



Alive!



Refund Checks To Be Available At Club Store

Club to give back \$281,000 to holders of Club Life Insurance. Checks available starting Dec. 1.

THE CLUB — Starting Dec. 1, the Club will be returning more than \$281,000 in refunds to more than 8,500 holders of the Club's Life Insurance product.

New this year: The refund checks will be available Dec. 1 – 4 at the Club Store only. Those checks not picked up personally during that time will be mailed starting Dec. 7.

What will you be doing with your refund dollars? It's up to you ... but only if you have Club Life Insurance.

Members pay premiums each month for the insurance, and that money is paid for life insurance claims. At the end of the year, money that is not paid in the administration of the claims is returned. This year, that totals approximately \$281,000.

"The best thing about the Club's Life Insurance is that it's always there for those in need," said Brian Trent, the Club's Chief Financial Officer. "It's our highest insurance priority."

"But we love giving back anything we don't need, and we have returned money in all but three years of our 81-year existence."

Read the story on page 19 for details on the check disbursement, and how you can be eligible for next year's Club Life Insurance refund.

Dodgers Game A Home Run For the Club

Thousands of Members make special Club event a big winner.

THE CLUB — While the box score might indicate that the winner of the final game of the regular season was the Los Angeles Dodgers, the real winner was The Club!



More than 2,700 Club Members attended this first-ever special event on Fan Appreciation Day Oct. 4. The

Club virtually took over the Right Field Pavilion, the all-you-can-eat section.

It was a huge success for the Club.

"We all had a blast," said Robert Larios, the Club's Director of Operations. "Let's all thank Ticket Guy, who did the deal with the Dodgers to get these great tickets at an even greater price."

"Look for another Dodgers event next year!"

Turn to page 32 (and look on the Club Website) for lots of event photos.

City K-9's On Duty

At LAX, officers and their K-9's help keep us safe. Read about them in this first of an occasional *Alive!* series on City K-9's.

SEE PAGE 7

Officer III Thomas DeLuccia and his K-9, Rajzi, of the LAPD's Bomb Detection Unit, on the tarmac at LAX.



Club photo by Tom Hawkins



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

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Here Come the Holidays!

City events ... Toy Drive ... Club Tree ...

Club Store specials:

See pages 2 and 20!

Alive!

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- David Muraoka, *Vice Chairperson*
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- Andrew Virzi, Jr.
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Numbers YOU CAN USE

City Employees Club of Los Angeles	(800) 464-0452	DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX	(213) 620-0398	Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
City Employees Deferred Compensation	(213) 978-1636	Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655	Local 721	(213) 482-6660
City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328	L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(800) 773-2489
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480	Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
City Personnel Office	(213) 847-9240	Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	Los Angeles Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593	Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728	Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
DWP Employees Assn.	(213) 367-3146	Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
DWP Health Plan & Medicare	(800) 831-4778	Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211	Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361	Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
DWP Paymaster	(213) 367-1106	Worker Compensation	(213) 473-3400
DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934		

The Club Store Is Holiday Headquarters!

Great gifts. A wrapping station. The Club Christmas Tree. Toy drive. It's all available at the Club Store this holiday season.

With activities and lots of great Club services, the Club Store is a perfect place to start your holiday shopping!

Here's what's in store for you this Christmas season at the Club Store:

- ❖ **Gift Central:** Buy fantastic Club merchandise that will be great under your tree.
- ❖ **Movie tickets:** great for stocking-stuffers.
- ❖ **Wrapping station:** The Club Store will provide all you need to wrap those great Club gifts you're going to give away this season.
- ❖ **Decorate the Club Tree!** New this year: When you stop by the Club, write your name on an ornament (provided), representing you or your department, and hang it on our Club Christmas Tree. Join the Club family this holiday.
- ❖ **Toy Drive:** Bring an unwrapped gift to be given away as part of the Club's Toy Drive. See the details on page 20.

Start your holidays at the Club Store!

FREE MOBILE BANKING

at Water and Power Community Credit Union

Mobile Banking is available for all members who have Online Banking accounts with WPCCU. Access your account on any Internet-enabled cell phone.

With Mobile Banking you can:

- View Account Summaries
- Access Account Transaction History
- Make Transfers
- Pay Bills*
- View Due Bills (eBills)*
- View Pending Bill Payments*
- Cancel Pending Bill Payments*
- View Bill Payment Histories*
- Locate WPCCU Branches, CO-OP ATMs and CU Service Centers*

wpcu.org • (800) 300-9728

Water and Power Community Credit Union
Powering Your Future™

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Member FDIC

*Must be enrolled in online Bill Pay to use this feature.

* A Message From the CEO *

Alive! Embarks On City K-9 Series

by John Hawkins
President and CEO, The Club

I have to say, it was pretty awesome. We were standing in LAX's Terminal 2 with Officer Tom DeLuccia of LAPD's K-9 Bomb Squad, watching the airport's security K-9's go through their training exercises. Officer DeLuccia was talking us through it – the K-9's were trained to sit down and look at their master when the K-9 sniffed explosives. That would be their calm signal.

Officer DeLuccia told us it was going to happen. And then, one by one, perhaps six or seven sniffed their way down the terminal, on leash. And then, finally, when they got to the luggage bag that the officers had placed there on purpose – with an amount of inert explosives – every single one of the K-9's stopped immediately, sat down, and looked at their officer.

Does that make you feel safer to fly? It does for me. There are a lot of City K-9's hard at work, doing great things for us here in the City. And over the next several months, we hope to be bringing you more stories just like this month's. (And a quick shoutout to Officers DeLuccia and Donna Odle of the LAPD, and Sgt. Blair Lindsay of the Airport Police, for taking us through this first City K-9's feature.



With Isabella, the new Hawkins family pet, are Club CEO John Hawkins (back) and sons Noah (left) and Isaiah.

In other Alive! news, November marks the beginning of the busiest time of the year at the Club. First, we have Club Insurance Refunds, for those of you who have Club life insurance and who are eligible. The check refunds are a tradition with the Club, having missed only three years over our 81-year history. Keeping our insurance strong is the prime goal of our Club insurance plans. But after that, we are happy to return to you the unused portion of our claims pool. Don't have Club insurance? Why not? It's the smart move. Call the Club office for more information. (Oh, and thanks to Brian Trent, the Club's Chief Financial Officer, and Robert Larios, the Club's Director of Operations, for managing the refund project.)

This is also the beginning of the holiday season. We've got great new features at the Club Store for your holiday needs – great Club apparel and stocking stuffers; a wrapping station (c'mon you Club guys, the wrapping station is for you!); a cool Club Christmas Tree for you to add your own ornaments; a discount during November; and lots more. Start your holiday shopping at the perfect place for the City Employee in your life – the Club Store.

I want to wish a great retirement to Gina Caguiat, Clerk Typist, Public Works. Gina is one of the most prolific contributors to two of our popular Alive! features – Picture Perfect, and Alive! Around the World. Gina, we here at the Club will allow you to retire as long as you continue to send us great photos. Promise?

Finally, as Thanksgiving is coming up, I want to pass this on – remember that a happy life starts with gratitude for it. We might be out of this recession, or we might not. But either way, we can turn any challenge into sweet reward if we only say thanks, and truly mean it. I am thankful for you all, and I say, Happy Thanksgiving in the truest way I can. Peace to all of you as this holiday season begins.

JOHN

(jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)

Features

Alive! November 2009
The newspaper of the
City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Cover Story:

**7 K-9's in Action:
These K-9's keep us safe at LAX.**



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**2 The Club Store:
Holiday Headquarters**

The Club Store is getting ready for all your holiday needs!

2 Decorate the Club Christmas Tree!

This year at the Club Store, you are invited to sign and hang an ornament from yourself or your department. Join the fun!

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The Club will be returning \$280,000 to eligible Members who have Club insurance.

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Alive! rounds up this year's City-sponsored Christmas and holiday events.

26 Detention Officer Graduation

Police Dept. graduates a new class of Detention Officers.

32 The Club at Dodger Stadium

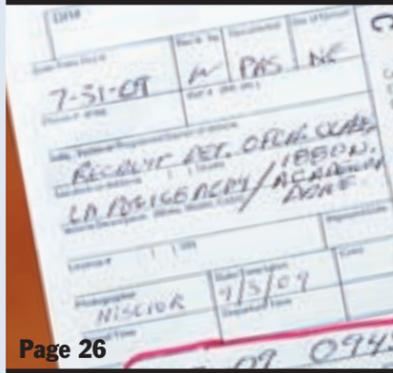
Special Club event is the big winner as more than 2,700 Club Members and their families enjoy a Dodgers game.

44 Disability Art Show

Dept. on Disability Art Show points out that disabled people have great abilities, too.



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Great Service, When You're in Need



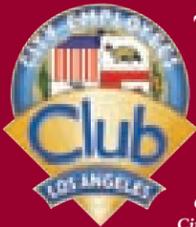
**Cecilia Talbot,
Claims Manager**

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

— Ed.

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

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



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

The Club's claims service is "excellent. One, it's easy to understand and follow instructions/directions. Two, it's compassionate. Three, whenever I called, I was able to speak with someone right away. And four, it's just, overall, great service."

— Gail MacKenzie, April 2009

"Having the City Employees Club of L.A. is very helpful. My daughter found the book [*The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*] very calm and relaxing. The book is helping her through this difficult time."

— Richard Lopez, April 2009

The Club's claims service is "professional, friendly, respectful, courteous, accurate and prompt -- very high service quality. I appreciate being able to speak with a representative when I have questions or concerns. Each person with whom I spoke was knowledgeable and had the authority to take care of my concerns 'on the spot.' In addition, since I had to take care of my father's affairs after his death, the staff was particularly supportive and understanding. My father and I have always had faith in the organization, and our faith was supported by your staff. Thank you. The book [*The Fall of Freddie*

the Leaf] was a very sweet reflection of life and put life's events in perspective. It was shared by all members of our family (adults and children alike), and it came to us at the time when we needed it most. It was a very thoughtful gift and appreciated."

— Robin Elder, April 2009

The Club's claims service is "very good. It gave me peace of mind, and the book [*The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*] was very good."

— Elois Green, April 2009

Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work

**Total claims paid to Club Members
So Far in 2009: \$3,702,792.32**

Claims paid:

Life insurance claims paid this month:
\$30,065.10

Life insurance claims paid this year:
\$2,305,251.23

Long-term disability claims paid this month:
\$94,13.77

Long-term disability claims paid this year:
\$1,004,669.70

Long-term care claims paid this month:
\$25,750.00

Long-term care claims paid this year:
\$242,871.39

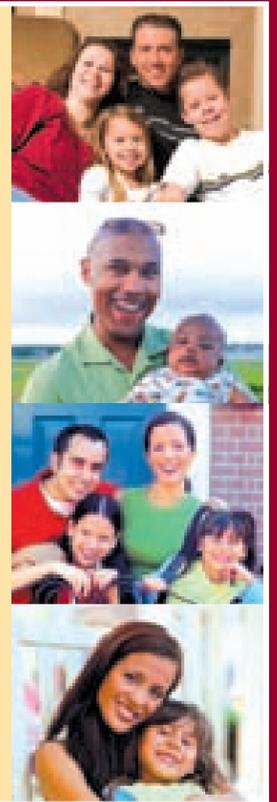
Cancer insurance claims paid this month:
\$10,000.00

Cancer insurance claims paid this year:
\$150,000.00

**Trust your insurance needs to the Club. Contact an Insurance Counselor today:
(800) 4640452**

It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club!

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



CLUB Member Benefits

Club Insurance

Your life and well-being are important to the Club. Get peace of mind with the Club's strong insurance programs:

- Group Rated Term Life Insurance (\$10,000-\$300,000)
- Auto and Homeowners Insurance Call Toll Free (888) 801-5522
- Group Rated Spouse Life Insurance (\$10,000-\$300,000)
- Group Rated Long Term Disability
- Comprehensive Long Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance (\$10,000-\$50,000)
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance

Great Ticket Discounts

The cheapest tickets in town to theatres, amusement parks, and events! Go to cityemployeesclub.com or call (888) 777-1744

Club Partner Discounts*

Enterprise Rent-a-Car

Call the Club for discount code and password!

1-800-flowers

Save 15%. Call the Club for discount code and password!

Office Depot

Save up to 40%. Call the Club to activate your credit card.

Dunn Edwards

Show your Club membership card and save 20%.

*Contact the Club for more details.

Meet the Club Team



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

Need help? Contact your Counselor:



2003 President's Award Recipient

Arlene Herrero
Senior Benefits Specialist –
Member Services Counselor

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

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



2008 President's Award Recipient

Angel Gomez
Director of Member Services

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

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

Questions? We're here to help.

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

(800) 464-0452



John Hawkins
President & CEO



Brian G. Trent
Chief Financial
Officer



Robert Larios
Director of Operations
"Sports Dude"



2006 President's Award Recipient

Navin Cotton
Director of Retail Sales
and Operations



Rachael Brecher
Merchandise and
Ticket Sales
Coordinator



2004 President's Award Recipient

Cecilia Talbot
Claims
Manager



2008 President's Award Recipient

Angel Gomez
Director of
Member Services



Lupe Medina
Administrative Services
Representative



Irene Small
Member Services
Counselor,
In-House



Leigh Thompson
Controller



Trinh Pham
Senior
Accountant



Katie Hesseltine
Application
Coordinator



Michael Anderson
Information Technology
Manager



2007 President's Award Recipient

Alan Bound
Information
Technology
Programmer



2005 President's Award Recipient

Summy Lam
Information
Technology Business
Analyst

LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Gina Votes for a Repeat Event At Dodger Stadium Next Year

I heard about the Club and its big Dodger Game event on Oct. 4. Will you have another next year? Because there were more of us that wanted to go!

Are the rumors true that it was all you could hot dogs, drinks, nachos and peanuts? That sounds great! I also heard you had reserved seating for Mayor Villaraigosa? Did he show up and greet the 3,000 City Employees who attended the Dodger game? If he didn't, I hope he does next year - that's a lot of voters! Ha! Keep up the great work, Club!

- Gina Torres, Rec and Parks

Hi Gina, yes, the Club wants very much to repeat the success of this year's first special Club event at Dodger Stadium. Stay tuned! As for the all-you-can-eat, yes, that's also true. And much was eaten! Finally, about the mayor: No word about his attendance, although politicians move in and out of crowds very fast! Hang onto that vote for now. —Ed.



Emma Likes Being Kept Up to Date With City News

Being retired, I look forward to receiving a copy of *Alive!* to keep me connected with City employee events/news as well as with the Harbor Department. I would also like to personally thank you and your staff for making *Alive!* a huge success for us all to enjoy!

