Deputy for Councilmembers Billy Mills and Tom Bradley.



Rolland J. Curtis

Curtis' images provide a unique view of the African-American experience in South Los Angeles during this time. This exhibit presents a sampling of the City's black leaders of the period. Some famous, some forgotten, these individuals were true trailblazers: the first, second, or third African Americans in the history of Los Angeles to accomplish their feats.

The exhibit is made possible through a grant from the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation. This event is presented by the Los Angeles Public Library Photo Collection and sponsored by Photo Friends.

Zoo

Photos by Tad Motoyama, Zoo

Say Hello to a Crocodile Cousin

Zoo welcomes rare female Tomistoma to LAIR collection.

The Los Angeles Zoo has welcomed a rare female Tomistoma, a freshwater crocodilian species also referred to as a false gharial, to the collection at the Living Amphibians, Invertebrates, and Reptiles (LAIR). The 35-year-old female from the Singapore Zoo arrived by cargo plane in October. The Zoo hopes she becomes a breeding match for the Zoo's 17-year-old male Tomistoma. The female will stay in a quarantined area in view of the public until she is medically cleared to begin the introduction process with the male.

"Introductions of crocodilians are notoriously unpredictable," said Ian Recchio, Curator of Amphibians and Reptiles at the Los Angeles Zoo. "These are intelligent animals, and we aren't sure how they will react to each other."

"Tomistoma are one of the most endangered crocodilian species in the world," Recchio said. "We have high hopes that this



The Zoo's new female Tomistoma.

pair will form a positive connection, and we encourage guests to come out and see the couple because they will be two of the rarest animals here at L.A. Zoo."

Tomistoma are large crocodilians characterized by a long, narrow snout filled with 76-84 sharp, pointed teeth. One of the larger crocodilian species, male Tomistomas can attain lengths of up to 18 feet or more. The freshwater species is native to Southeast Asia, specifically Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, and Malaysia. The Tomistoma is listed as vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species due to continuing loss of swamp forest habitat.

Airports

Photos courtesy Officer Rob Pedregon, Airport Police

Santa Lands at LAX

Airport Police helps Santa give away toys to children on Christmas.



Santa, with the help of Airport Police Officers, hands out teddy bears to children traveling on Christmas morning.

On Christmas morning, the Airport Police handed out teddy bears to children traveling on Christmas morning. Santa, who resembled Steve Van Noord, uncle of Motor Officer Nick Van Dragt, spent his Christmas morning walking the terminals with Airport Police handing out teddy bears to children and taking pictures with children and adults. The travelers were so surprised to see Jolly St. Nick that their faces lit up with joy.

"To see the look on the faces of the parents was as rewarding as seeing the look on the faces of the children," said Motor Sgt. John Hernandez, who walked the terminals with other officers of the Motor Unit. "This was such a success that we need to do this again next year."

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Club Discounts



By Michael Anderson, Club IT Manager

The Mountains Are Calling

Club IT Manager Michael Anderson says now is the time to head to Big Bear. Take advantage of Club ski deals!



Angel Gomez, the Club's Director of Member Services, enjoys the slopes via snowboarding. The Club offers great discounts to local downhill runs. Check out all the latest offers at the Club Webstore online: cityemployeesclub.com

Look out your window— do you see the mountains? No? Are you looking out the right window? Is it cloudy? Are you not in Southern California, because if you're in Iowa this won't work. But if you are in the LA area and the day is clear and you look east, and if there's not something blocking your view, you should see them. They call to you majestically: "Why don't you visit me any more?" Or, "How come you've never driven my winding roads and taken in my fresh air?" Or, "What the heck, it's been like a week, when are you coming back?"

The longer you look at their snowcapped peaks, the more you're drawn to their steep winding roads and conifer trees—the views of distant San Bernardino and the high desert that stagger you. The way when the marine layer blankets the valley below, it looks like you're standing on the shore of an ocean and the clouds are the water lapping against the beach of the mountain slopes. The way that only an hour and forty-five minutes from Los Angeles' crowded streets, can be found pristine snow, clear lakes and clean air.

At eight in the morning on a Saturday, you can leave behind the asphalt, the concrete, the steel, and by ten, be soaring over the southland more than a mile high taking in the crisp air. You know you want to; put down the paper; find a cabin online and book a weekend away from the hectic Hollywood lifestyle.

I've done it. My wife, daughter and I spent the weekend in Big Bear at a recently remodeled cabin that sleeps seven and charged less than \$250 a night. This place was walking distance

to Big Bear Lake and a five-minute drive to Snow Summit. It snowed that Friday morning, blanketing the San Bernardino Mountains in creamy white powder. There was snow, snow, snow everywhere we looked. With a fireplace, a flat screen, a hot tub and Direct TV, the only reason to leave the house was the stunning views and the snow-covered slopes. I stayed in and worked with only the uninter-

rupted silence of the mountains to keep me company, while my wife and daughter spent the day snowboarding. If you're trying to get your kids away from the Xbox or the PlayStation, there are fewer more alluring activates than sliding down the side of a mountain strapped to an oversized skateboard with the wheels removed.

On the way to the slopes, you'll pass Big Bear Village on the right. There is a hill covered with snow upon which children of all ages slide downward on inner tubes—laughing and screaming with delight. Next to these slopes is the Magic Carpet, a covered escalator that takes the riders from the bottom to the top, where they leap off the hill and sled fearlessly to the bottom again. Whatever you're looking for: quiet, staggeringly beautiful views, excitement, or just quality time with your family, the mountains of Southern California have it all, and they're waiting for you fewer than two hours away.

As a word of caution, if you do not own a four-wheeler or all-wheel drive vehicle with snow tires, be prepared to ride up with chains. We were asked by Caltrans to pull over to put on our chains at the base of Snow Valley Resort. Motorists may telephone for up-to-the-minute information by calling (800) 427-7623. The Caltrans network is updated as conditions change.

Upon arriving at Snow Summit or any ski resort, be prepared and layer up! Bring bottled water, sunblock, and your youthful spirit. You're going to need all that energy to carve snow.

If you are an early bird, there is plenty of parking available at Snow Summit, although you would have to pay \$20 in the VIP section. The parking lot leading up to the lifts is on a slope, so this is worth the cost, especially if you are hauling your heavy equipment uphill. There is free parking if you want to park in an adjacent lot and ride the free trolley into the park. Riding the rough and bouncy trolley is an adventure on its own!

Snow Summit's sister property, Bear Mountain, is a convenient shuttle ride away. The free shuttle operates every 10 minutes between parks, and your lift ticket is valid to both parks. From the top of the runs, you can view Big Bear Lake and lush snow-capped trees in the background. The runs are long and views are spectacular. On certain nights, the parks stay open for night boarding or skiing until 9 p.m. Updates are posted on their Website and subject to cancellations.

If you get hungry, there is no need to leave the park. There is dining on site. During warmer seasons, you can take a chair lift ride to the top to have lunch.

Most of the staff is pretty laid back but attentive, and always friendly and willing to offer assistance. The park is great for beginners (classes are taught) and intermediates. If you don't have your own gear, you can rent skis, bindings, boots, boards, and helmets at the park for a reasonable cost.

We had a fun and exhausting day at Snow Summit. My muscle soreness continues today, days later, as I write this article. And if you were to ask me if I'd like to go back, I'd reply, "Absolutely – in a heartbeat!"

If you are planning a visit to the Big Bear area, stop by the store for your discount lift tickets (valid weekdays only). You can also check out Snow Summit on the Web at www.snowsummit.com. If you like the cabin described in this article, call Kelly at (951) 500-7044 to book it now.

Listen to the mountains, and do what they tell you.



Airports

Story and photos courtesy Officer Rob Pedregon, Airport Police

Welcome, New Officers

Airport Police graduates four new officers.



The swearing-in was delivered by Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon.



Officers John Becerra, Royal Ellis, Steve Sanchez and Monica Urbieta were the 31st through the 33rd Airport Police Officers to graduate from the LAPD Academy in 2015.



From left: Officers Monica Urbieta, Steve Sanchez, Royal Ellis and John Becerra prepare to receive their diplomas.

On Dec. 23, four new officers joined the ranks of the Airport Police.

Recruit Officer and squad leader John Becerra, recruit Officers Royal Ellis and Steve Sanchez, and recruit Officer Monica Urbieta, who was honored with the award for top recruit in report writing, were sworn in after graduating from Los Angeles Police Academy Class 7-15. The graduation ceremony was held at the LAPD Administration Building downtown.

The graduation included the latest of the 33 new members of the Airport Police to successfully graduate this calendar year. "The hiring and training of 33 new officers this year, along with the latest acquisition of 18 new K-9 vehicles and the utilization of the latest technologies, is a sign of our continued commitment to strengthening the safety and security of our airports," said Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon. "I am proud of what we have accomplished this year, and I am even more excited about our plans moving into the future."

Class 7-15, with 42 officers, trained for six months. The new Airport Police Officers will now complete a six-month Field Training Program specific to airport law enforcement, under the guidance of a field-training Officer before being assigned to Patrol Services Section.

CLUB MEMBER DISCOUNT

Snow Valley
MOUNTAIN RESORT • CALIFORNIA

Snow Valley is the closest ski area to the valley floor, five miles east of Running Springs on Highway 18 and 30 minutes closer than Big Bear Lake resorts. With 13 lifts and 240 acres of powdery terrain, Snow Valley has something for every level of skier and snow boarder.

Angel Gomez, Director of Member Services at Snow Valley Resort

Includes Night Skiing When Available

CLUB MEMBER PRICES

| | |
|------|--|
| \$44 | ADULT (Ages 20+) <small>Reg Price \$69</small> |
| \$33 | YOUNG ADULT (Ages 13-19) <small>Reg Price \$59</small> |
| \$18 | CHILD (Ages 7-12) <small>Reg Price \$30</small> |
| \$27 | MIDWEEK (Mon - Fri) Adult/Young Adult <small>Reg Price \$59</small> |

Club Discount prices valid anytime, except Presidents Weekend from February 13-15, 2016.

CityEmployeesClub.com



Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales

Angel's Be Alive!

Badlands Park Trail



Badlands Park Trail – Laguna Niguel



Aden and Angel Jr. sit by the stairway leading to the trail.



Angel Jr. by the Badlands Trail regulations sign.



Badlands Park Trail and gorgeous homes along the way.



Kathy, Angel Jr. and Aden, with Catalina Island in the background.



Along the Badlands Trail: "We can see the sand."



Stairs along the trail.

Hello, everyone!

This month we went for a short scenic walk in Laguna Niguel, at a trail in Badlands Park. The area is gorgeous, and the trail is only about one-and-a-half miles long. This trail is very easy, and the views are amazing. Once you're on the trail, you will be able to see Aliso Peak and Palos Verdes Peninsula, and when you make it around a bend, you can see farther south, past Dana Point toward San Diego, and of course let's not forget Catalina Island. This trail is more like a casual walk; we all loved the trail and the views are breathtaking.

Let's begin!

History: This is the story, word for word, from the sign at Badlands: "Early Orange County homebuilders used the sand in the area to make concrete, once the land area was stripped of its native vegetation and fertile topsoil. The sandstone formation was slowly eroded by rainwater making its journey to the sea. Although this area receives only about 10 inches of rain a year, enough water has eaten away at the exposed sandstone slope face to form the sandy beach below."

The Trail: On the day we visited, it was very clear, and the views were amazing! We could see Catalina Island and the coastline from San Mateo Point, in San Clemente, to Newport Beach.

The Laguna Ridge Trail is in the southwestern corner of the Laguna Niguel and travels along the western side of the Monarch Point, Pinnacle at Monarch and Laguna Sur residential communities. On the trail you can see South Laguna Beach.

We all really liked the trail, and the views are breathtaking anywhere you look. The trail will take you about an hour at an average pace. Don't forget to bring your camera, some water and of course sunscreen. I would recommend this trail to everyone of all ages. After the walk, you can go down to the beach and make a full day of this adventure.

If you go, take lots of pictures, and then send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com

As always, be safe and Be Alive!

Angel

Badlands Park Trail

**31671 Isle Vista
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677**

Parking: Free (street). Isle Vista ends at a gated community, but parking is available on the curb. Walk to a staircase by the gate and then turn left to begin the trail.

Directions: From downtown Los Angeles, take the I-5 south, then take the Alicia Parkway exit. Drive 5.9 miles to Pacific Island Drive and turn right. Go 1.7 miles and turn right on Ocean Way. Go 0.2 miles and turn left on Isle Vista.

LAPD



Story by Jeanette Gadut and Dalila Vielma, Club Counselors
Photos by Ryan Herrero

Celebrity Golf, for a Cause

Police Memorial Foundation hosts annual family fun day, celebrity golf tournament.



The Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation held its 43rd annual Police-Celebrity Golf Tournament and Family Fun Day July 20 at the Brookside Golf Club in Pasadena. It was an event to honor the men and women who lost their lives in the line of duty and raise funds for their survivors.

Plenty of activities were available for those who attended. Various LAPD displays were present, including from Air Support, the bomb squad, and the motorcycle unit. Classic cars, vendors with kid-friendly activities, and food trucks were also in abundance. It was a fun-filled day for those who were able to take part in the occasion.



From left: Mike Markowich; Mike Capuccio, Rich Rose and Stephen Bauer.



From left: Ted Beaden; Chief Art Miller, South Pasadena; Dennis Haysbert; and Lt. II Al Jackson, 30 years of City service.



From left: Alysha Del Valle; Danny Roman, Retired, Athletic Director at LAPRAAC; Alex Thomas; and Kenny Schmidt.



From left: Tactical Flight Officer Kevin Ishida, 21 years of City service, Club Member; and L. Ordin, LAPD Air Support Division, 17 years.



Ryan Herrero, Club Summer Customer Service Associate, in front of a 1978 Plymouth LAPD police car.



From left: Daniel Wang; Kendall Schmidt; Nancy Claiborne, Hearing Reporter, 34 years of City service; and Sr. Lead Officer Frank Contreras, Newton Area, 21 years.



From left: Mark Glennie; Emilio Rivera; Commander Robert Arcos, 27 years of City service; and Capt. III John McMahon, 26 years.



From left: Officer II John Hernandez, Valley Area, 5 years of City service; Alex Vitacion, LAPD, 22 years; Michael Paul Chan; and Raymond Cruz.



From left: Phillip P. Keene; Rudy Vasquez, PSR III, 20 years of City service; Sgt. Richard Levy, 28 years; and Ron Masak.



From left: Neal McDonough, Emile Welman, Dr. Peter Waldstein and Phillip Boyd.



From left: Keith Lohnes; C. Thomas Howell; Sgt. Steven Weaver, 23 years of City service; and Glynn Martin.



From left: Erik Valdez; Tim Wise, LAPCU; Jimmy McNeal; and Steve Andersen.



From left: Bob Bender; Kevin Sorbo; Ransford Doherty; and Officer II Jeremy Hershey, Pacific Area, 8 years of City service.



From left: Garry Anderson; Danny Masterson; Manuel Dickerson; and Officer II John Dunlop, 20 years of City service.



From left: Frank Buckley; Sgt. Anthony Azevedo, Foothill, 19 years of City service; and Ben Maillette.



From left: Officer II Robert Howe, 3 years of City service; Officer II Liz Mori, 1 year; Officer II Adrian Garcia, 7 years; Sgt. Jackie Orellana, 13 years, Club Member; and Officer Steve Reyes, 9 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer III Sal Flores, Metro Division, 18 years of City service; SWAT Officer III Ivan Ramos, 26 years; and SWAT Officer III Bruce Adam, 22 years, Club Member.



From left: Sgt. Jesse Ojeda, 19 years of City service; Officer III Calvin Hill, 5 years; Officer II Elder Chichilla, 7 years; and Officer II Emmanuel Barba, 2 years.



From left: Yolanda Rivera, Administrative Assistant, 29 years of City service; and Joyce Sevens, Retired 911 Dispatcher, 22 years.



From left: Officer Oscar Iturraldi, Logistics, 21 years of City service; Tactical Flight Officer Kevin Ishida, 21 years, Club Member; and Tim Scully, LAPD Bomb Technician, 25 years.



Steven Jenkins, K-9 Handler, 26 years of City service, with Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor.



From left: Cindie Flannagin, Dallas Kenny and Officer Wayne Wall, 25 years of City service.



Gracie of the K-9 Unit.



For Retired Club Members

The Best Years

CITY RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



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

Change of Address?

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

Have News About Yourself?

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

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

Reservation Lines:

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

DWP events: (626) 445-7376 (Dolores Foley)

LARFPA: (888) 288-5063

April 14: RLACEI general meeting, Friendship Auditorium

June 1: LARFPA general meeting and annual barbecue, Grace E. Simons Lodge

June 2: RLACEI annual golf tournament, Alhambra Golf Course

Aug. 11: RLACEI annual corporation meeting and picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge

Sept. 7: LARFPA general meeting, Grace E. Simons Lodge

Dec. 1: RLACEI Christmas party, Friendship Auditorium

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 the LA City Employees' Retirement System

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

DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, President
Phone: (626) 445-7376
E-mail: vincedolores@gmail.com
www.dwpretirees.org

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



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

Fall Meeting Crunch Spurs Amendment Talk

RLACEI

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



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

I hope everyone enjoyed their happy holidays and that the 2016 New Year will be happier and healthier and bring more money. Talking about money, the COLA (cost of living increase) will soon be announced. Let us hope it will be better than last year's, although it doesn't look like it.

Also, be sure to arrange to be at our general meeting April 14.

I need your attendance, since we plan to eliminate the October general meeting because LACERS has been holding its open enrollment meetings in October. This change requires our bylaws to be amended: Article III, Section 2 and 3 talk about the election of directors at the October meeting. Read Mary Beetz' article in this issue for more information.

At last year's October general meeting and election, only 30 members showed up, which was a waste of our budgeted money. This was due to LACERS' October open enrollment meet-

ings. It is obvious you feel the same way I do — too many meetings held in October.

Please attend RLACEI'S April 14 meeting for 2016 changes.

Reminder: Effective last month, Director Helen Salgado, our Membership Chairman, passed her membership duties to our Director, Cliff Cannon. He will be our new Membership Chairman. He can be contacted at (800) 672-4145, x715, or cell (310) 218-6646.

See you at our April 14th meeting.

Myth: Switching to a 401(k) Plan Saves Money



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update, By Michael R. Wilkinson

Please see my RLACEI colleague Michael Karsch's excellent article in this issue for a rundown on the latest proposed statewide initiatives to impair public pensions in California. The proposals are one more attempt to switch public employees from the tried and true traditional pensions (like LACERS) to 401(k) plans.

The backers of these initiatives promise cost savings to the public by getting government employees out of defined benefit pensions, in which the payments are guaranteed, into defined contribution plans (401(k) and similar plans), for which all risk is on the employee.

But does it save money?

The short answer is that switching from an existing traditional pension plan to a 401(k)

costs the government, and ultimately the taxpayer, more and not less money. Let's call it what it is, a big lie.

The highly respected nonprofit National Institute on Retirement Security did a white paper last year and looked at three public plans that made a switch to a defined contribution plan, and in each case costs to the government employer went up, not down.

In the three state plans (Alaska, Michigan and West Virginia), there were common trends:

- Unlike the promises made by "reform" backers, the change did *not* help correct existing underfunding, but increased pension costs.
- Workers' financial insecurity in retirement increased.
- The best correction is to retain the traditional pension and require the state

to make the full, required employer contribution and adjust actuarial assumptions as needed.

In West Virginia, the dissatisfaction with the change was great enough that the state reopened its traditional pension plan after it was closed for 15 years when the 401(k)-type plan proved inadequate. Certain politicians love to demonize public employees as the cause of the "pension crisis." In reality, a frequent root cause for underfunded pensions is a long and sordid history of government employers not paying into the pension what the actuary determines is the correct required contribution.

You will be happy to know that LACERS has *always* received the full contribution from the City each year so that we will not have a pension mess used by illegal government underfunding.

Employees, Retired Concerned About Amendment Initiatives



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

Many government employees and retirees are justifiably concerned about moves in California to promote an initiative to make major, fundamental changes in public pensions. The one to watch is by former San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed and former San Diego City Councilman Carl DeMaio to amend the State

Constitution to provide that any new employee in state or local government in California hired after Jan. 1, 2019, would not have a pension unless the voters in that jurisdiction have approved a public pension such as a defined benefit plan, with any and all subsequent increases in benefits also subject to approval by the voters in their jurisdiction. The authors argue that disability and health-care are part of such plans, hence would be part of the package for voter approval. Every jurisdiction would have to put their pension

benefit plans before their voters as frequently as they wish, and presumably would receive voter approval, but such is not a foregone conclusion. The first step is approval of this initiative on the ballot this November.

In Carl DeMaio's San Diego, the state labor board ruled in December that the City spent millions on retroactive pensions for roughly 2000 employees since that city's cutbacks in 2012, when the city placed new hires in a 401(k) savings account. City Attorney Jan Goldsmith hopes to get San Diego

Continues next page

Employees, Retired Concerned About Amendment Initiatives (continued)

City Council approval to appeal that ruling, saying that a state appellate court would nullify the labor board ruling.

Across the country in Baltimore, that city's problems in racial tensions are almost matched by its pension woes. Their fire and police retirement system's unfunded liability had risen to \$1 billion at the close of 2015. The fund has only enough assets to cover less than 70 percent of the costs of providing benefits;

this percentage was 74 percent only a year ago. "Weak performance" was the major contributor to the overall decline, according to a report by the system. The assumed rate of return for the system is 8 percent, a figure that few funds have achieved, but Baltimore felt it was reasonable (many observers feel that a rate of return around 7 percent is more realistic, and some say a figure half of that is much better).

The *Wall Street Journal* reports

that public pension benefits have been cut at equal rates by Democratic and Republican governors since 2009. Forty-five states put into law some 245 pension-related bills in 2015, a substantial increase over the last three years. A director of research into pension issues at the National Council of State Legislatures says this reform activity is unlikely to abate in future years.

Some New Laws Affect Pensions?



Lee Kebler

I hope all of you are still living up to your New Year's resolutions, especially the ones we promise ourselves to do, like lose weight, eat better, exercise on a routine basis, get out of debt, watch less television, call old friends, take a trip and turn off the smart phone.

After we get our resolutions in working order, we need to start learning some of the 807 new laws that went into effect Jan. 1. These laws cover the following major categories: animals and environment, crime and punishment, drivers, immigrants, parents, students, water, workers and a lot of other items. I wonder if we really need this many new laws every year.

An example of an old law with an impact on our benefits is Section 4.1154(c) of the Los Angeles Administrative Code. It states that the maximum amounts for the Medicare Health Care subsidy for retirees and survivors enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B are limited by the Los Angeles City Employees (LACERS) Plan Premiums. LACERS negotiated a new Medicare Plan Premium of \$487.71 a month effective Dec. 31. Our premium cost is \$523.25, and the new subsidy amount caused a decrease \$35.54 in our subsidy. This causes an increase of \$35.54 for our retirees to pay for their healthcare.

On Jan. 11, the Supreme Court

heard oral arguments from 10 California teachers that said they were being forced to subsidize activities with which they disagree. California law states that non-union members of a public employee association must pay a "fair share fee" or "agency fee" that pays for "collective bargaining" including the cost of lobbying but don't have to pay for political contributions. If the Supreme Court upholds the teachers' case, there will be tremendous complications that will affect active public employees throughout the State.

Remember the only thing that is constant is change.

LARFPA

How does my LACERS-Sponsored Medical Insurance and The Affordable Care Act affect my 2015 Federal Income Tax Return?

LACERS



Mary Beetz

LACERS' UPDATE BY MARY BEETZ

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires you and each of your dependents to have qualifying health care coverage otherwise known as "minimum essential coverage". The good news is that the LACERS-sponsored medical plans exceed the "minimum essential coverage" requirements under the ACA.

LACERS' insurance carriers will send Form 1095-B to our Members on or before January 31, 2016. This form is separate from the Form 1099-R that LACERS sends you at approximately the same time.

In addition, you may receive more than one Form 1095-B if in 2015 you:

- Enrolled as a New Retiree
- Had coverage elsewhere and enrolled in a LACERS medical plan during the year
- Changed your LACERS medical plan during the year
- Enrolled as an Eligible Survivor

Another bit of good news is that for your 2015 Federal Income Tax Return, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) does not require you to submit the Form 1095-B when filing your tax return, except in the following situations:

- You and/or your dependents did not have health coverage for the full year, either in a LACERS' or a non-LACERS' plan; and/or,
- You and/or your dependents were enrolled in the Health Insurance Marketplace Exchange, e.g. Covered California.

Please contact a tax professional or visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov, if you have questions regarding the reporting of LACERS-sponsored medical coverage.

RLACEI Members: Please attend the April 14th meeting for information of 2016 RLACEI changes:

NEW RLACEI BYLAW CHANGE:

ARTICLE III - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 2

The election of directors shall take place at the Annual General Membership meeting in **October**, whose time and place will be set by the Board of Directors at the December meeting. The elected directors shall assume their offices on January 1.

Section 3

Six (6) Directors shall be elected at the **October** Annual General Membership meeting each *odd* year. Seven (7) Directors shall be elected at the **October** Annual General Membership meeting each *even* year. Directors shall be elected to serve two years or until their successors are elected.

For Retired Club Members

The Best Years

CONTACT THE CLUB:



Tiffany Sy

Club Member Services Counselor, In-house

(800) 464-0452, Ext. 202

TSy@cityemployeesclub.com

www.cityemployeesclub.com

RETIREMENT HELPLINE

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

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

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| • Mary Beetz | Ext. 711 |
| • Cliff Cannon (membership) | Ext. 715 |
| • Hal Danowitz | Ext. 707 |
| • Americo Garza | Ext. 710 |
| • Edward Harding | Ext. 703 |
| • Michael Karsch | Ext. 704 |
| • Gary Mattingly | Ext. 702 |
| • Phillip Orland | Ext. 709 |
| • Neil Ricci | Ext. 714 |
| • Ken Spiker | Ext. 705 |
| • Tom Stemnock | Ext. 708 |
| • Michael Wilkinson | Ext. 712 |
| Questions: | Ext. 0 |
| RSVP: | Ext. 701 |

DWP Retirement Plan Office (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

Edward Harding: President
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President
Tom Stemnock: Second Vice President
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons

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

Directors

Mary Beetz
Cliff Cannon
Americo Garza
Michael Karsch
Gary Mattingly
Phillip Orland
Neil Ricci
Helen Salgado
Michael R. Wilkinson



The Best Years

For Retired Club Members



At Sea, Heading Home

Hal and Evelyn celebrate 25 years of marriage with a transatlantic cruise. **Part 4/4**

Evelyn and I went on a cruise adventure in October 2014, celebrating 25 years of marriage. We flew to Barcelona via Paris and spent four nights in Barcelona before boarding the Celebrity ship *Equinox* for a 14-day repositioning cruise to Fort Lauderdale. We stopped in five ports before a seven-day crossing. We met our friends Max and Linda in Barcelona. They had already been on the ship for 14 days.

Last night (Nov. 3, 2014), we gained another hour. The seas were a little choppy and it was overcast with brief periods of sunshine. Evelyn went to the exercise room, and I went to breakfast.

Our ship displaced 122,000 tons, and had an occupancy of 2,850 passengers and 1,255 crew. Our cabin was 194 square feet with a 54-square-foot veranda. The room was long and narrow. We had a king-sized bed and a five-foot sofa that could be converted into a bed. There was a large safe and a refrigerator, which had items to purchase and left no room for passenger items unless you took theirs out. The closet space was well designed and large enough for two, but there was not enough drawer space. The room featured a desk and chair and a flat-screen TV with 25 channels. The best part of the cabin was the bathroom — lots of storage and a great stall shower. It was very well designed.

Elsewhere on the ship, there was a two-level main dining room — the lower level was for fixed seating (dinner at 5:30 or 8 p.m.), the upper for open seating. There were three specialty restaurants with an additional cost.

In the buffet there was coffee, iced tea and two or three other juices that were free, but the ship also had a coffee and juice bar, where fresh squeezed juice was \$3 and coffee was more than Starbucks. There were a number of drink packages starting at \$18 a day for all non-alcoholic drinks, to \$55 a day for any drink, but each person in the cabin had to have a package individually. A different line, Princess, offered a coffee card package that Evelyn liked and was very reasonable — 15 drinks for \$32 for any of the fancy coffee drinks.

Dinner in the Tuscan Grille (specialty restaurant) was very good — the food and presentation were excellent. It was located at the rear of the ship, and we had a great view of the wake at night. We purchased a three-dinner package for \$85 per person; because we purchased in advance we saved \$50 per couple. While the food was good, there is just so much you can eat.

We saw or dozed through the entertainment show, a song and dance program by the ship's singers and dancers. Of what I saw they did a good job.

The next morning (Nov. 4), Evelyn exercised, and I used the knife and fork for weights. After breakfast I found a nice quiet spot at the rear of the ship where I could work on my notes for this trip.

Sea days normally feature the same routines every day, so I won't bore you by repeating the same details.

I did go to an interesting lecture on the Italian Renaissance about the Borgias, Medicis and De Vinci. I knew most of the story from TV, but the presenter Lisa (I didn't catch her last name) was very good.

Last night was the first real screw-up by the ship. They had scheduled an event in the Solarium titled "Liquid: The Xperience: ABBA Celebration." The announcement sug-

2013 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

gested an enclosed, covered pool area with spas and lounge seating. So many people showed up that there was no place to sit. The show seemed to consist of two mermaids swimming back and forth in the pool. A DJ was playing ABBA music over a poor speaker system and not much else. It was badly conceived, planned and executed.

We left and listened to the Mood Icons, a very good band playing good dance music in the Grand Foyer, then we saw the show with Doug Cameron, a very talented electric violin player.

When we made our final payment for the cruise, Celebrity added \$12 per person for gratuities onto the final payment. They do this because we had select dinner seating and did not have the same waiter each time; the \$12 also went partly to our cabin steward. The last time, Princess put the gratuities on our bill on a daily basis, but it could be removed for the asking. So I asked Celebrity if I could remove the pre-paid gratuities, and they said no. It seemed if you have select (open) dining you must pay the gratuities — that makes them a fee and not a voluntary gratuity. That is not disclosed when you make your reservation. It was just another thing to complain about. When we finished our last Princess cruise, we felt nicked and dined. I guess unless you are on an all-inclusive cruise line, you are going to experience this. It seems to be the trend.

The dinner in Murano (French cuisine) was excellent; it was the best of the specialty restaurants. The price was \$40 per person, but if you bought the three-dinner package it was about \$30. The food and service were very good; I didn't feel stuffed at the end. They had a better wine list than the dining room, and we had a bottle of Duckhorn Decoy for \$75.

Like all cruise lines, Celebrity has a rewards program, which offers benefits depending on the number of cruises you have taken. At the lower levels they give you coupons for discounts. At our level (the lowest) we got 10 percent off on a bottle of wine and laundry, a free gelato and a \$5 match in the casino.

The next day (Nov. 6), the seas continued to be calm and the temperature warm, but that morning we ran through a heavy rainstorm. It didn't last long, and then the sun came out. After trivia we played canasta before lunch.

We wanted to try the Bistro on Five, which served crepes and paninis. They had a \$7 cover charge. While the crepes were good, I'm not sure the experience was worth the price.

In the afternoon Max and I attended the small batch bourbon tasting. We tasted four different bourbons from the Knob Creek stillhouse. It was an interesting experience because we could taste the difference between the bourbons. The young woman who ran the tasting was from Bulgaria and was very knowledgeable about bourbon and mixology. I wonder where she got her education.



Left to right: Hal, Evelyn, Max and Linda



Our ship.



Pouring drinks at the martini bar.

We stopped at the Martini Bar so Evelyn could try the six-martini drink. These are one-third the size of a normal martini, and the bartender mixed them in six shakers and then poured them all at once into six glasses without spilling a drop. Each was a different color and the effect is entertaining. The bar also had a frozen ice cap on it (as I think I mentioned previously) but still made for a dramatic presentation. The bartenders all channeled Tom Cruise from the movie *Cocktail*.

After dinner we decided to try our luck at the casino. We had three \$5 matches for blackjack. In addition to blackjack, there were craps tables, three-card poker, Texas Hold 'Em, and roulette. There were also lots of slot machines, from a penny to a dollar. The table games started at \$5. I doubled my money, \$30, at blackjack and then lost \$10 in the slots. I was still \$5 ahead.

The next day (Nov. 8), the weather changed — it was still warm, but looked like rain. The forecast for Fort Lauderdale called for rain for our arrival on Monday. The cruise was coming to an end, and everyone was preparing to disembark. It rained hard most of the morning, but the Captain said he was

expecting nice weather for the final day. This was the last formal night. Thank God.

At dinner, I had a great roasted duck in orange sauce. Very few if any items had been repeated on the menus except for the standard ones offered any night. We saw the show, which featured acrobatic acts with a great juggler and unusual costumes and lighting. It was interesting but too long.

On our last day on the ship (Nov. 9) we packed most of our bags after breakfast. There was a Top Chef at Sea contest. Two teams of two passengers battled it out and the winners battled each other. Linda was a judge, and it was very entertaining. Then we watched the egg-dropping contest. Twenty-five teams dropped devices contain-

ing three eggs to see who was the best. The packages containing the eggs were dropped from Deck 7 and landed on the foyer floor on Deck 4. It was quite a spectacle. The contestants used whatever packaging they hoped would keep the eggs from breaking. Some were very ingenious.

After lunch we watched the glass blowers, which Evelyn had not seen before. I had watched them twice, and they are very talented. There was a raffle at the end of the demonstration.

If Hal had stayed until the end he would have won, as the woman next to me did instead. Winners got their pick of their works, including some very large vases and bowls that were really exquisite. — Evelyn.

Our last dinner was in Silk Harvest, the Asian specialty restaurant. It was okay, but we all decided that if it were in L.A., we wouldn't go back.

We were to leave the ship at 7 a.m. the next day. We would take a transfer to Miami International, where we would stay overnight at the Marriott and have dinner with members of Evelyn's family, who live in Miami. We were scheduled to be home Nov. 11.

Our final morning (Nov. 10), we left the ship about 7:15 a.m. — not bad. The Ft. Lauderdale port was very efficient, and we made it through immigration and customs in record time. There was heavy traffic going to Miami International, and we got there around 9:30 a.m. We caught the hotel shuttle to our hotel and were able to check in because I had asked for an early check-in.

That's a wrap. Next month — a new land trip to Southeast Asia. ■

RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD



Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

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

1 Hawaii



"Here on Maui, on a long hike, up at the Kapalua part of north Maui. My wife and I brought our son, Austin, and his new bride Nicole here for their wedding. The wedding, was simple, lovely, on a secluded volcanic beach outcropping. It was a wonderful memory for all of us."

— Ron Sapp, Retired, LAFD

2 Belize



"My wife, Donna, and I went on a cruise to the western Caribbean. This picture was taken at a stop we made in Belize. After 34 years of marriage, I can still pick her up."

— Jim Booth, Retired

3 Washington, D.C.



"I was honored by Honor Flight Southland, part of a network throughout the United States that honors veterans starting with World War II. We went on a chartered flight to BWI airport Oct. 23 and returned Oct. 25. There were 61 veterans, a companion for each person, and volunteers. This picture was taken at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C."

— Herbert Moore, Retired

4 Jamaica



"Here's a picture of me and my family at the airport in Montego Bay, Jamaica."

— Belinda Hill, Retired, LAFD

Retirements

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

| NAME | TITLE | DEPT. | YEARS | NAME | TITLE | DEPT. | YEARS | NAME | TITLE | DEPT. | YEARS |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------|
| Abkian, Varoujan | Assistant Director | Public Works | 21 | Gerson, Ivan S. | Sr. Manage. Analyst | Public Works | 29 | Moran, Robert Daniel | Traffic Officer | Transportation | 34 |
| Blandino, Irene K. | Pr. Security Officer | Harbor | 30 | Gomez, Alberto | Gardener Caretaker | Rec and Parks | 30 | Naito, Laurie Y. | Sr. Civil Engin. Draft Tech | Public Works | 8 |
| Bowden, Dana Patricia | Police Service Rep | LAPD | 30 | Granger, Glen W. | Systems Programmer | Airports | 14 | Nevarez, Manuel F. | Light Equipment Oper. | Zoo | 34 |
| Bowie, Myra Jean | Traffic Officer | Transportation | 26 | Grant, Mark Antonio | Council Aide | Council | 10 | Ponder, Sheila Renee | Sr. Clerk Typist | LAPD | 35 |
| Boyle, Cathleen Susan | Librarian | Library | 18 | Green, Howard Duvel | Custodian | General Serv. | 10 | Radford, Debra A. | Customer Serv. Spec. | Finance | 21 |
| Bulpitt, Scott T. | Electr. Mech. Super. | Harbor | 30 | Hardie, Ronald E. | Customer Supervisor | General Serv. | 26 | Reyes, Amelia | Custodian | Airports | 17 |
| Cablayan, Charleseta | Clerk Typist | Airports | 28 | Headley, John A. | Planning Assistant | Planning | 15 | Robinson, Glenn R. | Chief Manag. Analyst | City Clerk | 30 |
| Cantrell, Reginald S. | Pr. Civil Engin. Draft Tech | Public Works | 33 | Jefferson, Gail Deborah | Police Service Rep | LAPD | 40 | Ruger, Frank | Special Programs Asst. | Rec and Parks | 3 |
| Cantu, Deborah Lynn | Sr. Detention Officer | LAPD | 23 | Jimenez, Jose L. | Wastewater Treat. Oper. | Public Works | 29 | Samaniego, Leonides T. | Management Analyst | LAPD | 27 |
| Chen, Min Kai | Engineering Designer | Public Works | 26 | Kanamoto, Gary Tetsuo | Sr. Clerk Typist | LAPD | 31 | Smith, Mary A. | Custodian | Airports | 16 |
| Constine, Karen R. | Mayoral Aide | Mayor's Office | 10 | Lefton, James Michael | Chief of Transit Progr. | Transportation | 30 | Sokoloski, Sue L. | Airport Infor. Specialist | Airports | 14 |
| Dickinson, Kathryn J. | Curator of Education | Zoo | 9 | Machado, Gilbert | Refuse Coll. Truck Oper. | Public Works | 27 | Tarver, Marilyn C. | Sr. Clerk Typist | LAPD | 13 |
| De Garcia, Abelina | Crossing Guard | Transportation | 1 | Martinez, Jose F. | Plumber | Airports | 33 | Tojin, Otto L. | Special Programs Asst. | Rec and Parks | 4 |
| Dietz, Curt D. | Geotechnical Engin. | Build. & Safety | 11 | Mayo, Rosie Caumeran | Clerk Typist | LAPD | 16 | Villanueva, Ricardo Renee | Truck Operator | Public Works | 27 |
| Doss, Donna L. | Wastewater Treat. Oper. | Public Works | 29 | McPhoy, Norma J. | Custodian | Airports | 15 | Wai, Stella Y. | Civil Engin. Draft Tech | Public Works | 30 |
| Fagan, Tammie M. | Admin. Crd. | City Attorney | 37 | Michalowski, Cecilia A. | Sr. Legal Clerk | City Attorney | 5 | Wheelon, Marcia L. | Clerk Typist | Library | 5 |
| Gamboa, Justine L. | Crossing Guard | Transportation | 9 | Miller, Kelly M. | Street Serv. Worker | Public Works | 17 | | | | |
| Garcia, Jose Ricardo | Parking Attendant | General Serv. | 30 | Milstead, Leroy P. | Security Officer | Airports | 14 | | | | |

LACERS

Mike on a Bike

Bike your way to better health as Mike Wilkinson invites you to join him on a fun ride through Griffith Park.

Photo by Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer

Mike Wilkinson, Retired, City Attorney's Office; LACERS Commissioner; RLACEI Director; and *Alive!* columnist, is inviting all seniors to join him in a bike ride through Griffith Park.

"Join me for our next 'Mike on a Bike' ride in Griffith Park Thursday, Feb. 18. 9 a.m.

"As some of you know, I am a cyclist and always happy to share my love of riding with fellow retirees. With that in mind, I hope that you consider joining me on our next LACERS *Well* bike event."

The route will have two legs: the first will be approximately nine miles of flat, lightly traveled road at an easy pace past Travel Town, Warner Bros. and Disney Studios. The second leg starts with a moderately challenging, but short, hill, with a rest at the top and is approximately five miles round trip.

"We'll have fruit, water and prizes available for all registered attendees. All riders are expected to supply their own geared bike (no beach cruisers) and a

secure-fitting bike helmet, wear appropriate fitness-suitable attire, complete a liability waiver, and obey all traffic laws."

To register, log on to www.LACERS.org/lacerwell or call the LACERS' Member Service Center at (800) 779-8328. For more information, email Tara Miller, RD/N at lacerswell@LACERS.org

Mike Wilkinson, Retired LACERS Director, is ready to go!



Join the fun!
Feb. 18
Griffith Park



Are you ready to join Mike Wilkinson, Retired, City Attorney's Office, on a fun bike ride through Griffith Park?



Tara Miller, MS RD/N
LACERS Well Program Coordinator

Ask the Dietitian



A monthly question-and-answer feature with Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist Tara Miller, LACERS Well Program Coordinator

Questions?

Do you have a question for Tara, the LACERS Registered Dietitian? Write to her: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Selfless Living Has Surprising Benefits

When seniors volunteer, it's good for everyone.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead



As a returned Peace Corps volunteer (Morocco, 1999), I thought I knew a little something about volunteering. For two post-graduate years, I lived in a mud-thatched house with no electricity or running water, to help spread awareness about health and sanitation, in Berber (the native dialect). It was hard, awesome, challenging and amazing, often all at the same time. But it wasn't until I worked for the New York Food Bank that I saw the depths of what volunteering can do within a community. I met dozens of incredible individuals who gave an abundance of their best resources — time, energy and experience — to local soup kitchens and food pantry programs, sometimes seven days a week, to provide hot meals to the underserved. Unlike me, who would have to board an international flight to call it quits from the Peace Corps, these volunteers could decide at any time that they were too tired, too busy or simply no longer emotionally invested in feeding the homeless. But they never did. Rain or shine, they showed up. They changed lives. And in doing so, bettered their own.

So, can "giving of oneself" actually be selfish? Ironically, yes, but this may not be such a bad thing. As a society, we rely heavily on the generosity of strangers. Nonprofits and community organizations depend on volunteers to stretch limited resources, but research indicates that the return on investment, or ROI, of a volunteer's effort is significant. According to Independent Sector, a coalition of nonprofits for research, organizations gain an average of \$23.07/hour of volunteer time donated. Conversely, studies also show that volunteering provides substantial mental and physical health benefits for those doing the helping. This means that, although no money is exchanged, both the volunteer and the organization can increase in value. This is especially true if said volunteer is provided training, can utilize his or her expertise and past experiences, and is afforded social networking opportunities. By investing in their volunteer's intellectual growth, an organization becomes stronger and healthier — a

true "quid pro quo" where everyone, even bystanders like the community, wins. So while volunteering is generally viewed as altruistic, it can, and perhaps should, be considered as a "what's in it for me?" scenario. Asking what can be personally gleaned from a volunteering opportunity may serve as a catalyst for a more rewarding experience for all parties involved.

Seniors and retirees are uniquely qualified to be exceptional volunteers and to reap the benefits in real time. A lifetime of experience, a flexible schedule and a desire to breathe life back into a hobby or interest, are all helpful tools in a volunteer's toolbox. When seniors work with youths, these multi-generational volunteer groups capitalize on lessons learned and fresh perspectives. From a health standpoint, studies show that senior volunteerism improves longevity and psychological wellness. According to the National Institute on Aging, social, meaningful and productive activities, such as volunteering, may lower the risk of health problems, including dementia and a decline in cognitive health. Additionally, depression and isolation are common but devastating concerns among the aging. According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, volunteerism provides hope in this area by supporting seniors with a viable means to socialize outside the home, enjoy physical activity, and regain a sense of purpose.