- Emma Gonzalez, Retired, Harbor

Our pleasure, Emma. Readers like you are the reason we publish *Alive!* every month. Don't hesitate if you have comments or questions, or ways we can do an even better job. —Ed.

Our Robert Larios Is a Man Of Very Many Personalities

Where does your "Sports Dude," Robert Larios, get all his energy? I saw him on last issue's cover, and I couldn't help but get all charged up for basketball! My buddies and I agree that taking over the Sports Program is one of the greatest things you've done - and we want you to know that we notice all of your staff's enthusiasm in printing the scores and taking pictures. You guys have taken it to a whole new level!

I'm a big fan of the "Sports Dude" and the Club.

- Jim Stopner, Public Works

Okay, enough already! First it's the cooking column, then a softball league and now a basketball league? Mr. Larios is sure a busy guy. When does he sleep? He does sleep, right?

Seriously speaking, it's great to see that there are people in the City who are still trying to make our lives positive, even when we have this economic challenge. I know it brings smiles to our faces.

I've spoken to a few players, and they've expressed great joy over the Club's commitment to City Employee sports. Thanks go to the Club and to the Sports Dude.

- Mark Hadden, General Services

Hi Jim and Mark, yes, we keep busy at the Club! Especially the Sports Dude, er, Chef Larios, er, Robert Larios, the Club's Director of Operations. He does it all in the name of great Club service. —Ed.

No Doubt the Club's Angel Will Get a Bang Out of This

Please let Angel Gomez of "Be Alive" know that I really like his articles on eclectic things to do in Southern California. And even though I'm pretty much a pacifist, I enjoyed his story on Jawbone, the place where you can go and shoot a gun with no one there to bug you. I've been hanging on to an old Luger that I'd love to test out; now I know where to go.

All the best.

- Marcia Witworth, Retired, Library

Hi Marcia, we'll let Angel know! As a former Marine, he has been well schooled and trained in the proper use of firearms, as he demonstrated in his installment of *Be Alive!* at Jawbone. He had a great time, and hopes that you do, too, with your Luger. As Angel would say, be safe! —Ed.

QUESTION of the Month



- Collected by Rachael Brecher, Club Store Rep

The Ticket Guy and Rachael at the Club Store ask Club Members fun questions when they visit to purchase tickets or great Club apparel and gifts. So, stop by and join in the fun!

Who would you invite for Thanksgiving dinner?



"Chuck Norris."

- George Tolar, Transportation, 1 year of City service



"Ronnie Lott."

- Jacobi Patterson, General Services, 7 years of City service



"Karl Malone."

- Arselia Sahagun, Rec and Parks, 5 years of City service



"Kobe Bryant."

- Brooks Provinchain, Transportation, 3 years of City service



"The Ugly Betty cast."

- Jacqueline Staten, Rec and Parks, 36 years of City service



"Brett Favre."

- Cesar De La Torre, Rec and Parks, 15 years of City service



"Erik Estrada." (Hey, when is the 3rd season of CHIPS DVD going to be released?)

- Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager, the Club



"Mark Harmon."

- Edward Millager, ITA, 21 years of City service



"Kobe Bryant."

- Rashad Westbrooks, General Services, 6 months of City service



"Bill Clinton, for the interesting conversations."

-- Julio Ruelas, General Services, 8 years of City service

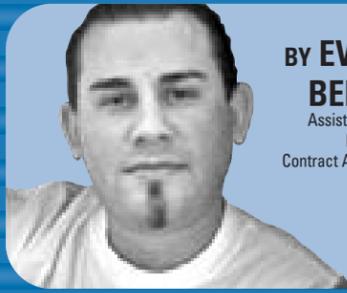
Something to  Think About

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

- Sir Winston Churchill

A reminder from L.A. City's Quality and Productivity Commission:
Always do your best!

THE CAR CLUB



BY **EVERETT BENNETT**
Assistant Inspector,
Public Works/
Contract Administration

Keep On Truckin'



Antique and classic car restorations are a testament to a much simpler time. Yes, there was a time when we didn't care if someone deleted us as a friend on Facebook, or if we didn't win a bid on Ebay. Sock-hops, milk shakes and drive-in movies were all the rage in the late 1950s, and this month's featured **City Employee, Jon Billesbach**, lived through many milk shakes and drive-in movies. He cruised Van Nuys Boulevard in the late '50s and early '60s as well as past the Bellflower Clock, and like many people he had to sell his prized truck in which he made those many memories. While he regretted selling that prized possession, he made a promise to himself that one day he would have that same truck in which to sit and enjoy another shake.

Jon, a Retired DWP District Superintendent, was a car guy before he acquired his driver's license. As soon as he did get that plastic card of freedom for American teenagers, he plopped down the money he made from working at a feed store in Sun Valley on a silver 1956 Ford F100. Tinkering with it in his parent's garage after school and work, Jon made it his own and enjoyed showing it off wherever he went. After graduating, he was enlisted in the Service, and the keys were tossed to his brother, who got to enjoy all of Jon's hard work. The 272 Y-block was getting tired a few years later when Jon received a phone

call from his brother, telling him that someone offered to buy the truck for twice what it was worth. Jon told him to sell it but regretted it as soon as he hung up the phone.

The 1956 Ford F100 is the best-looking truck Ford ever made. The 1953, '54, and '55 models are similar but don't have the perfection of their younger brother. With its cab leaning slightly forward, straight wind wings, a new front grille, a wrap-around windshield and, for an extra \$16, a wrap-around rear window, the 1956 Ford embodied great and untouchable truck styling other companies couldn't compete with. Of course, the crazy kids in Southern California garages like Jon's made it look even better.

A promise is a promise, and in 1990 Jon found a running '56 that he could not walk away from, so he bought it. After tooling around with it for a while and making a few alterations (the 289 Ford motor and transmission had about had it), Jon thought it was about time to make it more like his old '56. After pulling the motor and transmission out of the truck, he caught wind of a fuel-injected 5.0 HO motor out of a 1993 Mustang for sale and snatched it up along with the four-speed overdrive transmission. Before he could put that in, though, he got rid of that old rickety stock suspension and replaced it with an independent front suspension with disc brakes.

While he was at it, the ride height was altered in front (lowered six inches), and air shocks were placed in the rear so he could adjust the height. A posi rear end keeps the rear tires spinning, and the tilt steering column keeps Jon grinning.

The body panels were next on the agenda. The rear fenders were widened to accommodate the wide rims and tires, and, after hours of sanding and priming, the truck came out of the spray booth with a gleaming silver paint job just like his original truck. A black vinyl bed cover that matched his original was also installed, covering the custom 40-gallon stainless steel gas tank in the bed.

The only thing left to tackle was the interior. The stock bench seat was left in place but was hooked up to a Granada power seat track to adjust to driver and passenger preferences. Black cloth and black carpet wrap the rest of the interior body panels. The truck was being driven so much especially during summer months that Jon decided to install air conditioning to keep from sweating all over the interior.

I am glad Jon kept a promise to build another '56, and he can be seen re-living 1958 on any given Friday night at Bob's Big Boy in Toluca Lake. If you can't find him there, he might be screaming off into the sunset with more than 200 horses under the hood and a milkshake in hand.



PROUD OF
YOUR WHEELS?
SEND IN
A PHOTO!

Send in a photo of you and your car, and we might publish it!

Send us your information, too – name, title and City department, a phone number (we won't print it) and a paragraph or two about why you love your car, what kind of car and year it is, and maybe some fun details of how you got it, how you restored it, etc. Send it all to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Newsbriefs

BRADLEY TERMINAL IMPROVEMENTS:

The Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners took a significant step in late October toward the modernization of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) by awarding two contracts totaling \$1.26 billion to reconfigure the Tom Bradley International Terminal (TBIT). The Bradley West Project, as it is known, is considered to be the biggest public works project in the City's history and is expected to create 4,000 construction-related jobs during the four-year project schedule.

Walsh Austin Joint Venture, Los Angeles, was awarded two contracts. One contract amends an existing contract to include construction services for "Bradley West Gates Project," which includes nine new boarding gates on the terminal's west side to supplement existing gates on the terminal's east side; dual passenger loading bridges; concourses with larger passenger lounges/holdrooms; aircraft tarmac areas and associated structures; and aircraft support equipment to accommodate new-generation aircraft including the Airbus A380 and the Boeing B787. The new boarding gates are scheduled for completion in 2012.

The second contract for "Bradley West Core Improvements" covers upgrades to the Federal Inspection Service/Customs and Border Protection facilities; addition of secured corridors between Terminals 3 and 4 and the Bradley Terminal, so passengers with connecting flights do not have to exit the terminals and go through security screening again; and more than 1.25 million square feet for food/beverage and retail concessions and other passenger amenities located beyond passenger security screening. The core improvements are scheduled for completion in spring 2013.

Funds for the Bradley West projects will come from LAX's operating revenues, capital improvement program funds, fees from airlines, passenger facilities charges and airport revenue bond proceeds.

Airports Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey said, "The action by the Board is a cornerstone of the work to build international facilities worthy of the LAX name. A world of international travelers and the airlines that serve them have now come a giant step closer to the delivery of one of America's premier international gateways."



The Bradley West Project (rendering).

Walsh Austin Joint Venture was awarded a contract earlier this year for construction manager at risk, pre-construction services for the Bradley West Project. Pre-construction services included risk assessment, construction phasing, cost and budget estimating, and mitigation recommendations.

The Bradley West Project is one element of the overall LAX Master Plan approved by the City Council in December 2004. In addition to providing a substantial number of construction employment opportunities, it is expected to also provide direct and secondary regional economic benefits, including the need for construction goods and services associated with a large capital improvement project.

The contract awards are contingent upon approval by the Los Angeles City Council.

The Tom Bradley International Terminal is LAX's primary facility serving international travelers, with nearly 35 airlines operating in the terminal today. Since its opening in 1984, hundreds of millions of international travelers have passed through the Bradley Terminal.

Information: www.lawa.org

Alive! Feature



L.A. City K-9's On Duty

Throughout the City, man's best friend – dogs (professionally known as K-9's) – perform a number of very important duties. In this first of an occasional *Alive!* series, read about the police officers and their K-9's keeping us safe at LAX.



Police Officer III Thomas DeLuccia and his K-9, Rajzi, of the LAPD's Bomb Detection Unit, on the tarmac at LAX.





LAPD/Airports

Paws for Safety

LAPD and Airport Police K-9's keep travelers safe from explosive threats at LAX.



A training exercise aboard a plane.
Center: A training exercise.



Bomb Detection K-9's

Duties

The Bomb Detection K-9's assigned to LAX carry four main duties. They are:

■ Sniffing luggage

The officers and their K-9's check luggage on regular patrol, and also when a threat is received.

■ Inspecting vehicles, airplanes and facilities

Abandoned vehicles are a major safety risk, so when an abandoned vehicle is reported, the officers/K-9's are put into action.

■ High visibility patrols in terminals

K-9's randomly sniff luggage throughout various terminals.

■ Other duties in the City

The LAPD K-9 Unit at LAX is part of the department's Bomb Detection Unit and therefore is also available for duty outside the airport.



Inspecting a vehicle during a training exercise.



At a meet-and-greet event with the public.



Inspecting a cargo facility.

Alive! Feature

Alive! photos by Tom Hawkins and courtesy Airports and LAPD

Next time you enjoy another successful – and safe – departure and arrival at LAX, you can thank a K-9. And its handler, of course.

Fifteen officer/K-9 teams from the LAPD, and 21 from Airport Police, are stationed at LAX to thwart terrorism and other acts of disruption. The K-9's belong to the federal government and are loaned to the City; the program is sponsored by the Office of Homeland Security.

Once they arrive in Los Angeles from San Antonio, they have a 30-day acclimation period before two weeks of further training. And then they're tested and given the all-clear before being certified. The TSA returns every year to test and re-certify the squad members.

The officers are certified, too. "We're certified as a team," DeLuccia explains. "It's the only position in the LAPD where you're tested every year for your position."

A Team

As the City has no kennels, the K-9's go home with their officers. They really do



During a training exercise in Terminal 2 of LAX were, from left to right: Officer Daniel Keehne, Officer Laurie Harrington, Officer John Long, Officer Jerome Evans, K-9 Alda, Officer Tom Davoren, Officer Edwin Dominquez and Officer Tom DeLuccia.



LAPD Officer Tom DeLuccia (right) explains the training exercise to (from left) John Hawkins, Club CEO; John Burnes, *Alive!* editor; and Noah Hawkins, *Alive!* reporter in training.

The LAPD Bomb Detection K-9 Unit is also in charge of protecting other City facilities, including City Hall, the Convention Center, and, really, any bomb threat. "Twenty percent of what we do is actually not at the airport," says Officer III Tom DeLuccia, LAPD.

Training Regimen

The K-9 bomb detection teams started under the FAA in 1973, and were taken over by the TSA in 1997. At that time, four handler/K-9 teams were assigned to LAX.

After Sept. 11, that number increased to 30, the current total.

Most of the K-9's are purchased by the United States government as puppies in Germany and shipped to Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, where the TSA puts them and their handlers through 10 weeks of training.

form a team; if for some reason the K-9 doesn't work out, the officer is assigned to other duties until a new K-9 can be sourced, trained and certified with that officer.

"My patrol car is specially equipped for a K-9," Officer DeLuccia says. "The back seat is a special kennel. Plus, if the temperature reaches a certain point, a fan goes on, an alarm sounds, windows open and I receive a page. It's called the 'Hot Dog' system."

Keeping the City Safe

You might see one of the LAPD/Airport Police officers and K-9's patrolling LAX the next time you're flying out, or you might not; they work behind the scenes as often as within eye contact. But either way, you can know that these City K-9's are hard at work, keeping you safe.

Airport Police K-9 Unit at LAX

These officers and K-9's form the Airport Police K-9 Unit at LAX:



Chanuk, and Officer Daniel Keehne.



Rusti, and Officer Havon McLeod.



Max, and Officer Michael Ahumada.



Duco, and Officer Marshall McClain.



Officer Juan Alba and Marco.



Rody, and Officer Efrain Orlanes.



Sonni, and Officer Kendra Williams.



Alda, and Officer Jerome Evans.



Lusi, and Officer Thomas Pendola.



Officer Eric Williams and Petie.



Officer Luis Zenteno and Jimmy.



Officer Marlon Spurgeon and Nnoah.



Officer Rupert Staine and Saman.



Ike, and Officer Thomas Nurre.



Officer Hans Bergmann and Spence.



Jerry, and Officer Daniel Gardea.



Officer Alfonso Lagos and Brandi.



Officer Robert Corchado and Malo.



Baxo, and Officer Michael Manahan.



Officer Eduardo Franco and Maci.