If you or a loved one would like to find a local volunteer opportunity, check out some of the following resources:

RSVP, a program of Senior Corps, is one of the largest senior volunteer groups in the country, with close to 300,000 volunteers in a wide range of areas. RSVP volunteers recruit and manage other volunteers, participate in environmental projects, mentor and tutor children, and respond to natural disasters, among many other activities. (www.nationalservice.gov/resources/senior-corps)

Seniors Helping Seniors is a program of the Senior Citizens Bureau that provides educational resources, referrals and support services to seniors, families and caregivers. They have hundreds of volunteers who help with phone calls, e-mails, and research. (www.seniorshelpingseniors.com)

The Humane Society enlists more than 2,100 active volunteers in providing animal enrichment, foster care, shelter support and other assistance. (www.animalhumanesociety.org/volunteer/)

Become a LACERS Well Champion! If you have a hobby, interest or activity that you would like to share with fellow LACERS retirees, consider volunteering with the LACERS Well program. Call or email Tara Miller, RD at (213) 978-6843 or lacerswell@LACERS.org.

5 Ways Seniors Are Changing the World

Adapted from *5 Reasons Seniors Should Volunteer Their Time*, by Sarah Stevenson. (A Place for Mom Senior Blog, September 2014)

- Bridging the generation gap. Seniors who volunteer with young people have a unique opportunity to work with and assist other generations — and learn from them, too.
- Changing the face of "ageism." By using their talents, skills and experience, seniors demonstrate that they are active, involved and essential to a healthy community.
- Improving mental health and risk for Alzheimer's disease. Being a volunteer can help keep the brain and the body active, which contributes to continuing cognitive health.
- Reducing senior isolation and depression. Seniors who volunteer have been shown to have greater life satisfaction, a sense of purpose and accomplishment, more stress resilience, and lower rates of depression.
- Promoting healthy physical activity. Volunteering can be good for maintaining a healthy level of physical fitness as we age to ward off disease, injury, and even dementia.



Get F'it Like a Champ!

LACERS Well Champions program offers fitness programs each month. Get fit!

2016 has arrived! LACERS Well hopes to make it the healthiest year yet.

Did you make New Year's resolutions, but are struggling in keeping them? Even with the best of intentions, staying motivated can be difficult, but you are not alone. Whether your goal is to be more active, lose weight, or manage a chronic condition, your LACERS Well program can help.

To find out how the LACERS Well program can help, call Tara Miller RD/N at (213) 978-6843 or email her at lacerswell@LACERS.org.

Looking for ways to get moving right now? Here are some LACERS Well Champion-led

fitness activities you can join in and around your community:

- Ontario Mills Mall walk, first Saturday of every month, 9 - 10:30 a.m. Contact Eugene Mandelcorn, emandelcorn@ymail.com
- Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park walk, first and third Friday of each month, 8-10 a.m. Contact Mariam Galang, mariamgalang@gmail.com
- Rueben Ingold Park Baldwin Hills walk, every other Thursday, 11 a.m. Contact Avis Ridley-Thomas, avisridleythomas@me.com

- Walnut walk (outdoor venue varies), first Monday of each month, 7 a.m. Contact Christy and Scott Margiotta, scottmargiotta@gmail.com

- Calabasas walk (outdoor venue varies), third Sunday of each month, 10 a.m. Contact Cheryl Tabbi, cheryltab@hotmail.com

- Senior STARS Ski and Snowboard Program, Mountain High, every Wednesday of ski season (local carpool opportunities available). Contact Rico Hall, ricohall999@yahoo.com

More program information is available at seniorprogramstars.blogspot.com

Life After Retirement

If you have news about yourself, family or other retirees that you would like to share with our readers, send it and we will publish it.

If you would like to contact a former City Employee that you met or worked with, send your contact information and we will publish it so they can contact you.

Note: Due to our confidentiality policy, we do not give out any information without authorization.

Mail information to:

Mary Beetz
137 Westmont Drive,
Alhambra, CA 91801
or
Email: mbeetz4841@aol.com

WIN

\$50 Target Gift Card

*Deadline
For submission:*
March 10, 2016

It's a Coloring Contest!



GROWN-UPS, GET YOUR CRAYONS OUT!

for Adults!

It's time for another Grown-up Coloring Contest! Why let your kids have all the fun? The prize: a \$50 Target gift card. So get out your crayons, sparkles and whatnot, and get going!

PLEASE PROVIDE →

Club Membership Number:

PLEASE COMPLETE:

Name: _____

Job title and department with the City: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Send Entries to:

Club Grown-Up Coloring Contest
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Rules of the Club's Adult Coloring Contest:

- Winning contestants must be Club members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
- All responses must be completed by the person indicated: no ringers (including your children!)
- Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
- 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.



General Services



Story by Noelle Kauffman, Club Coordinator, and Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor

Thanks, Custodians!

General Services hosts annual Custodian Appreciation Day.

On Nov. 5, General Services held its 18th annual Custodian Appreciation Day downtown. Custodians, Dept. Directors, elected officials, and union representatives, gathered together on the South Lawn of City Hall to enjoy fellowship, a delicious barbecue lunch and award presentations. This event is sponsored by SEIU Local 721 and LIUNA Local 777. Thank you, Custodians, for everything you do to make our City great!

2015 Honorees Included:

- Custodian of the Year:**
 North/South/Center District: *Otto Tucker*
 Civic Center: *Filadelfo Calderon*
 LAPD: *Sergio Duarte*
- Sr. Custodian of the Year:**
 North/South/Center District: *Charles Crumble*
 Civic Center: *Anthony Zamora*
 LAPD: *Jessica Davis*
- Custodian Supervisor of the Year:**
 North/South/Center District: *Derrick Shannon*
 Civic Center: *Leonardo Velasquez*
 LAPD: *Bonifacio Chagolla*



Top row, from left: Jorge Dieguez, Custodian, 17 years of City service, Club Member; and Johnny Weary, Custodian, 30 years. Bottom: Luz Morelos, Custodian, 11 years, Club Member; Rocio Colmenares, Custodian, 14 years, Club Member; Felix Soriano Jr., Custodian, 10 years, Club Member; and Beatrice Galvez, Custodian, 1 year, Club Member.



Tony Royster, General Manager, 22 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Deanna Nichols, Custodian, 9 years of City service, Club Member; Josefina Molina, Custodian, 1 week; Ron Hightower, Vocational Worker, 5 months; and Charles Crumble, Acting Senior, 10 years, Club Member.



From left: Bertha Mata, Accounting Clerk, 31 years of City service, Club Member; Jessica Caballero, Custodial Contractor, 5 years; and Maria Vite, Office Management, 15 years, Club Member.



From left: Janice Bonner, Custodian, 10 years of City service, Club Member; Debra Hale, Custodian, 11 years; and Debra Williams, Custodian, 25 years.



From left: Clinston Thompson, Custodian, 15 years of City service, Club Member; Tommy Davis, Custodian, 14 years, Club Member; and Arturo Campa, Custodian, 10 years, Club Member.



From left: Dulee Carrillo, Custodian, 3 years of City service, Club Member; and Bonifacio Chagolla, Custodian Supervisor, 11 years.



Back row, from left: Sgt. Andrey Wilkins, 24 years of City service; Sanjuana Dela Torre Salas, Sr. Custodian, 8 years, Club Member; Larry Blackmon, Custodian, 9 years, Club Member; and Valeria Melloff, Assistant General Manager, 30 years, Club Member. Bottom: Rene Anderson, Director, SCIU Local 721, 22 years, Club Member; Larry Malonado, Custodian, 30 years, Club Member; Tony Royster, General Manager, 22 years, Club Member; and Pierre Riotoc, Special Services, 11 years.



Ron Hardie, Custodian Supervisor, 26 years of City service, Club Member, has not missed a day of work in all his 26 years!



From left: Gerardo Villalobos, Custodian, 20 years of City service; Larry Maldonado, Custodian, 30 years, Club Member; Loretta Quenen, Director, 21 years, and Master of Ceremony, Club Member; and Sabah Washington, Acting Sr. Custodian, 15 years, Club Member.



From left: Robert Drew, Custodian, 27 years of City service; Pablo J. Colmenares, Custodian, 17 years, Club Member; and Jerome Holt, Sr. Custodian, 15 years.



George Padua, Custodian, 26 years of City service, Club Member.



Top: Samuel Quilizapa, Custodian, 3 years of City service. Bottom: Maria Salazar, Custodian, 18 years, Club Member; Magdalena Alvarez, Custodian, 1 year, Club Member; Pablo Colmenares, Custodian, 15 years, Club Member; and Jean Bessette, Sr. Custodian, 33 years.



From left: Rosendo Sanchez, Custodian, 14 years of City service; and Rene Casillas, Custodian, 13 years.



From left: Leonardo Velasquez, Acting Supervisor, 15 years of City service; and Elizabeth Thatcher, Custodian Supervisor, 17 years, Club Member.



From left: Guillermo Fierros, Vocational Worker, 2 years of City service; Filadelfo Calderon, Custodian, 16 years, Club Member; Paul Solis, Custodian, 6 years; Alejandro Navarro, Custodian, 20 years, Club Member; and Jose Garcia-Lopez, Custodian, 9 years, Club Member.



From left: Alma Mayes, Custodian Supervisor, 17 years of City service, Club Member; and Cynthia Davis, Head Custodial Supervisor, 27 years.



From left: Steverene Pacana, Custodian, 7 years of City service; and LaShanda Thompson, Custodian, 7 years, Club Member.

Thank You

History Comes Alive!



by Michael E. Holland
City Archivist

ON THE RADIO

Some *History Comes Alive!* columns can be heard on 89.3-KPCC's Off-Ramp, online at www.kpcc.org/offramp/

~ Tales From the City Archives ~

Out of Sight, Out of Mind: LA and its Sewers

There are some things we just don't want to know about. "Where does the meat on the white Styrofoam trays come from?" could be one such example as you and your kids drive by the Farmer John factory in Vernon with its murals of cute farmyard critters. Probably not if you're a vegetarian. But the one we're going to discuss is universal to all humanity – what happens after you use the toilet? Lots of Club Members reading this right now know exactly what happens, as that's their job. And it's been discussed, to a certain extent, previously in *Alive!*

But for everyone else, we move forward.

"There is no magical sewage fairy taking it away," to borrow a quote from Anna Sklar's book *Brown Acres: An Intimate History of the Los Angeles Sewers*. Let's face it – we have a difficult relationship with our bodily functions. Sklar dispenses with the "ickiness" of the subject in the preface and gets right down to business.

The story begins with engineers, politicians and the voting public. Later chapters involve outside governmental forces, scientists, environmentalists and water managers. In short, there are a lot of players in the removal and treatment of biosolids, just as there are in almost anything in a civil society. Having indoor plumbing is still seen as being part of a civilized community, whereas outhouses are punchlines in backwoods humor.

Sklar lays out the story for LA's development of a system of sewers by explaining what they are not: storm drains taking away rainwater are not part of the sewers normally. Instead, they are part of the water treatment strategy in more recent times. It is also revealed and repeated, again and again, that any expansion of sewers was not that high a priority to most people, despite a rapidly growing population by the 1880s. There were many times when voters turned down bond measures to build more and better

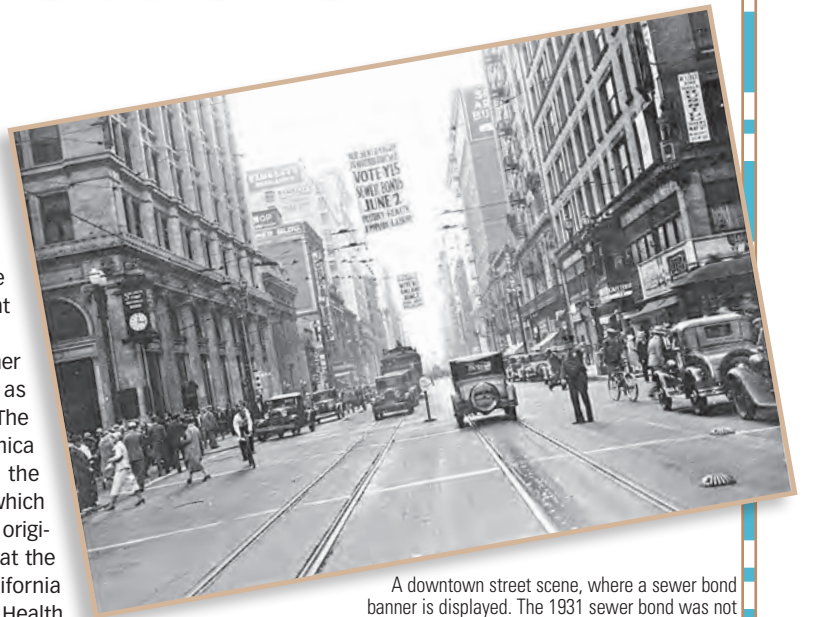
sewer networks over the next century.

The book includes many photographs from several collections, including ones we have at the City Archive. We also have many of the reports detailing quantities of work planned and performed by Public Works as far back as 1907, when the department was established. Earlier information from what was then the Department of Engineering can also be found at the Archive.

I mentioned the growing involvement of other governments as time went on. The city of Santa Monica was close to the Outfall Sewer, which was where the original sewer ended at the ocean. The California State Board of Health had some authority to regulate the sanitary conditions as early as the beginning of the 20th century. The book also highlights that regulations without enforcement meant no improvements, even as the City continued to grow.

The size of the City was expanding through annexation, which increased the need for more durable sewers and a greater variety of treatment options. The earliest form of "waste treatment" were fields of sewage, which were left to dry out and gathered up to become a source of fertilizer for farmers all over Southern California. Later improvements would lead to sterilized fertilizer products from a treatment plant that was specifically designed to process the sewage.

The story of our local sewer system parallels the advances of environmental science and water conservation. By the early 1970s, Sklar writes that the enactment of the Clean Water Act by the U.S. Congress in 1972 put Los Angeles on



A downtown street scene, where a sewer bond banner is displayed. The 1931 sewer bond was not approved by the voters.

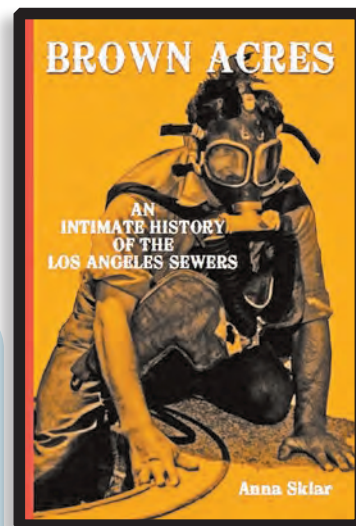


A broken sewer on Jefferson Street in West LA, before repairs, in November 1936.

the path to replace the old ways of handling waste with new technologies. Gone were the fields of sludge for agriculture and dumping sewage off the Santa Monica coastline. New technologies created methane to provide power for the treatment plants while reconditioned water would end up in industrial uses not to be consumed by people. Other changes dealt with polluted waterways due to industrial waste and pollutants that were damaging lakes and rivers all across the country.

The promise of federal funds to build the infrastructure had some serious hurdles to be navigated. Los Angeles had to find common ground with Orange County and other jurisdictions to create a common plan to deal with waste treatment. The politics ignored deadlines imposed by the federal government, and lawsuits were filed to keep the parties on

task. The costs to build a new treatment plant in the Sepulveda Basin – named after the City engineer at the time of its design, Donald Tillman – increased as time went on. But it was opened in 1985 and remains very popular with its Japanese garden and tours of the plant. The Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant is the opposite of the "out of sight, out of mind" attitude about an icky subject like human waste.



Brown Acres: An Intimate History of the Los Angeles Sewers

Brown Acres manages to include some of the people behind the developments of the sewers over the last century-plus. The various City engineers play leading roles in the ongoing drama with a growing population, too little money and the challenge to adapt the technology to the landscape of Southern California. Lloyd Aldrich used his position to build many kinds of projects – roads as an example - while running for mayor three times. Fred Eaton was City engineer in the 1890s before he became mayor and helped William Mulholland bring the aqueduct into being. City Engineer Harry Stafford committed suicide in 1906 while a sewer to the ocean project was over budget and rumors of corruption were mentioned in the daily newspapers. The book presents a human face to the thankless subject it covers.

So, as we continue to read and hear about the infrastructure needing repairs – streets, sidewalks, bridges – let's not forget what lies just under the surface, literally just under our feet. Will you take for granted the ability to flush your toilet especially knowing there is "no magic sewage fairy" taking it away? ■

History Chats, Live

I want to mention a special series of events coming up for "History Comes Alive!" readers. The Los Angeles City Historical Society is hosting a trio of free public lectures at the Central Library. All of the lectures take place in the Mark Taper Auditorium at 2 p.m. on selected Sundays. The first lecture is Feb. 21 and will feature Anna Sklar in conversation with yours truly. We will be discussing the City's water history but also the sewers, Lloyd Aldrich and other topics.

A second lecture April 3 will focus on the history of wine and vineyards in Los Angeles when author Stuart Douglass Byles and me will be in discussion. That article is scheduled for next month's *Alive!* The final presentation will be a screening on June 5 and will feature recently preserved film and video from the City archives. More on that in the May issue of *Alive!* See the schedule and information at the Los Angeles City Historical Society Facebook page.

24th Annual Marie Northrop Lecture Series

LACHS Lectures for 2016

Breaking Through the Pavement: A New Look at LA's Past

Sunday, February 21, 2016 2-4p.m.

When WASN'T Water the Issue in LA 1880 to 2015

Presented by Anna Sklar
Author of "Brown Acres," the complex history of the Los Angeles city sewer system, and LACHS Board member.

Sunday, April 3, 2016 2-4p.m.

Vineyards and Wineries in Los Angeles: The beginning of the California wine business

Presented by Stuart Douglass Byles
Author of "Los Angeles Wine," a history of the vineyards and wineries of the Los Angeles and Southern California area, from the Mission period to the present day.

Sunday, June 5, 2016 2-4p.m.

This is Los Angeles - Movies made by and about the city

Presented by Michael Holland
City architect in the Office of the City Clerk and a Board member of LACHS.

This lecture series is co-sponsored by Los Angeles City Historical Society and the History Department of the Richard J. Riordan Central Library. Lectures are held in the Mark Taper Auditorium, on the first floor of the Central Library, 640 W. 5th Street, Los Angeles. For any handicap accessibility accommodations, call the Library at (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event.

ADMITTANCE IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

The library garage is located on the east side of Flower Street, just south of 5th Street. Flower Street is one-way, south. Parking is \$1 after 1:00PM with a library card.



John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO



"Happy New Year's, everyone."

– **Karen Kishita, Public Works**

John's comment: Karen, I have never seen City Hall look so cool! I love your framed City Hall with the tree and people ... it's a very professional looking shot. It's also nice to see downtown LA, in particular the Civic Center, becoming a destination for residents. Thanks for sharing, Karen!

"I wanted to submit this photo of my son, Pvt. 1st Class Bellard, at Camp Pendleton, continuing in his combat training course. We're so proud of his decision to serve his country. This is the first holiday season ever that my son wasn't home, and I didn't really prepare my mind and heart in advance for that. It takes some getting used to."

– **Tonja Bellard, Personnel**

John's comment: Wow! I love this picture; it's so majestic and powerful, yet peaceful at the same time. And I am sure he missed you, too, at Christmas. I remember my first Christmas away from home; I was in boot camp in Great Lakes, Ill. in the middle of a horrible winter. It was a rude awakening for this SoCal boy! Thanks again, Tonja, for sharing your son's accomplishments as he continues his journey in the military.



"New Year's Eve, LA style."

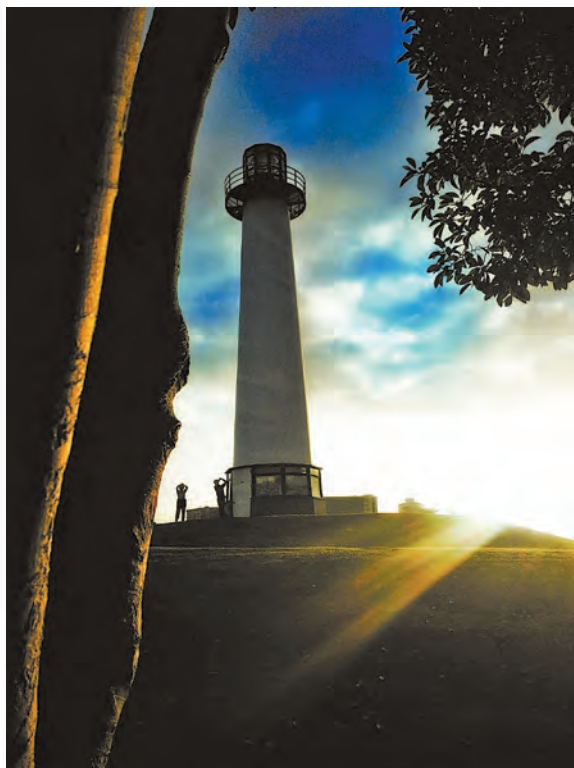
– **Aaron Harris, Public Works**

John's comment: It's another shot of City Hall but with starbursts! I love this one, too; City Hall looks so majestic!

"Long Beach, lighthouse sunrise."

– **Victor Ladd, Retired**

John's comment: Wow! Victor, this is an absolutely amazing photo; it's so surreal, just like a David Arsenault painting. Thank you for sharing this ... it's totally mind-blowing!



"The Hyperion Treatment Plant is known for the wonderful Dockweiler beach across from my office. This is the beautiful view I am lucky to get to see."

– **Gina Nei, Public Works**

John's comment: Gina, what makes this photo so Picture Perfect is the fact that this is your "office view" — they just can't get better than this!

RULES:

- The contest is open to all Club members in good standing. Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
- If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
- Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
- You must certify (if asked) that you indeed took the picture. No ringers!
- Photos can be submitted either on paper or digitally. Please don't send both.
- If you want your print photo returned, please write your name, address and phone number on the back of your photo.
- Photos can be of any subject matter: vacation, portraits, families, landscapes, still lifes, pets, etc. Subject matter must be appropriate for *Alive!*
- Paper prints can be mailed to: Picture Perfect Contest, *Alive!*, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- When you send digital photos through the Internet, **please send the full, original digital file yourself**, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print.
- We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: pictureperfect@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.

CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • Feb. 2016



FREE CLUB EVENT!

Let's Go Bowling!

Club hosts first-ever **free** bowling night.

Are you a lover of the lanes?
A supporter of the strikes and spares?
Then this free Club event is right up your alley!



Club Members are invited to the first-ever:

CLUB BOWLING NIGHT

Feb. 25
6 to 11 p.m.

XLanes LA*
333 Alameda St., downtown

Shoe rentals and games sponsored by the Club.

Open to all Club Members, spouses and children over 18.

Space is limited; event is likely to sell out.