Find That 'Bomb'

TRAINING EXERCISE 1:

In this training exercise, a small suitcase containing inert (but real) explosives was placed under a table in a restaurant in Terminal 2. Each handler took his or her K-9 through the entire terminal.

Upon reaching the planted suitcase, each K-9 did exactly as instructed - sit down, and look their master directly in the eye.

The 'Bomb'!



The training exercise leads to this Terminal 2 restaurant.



TRAINING EXERCISE 2:

In a second simulation, Officer Tom DeLuccia takes his K-9, Rajzi, through an exercise in which the same suitcase is placed among real luggage near a Terminal 2 carousel. Rajzi came through, finding the bag with the inert explosive.



Alive! Feature

Part of the extensive training program with the LAX police K-9's is keeping them sharp and making sure they're up to high standards.



LAPD K-9 Unit at LAX

These officers and K-9's form the LAPD K-9 squad at LAX:



Officer Tom Davoren and Shadow.



Officer Mark Sauvao and Aya.



Officer John Long and Laura.



Officer Ryan Whiteman and Eika.



Officer Donna Odle and Chase.



Officer Tom DeLuccia and Rajzi.



Officer Dominic Iasparro and Lord.



Searching Terminal 2 for "the bomb."

Officers with their K-9 continue their search.



Approaching the luggage bag with the inert explosives.



Found!

Mission accomplished!



Officer Laurie Harrington and Nolan.



Officer Gary Newton and Alex.



Officer John Borquez and Boomer.



Officer Edwin Dominguez and Soti.



Sgt. II Chris Thiffault, Officer Vanessa Keortge and Rex.



Officer Scott Schube and Izzy.

Everyday Heroes *in* Action

Fire on Cozycroft

Photos by Juan Guerra.

Some 79 firefighters took just 28 minutes to knock down a fire at 9758 Cozycroft Ave. in Chatsworth.

The fire broke out in a commercial building just before 9 a.m. Sept. 4.

Investigators are still trying to determine what caused the fire in the single-story commercial building. There were no injuries and there is no damage figure at press time.





ZOO

Langurs and Giant Otters, Oh My!

Two rare species arrive at the Zoo.

The Zoo is excited to announce the arrival of two Francois's Langurs, a type of primate; and a duo of giant otters, the largest species of otter.

Francois's Langurs hail from southern China, northeastern Vietnam and west central Laos. Their preferred habitat is rain forests with limestone terrain. The cave formations and overhangs in these areas are used for refuge and shelter from weather.

It is believed that throughout the past 35 years, the number of Francois's Langurs has declined by at least 50 percent. Much of this decline is a result of habitat loss and hunting. Active and noisy, langurs are medium-sized monkeys. This male and female pair came to the L.A. Zoo from the San Diego Zoo and is part of the Species Survival Plan (SSP) program. The L.A. Zoo is one of 14 zoos in the United States to house these primates, so make sure to check them out in their new habitat, located near the tigers!

Taking up residence in the former maned wolf exhibit are a pair of giant otters. Giant otters are the largest of the mustelid family, which consists of fur-bearing carnivores including weasels, ferrets and badgers. Full grown, giant otters can reach a length of six feet, and adult males can weigh as much as 70 pounds!

Found in the tropical rain forests and wetlands of north and central South America, giant otters live in family groups. These family groups consist of an alpha pair and their offspring who will stay with their parents for two or three years. When the alpha pair breeds, the older cubs share babysitting responsibilities for their younger siblings.

Giant otters are endangered, with an estimated 1,000 to 5,000 of these creatures left. They're hunted for their pelts and face threats of habitat degradation, overfishing, mercury poisoning and pollution. The L.A. Zoo is one of only five zoos in the United States to exhibit this rare species.

The Zoo's maned wolf has moved next door to the otters in a newly replanted exhibit. Sometimes referred to as "a fox on stilts," the maned wolf is named for the long, mane-like strip of dark fur running from the back of the head to the shoulders.

Native to South America, these wolves are solitary creatures. Maned wolves weigh in around 50 pounds and stand three feet tall at the shoulder, making them the largest canid in South America.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens is located in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Admission is \$13 for adults and \$8 for children ages 2 to 12. The Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For information, call (323) 644-4200 or visit the L. A. Zoo Website at www.lazoo.org.



A Francois Langur at the Zoo.

Six Flags
MAGIC MOUNTAIN

LA City Employees Club

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2009
6:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.
(Closed to the Public)
PARK HOURS: 10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
TICKETS VALID ALL DAY - WRISTBAND REQUIRED

PRIVATE PARTY
Admission Only: **\$22.25 EACH**

PRIVATE PARTY
Admission with buffet: **\$32.25* EACH**

GENERAL USE TICKET (REG. \$54.99)

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT:
CLUB STORE
(888) 777-1744
HURRY! BUY NOW! SPACE IS LIMITED!

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT MENU INCLUDES:
Chicken, Chili Cheese Dog, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Sweet Green Salad, Tiramisu and Ice Cream Bar and Soft Drinks

Due to maintenance and other circumstances certain rides and attractions, including new rides, may not be open to the public.

Newsbriefs

LONG-LOST PET FOUND:

After a seven-year absence, Snoopy is home safe and sound, thanks to his microchip – and Animal Services.

In 2001, Alex Esparza and his family adopted a small white poodle from the North Central Animal Care Center. Before he left the Center bound for his new home, Snoopy was injected with a microchip, and the microchip number was registered in a national database.

Snoopy adapted quickly to his new family, but a year later he was gone. Alex's small son let him slip out an open door. Attempts to find Snoopy failed.

Seven years later, Snoopy arrived back at the East Valley

Animal Care Center, turned in by a resident who found him wandering in their backyard. During his initial examination, staff scanned Snoopy with a hand-held device and found a microchip, which led them back to Alex Esparza. The Esparza family rushed to the East Valley Animal Care Center and brought him home again. "We didn't know if he would remember us after seven years," Alex said. "We're all really happy he's back."

Snoopy, like all pets adopted from LA Animal Services, received a microchip prior to leaving the Center. Once inserted, the microchip lasts a lifetime and causes no harm to the pet. LA Animal Services scans every pet received for a microchip in the hopes of a happy reunion. Collars and tags can become separated from pets, making microchips the best possible way for a lost pet to be returned home. LA Animal Services encourages all pet owners strongly to consider microchipping their pets.

SEWER ANNIVERSARY:

Public Works held a ceremony Oct. 21 to mark the halfway point of the Collection System Settlement Agreement (CSSA), and recognize the 77 percent decrease in sewer spills since 2000. Awards and certificates were presented.

The event acknowledged the hard work of City staff and partners who have worked together to achieve the goals set forth in the CSSA, which include protecting Los Angeles neighborhoods and improving water quality by reducing sewer overflows and controlling odors.



The Esparza family and Snoopy.

CLUB SPORTS



News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Nov. 2009

NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

Sept. 23rd Softball Games

The *Alive!* Curse

■ Two teams see their first losses; the playoffs begin.

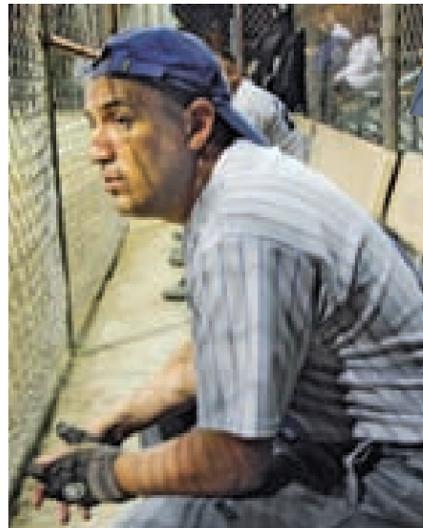
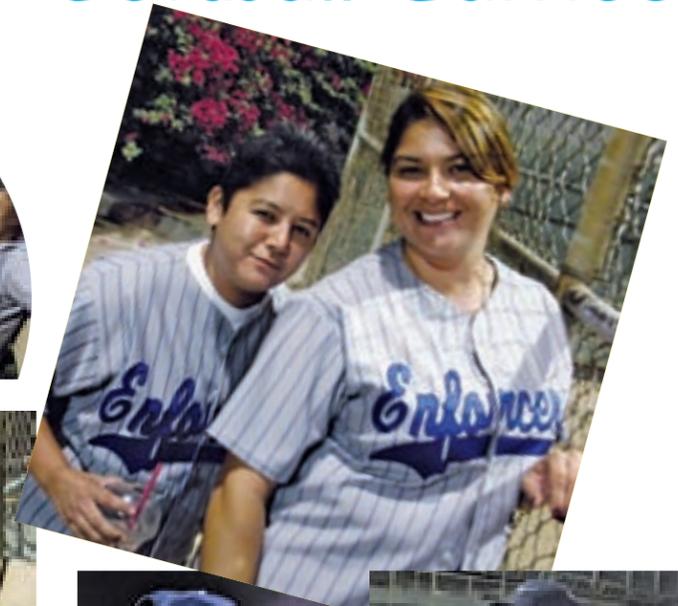
Story and photos by Club staff.



Legend has it that, if you get featured on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*, you're in for a lousy year, or you start a losing streak.

So there must be an *Alive!* curse! The Hitmen and LAX Jets were both undefeated prior to *Alive!* publicizing their spotless records. However, once we featured them, they went on losing streaks. The Hitmen lost four in row, and the LAX Jets suffered their first lost.

At press time, the playoffs are under way, and some surprising outcomes have resulted. The favorites going into the playoffs were the LAX Jets, Sluggers, Enforcers, Guzzlers and the Hitmen. Stay tuned for the results and for images of the championship games in the next edition!



Softball League 2009

Team Standings (as of Oct. 1, 2009)

TEAM	GAMES PLAYED	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	WINNING PERCENT
LAX Jets	11	10	1	0	0.909
Sluggers	11	8	2	1	0.800
Enforcers	11	8	3	0	0.727
Bravo Tango	11	8	3	0	0.727
Guzzlers	11	6	3	2	0.667
Warriors	11	7	4	0	0.636
The Hitmen	11	7	4	0	0.636
Transformers	11	3	7	1	0.300
Head First	11	3	8	0	0.273
I'd Hit It	11	2	9	0	0.182
Reservoir Dawgs	11	1	10	0	0.091
DOT-gers	11	1	10	0	0.091



Game Scores

September 9, 2009

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	LOCATION
DOT-gers: 10	Reservoir Dawgs: 6	Yosemite
LAX-Jets: 8	The Hitmen: 7	Yosemite
Enforcers: 12	Guzzlers: 6	Shatto
I'd Hit It: 4	Warriors: 5	Shatto
Transformers: 2	Bravo Tango: 11	Downey
Sluggers: 10	Head First: 1	Downey

September 16, 2009

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	LOCATION
The Hitmen: 1	Guzzlers: 15	Yosemite
Head First: 5	Transformers: 14	Yosemite
Reservoir Dawgs: 12	Sluggers: 20	Shatto
DOT-gers: 2	Warriors: 9	Shatto
LAX-Jets: 20	I'd Hit It: 4	Downey
Bravo Tango: 9	Enforcers: 8	Downey

September 23, 2009: (Make Up Games)

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	LOCATION
Enforcers: 16	Head First: 1	Downey
Guzzlers: 3	Bravo Tango: 5	Downey
Warriors: 14	Transformers: 2	Shatto

September 30, 2009: (Make Up Games)

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	LOCATION
LAX Jets: 6	Bravo Tango: 14	Downey
I'd Hit It: 0	Guzzlers: 23	Downey

Game Locations

Downey Recreation Center
1772 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA, 90031

Shatto Recreation Center
3191 4th Street
Los Angeles, CA. 90020

Yosemite Recreation Center
1840 Yosemite Drive
Los Angeles, CA. 90041



Continued from page 17

Oct. 7th Softball Games



Oct. 21st Softball Games



CLUB SPORTS



For all the latest scores and schedules, go to: www.eteamz.com/cityemployeescluboflosangeles/

This Month at the

Club Store



Here are the highlights of the Club Store and Service Center for November:

TICKETS



Try the Club's E-ticket system! Buy your tickets to Disneyland, SeaWorld and Aquarium of the Pacific, and have them delivered to your email box. It's that simple! Go to www.CityEmployeesClub.com



MERCHANDISE SPECIALS



Shop at the Club Store for all your holiday needs!

United Agencies APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE

GET A FREE QUOTE ON AUTO AND HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE



Nov. 6

Patty Pulido, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Nov. 20

Rosa Calderon, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Nov. 13

Norma Angulo, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Note: The Club Store is closed for Thanksgiving Nov. 26-27.

Your United Agencies Reps:



Norma Angulo, Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon, Personal Insurance Agent



Suzanne Eggl, Personal Insurance Mgr



Patty Pulido, Personal Insurance Agent



Rose Rangel, Personal Insurance Agent

CLUB STORE

Brian, your Club CFO says...

Life is good with another **Refund Check**



Refund Checks On Their Way

The Club's Life Insurance refund for 2009 is approximately \$281,000. Are you eligible?

Here come the refund checks ... and, for the first time, right to the Club Store, where they can be picked up personally!

The Board of Directors has approved a Club Life Insurance refund of approximately \$281,000 to be distributed back to the eligible Club members.

The Club continues its tradition of rewarding Club Life Insurance policyholders with a return of unused premiums (total premiums collected less paid claims and expenses). The 2009 refund will be the Club's 78th refund in its 81 years of existence.

For the first time, refund checks will be distributed first at the Club Store. Those who have a refund coming can pick up their checks beginning at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1. Identification is required.

The checks will be available at the Club Store through Friday, Dec. 4. Those checks that remain will be mailed beginning Monday, Dec. 7.

"Club Life Insurance is all about being there when our Members are in need," said Brian

Trent, the Club's Chief Financial Officer. "That's our first priority. And, when we can, we are happy to return that portion of the premiums that are not needed. And we've been able to do that in all but three years of the Association's existence."

Who is eligible? Anyone who had Life, Spouse Life, Dependent Life Rider, Retiree Life or Retiree Spouse Life Insurance in force for the month of July 2009 is eligible for a refund.

The actual amount Members receive will be determined as a percentage of the total premiums paid by an individual for the period of August 2008 through July 2009. However, those who dropped their insurance coverage prior to July 31, 2009, are not eligible for any refund.

Are you not eligible for a refund check, but would like to be? It's so simple. Purchase any Life product from the Club, and you're eligible for next year. Insure your family's future and receive a little reward each year for living!

Talk to your Club Counselor, or call the Club at (800) 464-0452.



Club Store and Service Center
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(888) 777-1744



Holiday Happenings

CLUB STORE

Donate Your Toys

When you come to the Club Store for your refund check or to buy holiday gifts, bring a toy for the needy.

This year, more than ever, your generosity is really needed to help children in the City celebrate the holidays. So consider joining in the Club's annual Toy Drive.

As part of the Club Angels program, the annual Club Toy Drive, is accepting your toys for those in need.

When you come down to the Club Store to pick up your refund check or to buy great Club holiday gifts, why not bring a toy to donate? We'll place it under the Club Christmas Tree, which is new this year.



You can fill the bottom of the new Club Christmas Tree, when you donate an unwrapped toy to the Club's Toy Drive. Won't you help this great cause?

Toys collected through Friday, Dec. 11 will be given to the Central Cities Police Boosters Toy Drive. Toys after that date will be donated by the Club to another cause.

Please bring toys that are unwrapped.

This is the seventh year that the Club has offered a toy drive. Last year, more than 100 toys were donated. With your help, the Club hopes to collect even more.

Won't you help this great cause? The Club thanks you in advance for your generosity.

DWP

Holiday Lights Festival

DWP's annual Holiday Lights Festival in Griffith Park begins later, in December.

14th Annual DWP Holiday Light Festival

When: Dec. 3 - 30
(traditional drive-through Dec. 18 - 30)

Preview Bike Night: Dec. 3.

Vehicle-Free Nights: Dec. 4 - 17.

Family Fun Mini-Fair: Dec. 11-13.

Hours: 5 to 10 p.m. every night.

Address: Griffith Park, 4730 Crystal Springs Dr., Los Angeles

General Information: (323) 913-4688, ext. 9.

Admission: Free.



REC AND PARKS

Christmas of a Bygone Era

Banning, Drum Barracks Museums in Wilmington recall the holidays of yesteryear.

The community is invited to welcome in the holiday season by traveling back in time at two Rec and Parks museums in the Wilmington – the Banning Residence Museum, and the Drum Barracks Museum, the City's only surviving Civil War-era military structure.

Banning Museum

Due to construction, the Banning Museum's annual Victorian Christmas celebration has been canceled this year. However, the museum will be open for regular visitors, and will be decorated in its annual Victorian Christmas style.

Much research has been done to ensure that the museum will reflect realism in decor and display a re-creation of "A Southern California Christmas."

Drum Barracks Civil War Museum

You are invited to tour the beautifully decorated museum and experience the holiday as it was celebrated in the Civil War era.

"A Civil War Christmas" is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 5 and 6. Guests can travel in the height of style on the popular horse-drawn, holiday-red trolley. Music will fill the rooms of the Drum Barracks with joyous sounds, and bell ringing will occur. An encampment will be set up on the museum grounds -- visit the camp, and learn how Civil War soldiers and their families celebrated the holidays. Arts and crafts of the era will be taught during the weekend, including the decorating of a Soldier's Christmas tree. Admission to Drum Barracks is free for this special event.

Banning Museum Victorian Christmas

Dates: Throughout November and December:

Tues. – Thurs.: 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.;
Sat. – Sun.: 12:30, 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.
Closed Christmas Day

Tickets: \$5 (suggested donation; \$1 for children)

Address: 401 E. M St., Wilmington, 90744

Information: (310) 548-7777 or www.thebanningmuseum.org

Drum Barracks Civil War Christmas

Dates: Special event: Dec. 5-6

Regular hours Tues.-Thurs., and Sat.-Sun.

Closed Christmas Day.

Tickets: Free for special event (tickets for regular tours: \$5 suggested donation)

Address: 1052 Banning Blvd., Wilmington, 90744

Information: (310) 548-7509 or www.drumbarracks.org

ZOO

Romping With The Reindeer



Zoo trots out the 'reindeer' for holiday family fun.

From Thanksgiving to Jan. 3, reindeer appear at the LA Zoo during its annual Reindeer Romp.

Kids of all ages can get close to these beautiful creatures, talk to the reindeer keepers and make their own pair of reindeer antlers to take home with them.

The rest of the zoo will be open, too, so visitors can watch as other animals get their holiday treats during the weekends.

This yearly tradition delights young and old. Guests can visit live reindeer, as well as enjoy hands-on arts and craft activities for children of all ages. Visitors can also enjoy entertainment, shopping and more.

Reindeer Romp runs Nov. 26 through Jan. 3 during daily zoo hours. Closed on Christmas Day.

L.A. Zoo Reindeer Romp

When: Nov. 26 – Jan. 3

Time: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Admission: Free with regular zoo admission; photos with Santa extra.

Information: www.lazoo.org

The DWP once again presents its holiday drive-through favorite, with green initiatives including vehicle-free nights and LED bulbs, but a shorter schedule.

The DWP Light Festival returns to Griffith Park beginning Dec. 3, and runs through Dec. 30.

The 14th annual DWP Griffith Park Holiday Light Festival runs along a one-mile segment of Crystal Springs Drive and has become a holiday tradition that attracts more than half million visitors each year.

Visitors may park at the L.A. Zoo parking lot. Parking will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Walkers are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and to dress warmly to walk the full one-mile route each way. It is also recommended that walkers have outerwear, as it can get chilly.

Preview Bike Night: The festival's opening night, Dec. 3, is reserved for guests on bicycles. The festival is open from 5 to 10 p.m. Parking is at the L.A. Zoo parking lot.

A 'Vehicle-Free' Celebration: The festival's

"vehicle-free" nights are scheduled for Dec. 4 through Dec. 17, from 5 to 10 p.m. During this time, visitors may walk through the festival on a walking path, or ride their bikes. Walkers are advised to dress accordingly, and to arrive at the event no later than 8:30 p.m., as the event closes at 10 p.m.

Parking is available at the L.A. Zoo parking lot; parking will not be available at the satellite lots on the south side of the park.

Family Fun Mini-Fair: On Dec. 11-13, there will be a Family Fun Mini-Fair.

Traditional Festival Experience: The Light Festival will be open Dec. 18-30 in its traditional format. Visitors can drive through the festival, entering at Los Feliz Boulevard and Crystal Springs Drive, or guests can walk the festival on the walking path. Guests who would like to walk the festival, may park at the L.A. Zoo parking lot.

Shuttle service will also be available during this time. Shuttle users may park at the LA Zoo parking lot.



Holiday Happenings



REC AND PARKS

It's Great to Skate

Downtown on Ice celebrates 12th season.



Central City's traditional holiday favorite, *Downtown on Ice*, returns for its 12th season, starting Nov. 29 and running through Jan. 18.

Downtown on Ice features the City's largest outdoor ice-skating rink with the lowest admission cost, producers say.

The facility boasts a medley of free events including a holiday concert series, a Winter Holiday Festival, championship skating exhibitions, and more. New this year are special "Mommie and Me Stroller Skate" sessions on select Tuesdays.

Celebrating its 12th season for skating under the sun and stars at picturesque Pershing Square, 532 South Olive, the facility is open every day Nov. 19 through Jan. 18.

Framed by towering skyscrapers and stunning historical landmarks, the spacious rink and event are sponsored by Rec and Parks, and Councilmember Jan Perry, Club Member.

Centrally located in the heart of downtown, the facility is easily accessible by car, bus or Metro. A partnership with Metro and Metrolink allows riders to receive a \$1 skating session discount by showing a coupon available on all mass transit lines. The convenient stop at Pershing

Square Station makes getting there easy. Underground discount parking is available with validation. For more info and a detailed session schedule go to www.laparks.org and click to Pershing Square or call (213) 847-4970.



Past years at *Downtown on Ice*.

Downtown on Ice

When: Nov. 19 through Jan. 18.

Where: Pershing Square, downtown at 532 S. Olive St., across from the Millennium Biltmore Hotel.

Admission: One-hour session: \$6. Skate rental: \$2.

Hours: Open every day. General schedule: Monday – Thursday, noon – 10 p.m. Friday-Sunday, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Special Extended Holiday Hours: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Dec. 18, through Jan. 10.

Special hours apply on Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years Day and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Transportation: Easily accessible by bus or rail, exit at Pershing Square Station. Metro and Metrolink allows riders to receive a \$1 skating session discount by showing a coupon available on all mass transit lines. Pershing Square offers underground parking at a discount with ice skating validation.

Free Winter Concert Series: Friday nights, 8 – 10 p.m. Classic rock 'n' roll. Saturdays: Youth Fun Series, 1 – 3 p.m. Sunday Family Series, 2 – 4 p.m. (Weekday afternoon concerts during extended holiday hours.) Check Website for updates.

Free Winter Holiday Festival: Snow party for sledding and romping, Christmas tree decorating, "make and take" children's crafts, Community youth performances, photo mementos, and more. Rink is available for holiday skating (admission required). Dec. 12-13, noon to 8 p.m.

Mommie and Me Stroller Skate Sessions: Moms and babies can share outdoor fun, 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Dec. 1, Dec. 8, Dec. 15, and Jan. 12. (Moms skate and push babies in their strollers on the ice.)

Iced Tea: Wednesdays through Sundays, 2 to 5 p.m., the Millennium Biltmore's Rendezvous Court celebrates the season with the Biltmore Angel's Tea, a memorable event for the entire family. Just across the street, families can skate together at the picturesque holiday rink amid the towering skyscrapers.

Information: Pershing Square Hotline, (213) 847-4970, or www.laparks.org (click on Pershing Square).

REC AND PARKS

All Aboard for Santa

Travel Town Museum in Griffith Park offers its miniature train ride to the North Pole.

Travel Town Train Ride to Visit Santa

Dates: Nov. 28-29; Dec. 4-6; 11-13; and nightly from Dec. 16 through 23 (weather permitting; trains do not operate in the rain)

Times: 5 until about 8 p.m.

Where: Travel Town Transportation Museum, 5200 Zoo Dr., Griffith Park

Cost: \$7 per person; infants under 18 months ride free. (Photos with Santa cost \$5 each.)

Information: (323) 662-9678, www.traveltownrailroad.com



For the seventh consecutive year, Travel Town Train Museum's Travel Town Railroad in Griffith Park is hosting a unique holiday event starring Santa Claus and thousands of dancing lights and beautiful music. On Nov. 28-29, and then again Dec. 4-6; 11-13; and every evening starting Dec. 16 through 23, families will be able to take a miniature train ride to visit Santa at his house at the North Pole.

Once they arrive they will visit with Santa, get a picture with him, if desired, then get back on the train to return home along a decorated and music filled track.

While waiting for Santa the kids and parents can visit with Rudolph and one of Santa's helper elves.

This event is operated by Travel Town Railroad in cooperation with Rec and Parks. It is a wonderful alternative to visits to the mall and is a perfect

addition to a Holiday Evening in Griffith Park before or after the DWP's annual Festival of Lights.

Starting at 5 p.m., families may enter the museum and board the miniature train ride at the decorated station. While waiting to board they will be entertained by a dazzling dancing light show and a special corner of the museum where snowmen live and it snows all the time!

Once aboard, they will travel past the decorated train barn and Santa's Workshop to arrive at the North Pole. There they will disembark and visit with Santa, Mrs. Claus, Rudolph and Erin the Elf. Digital photographs will be available for \$5. Families may take their own pictures if they wish. After they have finished their visit, guests will re-board the train and travel along the decorated quarter-mile of track back to the station. The Travel Town Museum Gift Shop will be open most evenings.

THE CITY

Hollywood Christmas Parade

City's holiday parade reverts back to old-school name – the Hollywood Christmas Parade.

The Hollywood Christmas Parade, sponsored by the City, is scheduled for 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, in Hollywood.

The parade, in operation for more than 80 years, had been known by that name for decades, but when it looked likely to die three years ago. But the City – notably Councilmembers Eric Garcetti and Tom LaBonge, Club Member – took charge and continued the parade. The name was then changed to Santa's Hollywood Parade.

But everything old is new again, and the name has reverted back to the Hollywood Christmas Parade.

"Last year's parade was a great success, and the 2009 event should be even better," Garcetti and LaBonge wrote in a statement. "We look forward to your support and participation."

The parade will feature entertainers, celebrities, marching bands, floats, equestrian units, food and some reserved grandstand seats, which cost \$35. General admission is free.

The parade starts on Hollywood Boulevard at Orange Street. The U-shaped route follows east to Vine Street, south to Sunset Boulevard and west back to Orange.

The Hollywood Christmas Parade

When: 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29

Where: Hollywood, starting at Hollywood Boulevard and Orange Street. See route, above.

Cost: Free; grandstand reserved seating is available for \$35.

Information: (866) PARADE-1, or www.thehollywoodchristmasparade.com

REST INSURED



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



The Advantages of United Agencies

One of the questions we get most often is, "What does United Agencies do for me?"

United Agencies is an insurance brokerage that acts as agents for more than 45 national insurance companies. The advantage of dealing with a broker is that we can get you quotes from several different insurance companies all at once, and find the one that best fits your situation. We can also help you out if you have teenage children in the house, too many tickets on your license, or maybe own a house in a brush area.

United Agencies represents you! We are not obligated to any specific insurance company, and we can offer you an unbiased investigation of which insurance company would be best for you.

If you suffer a claim, we are also there for you. You can call the same person who sold you the policy, and that person can walk you through the steps involved in filing a claim, answer any questions that might come up in the process, and act as your advocate if you have a problem with the insurance company.

Have any questions? Looking for advice? We have professionals who have been advising individuals and businesses for more than 50 years. Feel free to call us, and we'll help where we can.

Look for our helpful column in each issue of *Alive!*, and if you are a customer of United Agencies, you should also receive our quarterly e-newsletter: *Personal Connection*. This helpful newsletter provides a wealth of information and resources that you will find invaluable.

By calling United Agencies, you should expect to get exceptional service. Our partnership with the City Employees Club is very important to us, and you will receive "VIP treatment" as a member of the Club. A real person will answer the phone, and you won't be shuffled off to the voicemail dungeon. It is important to us to keep our relationship with the Club, and to do so we have to keep every Club Member happy. When you call us, you should expect results!

If you are currently buying your policy from another broker, and you like the insurance company that you are buying from, you can still switch to United Agencies and experience the exceptional service that other Club Members are receiving. We even will give you a \$50 ARCO gas card simply for switching agents! You keep the same great policy

you currently have, improve your level of service, and get a tank of gas for free!

Buying your insurance from United Agencies is especially beneficial to you when you spend a few minutes talking to our agents on the phone or in person. We have more than 50 years of experience to draw on, and we pride ourselves in doing an excellent job of educating our customers in how to make the best decisions. We will try to "think outside the box," and offer helpful suggestions on ways to reduce your insurance costs and increase the protection for you and your family.

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- Civil Service Employee Insurance
- Progressive Insurance
- Encompass Insurance, and
- Many others.