RSVP now!
Contact the Sports Dude, Robert Larios, at rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com or call (213) 225-1797.

*XLanes LA is a contemporary, splashy bowling center and cool eatery. (Food and drink for purchase is up to you.)

Sign up today!

Club Angels: Won't You Help?

Club's charity, Club Angels, continues its campaign to help those around us in need.

During the fall and winter, Club Angels, the Club's charity, helps those around us in need with blankets and buckets of supplies, and other forms of assistance.

Club Members can give to this full-fledged charity.

Club Angels is the Club's umbrella organization that supports the Club's charitable outreach. Los Angeles City Employees Charities, Inc. – the Club Angels program – is a Club-derived charity that formalizes the Club's charitable initiatives. Club Angels now includes the charitable outreaches you read about here in *Alive!* – including the Buckets and Blankets program, plus the Joannie Mukai Club Scholarships, the Club

Holiday Toy Drive, and other initiatives – and builds a framework for others to come.

John Hawkins, Club Angels board member, said: "A bucket of personal goods and a blanket during the cold months can make a huge difference to those living on the streets. We all can make a difference."

Helping Those in Need

In 2012, the charity's first year, Club Angels raised more than \$2,100. With that sum, Club Angels bought more than 300 blankets for the residents of the streets of downtown Los Angeles. Club Angels contributed the remainder to the Mukai Scholarships and other City Employees charities.



How to Help

Yes! I want to help those in need. Count me in.

Enclosed is my check (made out to Club Angels) for \$ _____.

Please bill my credit card in the amount of \$ _____.



Send this completed form to:
Club Angels
311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Name on Card

Card Number

Expiration - CV# Last 3 digits on back of card

Signature

Please provide the following information so we can send you a receipt:

Name

Home Street Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Work Phone

Club Member Number (if you are a member):

Club Angels is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions to Club Angeles are tax-deductible as defined by the U.S. tax code. Consult your tax professional.

Your donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.

THIS MONTH AT THE

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

Weekend Tidepool Walk

**SAT., FEB. 6
1 – 2:30 P.M.**

CMA's educators conduct tours of the Point Fermin tidepools. Attend an informative slide show in the John M. Olguin Auditorium, then come along on the naturalist-led ramble on the rocks to see animals in their natural habitat. Outdoor clothing and sneakers advised. Young children must be accompanied by adults.

Open to all ages.

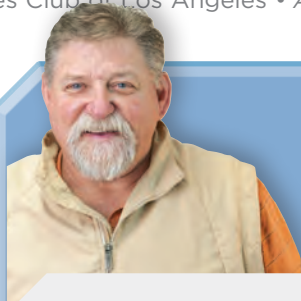
Free!
(310) 548-7562
Parking: \$1/hour

Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!

Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
(310) 548-7410
www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org/support.asp



www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org
City Owned. City Run. City Proud.



The Smart Move

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

The Point of Life Insurance

If there were a smart phone app that provided your life with a safety net, you'd probably download it. It'd be manufactured by "Crystal Ball" software and available for free from iTunes. Its purpose would be to calculate your probability for risks of anything from a bad day to an untimely death.

This new safety net app could provide you with peace of mind. You get that when you lock your house. You have some sense of protection when you lock your car. But what kind of protection do you have for your self-worth? When it comes to protecting your financial future against what can be catastrophic consequences brought on by illness and death, one of the most overlooked products is life insurance.

There are numerous insurance plans available, from term insurance (purchased for a specific time frame) to whole life (serves as a means for investment). You can learn a lot from insurance information online or from a life insurance agent. Many who are struggling with their finances think they are saving money by skimping on life insurance. However, there are plans that meet most financial means, some even as low as a dollar per day that can provide you with thousands of dollars of coverage. Why do this? It's called peace of mind, rather like what might be achieved from that make-believe Safety Net app. The bottom line is that there is no avoidance of risk. Reality happens. Bad things do

happen to happy families.

Maybe life insurance companies should create mobile apps – call them "Peace of Mind." Call them "Opportunity Knocks." Maybe one should blink with the words, "You Never Know." While the days of the door-to-door salesmen may be diminishing, there is a wealth of information about life insurance online and on the job. None of us can predict the future, but having life insurance can protect you from whatever may happen in your own personal Crystal Ball of Life. It's like having a safety net.

What if you already have life insurance?

If your employer offers group life insurance, you'll probably want to take advantage of that opportunity. But you should consider purchasing additional voluntary life insurance through your paycheck.

Many group plans don't provide the total amount of insurance you need, because the available coverage amounts are typically low. Plus, most group plans are not "portable," so you can't keep the insurance if you lose your job or go to work for a different company.

Life insurance typically is an affordable complement to your group coverage. A voluntary insurance plan can increase your total coverage to an appropriate level and ensure you're protected if you lose your job, change careers or retire.



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

Ask your Club Counselor for details, or call (888) 443-8829.

Airports, Harbor, LAUSD, Sheriff

Story and photos courtesy Airport Police

Teddy Bears on Patrol

Airport Police, Port Police, LA School Police, Sheriff Dept., others, team up to give away toys at LA/USC Medical Center.

On Dec. 22 the Los Angeles Airport Police, in conjunction with the Los Angeles School Police, LA County Sheriff's Dept. Port Police and officers from Bell, Vernon, El Monte and Alhambra delivered more than 6,000 teddy bears to the children of the LA/USC Medical Center pediatric unit. The departments asked officers and employees to donate new stuffed animals to the cause, and the response was overwhelming. The initial hope was to gather 1,500 stuffed animals to distribute to the children, but through the generosity of the officers and employees of each agency, the goal was exponentially surpassed.

Congratulations to the officers of each department for their generosity.



LAPD



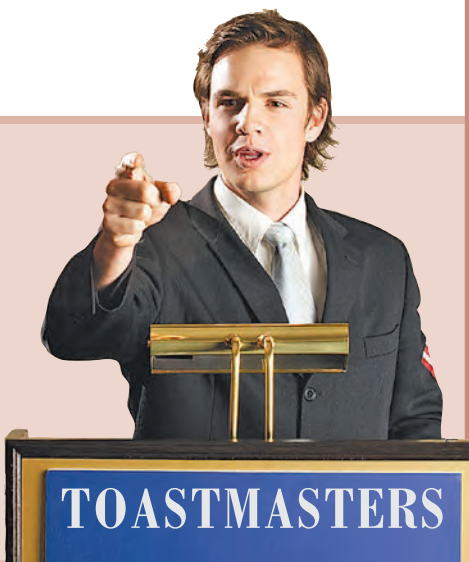
Join LAPD Toastmasters

Interested in joining a downtown Toastmasters Club? Along with the three that appear in *Alive!*, there's now a fourth – the LAPD Code One Toastmasters Club, which meets every other Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the LAPD Communications Building, 100 N. Los Angeles St.

Toastmasters International is a 90-year-old worldwide nonprofit organization of small 20-40 person individual clubs in which people get training and practice in communication (especially public speaking) and organizational leadership.

Information on the LAPD Code One Toastmasters Club: (818) 389-0803. For information on other Toastmasters Clubs in the City, see the monthly infobox in *Alive!* (below).

JOIN A Toastmasters Group



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

Joining the Toastmasters is inexpensive, educational and fun. Toastmasters International is a nonprofit, worldwide organization that helps its members develop their public speaking and leadership skills.

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

QUESTIONS:
Eric Yoshida (213) 367-3962

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

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

Guests welcome!

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

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

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

QUESTIONS:
(818) 389-0803

PACIFIC PARK
SANTA MONICA PIER

Fun for the whole family!

Save Over **50% Off**

Unlimited Ride Wristbands when you purchase today at www.cityemployeesclub.com

Offer not valid at Ticket Booths, online only. Discount is valid only on Unlimited Ride Wristbands. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Rides are subject to close without notice. Unlimited Ride Wristband does not include access to Gyro Loop or Beach Bounce.

Rest Insured

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

Insurance For El Niño

We are all hoping for lots of rain this winter! We've been fighting this drought for too long, and it would be great to get lots of water.

Unless that water comes into your living room.

We've had lots of phone calls lately about flood insurance: "What happens if the rain comes rolling in my sliding glass door? Am I covered?"

There is coverage for rain damage, but unless you buy a flood policy, it is quite limited.

Homeowners' policies do not cover damages due to a flood, but they do cover other kinds of water damage. For example, they would generally pay for damage from rain coming through a hole in the roof or a broken window if the hole were caused by strong storm winds. On the other hand, if you have a hidden pipe leaking in your house and over time water damage occurs, that would not be covered.

It pretty much boils down to whether the water damage was caused by a covered peril such as a storm — if the water damage were due to you not keeping your house maintained and repaired, then your insurance would not cover it. If you don't know what water damage is covered, review your home insurance policy or check with your agent now, before any damage occurs.

If sudden water damage occurs to your property, such as with a storm, it is important to dry all wet areas and provide air circulation to aid in the drying process. Also, cover any areas with a tarp to prevent more water damage. Covering, drying and dehumidifying wet areas can help minimize the possibility that mold will accompany water damage. Always contact your insurance agent immediately to start the homeowners' insurance claims process.



Here's a list of seven possible losses, and whether or not they are covered:

The temperature drops below zero, causing your water pipes to freeze and burst. Your floor is now covered in six inches of water.

Are you covered? Yes, you are covered for water damage from burst pipes, but most policies won't cover you if you've left the house unoccupied and without heat. If that's the case, your claim could be denied because you've failed to perform the necessary upkeep that would prevent the accident.

Water leaks from your backyard pool, ruining your manicured lawn and flooding your living room.

Are you covered? Yes and no — the damages to your living room and your personal property in it are covered, but not the damage to your lawn.

Your washing machine overflows, flooding the laundry room.

Are you covered? Yes — the extent to which you are covered depends on your insurer's view of the problem: Did you fail to maintain the washer properly, or did sudden, unforeseen damage cause the flood?

A sewer backs up, flooding your house.

Are you covered? No — standard policies don't cover it, and many specifically exclude damage from sewer backups. Special endorsements are available, at added cost, for sewers and drains.

During a heavy rainstorm, water leaks through your roof. The roof is damaged, as is furniture.

Are you covered? Yes — while you might not be reimbursed for roof repairs, because that's a house-maintenance issue, the water damage to your home is covered. The damage to your furniture is likely covered if you have the standard HO-3 homeowners' policy, but not if you have the HO-1.

If something more drastic leads to the roof leak (your neighbor's tree falls on the roof, for example), the damage to your roof, home and belongings is covered. (In the tree example, your policy also reimburses you up to a certain amount, usually around \$500, for the cost of removing the tree.)

Your bathtub overflows.

Are you covered? Yes, you are even covered if the bathtub overflowed because you forgot to turn off the faucet.

A nearby lake or river overflows its banks, causing a flash flood in your living room.

Are you covered? No — flood damage is not covered by homeowners' insurance. You must purchase flood insurance from the federal government. You can purchase flood insurance as long as your community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program.

About United Agencies

United Agencies is the Club's Partner in helping members with their home and car insurance, and related products. Feel free to call us with any questions about rental cars, auto insurance, or any other topic. We specialize in creating personal relationships with our customers, and serving their needs in a prompt, efficient and friendly manner.

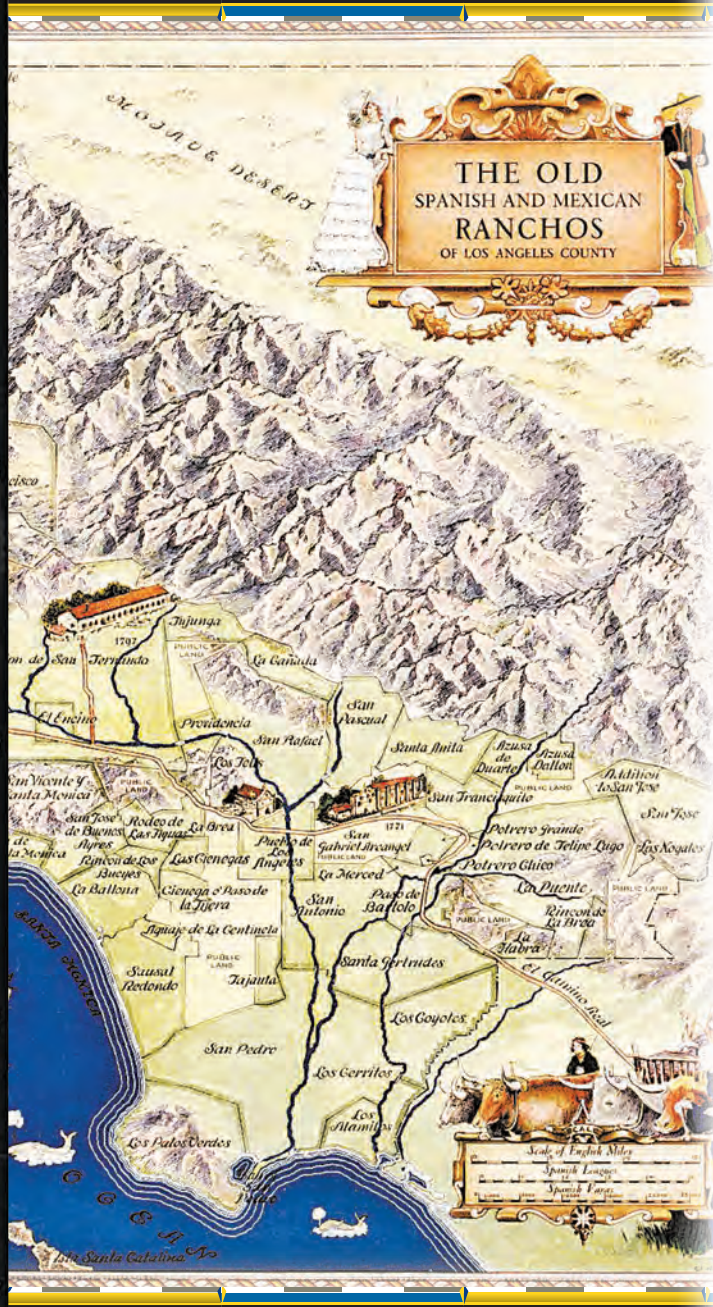
Call our office today at (888) 801-5522.

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

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.

Below (detail): This map from 1937 of the old Spanish and Mexican ranchos was produced by the Title Insurance and Trust Co.



LIBRARY

Mapping Out Success

Glen Creason has built the Central Library's Maps Section into one of the nation's largest.

Photos by Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing; the United States Library of Congress; the Gary Leonard and Cary Moore Collections, Los Angeles Public Library; and Glen Creason, Map Librarian, Los Angeles Public Library

Alive! editor John Burnes and Map Librarian Glen Creason look over a Jo Mora pictorial map of Los Angeles.



Map Collection

The map collection is more than 100 years old, contains more than 200,000 items and represents a wide scope, including local, national and international cartography. Its online archive focuses on maps depicting Los Angeles and the West.

The emphasis of this collection is on Los Angeles, Southern California and California but in many cases the scope extends to national and international coverage. The great majority of the chronological scope is post 1900, but there is a representation of 19th Century maps in California.

Here's a general list of holdings:

- USGS Topographical Maps
- Army Maps/Defense Mapping Agency maps
- Sailing Directions
- Nautical - International - Defense Mapping Agency
- Nautical - Domestic - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Nautical charts
- Coast Pilots maps
- Aeronautical - NOAA maps
- Mexico - topological maps
- Canada - topological maps
- Great Britain - topological maps
- Bureau of Land Management maps
- National Forest Service maps
- US Hydrographic Office nautical charts
- G.S.G.S. - British World War II-era topographical maps
- California historic topological maps
- Antarctica maps
- Paigh maps of South America
- California rivers (U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1942)
- Pictorial maps (by appointment only)
- National Geographic maps
- Vietnam War - topographic maps
- Vertical File: Some 2,000 foldout road maps, country maps, city guides and street maps, worldwide in scope.

See For Yourself

Most of the Library's maps are available for public viewing, although many are stored in rooms not accessible to the public and must be requested. Maps are for reference only and cannot be removed or loaned out.

The Library's "map cave" is located on the fourth subterranean floor of the Library's annex.

Hours:
Mon. - Thurs.: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. - Sat.: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Sun.: 1 - 5 p.m.

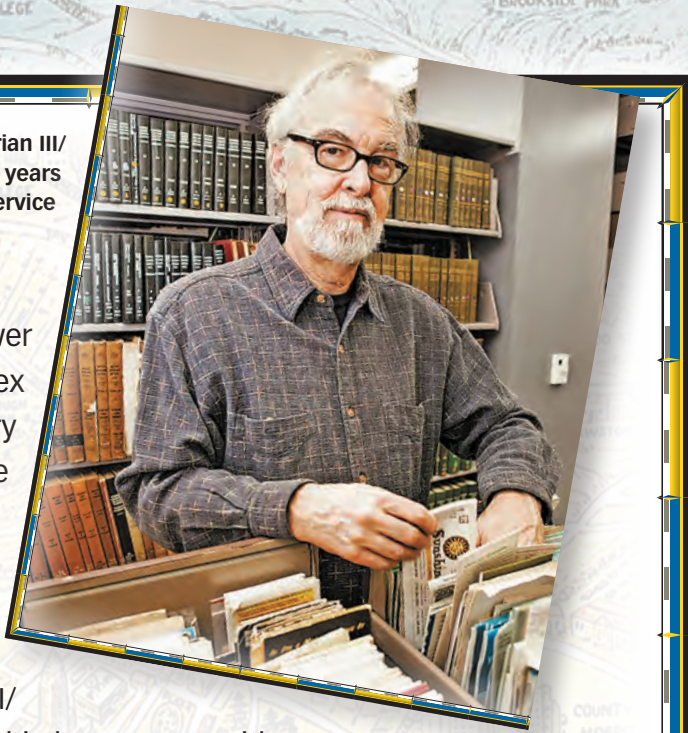
Information:
 (213) 228-7400 • history@lapl.org



Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios (left) and Map Librarian Glen Creason look at Sanborn Fire Insurance atlases.

Alive! Feature

Glen Creason, Librarian III/
Map Librarian, 36 years
of City service



Sitting deep in the lower fourth floor of the annex of the Central Library downtown sits a treasure trove of how Los Angeles sees, and saw, itself and the world. And managing it all is a City Legend.

Glen Creason, Librarian III/Map Librarian, didn't start out his long career with a dream of maps. But over his long career, he's come to love what he does, and that shows: due to his passion and a fortuitous discovery in a house in Mount Washington, Glen's built the Central Library's map collection into one of the top five in the United States.

He's not just a manager of the collection, he's also its biggest advocate. He blogs about it on the Library's Website (lapl.org), he writes columns for *Los Angeles* magazine and has authored a book, he represents the Library at both professional and casual meetings and associations, he's a frequent public speaker on the subject in and around Los Angeles, and just in general he loves talking about maps, and what they say about us.

Glen has been the map librarian for the Los Angeles Public Library for the past 27 years and a reference librarian in the History department since Jimmy Carter was president. He was a co-curator of the landmark map exhibit "Los Angeles Unfolded" and has written about local history, maps and popular culture for local publications. He is the author of the book *Los Angeles in Maps* and has been a speaker at local events such as the Society for Professional Journalists, the Center for Land Use Interpretation, and the California Map Society. ■

Below (detail): This map, "Americans of Negro Lineage" from 1946, exemplifies the struggles and triumphs of African Americans in this country. Created by Louise Jefferson, cartographer.



The Alive! Interview

Mapping Out a Career

On Jan. 7, Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios and Alive! editor John Burnes interviewed Glen Creason, Librarian III/Map Librarian, 36 years of City service, in a conference room across from the Central Library's "map cave."

Thanks for agreeing to this, Glen. Give us an encapsulated view of how you got to where you are.

Glen Creason: Well, I'd have to say two words — "pure luck," because I worked in the History Dept. as a Reference Librarian in '79. In 1986 we had the fire, and I got sent to a branch. I came back in 1989 when we had the temporary building on Spring Street; the Map Librarian at that point had had enough so she retired, and the job became available. It turns out I was the only applicant, so I got the job. I knew absolutely nothing about maps except when I used them to try to answer reference questions, so I had to just basically go drawer by drawer and take these things out and try to figure it out. I went and visited all the different map collections and Map Librarians around L.A., and in those days

there were a lot more map stores and things like that, so I got a lot of help from UCLA, Cal State Northridge, the L.A. City Archives and places like that.

What happened to the map collection because of the fire? Was there damage?

It's kind of miraculous because we had these old World War I

steel map cases, and they managed to protect a lot of it. A few hundred of the maps are scorched and discolored, but other than that it was pretty much saved. We lost some of the atlases.

Then you were back here after the rebuild.

We came back here in 1993, and that was kind of a momentous time because they hired these (unprofessional) movers. When they moved the maps they didn't keep them in order, and the map collection was like a tossed salad. So when I took over, we had to reorganize the whole thing. Everything in this library I touched personally; every single item I touched with my own hands.

Did you study for this? Is this something that you saw yourself doing?