With so many companies to choose from, we are able to give you the best coverage at the best price available. Give us a call, and we'll prove it!

Feel free to call our agency if you have any questions about what we can do for you, would like to know what it would cost to buy your insurance through us, or would like a question answered on any type of insurance.

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

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

Be safe and have fun!

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

CA License # 0252636

AIRPORTS

Tony Iovene Retires

Airports Construction Inspector Anthony Iovene retires after 38 years of City service.

Story and photos courtesy Dorothy Alexander, Sr. Construction Inspector, Airports

Tony was joined by his wife Jan, co-workers, and friends to celebrate his retirement after 38 years of City Service. Tony started his City career at the Harbor Department as a Surveyor. Later, he was promoted to Construction Inspector, Public Works/Contract Administration. He retired Sept. 12 after 11 years as a Construction Inspector in the Residential Soundproofing Group, Airports.

Tony plans to spend his retirement years enjoying the company of his wife, Jan, and cat, Chatsworth.



From left: Joe Zamora, PW Sr. Inspector, presents Tony with an MCIA badge.



From left: Joe Zamora, PW Sr. Inspector; Tony Iovene; Jorge Padilla, RSP Inspector; and Roberto Gaete, RSP Inspector.



From left: Luz Murillo-Reyes, RSP MA; and Intissar Durham, Chief Airports Engineer.



Jan and Tony Iovene.



From left: Felix Gonzales, RSP Engineer; and Douglas McAdams, RSP Engineer.



From left: Sarah Fung, Residential Soundproofing (RSP) Student Worker; Luz Murillo-Reyes, RSP Sr. MA; Nadia Michel-Agabi, RSP Engineer; Cynthia Lewis, Secretary; and Patsy Newborn, Secretary.

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For Retired Club Members



The Best Years



By Phil Skarin,
RLACEI Publicity Chair

RLACEI:

Early Retirement Talks Are Already Increasing Numbers

President Ed Harding reports:



Ed Harding

"Our annual corporation meeting and elections were held Oct. 8 at the Friendship Auditorium. Attendance was low because of a conflict with a LACERS Open Enrollment Meeting in Van Nuys. Next year we will try to coordinate our schedules better.

"Alex Rabrenovich, Chief Health Benefits Administrator, talked to our members about what is new on our health plans. Several members of his group talked to our members about their individual

problems. Thanks to LACERS and Alex for providing 20 door prizes.

"Nominating Chair Neil Ricci moved for approval of his committee's recommendations for RLACEI Directors. Receiving unanimous approval were Hal Danowitz, Americo Garza, Neil Ricci, Phil Skarin, Tom Stemnock and Michael Karsch. They are all being reelected for two-year terms beginning Jan. 1. I know that they will all continue doing a great job for our members.

"Mark Dec. 3 on your calendar

for our holiday party and board meeting for officers at the Grace E. Simons Lodge in Elysian Park, 1025 Elysian Park Dr. The entertainment committee, headed by Americo Garza, met with Chris & Pitts and ordered a menu of roast beef or turkey on buns, cole slaw, fruit salad, carrot cake and drinks.

"Linda Hayek will entertain us, and Gary Mattingly, retired GM of the Fire and Police Pension System, will install our new officers. See you all at noon Dec. 3."

Legislative Update, Ken Spiker reports:



Ken Spiker

"On Sept. 30, the City Council voted to approve an Early Retirement Incentive Program (ERIP). Under the ERIP, up to 2,400 active LACERS members would be eligible to retire with enhanced retirement benefits. Before the ERIP goes into effect and the 45-day opt-in period starts, the proposed ERIP would need to be ratified by the Coalition of Unions and the Council (this action can be taken no sooner than Oct. 30), and the mayor would need to give final approval.

"For the last several months, LACERS staff has been busy planning for successful implementation, assuming ERIP adoption by the City Council. Those preparations have begun to pay off as, in August, LACERS recorded its busiest month of retirements ever, with 128 members retiring! In the last three months, LACERS has processed the retirements of more than 300 members. In a typical year, LACERS retires about 500 members, so we successfully retired 60 percent of the members we typically retire in a year in just three months.

"If the ERIP is approved and the maximum 2,400 members decide to participate, LACERS would be

expected in just seven months to retire almost the same number of members that have retired over the last five years combined.

"Here's a graph with the retirement numbers:"

Active Service Retirements by Fiscal Year	
Fiscal Year Ending	Number of Retirements
June 30, 2005	554
June 30, 2006	507
June 30, 2007	477
June 30, 2008	463
June 30, 2009	404
Five-year total:	2,405

"Correction to a previous article: In 2010, Secure Horizons (in California, Nevada and Arizona) will no longer offer dental and vision benefits. Dental benefits are provided to LACERS members through MetLife and SafeGuard, and members enrolled in Secure Horizons already receive vision benefits through Vision Service plan. This change will save the fund \$92,000 annually."

Richman Initiative on Public Pensions

Michael Karsch, RLACEI Board Member, writes: "The Orange County Register's OC Watchdog Sept. 30 reported that Keith Richman's California Foundation for Fiscal Responsibility is dusting off its 2007 initiative to rein in public pensions' soaring costs. Revisions are being made to update the initiative and to include an 'anti-double-dipping clause' to prohibit a public official who retires from being hired back in the same agency, thereby receiving both a pension check and a new job paycheck. They hope to submit a new text to the Attorney General by the end of October, and then to circulate a petition shortly thereafter for qualification on the November 2010 ballot. The initiative, if similar to the older one, would not affect public sector members who have already retired. The Foundation's president, Marcia Fritz, advised me by email: Please tell your subscribers to check out this Website, www.californiapensionreform.com, where the foundation will post the draft. The more who give constructive criticism the better.

City Retiree Associations:

DWP Retirees Association



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

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association

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

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



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

Change of Address?

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

Have News About Yourself?

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

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 3: RLACEI Christmas Party, Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Dr. Lunch at noon. Courtesy taxi rides from the parking areas, courtesy of the Independent Taxi Owners Association. Call for reservations.

Call (800) 678-4145, ext. 701, for reservations to these events.

RLACEI Website

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

Contact LACERS

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

The Best Years

ADVENTURES with HAL!



Everyone heads for the zip line.



By Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Retiree Hotlines

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

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

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

• R.S.V.P.	Ext. 701
• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Phil Skarin	Ext. 709
• Michael Karsch	Ext. 704
• Jerry Bardwell	Ext. 706
• Harold Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Jack Mathews	Ext. 712
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Tom Stemnock	Ext. 708
• Mary Beetz	Ext. 711
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers for 2009

Edward Harding, President
Kenneth Spiker, First Vice President
Tom Stemnock, Second Vice President
Hal Danowitz, Secretary
Jerry Bardwell, Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons for 2009

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

Directors

Michael Karsch
Americo Garza
Helen Salgado
Phil Skarin
Jack Mathews
Neil Ricci
Mary Beetz



Zippering Along in Costa Rica

■ Part 2 of Hal and Evelyn's trip to Uncle George's place.

Last month I told you about the first part of our trip to Costa Rica. Taking the trip were Evelyn and I; Michelle and JP; the three grandkids Maddie, Isabelle and Coco; and JP's parents, Effie and Pierre. We stayed in the Central Pacific area at a house owned by Michelle's Uncle George. Here's a link to the house, owned by George and Katrina Murdoch: www.costaricavacationhomesandrentals.com

We left LAX Aug. 12 and returned Aug. 17.

On Friday morning, Aug. 14, we were scheduled for an aerial activity called zip-lining, but we made a mistake on the time, and the tour was already gone when we got there. So instead, we drove into *Jaco* (pronounced ha-co) to look around. This is the main tourist town in the area and reminded me of Cabo San Lucas 10 years ago.

There are a number of good hotels and restaurants in Jaco. One of the town's major attractions is surfing. A yearly international surf contest is held nearby at Playa Hermosa. We walked around, and Evelyn brought a very nice beaded bracelet. We had to get back to our house because Evelyn was taking the girls horseback riding, something I have done only once or twice and care not to do it ever again. Anyway, Evelyn and the girls had a great time, and for the two-hour ride it was only \$30 for all of them. The dollar is accepted all over Costa Rica, so there is no need to change money.

That evening, the adults rode into Jaco to have dinner at a restaurant called Pili Pili. The name comes from the Swahili word for chili peppers, which were in a special spicy sauce the chef uses. The food was outstanding, but the service was way too slow. There must have been a problem in the kitchen because we waited almost 45 minutes to get our first course. The price was right, though; with wine and drinks, the bill was only \$30 per person.

I was a little apprehensive about our zip-lining experience, rescheduled for Saturday morning. I just didn't know what to expect, but I figured if an eight-year-old (Coco) could do it, so could I. We showed

up at the Chiclets Tree Canopy Tours to take the 9 a.m. tour. The cost was \$39 each, about half of what is charged in Mexico. You first put on a harness, helmet and gloves. The instructor gave us a 10-minute demonstration of hand signals and what to expect. We piled into an open truck and drove about a mile to the start of the tour and climbed a staircase up about 80 feet. We were with three other groups, but ours was the first to go. They attached us to the wire with a pulley and snapped us onto a safety line, and off we went. The first zip line was short, just to give us the feel for the ride. We didn't have the sensation of falling, and it was very enjoyable. We controlled our own speed, and the only thing we needed to remember is to stop before we crashed into the tree. A guide was waiting for us at each stop to "catch us" and made sure we didn't hurt ourselves. There were 13 platforms and 12 lines, the longest of which was 1,000 feet. It was a great experience and I would do it again.

After our zip-lining experience, our host, George, showed us some new homes he is building just across from the Chiclets trees. At the construction site, they have adopted a young whiteface monkey, whose

mother was electrocuted by accident. The monkey is not in a cage, and it has the run of the site. How this will work out in the future is not certain.

We stopped to have lunch at a small restaurant on the beach and, while we ate, we watched the surfers. The food was very good and again inexpensive at \$10 per person.

Our host made dinner for all of us that evening, and we spent the rest of the evening playing cards and watching a movie.

Sunday was our last full day in Costa Rica, and we decided to spend it at Manuel Antonio National Park. The park is just south of Quepos, about 45 minutes from our house. It is a combination of rain forest, beaches and coral reefs. The beaches are white sand and have very good snorkeling. The forest is home for sloths, iguanas, the rare squirrel monkey and the whiteface monkey, and we saw all of them up close and personal. We parked our cars near the beach entrance and walked back to the ticket booth (\$10 for adults, children under 12 are free). We walked about a half-mile into the park and reached the southern-facing beach, Playa Manuel Antonio, a

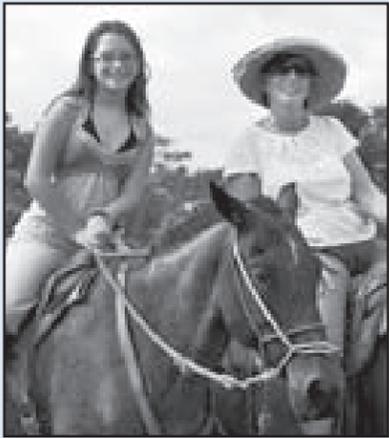


Evelyn on the zip line.



half-mile long white sand crescent beach with foliage to one side and a secluded cove to the other. When we got there it was pretty empty, so we had the choice of all the good spots to spread our towels. We all headed into the water, which was very warm, and we spent about two hours just relaxing. We were going to meet George's family for lunch and needed to leave time for the walk back and to drive to the restaurant. We wanted to walk the trail that winds around Punta Cathedral, and we were told it was an easy 30-minute walk. Well the walk took over an hour and, while it wasn't hard, I wouldn't classify it as easy.

We had lunch at El Avión, built around a Fairchild C-123 cargo plane that was part of the mid-1980s Iran-Contra scandal. Part of the profits was used to purchase two C-123 cargo planes, one of which is this plane. This plane was abandoned at the San Jose, Costa Rica, airport, and in August 2000 it was purchased for \$3,000, disassembled and shipped in pieces to its present location. The inside was converted



Isabelle and Evelyn on the ride.

into a disco bar, which is open in the evenings. It's a real piece of history. This was my chance to try a native Costa Rican dish, and I chose the chicken and rice, which was very good, though a little spicy, and long on rice and short on chicken.

After lunch, we stopped by the local flea market, and Evelyn picked up a few souvenirs. While the kids stayed on the beach, we drove back to the house. I made a few wrong turns before finding the main road, but we got back without problems. Part of the problem with driving in Costa Rica is that there are no street addresses and in some case very little signage to tell you where you are or where you are going.

On Monday, we left for home. Our flight was at 5:15 p.m., and we left the house about 11:30 a.m. for the ride to the airport. We wanted to stop at the market to pick up some coffee to bring home and leave enough time in case of a problem. On the way to the airport it rained very hard, and I was glad we had a driver.

To leave Costa Rica you need to pay a \$26 exit visa tax, and after we did that we checked in for our flight. We stopped in El Salvador, but we didn't need to change planes. The flights were uneventful and we got into LAX about midnight. It took a while for our luggage to come, and we didn't get home until after 2 a.m.

I really enjoyed Costa Rica and would like to do another trip to see the parts we missed.

RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

Patrick Nanson, grandson of **Americo and Ella Garza**, graduated from the Naval Officers School in Newport, RI, and was commissioned as an ensign Sept. 11. He was one of five distinguished cadets of the graduating class. He will report the naval base in Coronado to receive special naval warfare training.

Phil Skarin was invited to speak to a group of ladies at the Union Rescue Mission in Los Angeles, where he recited many of his "Thought of the Day" poems, including "Be My Friend."

Barbara Hunt, daughter of **Phil and Miriam Skarin**, was named the customer service

employee of the month for August by the Monrovia City Council. She is a volunteer at the Canyon Park Nature Center. This is her second award.

Jess Bailey and his wife have just returned from Canada in their RV. After a few months at their home in Burbank, they'll take off for Mexico. They're real Roads scholars!

Mary Beetz spent eight days in Puerto Rico, visiting the rain forest, museums and rum factories.

Are you planning to retire soon? If you are, Membership Chair Helen Salgado invites

you to join the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI), the only one exclusively serving the interests of L.A. City retirees, for only \$1 a month. Call one of our officers for more information.

Do you have a poem for this year's Retirees' Poetry Contest? Send it to Phil Skarin by Dec. 1 (new date). Poems can be on any subject or style, and there are member and family member categories. There will be valuable ash prizes.

Also, if you have news about yourself or other retirees that you'd like to share, send it to Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910.

RLACEI HOLIDAY PARTY

Thursday,
Dec. 3, 12 noon

Grace E. Simons Lodge
1025 Elysian Park Drive
(near Dodger Stadium)

You're Invited!

The RLACEI's annual Christmas Party and Installation of Officers is scheduled for noon Thursday, Dec. 3 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge. The Lodge is at 1025 Elysian Park Dr., near Dodger Stadium. There will be a light lunch (sandwiches, salad and

drinks), entertainment and valuable door prizes. You must make reservations at least a week ahead: (800) 678-4145, x701. Guests welcome. Call one of the officers on the Retirees Helplines. Free taxi service can take you from the parking lot to the lodge.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

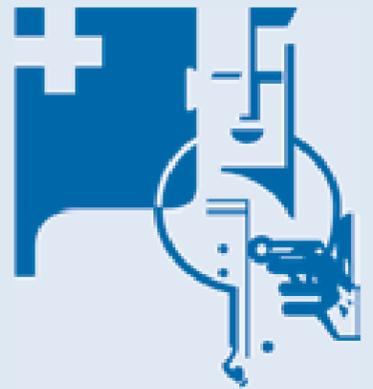
Who Gets the Credit?

The sports pages always report who made the most runs, baskets or touchdowns. The players want to get the credit. But in the game of life, there are other kinds of credit for your good deeds or accomplishments. One kind is when people recognize your accomplishments and chose to openly compliment you. But, your goal in life should not be to seek approval or praise from others.

Your goal in life should be to do things you enjoy doing and do them with enthusiasm to the best of your abilities. The personal satisfaction you will receive is the most meaningful kind of credit to wish for.

But, it's still nice to get a sincere compliment for a job well done.

— Phil Skarin



LACERS

■ Open Enrollment Thru Nov. 15

LACERS has announced that the open enrollment period for health plans lasts until Nov. 15 to make any additions or changes to your health plans.

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 360 E. Second St., second floor, Los Angeles, Ca 90012. Phone: (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. E-mail is www.lacers.org. Contact them to arrange direct deposit; change your tax withholding or beneficiary; or for questions about your health plans.



LAPD

Detention Officer Graduation

Police Dept. graduates 20 new detention officers.



The all-volunteer Los Angeles Police Concert Band, under the direction of Dr. Don Holcomb, performed at the event.

Capt. Clay Farrell, Commanding Officer, Jail Division, delivered the welcome remarks.



Principal Detention Officer Michael Ellington, Club Member.



The commencement address conducted by Dep. Chief Mark Perez.



Councilman Dennis P. Zine, Club Member.



Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Photos by Ryszard Niscior, LAPD

The Police Dept. Jail Division graduated 19 LAPD detention officers, and one from the Culver City Police Dept., at its ceremonies Sept. 3. The event was held at the Police Academy.

Uniform Inspection was conducted by Dep. Chief Mark Perez; Assistant Chief Sharon Papa, Club Member; Capt. Clay Farrell, Commanding Officer, Jail Division; Commander Jeffrey L. Greer, Office of Operations; Councilman Dennis P. Zine; and Assistant Chief Cerris Black, Culver City Police Dept.

The National Anthem was sung by Bridget Jones, and the invocation was read by LAPD Department Chaplain Rev. Tina Babcock. Introduction and presentation of diplomas was conducted by Capt. Clay Farrell, Commanding Officer, Jail Division.

The Recruit Class speech was delivered by Detention Officer and class leader Japhet Vargas. The commencement address was conducted by Deputy Mark Perez, Commanding Officer of the Professional Standards Bureau.

The class honorary awards were presented by Principal Detention Officer Michael Ellington, Senior Drill Instructor.

The new Detention Officers are (all are from the LAPD, except as noted):

- Ismael Hernandez, Club Member
- Japhet Vargas
- Jesus Hernandez,
- Salvador Torres, Club Member
- Edgar Zabunyan
- Jerimau Erby
- Jamese Honest, Culver City Police Dept.
- Kianna Urbanski
- Martha Ramirez
- Milton Lopez
- Robert Reza, Club Member
- Christopher Esquivel, Club Member
- David Cortes
- Nathan Jackson, Club Member
- Ricardo Estrada, Club Member
- Juan Soto-Funes, Club Member
- Shameka Henderson, Club Member
- Paul Vu
- Erica McAdoo, Club Member, and
- Carlos Calderon, Club Member.

The Outstanding Academic Achievement honor was awarded to Ricardo Estrada. The Outstanding Physical Training Achievement honor was awarded to Juan Soto-Funes; the Outstanding Uniform Appearance honor was awarded to Japhet Vargas; and the Outstanding Overall Recruit honor went to Ismael Hernandez, Club Member.

Congratulations to all our new Detention Officers!

Special thanks go to Principal Detention Officer Michael Ellington, Club Member, and Senior Detention Officer Renee Cuevas for their assistance.



Assistant Chief Sharon K. Papa, Club Member.



The LAPD Honor Guard.

The New Detention Officers are:



Detention Officer Jesus Hernandez.



Detention Officer Salvador Torres, Club Member.



Detention Officer Edgar Zabunyan.



Detention Officer Jerimau Erby, Club Member.



Detention Officer Jamese Honest, Culver City Police Dept.



Detention Officer Kianna Urbanski.



Detention Officer Martha Ramirez.



Detention Officer Milton Lopez.



Detention Officer Robert Reza, Club Member.



Detention Officer Christopher Esquivel, Club Member.



Detention Officer David Cortes.



Detention Officer Nathan Jackson, Club Member.



Detention Officer Ricardo Estrada, Club Member.



Detention Officer Juan Soto-Funes, Club Member.



Detention Officer Shameka Henderson, Club Member.



Detention Officer Paul Vu.



Detention Officer Erica McAdoo, Club Member.



Detention Officer Carlos Calderon, Club Member.



Detention Officer Ismael Hernandez, Club Member.



Detention Officer Japhet Vargas.

You are cordially invited to attend
the retirement celebration of

Port Police Officer Patricia A. Montano

Patricia celebrates 31 years of faithful City service and will hold the esteemed privilege of being the first female police officer to retire from the Los Angeles Port Police.



Join her family in sharing this very special event:
Friday, Nov. 13, 6 – 10 p.m.

For event and ticket information, visit:
www.montanoretirement.com



Newsbriefs

ENGINEER IS HONORED:

The American Society of Civil Engineers, Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch (ASCE MLAB) named Dr. Shahram Kharaghani, Manager, Public Works/Sanitation Watershed Protection Division, as the 2009 Outstanding Civil Engineer in Government. The honor is given to public servants who promote and implement innovative concepts, research and materials to help advance the field of civil engineering.

Kharaghani received the award at the organization's awards banquet Oct. 8 at the Tom Bradley Tower in downtown City Hall.

As manager of the City's stormwater pollution abatement programs and flood control infrastructure, Kharaghani directs a \$31-million program with more than 80 engineers, inspectors, scientists and administrative staff. He ensures the City's compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL). He is also responsible for the implementation of five stormwater model programs in the areas of Illicit Connection/Discharge, Public Agency, Construction, Planning and Engineering. Kharaghani is also credited for the successful passage of Proposition O, the \$500-million clean water bond that funds more than 25 stormwater projects that improve water quality in the City.

A stormwater expert with more than 25 years of experience in various aspects of engineering, Kharaghani is a registered professional civil engineer in the State of California and board-certified environmental engineer. He earned his Bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1979; his Master's degree from the University of Southern California (USC) in 1982; and his Ph.D. in the same field also from USC in 1986.

Before working for the City, Kharaghani planned, designed and constructed single-family dwellings, wastewater, and stormwater facilities for the public and private sectors. In his City career, he has participated on the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant expansion, restructured the City's wastewater user fees, and negotiated the sewage disposal agreements with surrounding cities.



Dr. Shahram Kharaghani.

Participating employees of
LA DWP,
The Sundowners M.C. SFV,
Austin Contracting & Associates,
City Employees Club of Los Angeles,
IBEW Local 18, Los Angeles &
W-165 George Moreno

**6th Annual Motorcycle
Christmas Toy Run**
Sunday, December 6, 2009

*All Riders & Drivers
Welcomed!*

**Trophies for
"Kid's Choice Best Bike"
and
"Santa's Favorite Car"!**

**Raffle Prizes &
50/50 Drawing**

**Riding Pin
for the first 250 bikes!**

**With a special invitation to all Classic Cars!!
To benefit:
The Children of Los Angeles Harbor UCLA Medical Center**

**Bring a new unwrapped toy to the starting location of your choice.
For ages: babies to teenagers (1 second to 18 years old).**

Those children, that are able, will be allowed to come outside to greet the riders.

**ONE BIKE & RIDER WILL BE CHOSEN TO BE TAKEN INSIDE THE CHILDREN'S WARD FOR VIEWING BY
THOSE CHILDREN WHO CAN NOT LEAVE THE WARD.**

LOCATION #1 – DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES – Catch 21 Restaurant Parking lot at
441 S. Central Ave. Arrival time 8:30 am – Leaving at 10:30 am for LA
Harbor -UCLA Medical Center in Torrance.
Ray Reynoso (562) 857-9888,
LACEA Roberto Larios (800) 464-0452

LOCATION #2 – MISSION HILLS – Miller's Restaurant Parking Lot at 10318 Sepulveda Bl.
Arrival time 8:00 am – Leaving at 8:30 am and going to starting location #1
to meet group.
Ruben Montoya (818) 634-9475, Sundowners Brad Ditzel (818) 251-0431 or
Ralph Sanchez (818) 400-0652

ANY QUESTIONS? Call Ray Reynoso at (562) 857-9888










Angel Gomez,
Director of
Member
Services

Petersen



You might recognize this
1963 VW Beetle as
Herbie the Love Bug.



(1) Johnny Rockets is just feet away from the Petersen's ticket office.

Hello again!

This month, we will take a tour of the Petersen Automotive Museum. I love cars, and even if I can't afford many of these, I can still dream. I recommend you all go out and take a look at these fabulous cars.

Also, if you are a bit hungry, stop by the Johnny Rockets. They have great food; when you go to the ticket office, let the cashier know that you had lunch at Johnny's, and they will validate your parking ticket. **(1)**

Here's some history about the Petersen: On June 11, 1994, Margie and Robert E. Petersen fulfilled a longtime dream when they became founding benefactors to start the Petersen Automotive Museum, donating \$5 million to the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum. In April 2000, the Petersens contributed an additional \$24.8 million to the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum to retire the bond debt and establish the Petersen Automotive Museum Foundation as an inde-

pendent nonprofit organization. Their gifts to the Petersen Automotive Museum total more than \$30 million. Today, the Petersen Automotive Museum stands as the nation's premier automotive museum, serving thousands of visitors each year.

Robert Petersen headed the Petersen publishing empire, the largest special-interest publishing company in America. Petersen was responsible for *Motor Trend* and *Hot Rod* magazines, among others.

The Petersen Automotive Museum is dedicated to the exploration and presentation of the automobile and its impact on American life and culture, using Los Angeles as the prime example. Encompassing more than 300,000 square feet, its exhibits and life-like dioramas feature more than 150 rare and classic cars, trucks and motorcycles.

Covering four floors, the facility features permanent exhibits on the first floor that trace the history of the automobile. Visitors are invited to walk through, not by, exhibits and dioramas and experience settings of early Los Angeles where the world's first shopping district was designed.

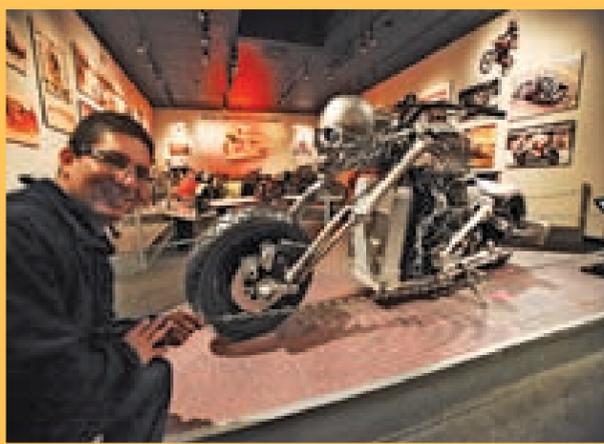
The second floor presents five rotating galleries

Miracle Mile District

Automotive Museum



A 1961 Oldsmobile Starfire convertible "Aladdin."



The Petersen's motorcycle section includes this 2006 Skeleton Bike.

with state-of-the-art displays of race-cars, classic cars, vintage motorcycles, concept cars, celebrity and movie cars, and auto design and technology.

The May Family Discovery Center is on the third floor. Designed to spark interest in science by way of the automobile, the 6,500-square-foot interactive "hands-on" learning center teaches children basic scientific principles by explaining the fundamental functions of a car.

An all-glass penthouse conference center, Founder's Lounge and kitchen, comprise the fourth floor, which is available for special events and functions.

If you really like the museum, I would recommend becoming a member and applying for membership. They offer many different opportunities starting at \$50 up to \$1,200 for premier membership.

I really enjoyed my visit to the museum and recommend this fantastic learning experience for you and your families. There is so much to see that everyone will find something they like, I promise.

**As always,
be safe and
Be Alive!
— Angel**

Directions

The Petersen Automotive Museum
6060 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90036
(323) 930-2277

The Petersen is located in the heart of the Miracle Mile district. The intersection of the I-10 and Fairfax is about the closest way to get there via freeway. From there, take Fairfax north until you get to Wilshire. It's on the southeast corner.

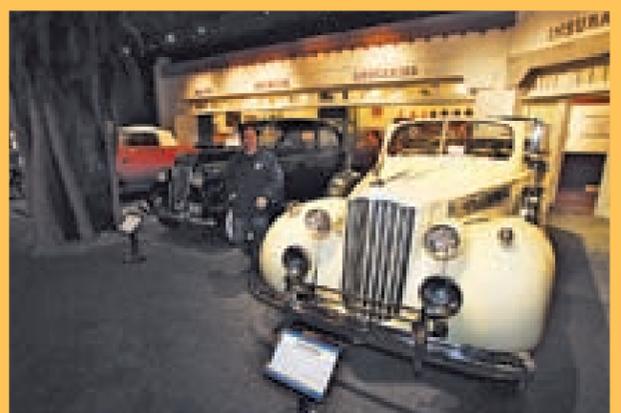
- **Parking Rates:** \$2 per 30 minutes; \$8 maximum with paid admission for up to four hours; \$12 maximum all others. Disabled parking is available.
- **Prices:** Adults \$10; seniors (62 and over), \$5; students with I.D., \$5; active military with I.D., \$5; children (5-12 years), \$3; children under 5, free.
- **Hours:** Tuesday through Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Closed Mondays.
- The museum is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.