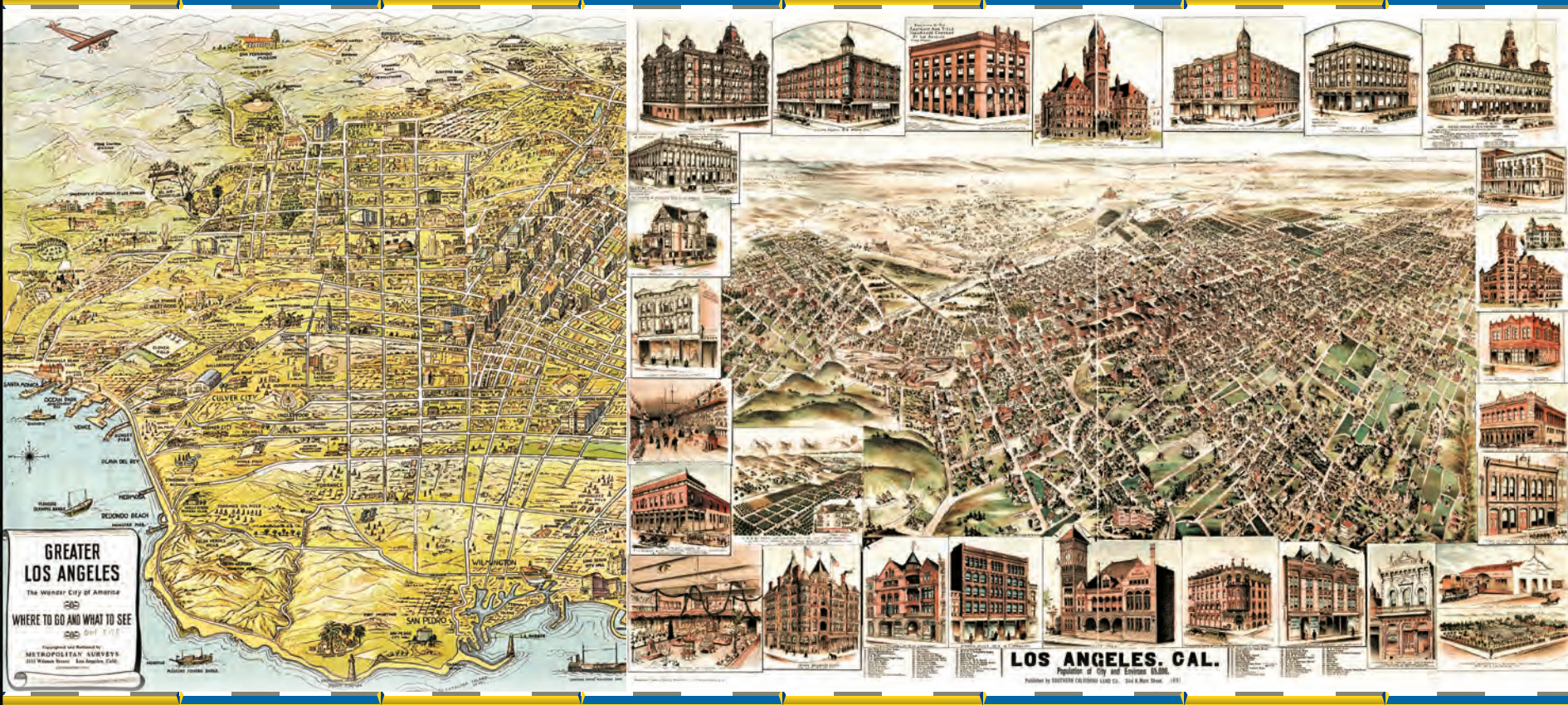
I didn't study for it. I was an English major, and I have no geographic training. I didn't know anything about cartography. The first staff meeting I ever went to, one of the other librarians asked me what scale was and I didn't even know that; that's like the ABCs of cartography. The people of Los Angeles taught me everything; they were my teachers

— continued, page 26



After the fire that devastated the Central Library in 1986, departments had to be moved. The Maps Section took up temporary residence in the nearby Title Insurance building before moving back to the refurbished Central Library in 2003. Here, in the Title Insurance building, Glen Creason sits behind the reference desk.

Mapping out Success



Above: Detail from "Greater Los Angeles, the Wonder City of America" by K.M. Leuschner, 1932.

Above: A handsome Eliot pictorial map of the City, 1891. Maps like these were used outside of Los Angeles to promote tourism and encourage new residents.

The *Alive!* Interview

—continued from page 25

because all these questions people asked would force me to dig in and learn along with them. Between the librarians who trained me and the people of L.A., that's where I learned everything.

of service-station maps, Auto Club maps, anything that was produced by the tourist organizations. A lot of maps were considered kind of lowbrow. We collected those and now they're really good. Pictorial maps are very popular now, and we have a pretty good collection of those.

How do you interface with the public? Is it entirely open to the public or only with the assistance of a reference librarian?

The collection is available to the public. In a lot of cases, things that are really valuable or very rare we have to keep locked up to make sure they stay in the building. There's been map theft across the country. People have to ask for them but otherwise anybody can come down here and look

at old Thomas Guides or foldout maps, topo maps, all that kind of thing. We have maps of Vietnam during the war and we get people that come in to look at those, also.

They can't be checked out because it's a reference collection.

Right.

Do you accept donations?

We live on donations. That's why I do public speaking because I try to make people aware that we accept what they have — when they find something in their garage that belonged to their grandpa, we'd like to see it.

Is this one of the country's top five map archives?

Public libraries, yes. The Library of Congress stands on its own, and the New York Public Library is just in another world, but we're up there.

The Changing Nature of Maps

Since you started back in 1979, what has changed with maps?

The focus is completely on digitization now. I'm a hard-copy person; I'm interested in seeing the map in front of me, but a lot of the interfacing with maps now is done by people sitting at a computer and looking at a screen.

Do you have a digital archive?

We do. We have maps in all different formats. We have them on microfiche, microfilm, digitized, all kinds of forms.

What's changed, not only in the form of digitized maps, but also in the kinds of things that are mapped?

Has it gone from just geopolitical to cultural or food maps? Has there been a shift in the kinds of things that are mapped?

Yes. Especially in the last 20 years, people are much more interested in green spaces. That wasn't much of a concern before, so there's a lot of interest in the river.

Do you have cultural maps? Have there been more of those kinds of maps rather than just geopolitical maps?

There is, but in a lot of cases they're not hard-copy



Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer, and Glen Creason, who holds a map of airline routes in the United States in 1949.



Glen Creason, Map Librarian, at a map exhibition at the Central Library, 1995.

And you're still learning?

Still learning, yes.

The Maps Section

Tell us the nuts and bolts of the map section, what its function is and how it all works.

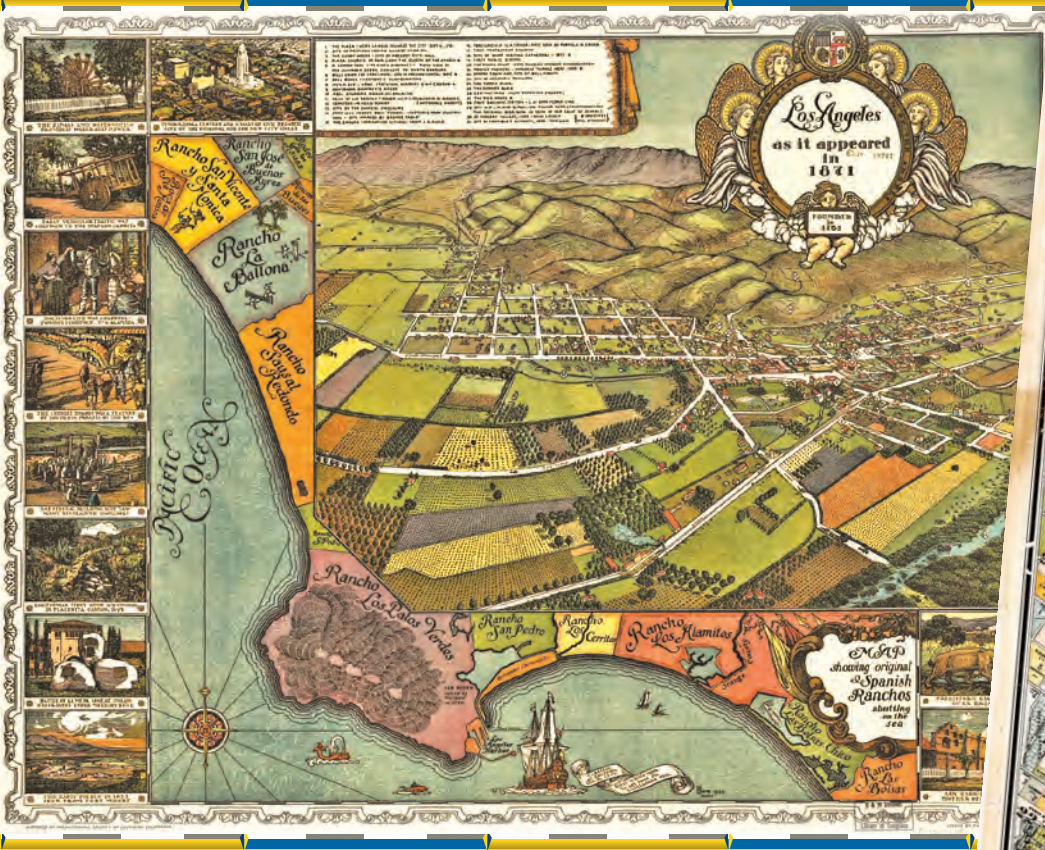
It has a lot of different functions, but basically it's a government depository. When the government produces maps we're given a copy to make available to the public. We have a full set of the USGS (United States Geological Survey) topographic maps for the whole United States. There are only a couple of institutions that keep them, and the government doesn't produce them anymore. They don't print the maps; it's all a digital file, so we have that. We have international and domestic nautical charts; we even have aeronautical charts, although I've always wondered about who would fly a jumbo jet by using maps they got from the public library. And then we have some other maps — we have other sets of topological maps — Canada, Great Britain, Mexico ... and then since 1873 we've collected any maps we could find of Los Angeles. Our focus is on those areas, so we have most any kind

The Club's Robert Larios and Map Librarian Glen Creason look over an H.J. Stevenson map of Los Angeles from 1884.

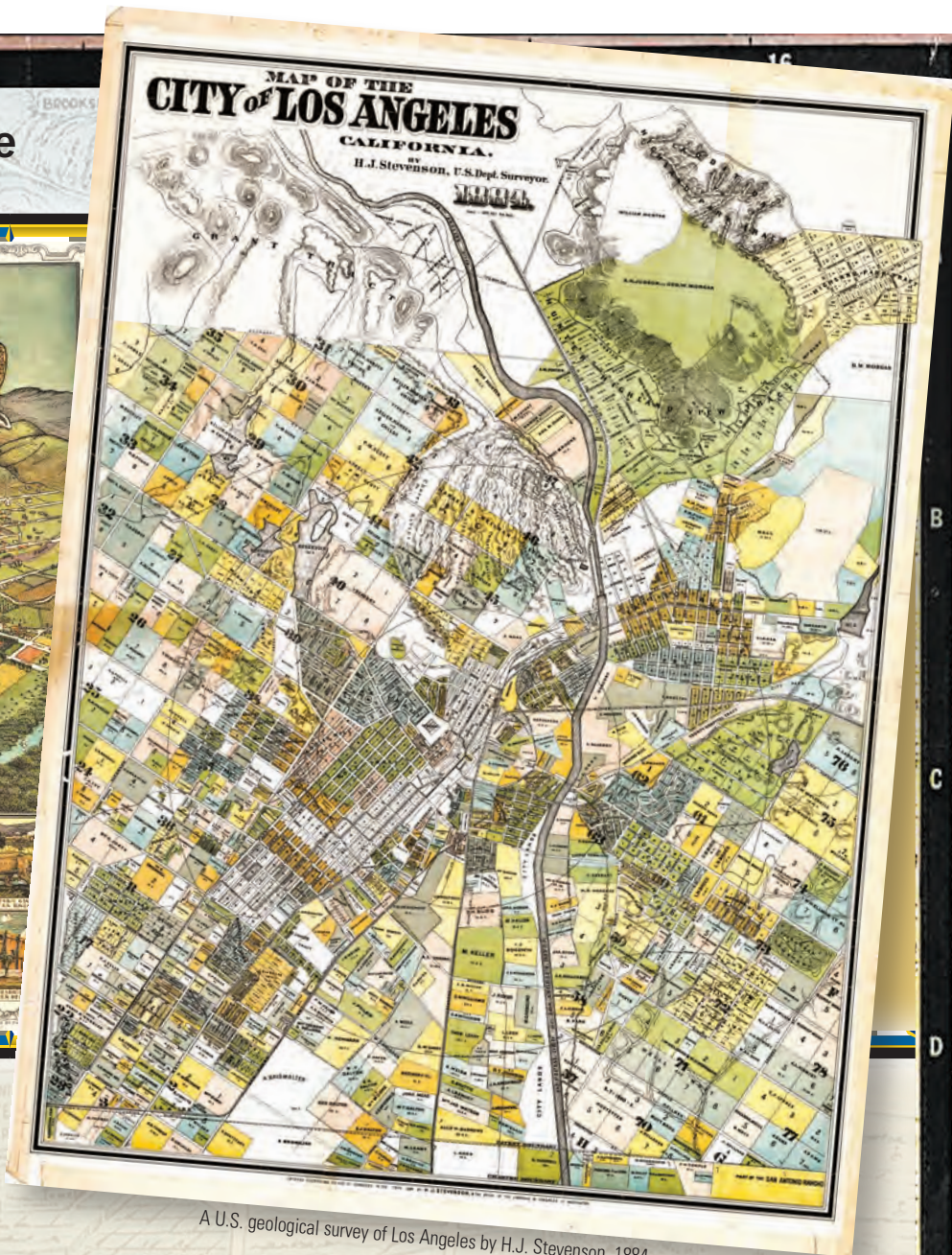


— continued, page 28

Alive! Feature



A pictorial map titled "Los Angeles as it appeared in 1871."



A U.S. geological survey of Los Angeles by H.J. Stevenson, 1884.

A Discovery That Put Them on the Map

An amazing find doubled the Library's map collection overnight.

An article about Glen Creason in the *Los Angeles Times* two years ago prompted the Library's biggest map collection discovery ever.

A realtor who read that article knew of a house soon to be demolished that had an enormous map collection inside, that he didn't know what to do with. He called Glen and asked if he were interested.

Initially Glen was skeptical. But he had the day off and it was near his house, so he gave it a shot. When Glen entered the house in Mt. Washington, he found a treasure trove – more than 100,000 maps of all kinds.

"I couldn't believe it," Glen recalls. "There were just all these file cabinets and dressers. And then we went into the kitchen and he opened the cabinets, and there were all these really rare L.A. street guides. I'd never seen this many in one place in my life."

And then there was another entire floor, a den, and on and on. "When you were in the bathroom sitting on the toilet, you were looking at a map," Glen laughs. There were maps

Below: Inside the Feathers House before Glen Creason and his staff removed all the maps.



even under the house. "I got a little lightheaded. I knew right then that this was unbelievable. That night, I didn't really sleep."

Getting the treasure trove to the Central Library was another matter. He had one day before the bulldozing was to commence.

He called Library General Manager John Szabo, who turned out to be a "big map guy," Glen continues. John Szabo engaged a moving company with two men, and Glen talked 10 volunteers to pitch in, too – archivists, librarians and the like. The ragtag group managed to stuff everything into a moving truck and take it to the library before the Library's loading dock closed

at 4 p.m. "It was absolutely exhausting."

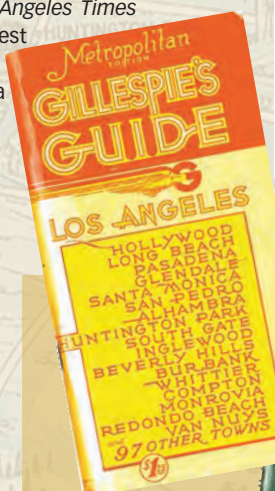
All of the maps would have covered nearly the length of two football fields in library shelving.

The house was owned by Walter Keller. His companion, John Feathers, outlived him and just loved maps, according to Glen, and so the house carried the Feathers name. The realtor contacted Glen after Feathers died.

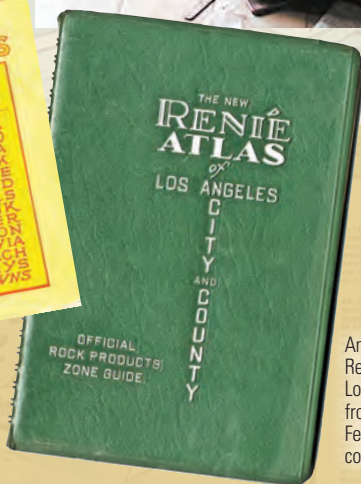
Obviously archiving that kind of influx presents a second challenge. With its own staff and volunteers, the Maps Section continues to archive the materials, a little at a time, while managing their regular workloads.

"For reference purposes the materials from the Feathers house are absolutely priceless because of all these street guides of L.A.," Glen explains. "He had everything, and in some cases first editions – the first Thomas Guide ever printed, the first Renie Guide ever printed, and it had never been opened. There are Gillespie guides, which are the very first street guides of L.A. There are a lot of atlases, and then as we walked through there was something in a plastic wrapper, and I took that down – it was probably the most valuable thing. It was a Willem De Blaeu Atlas sheet from the 16th century."

Some of the maps from the Feathers house are on display, and Glen hopes to have more of them accessible to the public as the archiving continues. ■



An original Gillespie's Guide to L.A. streets, from the Feathers House collection.



An original Renie Atlas of Los Angeles from the Feathers House collection.

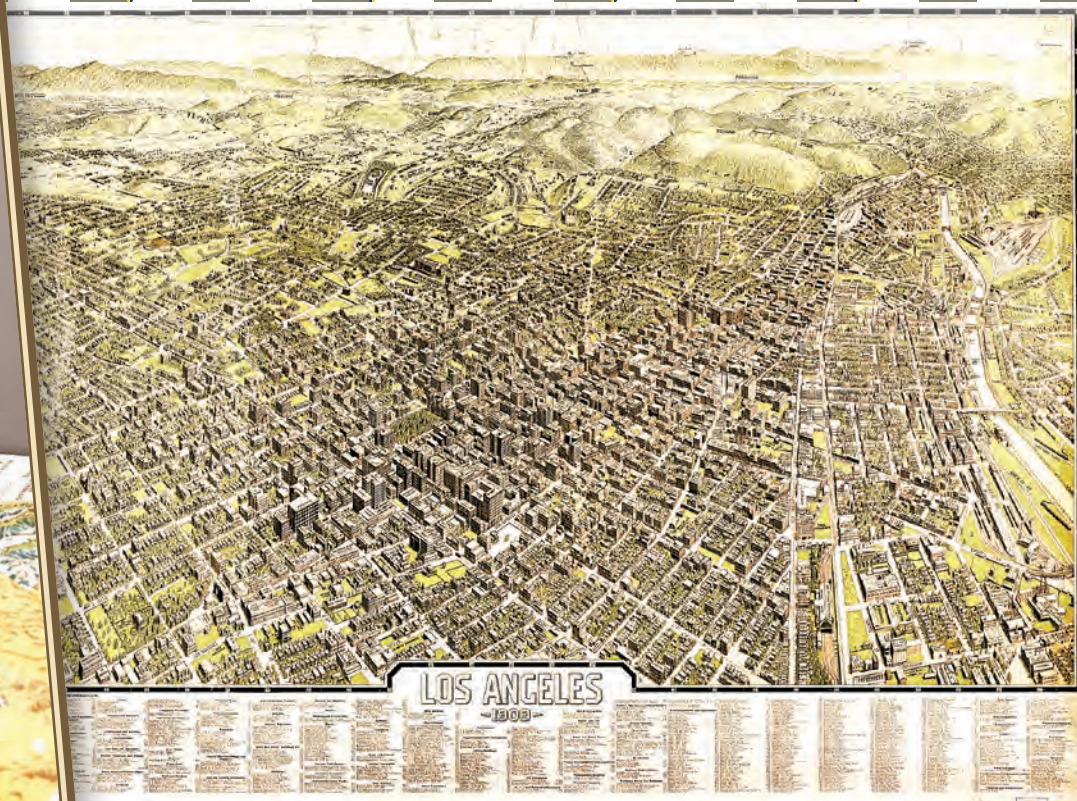
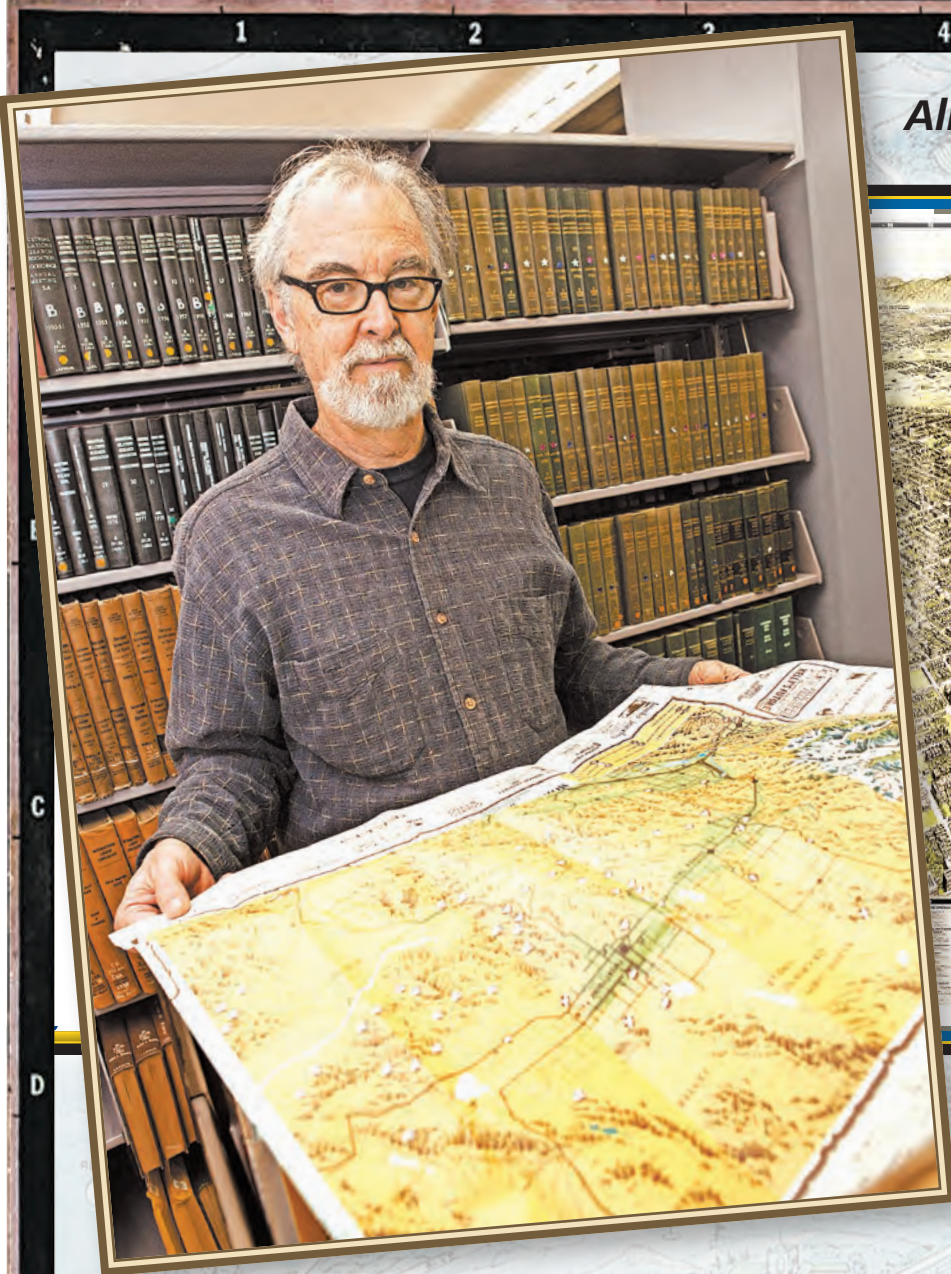


The treasure trove of maps discovered inside the Feathers House.