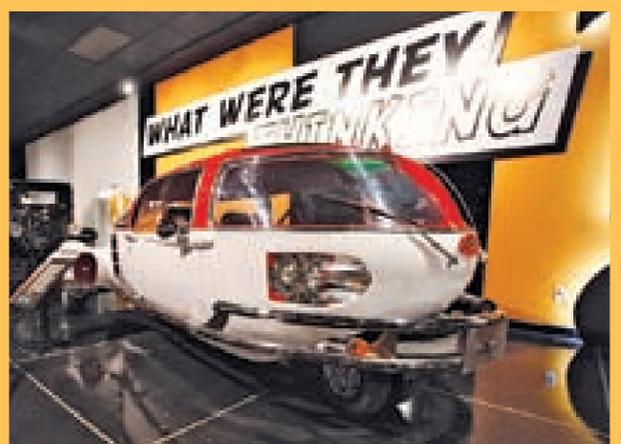
A 1932 Ford classic hot rod.



This *Speed Racer* model was used for the movie released a few years ago.



One of the many classic cars on display is a 1939 Packard.



With this 1974 Fascination, what were they thinking?



The museum's gift shop.



John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

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



"On the Pepperdine front lawn, Sept. 11, 2009. There's one flag for each person killed on 9/11. I used a Nikon D300, 18-200 mm lens."

- Robert Whitaker, Rec and Parks, Retired

John's comments: No comment needed, Robert. Your photo says it all.



"This is a photo of my son, Tyler Garcia, 7. We were getting ready to take our dogs Kiki and Penguina for a walk when I snapped this photo of him. He loves his dogs!"

- Andy Garcia, LAPD

John's comments: A perfect smile from Tyler and two very photogenic dogs -- a picture perfect!



"Who's holding whom?"

- Mike Aubin

John's comments: Well, from her perspective, she probably thinks she's got a hold of you!



"Snap! Believe it or not, kids are one of the hardest subjects to capture in portrait. Just ask any family that took their formal shots at Sears or JC Penney. This is an unaltered photo of my three-year-old niece using a Canon PowerShot S5 IS. It was taken at the right time, the right place, and with the proper mood. Whew."

- Dominique Daito

John's comments: I know what you mean -- trying to get that "perfect shot" of my daughter, Hannah, is a life-long quest!

RUNNERS-UP:

Debora N. Fore, LAPD; Yolanda Estrada, DWP; Gina Nei; Dean Guzman; and Audie Gabon, DWP.

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 W. Second 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.

... reminds us of the importance of family.
 ... reminds us of the importance of friends.
 ... reminds us that working hands have dignity.
 ... reminds us to be grateful for our blessings.
 ... reminds us we are all part of the human family.
 ... reminds us how grateful we are for you.

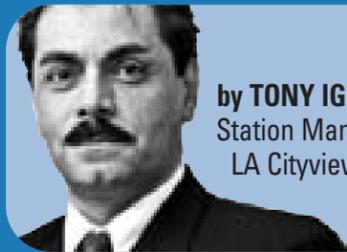
Happy Thanksgiving!
From The Club.



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
 Celebrating the lives of City Employees.



Tuned In



by **TONY IGHANI**
Station Manager,
LA Cityview 35



L.A. River Runs Through This New Documentary

A new documentary "The River Report," produced in partnership with Council District One, premieres in November. For centuries, the Los Angeles River flowed majestically throughout the Los Angeles basin. The river, which meanders for 52 miles through the Southland, was the only source of water for Los Angeles as the City rapidly developed.

"The River Report" looks at the Los Angeles River of yesteryear and focuses on the City's efforts, lead by Councilman Ed Reyes, to work with the community and all levels of government to revitalize this valuable natural resource.

Airs: Mondays, Nov. 16 and 30 at 11 a.m. and 10 p.m.; and Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26 at 11 a.m.

Program highlights for November

"Aging in L.A."

Four new episodes premiere this month of "Aging in L.A.," LA Cityview 35's weekly series for seniors. It's produced in partnership with the Department of Aging

"Keen to Go Green" – An Echo Park showcase home serves as a public resource that encourages and demonstrates tactile experiences of "going green" with workshops, lectures and tours.

Airs: Thursday, Nov. 5 at 8:30 p.m.

"Grandparents as Parents Tee-Off for Tykes Miniature Golf Tournament" – Today, more than ever, grandparents are finding themselves facing the prospects of raising a second family. Practically, financially and emotionally, this can be challenging for the whole family.

In celebration of Grandparents Day, we join Grandparents as Parents (GAP) for its annual Tee-Off for Tykes Miniature Golf Tournament, where we'll be meeting the staff and volunteers from this amazing nonprofit, and talking to grandparents about their experiences raising their grandchildren.

Airs: Thursday, Nov. 12 at 8:30 p.m.

"Caregiving 101: Surviving the Holidays" – Department of Aging Family Caregiver Specialists Dr. Anat Louis and Susi Rodriguez Shapiro discuss how to cope with the loneliness and stress that the holiday period can bring.

Airs: Thursday, Nov. 19 at 8:30 p.m.

"Generation Jones" is a term coined by cultural historian, Jonathon Pontell, to refer to the group of people

born between the years of 1954-1965. This population group would formerly have been classed as either Baby Boomers, especially the oldest members, or as Generation Xers for the youngest members.

Airs: Thursday, Nov. 26 at 8:30 p.m.

"Portfolio"

If you thought maneuvering an SUV into a tight parking spot at the corner mini-mall required utmost dexterity, imagine the type of skill required in maneuvering a cargo ship the size of eight football fields through the docks of the Port of Los Angeles! In a new episodes of "Portfolio," premiering this month, host Jayms Ramirez visits the Port's pilot station and command center to get a handle on what it takes to be a pilot at America's busiest container port.

Next, Jayms gets a lesson on the Alternative Maritime Power program, or "AMP," a one-of-a-kind air quality program aimed at reducing emissions from container vessels docked at the Port. The Port of Los Angeles is the first in the world to employ AMP technology for in-service container ships.

Then it's off to the first annual Cars & Stripes Forever classic car show at the Gateway Plaza Fanfare Fountain. This first-time event drew 7,000 people who enjoyed more than 100 classic cars and motorcycles, food, and live entertainment. The Port's very own Sheila Gonzalez was on hand to chat with participants about their classic cars.

Airs: Thursdays at 10 a.m.

For airing schedule of the above programs, and for more program listings and information, visit www.lacityview.org and click on Weekly Program Schedule.



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

Contact Tony with your questions: channel35@cityemployeesclub.com
Channel 35 Viewer Comment Hotline: (213) 473-3978

See you on LA Cityview 35!

PUBLIC WORKS

Toastmasters Hosts Contest

Local Public Works club hosts area speech contest.

Story by Ivan Gerson, Public Works/Engineering;
Photos by Enrico Pena

On Sept. 29, the Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club hosted the Area D44 Toastmasters Table Topics and Tall Tales Contests. The double-header contests were held in the Public Works Building, 1149 S. Broadway.

The contest co-chairs were Toastmasters Area D-44 Governor Dominic Buenaventura, a Civil Engineering Associate IV, Public Works/Engineering, and Ivan Gerson, President of the Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club and Management Analyst II, Public Works/Engineering. Dominic also serves as the Educational Vice President of the Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club.

The contestants of the Table Topics Contest were all given the same impromptu question to answer: Describe the weirdest dream you have ever had. Against a talented field of veteran competitors, David Castillo, Title Examiner, Public Works/Engineering, won third place in the Table Topics Contest. David answered extemporaneously that all of his dreams were weird, and then he demonstrated how he flies in his dreams.

Second-place winner of the Table Topics Contest was Lt. Victor Dennis, LAPD, who is a member of the LAPD Code One Toastmasters Club.

First-place winner of the Table Topics Contest was Carmen Steward, Management Analyst II, Fire and Police Pensions, who is a member of the City of Angels Toastmasters Club.



From left: Ivan Gerson, Public Works/Engineering, and Carmen Steward, Fire and Police Pensions.

The winners are now qualified to compete at the next level of the Toastmasters contest, Division D. This contest was scheduled for Oct. 22.

Toastmasters enhances knowledge and experience in communication and leadership. The Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club meets every Wednesday at 12:05 p.m. in sixth floor conference room no. 6004 in the Public Works Building, 1149 S. Broadway, off the D Dash at Broadway and 12th Street. Guests are welcome to attend and to join the dynamic club. Contact Ivan Gerson, (213) 485-1169; Kola Ajibola, (213) 847-0276; or Michael Sloss, (213) 485-5121.



From left: Dominic Buenaventura, Public Works/Engineering, and Lt. Victor Dennis, LAPD.



From left: Joseph Lee, Rec and Parks, and Dominic Buenaventura, Public Works/Engineering.

Program Aide Joseph Lee, Rec and Parks, won first place in the Tall Tales Contest, which requires the speaker to write and deliver an unbelievable story. His winning speech was entitled: "Train of Terror." Joseph's speech was a series of horror-inducing lies and humorous fibs about his nightmarish ride on a local train on the way to the contest. Joseph is a member of the Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club and a former Vice President of Membership of the Club.

Second-place winner in the Tall Tales Contest was Frank Alvarez, Student Professional Worker, Office of Finance, who joined the City of Angels Toastmasters Club in Fall 2008.



From left: Ivan Gerson, Public Works/Engineering, and Frank Alvarez, Office of Finance.

Magic Mountain Private Party!

Tickets are going fast!

See Page 49 for Discount Tickets

THE CLUB



DODGERS GAME: A Club Home Run

More than 2,700 Club Members attend special Club Event Oct. 4.

Thousands of Club Members attend a special Club event at Dodger Stadium. The Club is the big winner.

"Who was the bigger winner, the Dodgers or the Club?" said Robert Larios, the Club's Director of Operations. "I say it was the Club!"

The Dodgers won the game, defeating Colorado



5-3 in the final regular-season game before beginning the playoffs.

"It was awesome, seeing so many Club Members at the game!" said the Ticket Guy, who arranged the great price with the Dodgers.

"We're already looking to do this again next year," Robert Larios said. "Stay tuned!"

The special event was another great service provided to Club Members and their families.

Enjoy these photos of the newest Club Event!



Check out more photos are on the Club Website: www.cityemployeesclub.com

CITY COUNCIL

Grilling With Tom

Councilman Tom LaBonge, Club Member, hosts annual thank-you barbecue.



Hundreds of City Employees chowed down on burgers, dogs and Korean barbecue Oct. 1 at Councilmember Tom LaBonge's annual City Employee Barbecue at the Friendship Auditorium in Griffith Park.

The event, held every year since the Councilmember took office in 2001, is his way of thanking department staff for helping the Council Office get projects done throughout the district.

"Today, we serve you because you help us serve the people of Los Angeles," the Councilmember said.



the pet club

Your friend is waiting for you!



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

This Month's Pets For Adoption:

diamond

Diamond is a two-year-old American Staffordshire mix. She is a little shy, but very loving! She was brought in as a stray and is looking for a new home for the holidays.

ID# A1056836:
Harbor Animal Care Center.



duke

Duke is a three-year-old American Staffordshire mix. He is a happy boy who loves people. He can't wait to find a new family to love!

ID# A1055240:
Harbor Animal Care Center.



pebbles

Pebbles is a two-year-old black spayed domestic medium-hair cat. She is gorgeous! She loves people and other cats and would make a perfect indoor kitty. Please help her find a new home!

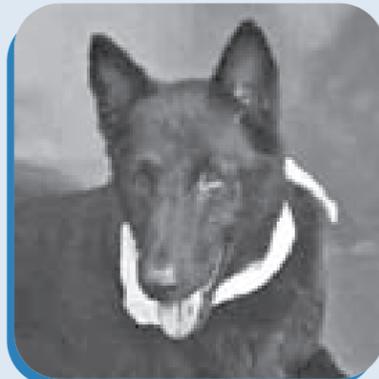
ID# A1051145:
Harbor Animal Care Center.



oso

Oso is an eight-year-old male German shepherd brought to the Care Center with his sister, Kimba, because their owners were moving. They are extremely bonded and would like to be adopted by the same family.

ID# A1057403:
Harbor Animal Care Center.



kimba

Kimba is an eight-year-old female German shepherd brought to Harbor with her brother, Oso. These dogs have spent their lives together and would like to be adopted together. They qualify for the Best Buddies Program discount!

ID# A1057401:
Harbor Animal Care Center.



All of November's animals can be found at the Harbor Animal Care Center, 957 N. Gaffey St., San Pedro, CA 90731.

Other great animals are available for adoption at www.laanimalservices.com

PUBLIC WORKS



From left: Gina Caguiat, Club Member, with Silvia Feigin, Sr. CT.

So Long, Gina

Gina Caguiat, Club Member and *Alive!* contributor, retires after 28 years of City service.

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

Desserts were the order of the day as friends, family and coworkers celebrated the retirement of Gina Caguiat, Clerk Typist, Public Works/Engineering.

The event was held Sept. 24 at the Public Works headquarters downtown.

Gina's daughter, Melanie, came to help her celebrate.

Over the years, Gina has been a frequent contributor to *Alive!*'s *Picture Perfect* contests and *Alive! Around the World* features. She's sent more

than 30 of her best photos into the paper, and contributed to numerous photos of her travels.

Congratulations, Gina, from the Club. Enjoy your retirement. We'll miss you, but we fully expect you to continue sending us your great material for *Alive!*



Robert Kadomatsu, Assistant Division Head, thanks Gina for her dedication and hard work.



The retirement announcement.



From left: Gina Caguiat, Club Member, with Cherry Nicodemus, Office Engineering Technician III, Club Member.



From left: Fannie Hayes, CT; Karen Cundiff, Sr. CT, Club Member; Lissa Anderson, Sr. ST; Gina Caguiat, Club Member; Willie Owens, Sr. CT, Club Member; and Flor Coreno, Sr. ST.



Back row, from left: Ishmael Escobar, Engineering Designer, Club Member; Karen Cundiff, Sr. CT, Club Member; Will Halverson, Sr. MA; and Karen Keating, Retired Principal Clerk, Club Member. Front: Christine Jones, CEA II; Emelyne Carreon, Systems Analyst II; and Gina Caguiat, Club Member, with her daughter, Melanie.



Back row, from left: Robert Kadomatsu, Sr. MA II, Asst. Division Head; and Martin Rothman, MA II, Club Member. Front: Sunnie Garcia, Principal Clerk; Gina Caguiat, Club Member; and Anna Sanchez, Sr. MA I.



Oh the places Gina will continue to travel to now that she is retired!



From left: Lissa Anderson, Sr. CT; Ishmael Escobar, Engineering Designer, Club Member; Gina Caguiat, Club Member; and Michael Sloss, Personnel Analyst II.



Gina is presented with a gift by Sunnie Garcia and Robert Kadomatsu.