The archiving of the materials from the Feathers House discovery is ongoing.



Alive! Feature



Above: A three-dimensional map of LA, 1909.

Left: Glen Creason looks over a National Park Service map of Sequoia National Park.

The *Alive!* Interview —continued from page 26

things. I just love that kind of stuff. We have a Meat Lovers' map, and it's in the shape of a pig. We collect just the oddest things.

Give us another example.

Well, some maps are unusual in the way they're folded. We have a map that's the size of a matchbook but you can unfold it and it becomes the layout of Southern California. There are things like dishtowels and neckties.

Who typically comes in to look at the maps?

It's a mixed bag here because we get hikers and urban historians, — a lot of those people are interested in how the neighborhoods changed. We get a lot of architecture students, local historians and genealogists. Some people want to know the history of the house they bought, especially in neighborhoods like Lincoln Heights or Angelino Heights, places like that. They like to know how their neighborhood developed and how it became what it is today.

What maps do you have that parallel or document the founding and the growth of L.A.?

We have the earliest maps of L.A. that give you a basic understanding of the center of the city and where it went from there, and we have maps of the streetcars and we have maps of the ranchos. We have some maps that show the old trade routes. And then we have other maps that show how the boundaries of the City changed so that you can see what the City did to grow politically.

What's going to happen to the older maps as years go by? How are we going to keep them? Will they be restored?

Yes. The first thing that needs to be done is that everything needs to be digitized. My thrust here has always been these maps don't belong in the drawer, they belong in front of the public, they should be seeing them and learning about them. Print maps have a limited life but then once they're digitized and we can make prints of them then they can be studied much more easily.

Do you digitize here in house?

We do, yes. Unfortunately there are a lot of different collections here that need to be digitized. We have a great person who's in charge of that. We have a whole section of digitization but a lot of stuff piling up, too.

Is that a shared resource.

It is, yes.

Favorites

Tell us about your favorite maps.

I'm very partial to pictorial

maps, so I love the booster maps that were created in the golden age of the 1920s, '30s and the '40s, the maps that they would send to promote Los Angeles. They weren't always exactly correct geographically, but they give this flavor — it's maybe a place that never really existed but it's the idea. And I also like street guides; I find those fascinating.

What are some of the other maps that are your favorites?

Well, I always talk about the Jo Mora map; that's my all-time favorite. He was an immigrant from Uruguay and a really amazing person. He was working for the Boston *Herald* when he was 14. He was a lot of things but he was most famous as a sculptor, and some of his work is in L.A. But he made these pictorial maps. At first he made them just as kind of fun with his kids, but they're masterpieces, and the one of L.A. just tells the whole history of L.A.

This Mora pictorial map, depicting on one sheet the region's many ethnic and cultural influences, is one of Glen Creason's favorites.



Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer, and Glen Creason inside Glen's cubicle.



Mapping out Success



Above (detail): This masterpiece of pictorial mapping is an original from the earliest printings of the famed Fischgrind Publishing house and one of the mysterious Miguel Gomez Medina's greatest works. The map is brimming with Mexican folkways, history and accurate geography along with an introduction in the upper right corner by William H. Prescott, the esteemed historian and Hispanist of the period.

Above: A copy of an original survey map of Los Angeles, 1849. This map clarified parcels so that the City could begin raising taxes.

“You can get an idea of the social history of Los Angeles and all the ethnic groups that were absorbed into the City.”

— Glen Creason

What Maps Tell Us

What can people learn by coming to the map section and really digging in deep? What are the broader things that people can learn by using the map reference library here?

One of the things that's the most surprising is that you can get an idea of the social history of Los Angeles, of all the ethnic groups that were absorbed into the City. From the beginning, Los Angeles was this multicultural, polyglot society, and then when all these newcomers flooded in when the railroads came and connected the City, then you have those people trying to make it an American place that it never really was. If you use an assortment of maps and really study them, you're going to find out when African Americans came here, find out about the Jewish community, find out about Mexican Los Angeles, all these different ethnicities, the Chinese, the Irish and all that. You'll see things on maps, and that'll lead you off to another map or reference book. It happens to me still all the time where I see something and I wonder what's that about, so I look into it and it turns out to be a really fascinating story.

What do maps tell us about ourselves?

Well, in the case of Los Angeles, you sometimes had people trying to make it as they wanted it to appear, but it's not

exactly what it was. When you look at old maps you see racist terms on them, and certain things are ignored; the emphasis will be on the prejudice of the person who made it. The things that are created now are a little more realistic, but there's always a view that is expressed by the people who are producing the map.

It reflected the bias, in the case of pictorial maps especially. At one time Central Avenue was the liveliest place in L.A., and you almost never see that reflected on maps of the era. One of the things I wrote about in my book that I found very interesting is that we had company towns here in Southern California — we had these brickyards where they would actually take entire villages from Mexico and bring them up here, and they lived in very restricted space. They created their own village, but it was completely outside and you'll see that on no map; it's like it never existed.

Sometimes the truth is something that people want to avoid, so that tells a story, too, I would imagine.

Yes.

Below: The Maps Section staff, from left: Glen Creason, Map Librarian, 36 years of City service; Julie Huffman, Genealogy Librarian, 10 years; Kelly Wallace, Librarian, 13 years; Christina Flores, Clerk Typist, 10 years; and Llyr Heller, Librarian, 2 months.



Below: Very rare Sanborn Fire Insurance atlases are housed in an area restricted to staff access.



A Passion for Mapping

You're very active with blogs, and you wrote a book, and you're out giving public speeches and public appearances and things like that. Why is it important to do outreach like that? What compels you to do that?

People tend to give us stuff when they become aware that we're here. We're not able to go to auctions and buy things, so we really depend on the public and donations.

Do you enjoy it, or is it just doing your job?

No. I enjoy it.

Do you love maps? You didn't start out that way but have you grown to love maps?

Yes, but I have my favorites.

Do you have maps at home?

I do. I'm not an obsessive collector, but I have some things that I really like that I have at home. I have an original print that I was really super lucky to get that because they're five thousand bucks to get one.

Those are pictorials?

Yes.

Any idea of retirement yet, or what are your plans?

I'm having too much fun right now, so I'm going to keep doing this for a while. I have a daughter who still occasionally shows up at my house asking for money.

Right. Thank you very much for this interview. It's been great.

My pleasure always. ■

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

People We See

Shelterless in Los Angeles.

Sponsored by:
Terry Yeager and Associates

No. 80
in a series.



Meet Tarrance Austin.



AGE: "I'm 53."

BIRTHPLACE: "Detroit."

WHEN MOVED TO LA:

"I left Detroit when I was 37 and spent two years in Florida after that. I went to Florida on the recommendation of a couple of friends. I lived in West Palm Beach. Then it was off to Hollywood, Calif., to be a movie star. I'm still trying to make it big, I haven't given up on my dream."

FAMILY:

"I have three brothers and one sister. I am the oldest. I also have two kids, a son and a daughter, who are now in their 20s."

EDUCATION:

"I graduated from high school and then went off to college. While in high school I was in the marching band, playing the trumpet. I was also a singer. I played basketball, football and baseball. Baseball was my favorite. I then went to Wayne State University and got a Bachelor's degree in criminology."

HOW LONG ON THE STREET:

"Two years now, maybe a little less. It all started when I lost my job at Universal; I was a culinary specialist there. I don't drink or smoke or take drugs. But it was just circumstance and peer pressure that landed me here."

MOST HELPFUL:

"The mission are pretty helpful, but it's definitely not a solution for the homeless. There are too many rules and time constraints; it's simply easier to live on the street sometimes."

IF YOU WERE MAYOR:

"I would simply build shelters. The most humane goal should be to shelter the homeless. It is really kind of ridiculous that we don't have shelters for us."

ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:

"Don't take peer pressure seriously; your friends can be your worst enemy. Don't hang out with bad elements, and especially keep an eye on who your kids are hanging out with."

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

The interview, conducted by John Hawkins, took place Dec. 14 at Third and Los Angeles Streets downtown.

Tarrance Austin (left) and Club CEO John Hawkins.

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

Airports, Cultural Affairs

Art Takes Wing

LAX welcomes 2 new art exhibitions.

Story courtesy Airports

ings of Los Angeles. Pontus Willfors' **Douglas Fir Reclaimed** is a site-specific installation of hundreds of salvaged planks of Douglas fir that have been sanded and chiseled to reveal a ghostly image of a Douglas fir tree spanning the hallway of Terminal 3 Arrivals Level. In the same hallway, Cathy Weiss' installation, **Chaparral Habitat: Native Flora and Fauna**, features large-scale, boldly colored woodcut prints inspired by the indigenous wonders of Laurel Canyon in the Hollywood Hills. Both exhibitions are on view for the public through June.

Pontus Willfors created **Douglas Fir Reclaimed** from 405 two-by-four planks of Douglas fir that were reclaimed from a teardown in Los Angeles. Willfors vertically mounted the boards of varying lengths, side by side, creating a long plane of wood against the wall. With the timbers assembled as a giant, 90-foot wooden canvas, a life-size image of a Douglas fir tree is visible across the surface, horizontally stretching the expanse of the wall.

Cathy Weiss' site-specific installation of woodcut prints in Laurel Canyon, **Chaparral Habitat: Native Flora and Fauna**, celebrates Los Angeles' indigenous habitat and the importance native plants play in creating a working ecosystem. Laurel Canyon is a community in the Santa Monica Mountains that is home to an abundance of vegetation and wild animals, including red-tailed hawks, deer, coast live oaks, and black walnut trees. Noting the striking proximity of untamed beauty to the city, Weiss created 12 "double portraits," a wild animal paired with a native plant species, in large-format, colorful woodcut prints on mulberry paper in two large display cases.

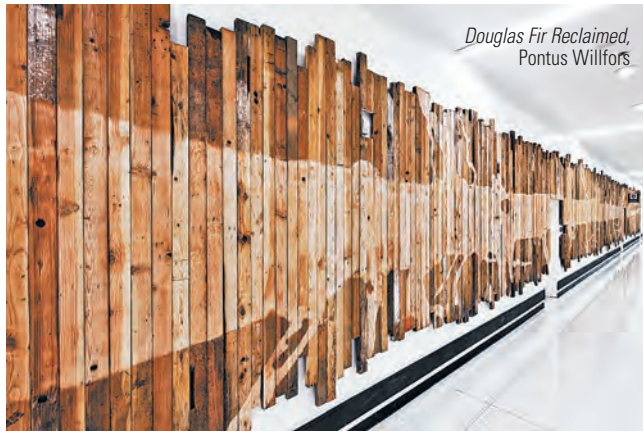
About Airports Art Program

The Airports Art Program, initiated in 1990, provides opportunities for educational, entertaining, and enriching cultural experiences for the traveling public at LAX and LA/Ontario International Airports and the LAX FlyAway bus terminal. The program showcases local and regional artists through temporary exhibitions and permanent public art installations, which enhance and humanize the overall travel experience for millions every year.

For additional information, please visit www.lawa.org.



Chaparral Habitat: Native Flora and Fauna, Cathy Weiss



Douglas Fir Reclaimed, Pontus Willfors

Airports

Story and photo courtesy Airports

Santa Visits Students at LAX

Santa arrives by helicopter to visit with elementary school students.



Santa, who resembled Mark Adams, Chief Management Analyst, Airports, entertains students at LAX.

On Dec. 11, Santa ditched his sleigh to fly in to LAX by helicopter to spread holiday cheer to more than 2250 pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first-grade students from local schools (Westchester, Inglewood, El Segundo, Lennox and Hawthorne). The students were treated to a morning of holiday entertainment, including the LAX PUPs (Pets Unstressing Passengers), Iggy the Lion from Loyola Marymount University, Los

Angeles Airport Police K-9 Unit, a puppeteer and Hawthorne Police Dog Officer Scotty.

The event took place on the restricted airfield adjacent to the Flight Path Learning Center and Museum.

THIS MONTH AT THE



Griffith Observatory

Sunset Walk

Feb. 16

5:55 – 6:55 p.m.

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

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

FREE!

Information:

griffithobservatory.org/programs/programs.html#walktalk

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www.friendsoftheobservatory.com

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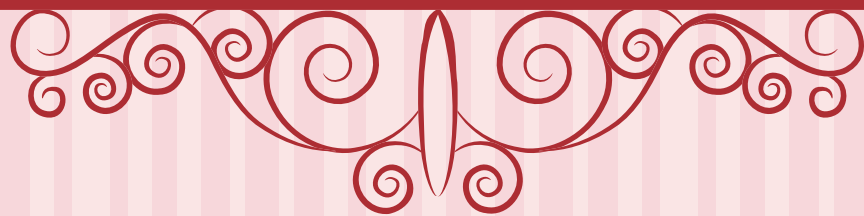
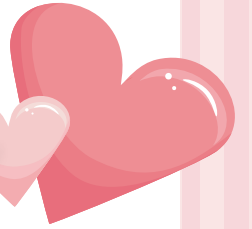


CLUB

Alive! presents one of our most popular annual features – Club Valentines. Enjoy... and happy Valentine's Day!



Valentines



"I really love just hanging out with Andrew and Joe and going places with them. It's so fun to see the world through their eyes. As Joe would say: 'Triple hug!'"
— Stephanie Burkhart, LAPD



"Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife."
— Cruz Palmas, DWP



"Cara, thanks for making every hour of my life better than the last. You are my everything! Happy Valentine's Day!"
— Everett Bennett, Public Works



"Happy Valentine's Day, my love. Thank you for making me so happy. I'm blessed and thankful to God for having you in my life."
— Sandra Bautista, LAPD, for Xavier Bautista, L.A. County Sheriff's Dept.



"To Brad (Transportation), Lisa, Kayla and Ashley Yamamoto, Happy Valentine's Day. Love, Grandpa and Grandma."
— Victor Gonzalez, General Services, and Lorraine Gonzalez, Transportation



"Two hearts that beat as one. Phill and Edwina, forever 2016."
— Officer Edwina "Eddie" Romero, LAPD, for Capt. Charles Phill Hearn, LAPD

"To the love of my life and our sons' life — we are so blessed! Happy Valentine's Day babe."
— Jaana Gantt, for Paul Gantt, LAPD



"Look into my heart and see what I am saying, for my heart speaks the truth, and the truth is, we love you! Happy Valentine's Day! The Hall family."
— For Phillip Hall, Transportation



"Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful daughters, Victoria and Lauren Godinez. I am truly blessed. I love you."
— Lucie Godinez, Transportation



"Patricia, God is good. I know because he gave me you to love."
— Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer



"Sandy, you are the love of my life!"
— Jeremy Cailotto, General Services



"Happy Valentine's Day, Nalgona, I love you. I'm making up for last year."
— Anthony Canales, LAPD



"Thank you for coming into my life. Love you."
— Joe Chale, ITA



"To my darling wife, Jadon. I love you more today than yesterday, and I promise to love you even more tomorrow."
— Squire Morgan, Public Works





"Happy Valentine's Day to Kiara, 8; Leyla, 7; Tyce, 4; and my wife, Makiko. Our love keeps us warm, no matter how cold it gets outside."

— Eric Yoshida, DWP

"To my husband, Mark: Happy Valentine's Day."

— Jean Cochrane, Personnel



"Sondra, our love has continued to blossom for over 35 years. You are my beautiful Valentine that I will always treasure and adore. Love, Brian"

— Brian Hale, Transportation



"Happy 25th wedding anniversary, and happy Valentine's Day!"

— Carnell Baker, General Services, for his wife, Tara Baker



"To the love of my life, there ain't a man alive that can take your place! Happy Valentine's Day!"

— L'keva Harris, LAPD, for Bobby Harris, DWP

"Happy Valentine's Day to our parents, Rafael and Carmen Larios – we love you! Feliz día de San Valentín. From Roberto, Ana, Norma, Patty and the rest of the growing family!"

— For the parents of Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer



"On the many roads we have traveled since we have been together, through good and bad, we will stand the test of time. I love you with all my heart and soul."

— Phil Nunley, Finance

"Happy Valentine's Day to the most special person in my life. My love for you is infinite. Love you!"

— Nikolas Govic



"Happy Valentine's Day to my partner in crime, Robert! My one and only! Baby, you complete me! Love you to the moon and back! Your wife, Erika."

— Erika Carrillo, Airports

"To my love, Arturo Moreno, Dept. of Sanitation. Together forever."

— Debbie Moreno, LAFD



For "the love of my life."

— Rhea Madison, City Attorney's Office



From David S. Bautista, Public Works



"Happy Valentine's Day, my love. Will you be mine?"

— Alex Juarez, Harbor, for Rosie Bustillos



"We may have caught Letterman's final week, but our show continues stronger than ever. Happy Valentine's Day!"

— John Burnes, Alive! editor



"Lindz: I love you!"

— For Lindsay Hill, from Bob Hill, DWP

"Happy pre-Valentine's Day, Happier Valentine's Day, Happiest post-Valentine's Day!"

— Rodney Bernaldo, Public Works



"Happy Valentine to my Angel and Gustavo! Auntie loves you!"

— Maryann Urdiales, the Club's Customer Service Associate



"Happy Valentine's Day. I love you with all my heart, Marisol."

— From William Aguirre, Transportation



"Alida and me, still clowning around!"

— Vince Ewing, Public Works



"Isabella, your papa's love is unconditional and never-ending. Happy Pre-Valentine's Day!"

— Rodney Bernaldo, Public Works



"To the two most important lives in my life! I love you so much!"

— Officer A.J. Yu, LAPD

Victor Gonzalez, General Services, and Lorraine Gonzalez, Transportation, saying farewell to the Sixth Street Bridge.





"To my beautiful wife, Sheree Galdamez. Happy Valentine's Day!"

— David Galdamez, LA School Police



"To my two Valentines, Onelia and Linda: You are my love, and I am very happy to have you both in my life. Linda, your first year with us since 1/23/15 has been very exciting.

Happy Valentine's Day!"
— Melvin De Leon, Public Works



"To my one and only of 25 years. My Georgia Peach, Joyce Hunter. Always my Valentine."

— Melvin Hunter, DWP

"Here's a recent photo of my husband of almost 40 years. We were vacationing in Baja near



Cabo San Lucas. He still shows me love and makes me laugh. The two are the ingredients for my long-lasting relationship."

— Rose Serrato, Retired, LAPD



"I will love you till my last breath, my Valentine for life!"

— Iver Dreben for Jacqui Dreben, LAPD



"A Happy Valentine's Day wish to my beautiful and sweet wife, Vivien! You make me laugh, keep me in line and make me feel young again! All my love from your 'gang'!"

— Robert Flores, DWP



"To my dear husband Roberto, by choosing you, I chose happiness for life. I am so glad to be your wife. Happy Valentine's Day! Love you, sweetheart."

— Criselda Pabellano, Public Works

"Honeymooning in Tahiti was wonderful with my love!"

— BJ and Marcia Fulkerson, General Services



"BJ, I adore you and everything you do. Will you be my Valentine? Love, your wife."

— Marcia Fulkerson, for B.J. Fulkerson, General Services



"You've knocked my existence askew, and yet I'm straightaway in love with you! Happy Valentine's Day to my true love, Ronda."

— Vincent Murray, Airports



"I would like to wish my wife a special Valentine's Day. Here we are on Maui on our 40th wedding anniversary."

— Bernabe Contreras, GSD

"Happy Valentine's Day to my hubby of 34 years. Love, your wifey."

— Bernadine, for Rodney Dishman, Retired, Public Works



"To Hannah and Kelley: the two best Valentines a man could ask for."

— John



"Thank you for all you do ... I love you!"

— Gabriela Zarate, Housing



"Happy 45th anniversary and Valentine's Day to my parents. Love you both so much!"

— Jasmine Dowlatshahi, Rec and Parks



"To Mom, my original Valentine: Thank you for making me who I am!"

— John



"To my everdearest wife, Deanna: After 24 years of marriage, my love for you remains forevermore! My heart continues to beat because of you. Happy Valentine's Day."

— Ronn Encarnacion, General Services



"Todos los caminos del amor me llevan hacia ti... te amo!"

— Erik and Karina Estrada, Airports



"Happy Valentine's Day to my soulmate of 34 years. I will love you forever. Love, your wife."

— Anna Sanchez, LAPD



"I love my girlfriend, Selena. Wherever we go, whatever we do, it's always more special with her by my side. It's been five beautiful

years, and looking forward to many more."

— Guy Garcia, Rec and Parks



"To my littlest Valentine, Sai Kioko Ewing."

— Vince Ewing, Public Works



"30 years ... and I will not stop counting. Happy Valentine's Day, my life."

— Sepou Ohanian, Airports

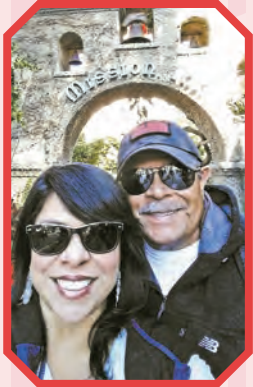


"To Pa (Larry Lieswald, Retired): We wish you a very Happy Valentine's Day. Love, your grandkids, Brian and Aubrey."



"I love you on Valentine's Day and every day! Wishes of love for us today and always, 18 years strong!"
— Kim Smith, for Burton Smith, Public Works

CLUB Valentines



"Valentine's Day is every day when I am with you! I am so blessed to be your wife! I love you!"
— Priscilla Jimenez, Retired City Employee, for Geraldo Jimenez, Retired, City Attorney's Office



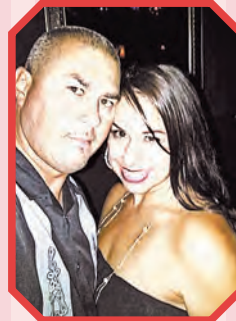
"To my loves, my joy, my world! I love you all so much! Happy Valentine's Day!"
— Tanya Rodrick, Animal Services



"To my beautiful and wonderful wife of 12 years: I wouldn't be who or where I am without you, I love you so much. #blessed"
— Teren King, LAFD



"To my wife, Khin Nilar Soe: Be my Valentine."
— Ismail Nanabawa, Airports



"Today, tomorrow, always."
— George Jimenez, DWP



"One of the greatest blessings in my life is having you as my mother and my best friend! Ti voglio molto bene."
— Katrina Frink, LAPD



"To my wonderful husband, Frank ... this year is our 10-year anniversary, and it still feels like our first. Happy Valentine's Day ... you are my 'Aloha' forever!"
— Joy Rendon, Harbor (for Frank Rendon, Harbor)



"Happy Valentine's Day, baby. You are the best thing that ever happened to me. I love you."
— Jose A. Lucero, DWP



"Thank you, my dearest Anthony, for your unconditional love over the last 13-plus years! Happy Valentine's Day!"
— Valerie Nettles, General Services



"Eric and I are both employees of LAPL, so naturally when we took our engagement photos we made sure to get some in front of Central Library downtown. We took the photos ourselves on Christmas Eve."
— Katie Ferguson, Library



From Vaughn Dorsey, Transportation.



"I love you, Moose! Happy Valentine's Day!"
— Bryan Pagdilao, LACERS



"Thank you for loving me unconditionally. Love, your wife, Elena."
— For John Sousa, Airports



"Your love makes me feel like I'm on top of the world, Jenny! Happy Valentine's Day, my love!"
— Armando Nunez II



For Al Williams, General Services, from Josie Williams.



"To the love of my life, best friend and soul-mate, Rosemarie. Happy Valentine's Day and Happy 23rd anniversary. Love forever,"
— Derek Deach.



"Making new memories ... Be My Valentine! - JT"
— Justin Tombar, LAPD



"My love belongs to my Valentine, this year my grandson, Isaac Elias. Love you to the moon and back! Ur, Nana Patty."



Life's Important Moments

Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? Get a promotion? We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and high resolution photos with the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or send paper notices and print photos to: Alive!, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012



Welcome New Members!

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

New Members

Airports

Adrian Aguayo
Richard Atkinson
Rikki Bentley
Anthony Blandon
Pablo Garcia
Michael Gonzales
Jess Hernandez
Yolanda Mancilla
Sayda Mathieu
Exequiel Ramos
Gene Rocha
Stephen Smith
Levi Swindell
Vivian Turner
Evette Velarde
Antoinette Williams

Animal Services

Walter Williams

Building and Safety

Sidney Chiu
Oscar Gonzalez
Vincent Hanley
Brian Miller
Yvette Moreno
Yvonne Quintana
Shaogao Wei

City Attorney

Cheryl Lewis
Sheena Paracuelles
Jennifer Plourde
Jessica Rodriguez

Economic/Workforce Dev.

Amelia Marucut
Anthony Nicholas

LAFD

Sean Baker
Noel Binotapa

Adelino Jaminal
Michael Kim
Brendon Lew
David Reddix
Tashema Russell
Craig Yamashiro

General Services

Lebron Bennett
Alberto Castanon
Metris Coleman
Angel Contreras
Richard Davis
Zhirayr Dedeyan
David Galvez
Nicolas Gutierrez
Brian Mattox
Brittany Medina
Oscar Montanez
Edward Stevenson
Adimika Thomas
Issac Vargas

Harbor

Michael Hillmann
John Onorato II
Curtis Thompson

Housing

Ras Cannady II

ITA

Robert Canady
Clarissa Ocampo

LACERS

Rose Duroy

Library

Emily Aaronson
Verdel Flores
Lorie Hamalian
Jill Newton

Emil Sleman
Stephanie Studer
Megan Young

Personnel

Helen Ovando

Planning

Rasheen Ford
Bryan Goland

LAPD

Juan Acosta
Eduardo Borges Jr.
Mark Anthony Carrillo Sr.
Jonathan Darrah
Curtis Dawson
Julio DeLeon
Vinh Do
Paul Dorfman
Katrina Frink
Arturo Gonzalez
Marina Gonzalez
Juan Hernandez
Luis Hidalgo
Kevin Jerry
Danny Jones
Juan Limon
Rolando Lopez
Caila McEachen
Maria Mendoza
Eric Negrete
Lance Novak
Marco Pimentel
Randy Popielarp
Daniel Putnam
Lily Quan
Jose Salcedo
Elliot Sanders
Amanda Silverstein
Javier Solis JR
Thomas Trejo
Brandon Valdez

Christine
Vejsicky

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Hector Arciniega
John Battey
Thomas Harman
Ian Kabutey
John Rochefort

Engineering

Wenn Chyn
Thein Crocker
Easton Forcier
Miguel Grajeda
Deedra Hines
Axel Jauregui
Ramnik Mungra

Sanitation

Adriana Borrayo
Anthony Brown
Alfred Chavarria JR
James Connelly
Matthew Daeseleer
Tomas De la cruz
Barbara Duran
Jennifer Encinas
Brian Frasso
Jaime Gonzalez
Amanda Griesbach
Joel Hill
Brandon Holden
Clayton Hoppes
Nathan Johnson
Cynthia Luc
Windy Mach
Linda Maokhamphiou

Sonia Mendez
Robert Mesias
Roberto Montes
Dennis Powell
Rogelio Ramirez
Heriberto Ramirez
Patrick Shepherd
William Taylor

Street Services

George Bello
Felix Ceballos
David Ford
Danny Hernandez
Todd Larsen
Blanca Mora

Rec and Parks

Allen Alegria
Efrain Barragan
Alvin Cuadra
Kiefer Hoyos-Vega
Stephen Joyce
Carol Monroy
Abraham Rodriguez
Mark Rose
Walter Sanchez
Maria Soria
Sarai Virgen
Mark Walker

Transportation

Karen Barnett
Oscar Garza
Hooman Ighani
Richard Pastran
Kevin Ramos

DWP

Tracy Braxton

Adam Elstein
Jason Jaramillo
Robert Kershner Jr.
Daniel Logan
Rafael Lopez
Ernie Preciado
Charlynn Rachell
Patricia Spinneberg

Other

Henry Avalos
Jorge Barbosa
Roy Battles
Federico Becerra
Leroy Bermudez
Citlali Bon-Sanchez
Florence Boxley
Deborah Cheung
Christopher Davis
Bruce Fennell
Karlene Fukuma
Jacob Heinlein
Edwin Hidalgo
Kenya Horne
James Johnson
Christina Maldonado
Glenda Mantel
Robert Miller
Dwight Moses
Deloris Murray
Jeffrey Ratcliff
Kevin Ripchik
Robyn Rychwalski
John Silva
Aaron Siow
Charles Stockinger
Cheryl Tabbi
Damon Taylor
Andrea Yee

Births

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



Nathan Shahin Eghbal, born Dec. 30 and the second son of **Amir Eghbal and Jasmine Dowlatshahi, Rec and Parks.**



Samuel Benjamin Teichman, born Sept. 17 to Amy and Ben Teichman, and big brother Gabriel. **Grandmother Linda Vigil** is an **Assistant Chief Wharfinger, Harbor.** Linda is "ecstatic and so in love" with her grandson.



Christopher Thomason, born May 1 to Christopher and Tamia Thomason. Young Christopher is the grandson of **Belinda Hill, Retired, LAFD.**



McKynlee Sarfaty, born June 16 to Cori (left) and Bryan Sarfaty. McKynlee is the first grandchild of **Ron and Jean Sarfaty, LAPD Communications, Club Rep.** Congratulations, Grandma!

Wedding

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



Ismail Nanabawa, Airports, and **Khin Nilar Soe, Nov. 6.** Congratulations!

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

Reyes, Carlos Rec and Parks 3
Savage, John Clark Public Works 23
Van Hoosier, Jeffrey Public Works 35

Retired

Baham, Jack Public Works 15
Battles, Gwendolyn Jane Transportation 35
Cadwallader City Planning 31
Casto, Lewis Rec and Parks 13
Dantiacq, Betty LAPD 16
Dyer, Tommie Public Works 20
Fowler, Patricia LAPD 26
Garcia, John General Services 34
Glenn, David LAPD 35
Hall, J.L. Public Works 29
Hata, Teruzo Rec and Parks 19
Hines, Charlie Public Works 26
Jauregui, Fidel Rec and Parks 3
Johnson, Preston General Services 20

Kelley, Leroy City Attorney 23
Lai, Lincoln Airports 30
Leonard, Stuart Aging 18
Majewski, Airports 33
Martinez, Juan Rec and Parks 12
Mondloch, Donald Public Works 38
Moss, Percy Public Works 24
Nix, Elmer Public Works 15
Oatts, Charles Airports 30
Olmos, Joe General Services 10
Payton, Espy Rec and Parks 33
Reber, Mary City Attorney 34
Retamal, Rupert Airports 31
Sakamoto, Larry El Pueblo 45
Historical Monument
Harbor 22
Small, Benjamin Transportation 32
Swayne, Luther Building & Safety 33
Takaki, Gerald Public Works 26
Tokirio, Frank

Peace of Mind

CLASSIC
FROM Feb. 2014

by **Tiffany Sy**
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert



Contact me at
info@cityemployeesclub.com

Protect Your Family With Term Life Insurance

The life insurance plan that started it all – term life insurance – continues to carry the torch of tradition today, giving an annual refund check back to Club Members in most years. If you have group term life insurance with the Club, you should have received your check last December. The way it works is simple: The advantage of group rating offers our members competitive rates. Premiums are pooled during the fiscal year and what remains after paying off death claims and administrative expenses is given back to our members in the form of a check.

The amount of each member's check corresponds to individual premium contributions.

If you have a spouse or domestic partner, he/she is also eligible for our group term life insurance, and premiums for their plan also count toward your annual refund check! Retirees and spouses, we've added you to the eligible list as well.

As we enter the most romantic month of our calendar, our loved ones include our families. Take care of your family by insuring their peace of mind.

Do you have enough coverage? Who depends on your income? How much will they need to sustain their lifestyle? Has there been a recent addition or change in your family?

Typically, the younger you are, the more life insurance you will need. Your need should taper down to a burial benefit upon retirement. If you are actively working and planning an upcoming retirement, keep in mind your group term life insurance with the Club stays with you! The convenience of automatic payroll deductions also continues with pension

deductions. Simply contact our office at your earliest convenience so that we may process your retirement requests

If you would like assistance in assessing the coverage you need to provide security for your family and assets, contact me or your member services counselor and we would be more than delighted to help you find a budget to meet your needs.



Share Your Life's Moments

Everyone reads Life's Most Important Moments in *Alive!* Share your news... and send in a photo! Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.

Send digital photos to:
(as high a resolution as you can send)
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OR send paper photos to:
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Tiffany Sy
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The City Parties!

Part 2

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

Here in February, *Alive!* continues its coverage of the City Social Season 2015, with stories and photos from Club staff ... and sent in by you, too.

Enjoy the memories!

Airports

Thanks for the Gifts!



Winners of Club gifts were, from left: Luis Canales, Gerardo Sanchez, Duc Ly, Kirby Real, Greg Esquivel, Maria Vizcarra, Josh Deziel, Daniel Melendez, Alfonso Garcia and Abteneciana Gutierrez.

The Airports/Carpenter shop at LAX sent thanks to the Club for sending them a few takeaways for their Dec. 14 holiday party.

"Thank you for all your donations for our Christmas party this week," wrote Eddie Carrera, Sr. Carpenter. "We truly appreciate it. Your donations helped make this event a great success."

Winners of the Club gift giveaways – movie packs, Honey Baked Ham gift certificates and See's Candies certificates – are pictured below.

You're welcome!

Photos by Everett Bennett



The Car Club

By EVERETT BENNETT, Assistant Inspector, Public Works/Contract Administration

25 Years for DWP's Christmas Car Show

Personnel with the LAPD and ITA's grants section held a joint holiday luncheon Dec. 8 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion downtown.

Donald Taylor, DWP, and some friends succeeded in making Dec. 24 another joyous Christmas Eve for car aficionados and fellow Angelenos. Participants at the show, held at the Main Street DWP yard just north of downtown, celebrated the show's 25th anniversary.

Mother Nature brought out the sunshine and blue skies that provided the perfect backdrop for all the amazing cars and motorcycles in attendance. All styles of cars were packed in the parking lot, including lowriders, bombs, muscle cars, trucks and hot rods. This show has everything, including a DJ blasting music to help set the mood.

This was my second year attending the show, and I am happy to have it on my calendar of holiday events I must attend. I had a blast meeting fellow City employees and car nuts like myself and setting up some meetings for some future features in the paper.

I am very excited for the features that will be in this column in 2016! See you next month!



Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

At the Movies

— In the cinema

The Big Short

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

In 2007, Congress enacted new banking laws to make home-buying easier. A housing boom spiked the country's prosperity, while the nation's financial sector was encouraged to make questionable loans. *The Big Short* is a humorous but informative film, based on actual events, showing how some outsiders in the world of high-finance predicted the credit and housing bubble collapse and profited on their insights. With notable performances by Christian Bale, Steve Carell and Ryan Gosling as clever young traders going against the trend, this film is both entertaining and informative, and it leaves you wondering if yesterday's greed is making a comeback.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Carol

Rated R

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

In the early 1950s, many discrimination laws in the country were being reexamined and rescinded. *Carol* is a dramatization of some of the changing attitudes of those times. In New York City, a department-store clerk (Rooney Mara) who dreams of a better life has an affair with an older, married woman. Cate Blanchett plays the older woman, and both actresses lift this melodrama of forbidden love above the slow pace of a film on a crusade. Along with the excellent performances of both actresses, the cinematography and costumes make this movie watchable, but just barely.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

The Revenant

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)



Revenge movies can be quite satisfying to watch on their own accord, allowing the average person to imagine vicariously what it would be like to just act out on their own aggressions, if only for a moment. But when you have a revenge film as masterfully well done as *The Revenant* is, it transcends the initial idea of the film and becomes what most films hope to become – a memorable and entertaining piece of cinematic perfection. I think this is Leonardo DiCaprio's year to finally win an Oscar. He certainly deserves it for his portrayal in this one.

—Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Sisters

Rated R

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

I love Tina Fey and Amy Poehler; I think they are two of the funniest and most talented women of our generation, and they have this amazing chemistry when working together. Unfortunately that is kind of lost in *Sisters* because the film focuses so much on being a "party, coming of age" (in their mid-40s) film than allow these two women to work their comedic magic. I don't mind the vulgarity or the shock value of some of the crude jokes, but the generic setting and plot of the film really take away a lot from the enjoyment that could have been.

—Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

The rebirth of this movie franchise has a lot going for it: *Star Wars* movie fanatics, Director J.J. Abrams, the marketing of Disney, and a new generation eager to see what all the hype is about. The box office receipts prove this was a perfect awakening. However, I felt that there were a few flaws to the story that I hope will be addressed in future episodes. Having seen the first *Star Wars* movie at the Chinese Theatre, this one also rekindled that unbelievable interest and the willingness to see this movie one or more times to absorb the story line and just to experience this with other movie goers.

—Chuck Beas, DWP

Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Rated PG-13

Used the Club Discount

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

[No spoilers] Director/cowriter J.J. Abrams had a gargantuan challenge on his hands: craft a *Star Wars* film that's both an episode in a series (needing new characters and storylines) and a major restoration/reboot of that same, beloved series, keeping Disney merchants happy all the while. He mostly succeeds, but this film doesn't catch the wind until after what seems like 30 minutes, a long time. The baddies (the First Order, replacing the Empire) can build massive destruction machines yet can't seem to build body armor that can protect Storm Troopers against blasters; the formulaic and risk-free story works for the most part, although there are trivializing conveniences; and the twinkle isn't always there in Han Solo's eyes, even though he carries large parts of this story. The original *Star Wars* was a series of movie clichés put together in a fresh way; this reboot too often seems a series of business decisions. Nonetheless, the challenge of rebooting *Star Wars* has been accomplished in this safe tale.

—John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

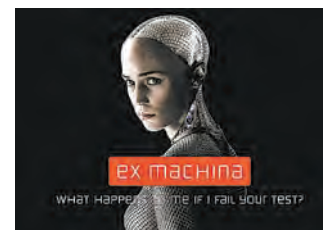
Submit a Review!

Alive! publishes entertainment reviews of 100 words or fewer on a space-available basis.

- Categories: Movies (in theatres or at home/streaming/DVDs); theatre; books; concerts; videogames.
- Reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and exclusive to *Alive!*
- Keep reviews to 100 words or fewer, but 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.
- Tell us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.

Movies at Home

—DVDs, Netflix, Streaming



Ex Machina

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

A brilliant young computer programmer is chosen to participate in an artificial intelligence experiment by evaluating the human qualities of a beautiful female robot. The programmer's boss (Oscar Isaac) and the robot herself (Alicia Vikander) put the programmer through a test that challenges his character as much as his intellect. *Ex Machina* is a brilliant, thought-provoking sci-fi drama with sharp acting by both Isaac and Vikander. The film suffers from a very slow pace that picks up only in the last few, and quite dramatic, moments. Its payoff finale is worth the slog, but getting there is a bit rough.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



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| | Geico | \$1,311 |
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Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



1

Austin



It's beer tasting and music for **Michael Barnes, Harbor.**

"In November we decided to have an adventure in Texas for a few days. We flew into Austin and caught a couple of live bands. Great night!

"The next day we left for New Braunfels' Wurstfest. What an amazing venue in the middle of nowhere — they have music, beer and a great variety of sausages. There is a huge outside area with a couple of large covered buildings and tents providing live music with bands from all over the country.

"We returned to Austin and next day headed for the Red Rooster's Bar and Grill in Pflugerville. Now this is Texas! What a fantastic disco dive bar, with LED dance floor and karaoke nights. It felt like Saturday Night Fever all over again.

"The following evening we returned again to Pflugerville but this time to visit Hanover's Draught Haus. We arrived late to find this dive-type biker bar surrounded by police cars. Not to be deterred, we passed them by. The sound system was very good drinks are reasonably priced.

"On our last day, having time to kill while waiting for our plane to Long Beach, we popped into Patsy's Café Honkytonk for a bite. Nothing fancy — mainly fried stuff; we managed to avoid the awful Tex-Mex-type food and tried their chicken fried steak with cracked pepper gravy — not bad — with an Austin Amber Ale.

"I can really recommend Austin for a fun adventure — they really do have everything, even some tourist stuff. Due to the large college population the town is forever like Peter Pan on steroids."

2

South Caucasus

In September, Dr. Ed Krupp, Director, Griffith Observatory, Rec and Parks, led a tour titled "Mythic Shrines and Celestial Monuments in Georgia, Armenia and Northwest Iran." Here's his report.



"This 17th-century church mural of the apocalypse has a zodiac ring in the middle of it. The church is Svetitskhoveli Cathedral in Mtskheta, Georgia, and the earliest construction of the church dates to the fourth century A.D. The story of the supernatural creation of the church involves a heavenly pillar, which is really a symbol for the cosmic polar axis of the world."



"The Parthians were Iranian rivals of Rome, and they established a fortified palace/temple/pilgrimage shrine at Takht-é Soleyman, in northwest Iran. The Sassanid Persians replaced the Parthians in the third century A.D., and ancient sources tell us the Sassanid king had a room with a mechanism that kind of resembled a planetarium. Moving images of celestial objects in a room with a ceiling of painted stars replicated the motions of the sun, moon and planets, all of which, perhaps revolved around the enthroned king. This is a view of the natural spring-fed 'lake' inside the elevated ramparts of the site. Some of the ruins are visible in the background."



"I have brought Noah's Ark, on my necktie, to Mt. Ararat, where the Ark is said to have landed after the biblical deluge. Mt. Ararat is in Turkey, but this view of it was taken from the terrace of the Paris Hotel in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia."

"Nasr al-Din al-Tusi, a 13th-century Persian astronomer, persuaded Hulagu Khan to finance what was essentially a national observatory at Maragheh, in northwest Iran, and operating from there, Nasr al-Din al-Tusi became one of history's renowned astronomers. Most of the observatory is gone to ruin and survives only as foundations, but most of the foundations can still be seen along with this small surviving segment of a meridian arc that in entirety was four stories high."



"Armenia's most famous observatory is the Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory on the southern slope of Mt. Aragats. It was founded in 1946 by Victor Ambartsumian, a world famous Armenian astrophysicist. This distinctive telescope dome houses the 2.6-meter reflector telescope, which has been operating since 1976."



"This prehistoric rock art site in Armenia is called the Sevsar Mountain Observatory and is alleged to have operated as an observatory during the Stone Age and Bronze Age, perhaps 3,000 to 5,000 years ago. The petroglyphs include a number of large rayed disks, which do suggest a connection with the sun, and also a number of star-like images. There is no proof it actually was an observatory, but it is well situated on an elevation that provides clear views of a distant horizon in the directions where prehistoric people would monitor the yearly cycle of the shift of sunrise and sunset through the seasons."

3

Pennsylvania



Enrique Barranco, DWP Fleet, with his wife, Lorraine; son, Eric; and daughter, Eva, at Hershey's Chocolate World in Hershey, Penn.

4

Liberia



Here's Officer Doug Scarborough, Airport Police, in Liberia.

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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



Real Crab Ceviche

Here's a delicious appetizer dish that works terrifically for a party or a romantic dinner for that special someone. Guys and gals — think about adding this to your Valentine's Day dinner plans. It is a dish that will go well with sparkling wine and even some caviar. As you know I am a proponent of dishes like this — place all your simple ingredients in a bowl and mix. It's the combination of these ingredients that will form a tasty marriage of flavors. It happens with this recipe and it will definitely be a crowd pleaser.

¡Buen provecho!

Chef Larios

Photography by Patricia M. Larios

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (8 ounce) package/container of crabmeat - flaked.
No imitation crab, please!
- 1 large tomato, diced
- 1/2 red onion, finely diced
- 1/2 bunch cilantro, chopped
- 2 to 4 limes, juiced
- 1 to 3 serrano peppers, depending on heat level desired
- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- Sea salt and freshly cracked pepper, to taste
- Mexican hot sauce, to taste

Makes 8 Servings



[Food Dictionary]

Cebiche, ceviche or sevice:

An appetizer popular in Latin America consisting of raw fish marinated in citrus (usually lime) juice. The action of the acid in the lime juice "cooks" the fish, thereby firming the flesh and turning it opaque. Onions, tomatoes and green peppers are often added to the marinade.

Bibliography: © Barron's Educational Services, Inc. 2009, Adapted from *The New Food Lover's Companion*, 2007, by Sharon Tyler Herbst and Ron Herbst

DIRECTIONS:



- 1** In a porcelain or glass bowl, add the shredded crab, diced tomato, red onion, cilantro and serrano peppers. Then, add the sea salt and pepper as well as extra virgin olive oil — with the juice of the limes at the end. Mix well.



- 2** Let chill in the refrigerator for two hours, or overnight is best.



- 3** Remove chilled ingredients in bowl from the refrigerator. Pack the crab ingredients into a small ramekin. Then place the ramekin upside down onto the plate and slowly remove the ramekin. The structure of the crab ceviche should stay intact.



- 4** Place some cilantro on the top of the crab ceviche, and place several drops of Mexican hot sauce on the plate. You may make swirl designs of the hot sauce with a spoon. Add some tortilla chips or corn tostadas if you wish.

Serve and enjoy!

Fun Food Quote:

"I am ready to defend the right of the tasty crab, the luscious oyster, the noble rockfish and the incomparable terrapin to continue their part in the penitential practice of Friday."

— Lawrence Cardinal Shehan, Archbishop of Baltimore

Cooking TIDBIT

While traditional ceviche calls for raw fish like red snapper or sole, wild-caught crab is used here, and it is usually already cooked before it's placed in the container. You may use shrimp as well, and I recommend that it also be cooked, not raw, before preparing the ingredients.

Airports

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor



Fall Picnic

Airport Employees Association hosts annual fall picnic.



The Association of Airport Employees held its annual picnic at Knott's Berry Farm Sept. 12. It was an action-packed event honoring airport employees and their hard work.

Staff members and their families and friends enjoyed a day off and indulged in a little fun for the day. A delicious buffet lunch, interactive games for adults and children, raffle prizes, dance-offs, and a host and DJ were some of the highlights of the event. It was another successful occasion for the association,

and it was evident by the laughter and camaraderie among those who attended!

Special thanks go to Jimmy Sparks and Ricardo Jimenez.



Jose Delira, Custodian, 12 years of City service, and family.



Thomas Reyes, Supervisor, 17 years of City service; Silvia Ortega-Rodriguez, Custodian, 10 years of City service, Club Member; Mirna Garcia, Custodian, 15 years of City service, Club Member; and their families.



Paula Adams, Human Resources Airport Director, 26 years of City service, Club Member, with her daughters, Peyton and Meghan.



Ricardo Jimenez, Carpenter, 15 years of City service, Club Member, and family.



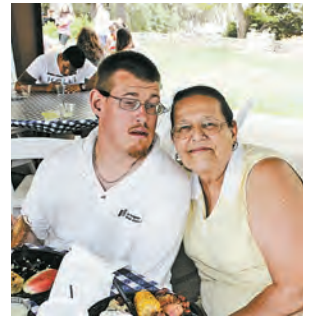
Kelly Arthurs, Sr. Clerk Typist, 12 years of City service, Club Member, with her family.



Omar Goytia, Carpenter, 1 year of City service, and family.



Jimmy Sparks, Association of Airport Employees President, 25 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, Regence Sparks, and their family.



Donna Erie, Secretary, 22 years of City service, Club Member, and Garrett.



Jackie Jones, Risk Manager, 34 years of City service, and family.



Esau Wilder, Airport Police, 6 years of City service, Club Member, and family.



Erik Estrada, Maintenance and Construction Helper, 8 years of City service, Club Member, with his family.



Genny Santiesteban, Secretary, 29 years of City service, Club Member.



Donald Lee, Retired, 26 years of City service, Club Member, and guests.



The host is ready to announce a raffle winner.



From left: Michael Roth, Clerk Typist, 7 years of City service, Club Member; and Susan Roth, Sr. Management Analyst, 30 years of City service, with their families.



AC Castalon, Laborer PTC, 18 years of City service, and family.



A questionnaire game was hosted for the adults.



A hula-hoop contest for the children.

Harbor

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor



Crackin' Good Fun

Harbor hosts 17th annual LobsterFest.

The 17th annual Port of Los Angeles Lobster Festival took place the weekend of Sept. 25 - 27 in San Pedro. Every year the Port of Los Angeles goes above and beyond to ensure their revelers are having a fun time in a safe environment.

Lobsterfest was a family-friendly event that catered to all age groups – there was something for everyone to partake in. There were

carnival games and rides, vendors selling clothing and jewelry, live entertainment and additional food vendors offering delights including lobster mac and cheese, fish and chips, specialty Mexican juices, and lobster quesadillas, to name a few. The highlight of the event was the affordable lobster meal starting at \$23 and having the option of additions. Guests were guaranteed a good time and a full belly!



From left: Officer Keli Legaspi, Port K-9 unit, 9 years of City service, Club Member; Officer II Travis Zoebisch, Port Police, 8 years, Club Member; and Officer Anthony Reite, Port K-9 Unit, 18 years, Club Member.



Carnival games.



Lt. Jaime Navarro, Motor Unit K-9, 20 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife and children, Tonatiuh, Anabel and Juan Diego.



The Seafood Shack offered specialty lobster dishes.



From left: Danette Biazovich, Principal Clerk, 26 years of City service, Club Member; and Jessica Bautista, Management Aide, 20 years, Club Member.



Erlinda Gadut, Club counselor Jeanette's mom, with her free Lobsterfest bag.



Live entertainment.



Lt. John Williams, LAFD Inspector, 26 years of City service, Club Member.



Preparing the lobster meals.



Officer III Jose Magana, Port Police, 8 years of City service, Club Member; and Officer III Cheryl Morris, Port Police, 21 years, Club Member.



From left: Sgt. Ryan Howley, Port Police Community Relations, 13 years of City service, Club Member; and Officer II Stacey Creech, Port Police, 8 years, Club Member.

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Local Gov Emp - GLSCA_WCA_ZZZ

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MOVIE THEATERS

| | RETAIL | CLUB |
|---|---------|----------------|
| AMC THEATERS | | |
| Good Any Time | \$14.00 | \$8.00 |
| Small Popcorn | \$5.50 | \$3.00 |
| Small Drink | \$4.50 | \$3.00 |
| Movie Bundle | \$42.00 | \$25.00 |
| <i>- Includes 2 unrestricted movie passes, 2 small drinks, 1 small popcorn</i> | | |
| CINEMARK THEATERS | \$11.75 | \$8.00 |
| CINÉPOLIS THEATERS | | |
| Traditional Theaters | \$12.00 | \$7.50 |
| Luxury Theaters | \$22.00 | \$17.00 |
| GALAXY THEATERS - Good Any Time | \$11.00 | \$8.00 |
| HARKINS MOVIE THEATERS | | |
| Restricted | \$10.00 | \$6.50 |
| Good Any Time | \$10.00 | \$7.50 |
| Small Popcorn | \$5.25 | \$4.25 |
| Small Drink | \$4.50 | \$3.50 |
| KRIKORIAN THEATERS - Good Any Time | \$12.00 | \$7.50 |
| LAEMMLE THEATERS - Good Any Time | \$11.00 | \$6.00 |
| LANDMARK THEATERS | \$13.00 | \$8.00 |
| PACIFIC THEATERS - Restricted | | |
| * \$2 surcharge for use at Americana in Glendale and at The Grove in L.A. - (Not valid at Archlight Theaters) | \$13.75 | \$8.00 |
| REGAL/ EDWARDS/ UNITED ARTIST | | |
| Good Any Time | \$14.75 | \$8.50 |
| Movie Pack | \$30.00 | \$26.00 |
| <i>- Includes 2 unrestricted ultimate movie tickets and a \$10 concession gift card</i> | | |
| REGENCY THEATERS - Good Any Time | \$11.50 | \$7.00 |
| ULTRASTAR THEATERS - Good Any Time | \$11.25 | \$6.00 |

ATTRACTIONS

| | RETAIL | CLUB |
|---|---|----------------|
| AQUARIUM OF THE BAY | | |
| SAN FRANCISCO | Adult \$19.95 | \$15.96 |
| | Child (4 - 12) \$11.95 | \$9.56 |
| AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC | | |
| | Adult \$28.95 | \$17.95 |
| | Child (3 - 11) \$14.95 | \$10.95 |
| BOOMER'S FUN CENTERS | | |
| SELECT CALIFORNIA LOCATIONS | 4 Hour Pass \$39.99 | \$19.99 |
| CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE | | |
| | Adult \$34.95 | \$29.71 |
| | Child (4 - 11) \$24.95 | \$21.21 |
| | Youth (12-17)/ Student (with ID) / Senior (65+) \$29.95 | \$25.46 |
| CATALINA EXPRESS | | |
| Round Trip Fare | Adult \$76.50 | \$62.00 |
| | Child \$61.00 | \$52.50 |
| DAVEY'S LOCKER | | |
| Whale Watching | Adult \$32.00 | \$21.00 |
| | Child \$26.00 | \$15.75 |
| Sport Fishing - 1/2 Day | Adult \$41.50 | \$31.50 |
| | Child \$34.00 | \$25.21 |
| Sport Fishing - 3/4 Day | Adult \$71.00 | \$57.75 |
| | Child \$61.00 | \$47.25 |
| Sunset / Evening Cruise | Adult \$25.00 | \$12.61 |
| GOLF N' STUFF | | |
| 3 Hour Unlimited Wristband - (Norwalk Location) | \$30.00 | \$16.25 |
| All Park Pass - (Ventura Location) | \$20.00 | \$15.25 |
| GRAMMY MUSEUM | | |
| General Admission | \$12.95 | \$12.00 |

ATTRACTIONS CONT'D

| | RETAIL | CLUB |
|--|---|----------------|
| IFLY INDOOR SKYDIVING | | |
| Hollywood - Earn Your Wings Flight Package (Age 3+) | \$59.95 | \$39.95 |
| San Francisco - Save 15% Off All Flight Packages | \$59.95 | \$50.96 |
| K1 SPEED RACING | | |
| This pass entitles the owner to (1) 14 Lap race and a annual license for the day. | \$25.95 | \$15.25 |
| MADAME TUSSAUDS WAX ATTRACTION | | |
| <i>All Access Pass includes Marvel Super Heroes 4D Experience.</i> | | |
| Hollywood | Adult \$40.00 | \$16.00 |
| | Child (4 - 12) \$35.00 | \$13.00 |
| Las Vegas (eTickets Only) | Adult \$29.95 | \$12.50 |
| MEDIEVAL TIMES | | |
| <i>Eticket prices will vary depending on date/time selections.</i> | | |
| | Adult \$57.95 | \$43.50 |
| | Child (0 - 12) \$35.95 | \$31.50 |
| MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM | | |
| | Adult \$39.95 | \$34.95 |
| | Child (3 - 12) \$24.95 | \$19.95 |
| | Senior (65+) Student (13 - 17 or with Student ID) \$34.95 | \$29.95 |
| MULLIGAN'S FAMILY FUN CENTER | | |
| All Day Pass | Adult/Child \$33.99 | \$16.50 |
| <i>- Unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway and the Rock Wall. Valid at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.</i> | | |
| PIRATES DINNER ADVENTURE | | |
| | Adult \$56.95 | \$36.00 |
| | Child (3 - 11) \$37.95 | \$27.50 |
| QUEEN MARY | | |
| | Adult \$24.95 | \$20.25 |
| | Child (4 - 11) \$21.95 | \$12.25 |
| RACERS EDGE INDOOR KARTING | | |
| Adult: 16-Lap Adult Race | \$23.00 | \$18.00 |
| Junior (50" tall): 11-Lap Junior Race | \$20.00 | \$15.00 |
| SANTA MONICA PIER & PACIFIC PARK | | |
| Unlimited Ride Wristband | \$25.95 | \$13.50 |
| SPEEDZONE | | |
| 3 Hour Unlimited Pass on Rides and Mini-Golf | \$49.99 | \$28.00 |
| USS IOWA | | |
| SAN PEDRO | Adult \$18.00 | \$13.50 |
| | Child (6 - 11) \$10.00 | \$7.50 |
| | Senior (62+) or Military (with ID) \$15.00 | \$10.50 |
| USS MIDWAY | | |
| SAN DIEGO | Adult \$20.00 | \$14.00 |
| | Child (6 - 11) \$10.00 | \$7.00 |
| | Senior (62+) \$17.00 | \$11.00 |

GIFT CERTIFICATES

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|----------------|
| HONEYBAKED HAM | | |
| \$25 Gift Card | \$25.00 | \$22.50 |
| SEE'S CANDIES | | |
| Good for 1lb of chocolate | \$18.50 | \$14.25 |

SPORTING EVENTS

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS | | |
| Games available online | | |
| PLEASE CHECK WWW.CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM FOR THE LATEST DISCOUNTS ON SPORTING EVENTS. | | |

THEME PARKS

| | RETAIL | CLUB |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ADVENTURE CITY | | |
| | Adult/ Child \$16.95 | \$12.50 |
| DISNEYLAND / CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE | | |
| 1 - Day, 1 - Park | Adult \$99.00 | \$95.04 |
| | Child (3-9) \$93.00 | \$89.28 |
| 1 - Day Park Hopper | Adult \$155.00 | \$142.60 |
| | Child (3-9) \$149.00 | \$137.08 |
| 2 - Day, 1 - Park | Adult \$185.00 | \$168.35 |
| | Child (3-9) \$172.00 | \$156.52 |
| 2 - Day Park Hopper | Adult \$225.00 | \$204.75 |
| | Child (3-9) \$212.00 | \$192.92 |
| 3 - Day, 4 - Day, 5 - Day: 1 Park (ADDITIONAL PRICES AND DETAILS ONLINE) | | |
| For Annual Pass Info Call the Ticket Office at (888) 777-1744 | | |
| SOCAL RESIDENT DEAL | | |
| 2 - Day, 1 - Park | All Guest Ages 3+ | \$149.00 \$138.57 |
| 2 - Day Park Hopper | All Guest Ages 3+ | \$189.00 \$175.77 |
| 3 - Day, 1 - Park | All Guest Ages 3+ | \$179.00 \$166.47 |
| 3 - Day Park Hopper | All Guest Ages 3+ | \$219.00 \$203.67 |
| CASTLE PARK | | |
| | General Admission (over 36") | \$24.99 \$12.99 |
| KNOTT'S BERRY FARM | | |
| | Adult \$72.00 | \$39.00 |
| | Child (3-11), Senior (62+) \$42.00 | \$34.00 |
| Cheaper for eTickets | Adult \$72.00 | \$35.00 |
| | Child (3-11), Senior (62+) \$42.00 | \$32.00 |
| LOS ANGELES ZOO | | |
| | Adult \$20.00 | \$16.00 |
| | Child (2-12) \$15.00 | \$12.00 |
| LEGOLAND | | |
| Includes 2nd Day FREE | | |
| 1 - Day, 1 - Park | Adult \$93.00 | \$74.00 |
| | Child (3 - 11) \$87.00 | \$68.00 |
| Legoland Resort Hopper | Adult \$117.00 | \$82.00 |
| | Child (3 - 11) \$111.00 | \$76.00 |
| MAGIC MOUNTAIN | | |
| | General Admission \$76.99 | \$44.99 |
| SAN DIEGO ZOO / SAFARI PARK | | |
| | Adult \$50.00 | \$41.00 |
| | Child (3 - 11) \$40.00 | \$33.00 |
| 2 - Visit Pass* | Adult \$90.00 | \$72.00 |
| | Child (3 - 11) \$70.00 | \$56.00 |
| <i>* May be used for 1 visit at each park, or 2 visit to the same park.</i> | | |
| SEAWORLD - SAN DIEGO | | |
| | Adult \$89.00 | \$60.00 |
| | Child (3 - 9) \$83.00 | \$60.00 |
| | Fun Card \$89.00 | \$80.50 |
| SIX FLAGS DISCOVERY KINGDOM | | |
| VALLEJO | General Admission (over 48") | \$65.99 \$38.99 |
| UNIVERSAL STUDIOS | | |
| | Adult / Child (under 48") | \$95.00 \$84.00 |

SEASONAL EVENTS

PLEASE CHECK WWW.CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM FOR THE LATEST DISCOUNTS ON SEASONAL EVENTS.

FREE SHIPPING

Club Members get FREE USPS standard shipping on all tickets and merchandise purchased through the Club.

CLUB DISCOUNT TICKETS ON THIS LIST MAY CHANGE. FOR THE LATEST TICKET PRICES AND AVAILABILITY, GO TO: **CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM**

The Club works hard to provide you the Cheapest Tickets in the State, however the vendors on this list may update their prices from time to time. For the latest prices and ticket availability, please check the Club's website regularly as the prices on this list may change.



Los Angeles Public Library

Library's TOP 10

Here's what LA was reading, watching and listening to in November.

Lists are courtesy Los Angeles Public Library, Central library downtown and 72 branches combined.

Books loaned:

1. *Make Me: A Jack Reacher Novel*, Lee Child
2. *The Crossing*, Michael Connelly
3. *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, Sue Grafton
4. *X*, Sue Grafton
5. *The Maze Runner*, James Dashner
6. *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*, Rick Riordan
7. *Modern Romance*, Asiz Ansari
8. *The Murder House*, James Patterson
9. *Winter*, Marissa Meyer
10. *The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins

DVDs loaned

1. *Furious 7*
2. *Marvel's The Avengers: Age of Ultron*
3. *Jurassic World*
4. *Inside Out*
5. *Insurgent*
6. *The Hunger Games — Mockingjay, Part 1*
7. *Hot Pursuit*
8. *Cinderella* [videorecording]
9. *Paper Towns*
10. *The Age of Adaline*

Books downloaded

(e-books)

1. *The Girl on the Train*, Paula Hawkins
2. *The Martian*, Andy Weir
3. *The Crossing*, Michael Connelly
4. *Tricky Twenty Two*, Janet Evanovich
5. *The Promise*, Robert Crais
6. *Rogue Lawyer*, John Grisham
7. *Fates and Furies*, Lauren Groff
8. *The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, Marie Kondo
9. *Go Set a Watchman*, Harper Lee
10. *Make Me*, Lee Child

Download-and-Keep songs*

1. *Sweetest Devotion*, Adele
2. *All I Ask*, Adele
3. *When We Were Young*, Adele
4. *Million Years Ago*, Adele
5. *Love in the Dark*, Adele
6. *Water Under the Bridge*, Adele
7. *Send My Love (To Your New Lover)*, Adele
8. *River Lea*, Adele
9. *Hello*, Adele
10. *Remedy*, Adele

* "Freemusic" music via the Library lets users download and keep up to five songs a month – it's seriously free and legal! Check it out at <http://lapl.freemusic.com>

Larios in the City

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer
rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com



Robert Larios, Chief Operating Officer, honors City employees for their achievements.



Louis Suarez

The Club's Robert Larios congratulates Louis Suarez for his career at Rec and Parks. He retired after 34 years of City service. Congratulations, Louis!

IT'S ALL DOWNHILL

With great Club ski specials!

Go to: cityemployeesclub.com

Rec and Parks

Baja Whale Adventure on Sale

March 5-13, 2016



Club Members are invited to join Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (CMA), March 5 - 13, 2016, for an annual trip that truly is the journey of a lifetime! During this nine-day ocean voyage we spend three exciting days anchored in San Ignacio Lagoon where friendly gray whales and their curious calves swim within arm's length of the skiffs.

The trip also visits Todos Santos Island and land on San Benito, Cedros and San Martin Islands, where travellers will enjoy naturalist-led hikes on these remote, offshore islands that are home to elephant seals, Guadalupe fur seals, a multitude of birds, diverse geological formations and a wide range of native vegetation.

CMA's experienced naturalists, including experts on gray whales and other marine mammals, birds, native island plants, and marine biology, will lead hikes and give shipboard presentations to add to the educational aspect of the trip. Each passenger will receive an illustrated natural history guide containing information about animals sighted and locations visited.

The 113-foot *Royal Polaris* out of San Diego will provide comfortable accommodations, a roomy galley/lounge and a friendly crew that furnishes hardy, flavorful meals. To reserve your spot today, call Larry Fukuhara at (310) 548-7562 x223.

Fee: \$2,850 includes food and lodging, plus \$150 crew gratuity.

Interested in more information about the CMA Baja Adventure?

Go to: <https://sites.google.com/site/cmabajaadventure/>

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California Beanies
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NEW

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L.A. City Packable Bags
Strong, convenient, and easy to store.

\$5.00 Member \$6.75 Non-Member

Retractable Badge Holder
Heavy Duty and Retractable

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NEW

\$45.00 Member \$69.95 Non-Member

L.A. City Fleece Jacket
Lightweight and available in various colors

\$15.00 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

L.A. Fire Dept T-Shirt
Available in Navy

NEW

\$4.95 Member \$8.00 Non-Member

L.A. City Seal Key Chain
Shatter-proof and lightweight 1.75"

\$24.99 Member \$48.10 Non-Member

L.A. City French Hoodie
Soft and stylish. Available in various colors

\$6.50 Member \$8.50 Non-Member

L.A. City Shot Glass
1.5 oz Cobalt Blue with Silver L.A. City Seal

\$8.00 Member \$10.64 Non-Member

Belgian Beer Glass
13 oz glass with Silver L.A. City Seal

\$5.00 Member \$7.00 Non-Member

L.A. City Bistro Mugs
Available in Red, Black, White, and Navy

\$7.00 Member \$12.00 Non-Member

Infuser Water Bottle
Infusers are available in various colors

BPA FREE

Member Discount

Classic Vintage Style Bags
Various colors and style to choose from

\$8.00 Member \$11.00 Non-Member

L.A. City Script Hat
Available in various colors

\$15.00 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

10" L.A. City Clock
Also available in black trim (\$10 Members)

\$25.00 Member \$35.00 Non-Member

LAPD Dodge Charger Toy
Motorized toy car with lights and sound

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*The price per payment shown is based on 12 payments and doesn't include shipping and taxes. Your payment may vary based on the number of payments you make a year. To see your payment amount, visit your website or see details on your installment agreement generated during the checkout process.

†See details on your installment agreement generated during the checkout process.

The PayCheck Direct program is currently only available to active and retired Los Angeles City and DWP employees at this time.

PayCheck Direct™ is operated by Bluestem Enterprises, Inc.

NOTE: Free shipping does not apply to items purchased through Paycheck Direct.