From left: Gina Caguiat, Club Member; Roberta Martinez, Sr. CT; and Cynthia Silva, CT.



From left: Lois Baltazar, MA II; Phyllis Yogi, Sr. MA, Harbor; Karen Keating, Retired Principal Clerk, Club Member; Gina Caguiat, Club Member; Melanie Caguiat, daughter; and Will Halverson, Sr. MA, Transportation.



From left: Rolf Clever, Sr. CE Drafting Tech, Club Member; Gina Caguiat, Club Member; and Mildred Owes, Sr. MA II.



From left: Gloria Romero, CT; Gina Caguiat, Club Member; Nancy Mackey, Sr. CT; and Sunnie Garcia, Principal Clerk.



From left: Jeannie Park, MA II, Club Member; Lydia Gonzalez, Sr. MA I, Club Member; Terry Aguilar, Chief Clerk, Club Member; Gina Caguiat, Club Member; and Helen Lopez, MA II, Club Member.



From left: Jerry Diego, MA II; Sandrina Hu, Sr. Acct. II, Club Member; Lois Baltazar, MA II; Louise Bickham, Principal Clerk; and Gina Caguiat, Club Member.

{ *Who are the people you see every day?* }

No. 22 in a series.

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.



Meet George Roger Siegel.

AGE: "I'm 63."
BIRTHPLACE: "Berkeley, Calif."
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "I grew up here."
MARITAL STATUS: "Single."
FAMILY: "My parents passed away, but I have a twin brother, Jack Robert. He still lives in El Segundo."
RELIGION: "Episcopalian."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "Helping others with my parents."
TRAUMA: "While I was a student at UCLA, I got in a very bad car accident. I was basically dead for three days."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "Right here."
EDUCATION: "I went to High School at El Segundo High, college at UCLA, and then I received my law degree at Southwestern Law School."
WHAT WAS THE LAST JOB YOU HAD? "Back in 1993, I was a lawyer."
FAVORITE SPORTS: "Water polo."
FAVORITE FOOD: "Whatever is available, I usually eat from the trash, but after I pick through it, I'll set it up like a buffet for the next guy so they don't have to do any digging."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "Lawrence of Arabia."
WHAT'S THE LAST BOOK YOU READ? "Cases in Law."
FAVORITE TV SHOWS: "Perry Mason."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "Orchestral music. I played the violin in high school."
FAVORITE CANDY: "Coffee, I love coffee, blonde and sweet, which is with milk and sugar. I drink lots of instant coffee, and have been since law school."
HOBBIES: Write poetry. George shared the following spoken word with us: "If one would strain the moment of their pain, they might gain their understanding."
FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY: "Right here, at Second and Los Angeles Streets."
DO YOU BELIEVE IN ALIEN LIFE FORMS? "Sure, it's possible."
IF YOU COULD CHANGE ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE? "Ask people to spend more time thinking before making decisions."
EMAIL ADDRESS: myopenlypatented-successstyle@gmail.com

The Club gave Robert a McDonald's gift certificate, some cash, snacks, and a Club tote bag.

This interview took place in Oct. 15 at Second and Los Angeles Streets, behind the Little Tokyo Library branch downtown.



Newsbriefs

FLYAWAY TO IRVINE:

The FlyAway bus service will now be serving Orange County.

Oct. 19, the Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners approved a three-year operating agreement with CUSA CC, LLC (doing business as Coach America Los Angeles) to operate the FlyAway nonstop bus service from Irvine Station in Orange County to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The new service is designed to make travel to and from LAX more convenient, direct and affordable for Orange County residents and visitors.

LAWA Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey said, "With the expansion of FlyAway to Irvine, we are increasing LAX's contribution to reducing regional traffic congestion and improving air quality, while better serving our Orange County customers, especially those travelling internationally." She added, "FlyAway removes hundreds of thousands of cars each year from our roads, while providing a convenient, affordable way to use LAX. We believe Irvine has the potential to be a viable ground transportation alternative for travelers who prefer to ride than drive to LAX."

Service is set to start Nov. 16 with six daily trips in each direction using 22-seat, compressed-natural gas buses owned by Airports. The fare for the one-way, 50-mile trip will be \$25 for adults. To attract family ridership, up to two students in grades eight and under may ride free with each paying adult. Students must show school identification card or other proof of age. All children under five years old ride free. Passengers must pay the bus driver upon boarding with a debit or credit card. Cash will not be accepted.

Irvine Station, at 15215 Barranca Parkway, will have 500 surface parking spaces, where FlyAway passengers can park for free for up to 30 days.

The addition of Irvine by Airports is part of its ground transportation initiative to expand its FlyAway bus system to improve passenger convenience and reduce traffic congestion. The Irvine Station is the fourth site in the FlyAway network. Its other locations at Van Nuys, Westwood and Union Station handled more than 1.5 million travelers combined for the 12 months ending June 2009. Airport ground transportation planners forecast Irvine could serve as many as 72,000 passengers during its first year of operation.

Airport officials said the FlyAway service is very popular with Los Angeles travelers and believe Irvine is a viable alternative for travelers who prefer to ride rather than drive to LAX.

Like Union Station, Irvine Station serves other modes of transportation, including Amtrak's Pacific Sunliner, Southern California Regional Rail Authority's Metrolink commuter rail, Orange County Transit Authority bus lines, and other local business employee shuttle services. It is the busiest transit station in Orange County, and the 14th busiest Amtrak station nationwide, with 669,405 boardings in 2008.

The City of Irvine unanimously approved a license agreement with Airports Sept. 8 to operate the new FlyAway from its transit station and to provide the free parking spaces, with the Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners giving its approval on Oct. 5.

EL PUEBLO ART SHOW:

El Pueblo Historical Monument presents *Sacred Memories: Contemporary and Cross-Cultural Expressions of the Day of the Dead*, an art exhibit, through Nov. 21. The exhibit examines the celebration of Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, and contemporary and cross-cultural rituals that pay tribute to departed ancestors. The exhibition features the work of artists including Richard Wyatt Jr., Artemio Rodriguez, Margaret Garcia, Ernest Lacy, Lalo Alacraz, Yolanda Gonzalez, Germs, Raoul de la Sota, Ricardo Duffy, Ofelia Esparza, Willie Herron and Michele Castagnetti.

The El Pueblo Historical Monument includes and is next to Olvera Street downtown. It is the oldest section of Los Angeles and is the site where the City was first established in 1781. The 44-acre park consists of numerous historic buildings, museums, a beautiful outdoor plaza and the world famous Mexican marketplace on Olvera Street. The Monument represents the rich history, culture and ethnic diversity that is the foundation of the City of Los Angeles.

{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins and Director of Member Services 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. }



Rosa Williams, RN, takes Keith Wimberly's blood pressure.

HARBOR

Port Benefits Fair

Harbor hosts annual benefits fair.

Story and photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

More than 500 City Employees attended Harbor's annual benefits fair, held Sept. 30. The event was open to all City Employees, although most were from Harbor.

The event was planned, organized and produced by Harbor's Risk Management staff. The Real Estate Division sponsored the employee lunches, while the Port Pantry catered them.

Special thanks go to Chrizelle Quevedo and Martin Chavez for their assistance in producing the event.



Michael Kuykendall and Sergio Barboza discuss plans with Rosa Calderon, United Agencies, and Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor.



The Harbor Benefits Fair.



From left: Kathy Merkovsky and Jennifer Reyes at the check-in desk.



Robbye Howard talks to Carlos Quintana and Daniel Samaro at the Employee Benefits table.



Leslie Caldwell-Murdock explains deferred compensation to Estelle Braaf.



Airports Employee and City Flex personnel.



Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, and an Airport Officer discuss the benefits of joining the Club.

AIRPORTS

LAX Benefit Fair

Airports hosts annual benefit fair for employees.

Story and photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

On Oct. 1, Airports Human Resources Division hosted its annual benefits fair at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). More than 680 employees attended the fair and met with representatives from various organizations.

The benefits fair provides employees the opportunity to garner information on available benefit plans. The scheduling of the fair conveniently coincided with the City of Los Angeles' Open Enrollment period.

The Club was there, telling Airports employees of the great reasons to join the Club. It was great meeting everyone!



Let's give a big hand to Human Resources Services, Airports, for putting this event together. Great job, everyone!



Henry and Steve from Deferred Comp discuss retirement investment plans with an Airports employee.

It's Party Pix Time

Be a part of a Club Holiday tradition:
Have party pix from your City office's holiday party published in Alive! We want to print pictures from your holiday office party!

Is your office having a holiday party? Here are two ways to get your holiday office party pictures into the January Alive!

1. Take the photos yourself, and send them in as soon as you can. Digital photos are always best. And make sure you give us a description of the party: when it was, where it was, and if something significant happened, let us know that, too.

If there are just a few photos, then email them to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com. But if there are a lot, then it's best to burn them onto a CD and deliver (or mail) the CD to the Club. The address is on the inside front cover. Make sure the photos are as high resolution as you can make them.

2. Let us know when your holiday party is, and we'll try to send a photographer. Please note: There are more City holiday parties than we can cover, but we will try. That's why it's best to send in your own photos. If you want us to cover your party, talk to your Counselor (Arlene Herrero or Angel Gomez) or write to Robert Larios, Club Director of Marketing and Communications, at rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com. We'll do our best to get to as many parties as we can, but we can't guarantee it. But let us know.



See you at the party!



Life's Important Moments

Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? (Yea!) Get a promotion? (Hooray!) Retire? (Ahhhh.) We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and high resolution photos with the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!*, 311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013

New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

Airports Douglas Hirai	Harbor Michael Chen	Street Services Gaston Valdez
City Council Vincent Burditt Elizabeth Carlin	ITA Antoine Shehata	Rec and Parks Eleazar Villagarica Bianca Carruthers Karina Nunez LaTanya Taylor
Building and Safety Ali Hemmatabadi Samson Tafesse	Library Heidi Meadows-Adagio	Transportation Marnisha Wright
City Attorney Sonia Garcia Evelyn Dozier	Mayor's Office Jacob Motta	DWP Jason Reeves Rachel Martinez Brian Artelle Marc-Gregory Barrett Ramon Briones Valerie Chapman Scott Keebler Eddie Martinez Kriby Nelson Armando Parra Abdul Rehman Christopher Rodriguez Cynthia Shaw David Valdez Jesus Valdez
City Clerk Oscar Olmos	Neighbhd. Empowerment Larna Jordan	Zoo Donald DeLay Roger Herrera
City Council Vincent Burditt Elizabeth Carlin	Planning Erick Lopez Maritza Przekop	Retired Nellie Deom LeQuita Hodge James Rogers John Vail
LACERS Denise Malosh	LAPD Christopher Delaney Jeremy Hershey Michael Carter Lisa Floyd Norma Graziano Mary Newton Yolanda Oliver Angie Roman Harold Ross Phan Woo	Other Tatevik Babayain Keith Leon Abraham Medina Imogene Ramsey Mark Rizuto
CDD Scott Lee	PUBLIC WORKS	
LAFD Eugene Andrews Thomas Nordquist Douglas Peterman	Sanitation Juliet Daniels Albert Nudelman Rosa Collado Wilford Claiborne Kenneth Pierce Francisco Canela Herbert Gomez	
Finance Freshta Ali U Lok Chan Kevin Kwan Fazel Mostashari Wanda Tran		
General Services Eric St. Pierre Isidro Diaz Robert Perez		

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 Thelma Garrett, DWP, 31 Charles Rogers, DWP, 8 Byung Sun Lee, LAPD, 2	Melvin Krasomil, DWP, 26 Alfred Lopez, DWP, 18 Nervall Mandella, Harbor, 21 Harold Martin, DWP, 30 Bernard McCabe, Public Works, 29 Eli Merchat, Harbor, 26 Ray Miller, Airports, 28 Mary Moori, Building and Safety, 29 Moses Ordorica, DWP, 24 Norma Richmond, LAPD, 24 Gerald Ruse, Harbor, 31 Richard Sawyer, DWP, 11 Michael Sheets, LAPD, 22 Oliver Sims, General Services, 31 Milton Smith, Rec and Parks, 35 Richard Solis, Public Works, 32 Sylvia Steinberg, LAPD, 25 Victoria Urenia, Airports, 8 Arthur Vargas, DWP, 34 Stephen Weistling, DWP, 24 Cleora Wellinger, Harbor, 31 Donald Wells, DWP, 27 Norman White, DWP, 39 Robert White, DWP, 47 James Williams, Public Works, 25 Eleanor Yax, Public Works, 16 Norman Zimmerman, Public Works, 20
Retired Harold Alexander, Public Works, 27 Charles Arviso, Rec and Parks, 32 Robert Austin, LAPD, 26 Allen Beaufait, Public Works, 32 Jacqueline Boddie, DWP, 20 Therman Boyd, DWP, 20 James Buckles, DWP, 19 Frank Coghlan, Harbor, 10 Brenda Curran, DWP, 38 Willie Daniels, Public Works, 35 George Dehlmair, LAPD, 10 Sam De Leon, Rec and Parks, 17 James Douglass, DWP, 31 Archie Estrada, Public Works, 33 Hugo Festner, DWP, 42 James Fleck, Housing, 15 Arthur Harvey, Public Works, 27 Tamaye Hirose, DWP, 32 William Houser, Public Works, 31 Carlos Iriate, Rec and Parks, 13 Earlene James, City Clerk, 27 William Jestat, Library, 9	

Retirements, continued next page

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
John Alvarez	Welder	LAFD	26	Debra Ferrell	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	34
Wade Anderson	Clerk	Public Works	10	Keith Fitzgerald	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Airports	30
James Ashby	Sr. Build. Mech. Insp.	Building and Safety	28	David Forrest	Sr. Const. Inspector	Public Works	29
James Bangham	Sr. Building Inspector	Building and Safety	24	Angela Fox	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	29
Barbara Banks	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	30	David Gay	Pr. City Planner	City Planning	33
Lovely Bell	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	29	Barbara Hamm	Customer Srv. Specialist	Finance	26
Calvin Birdsong	Mgmt. Assistant	Housing	10	James Harlow	Sr. Custodian	Airports	25
Efren Bisquera	-	DWP	-	Adrian Harris	PR Inspector	Building and Safety	38
Craig Bloomquist	Dept. Chief Acct.	Public Works	44	Shirley Howard	Benefits Specialist	LACERS	37
Maria Caguiat	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	27	Alfredo Inton	Hvy. Dty. Equip. Mech.	General Services	17
Richard Caldara	-	DWP	-	Medhat Iskarous	Civil Eng. Associate	Public Works	31
Larry Campita	Pr. Accountant	Controller's	24	Carol Jackson	Sr. Clerk Typist	Building and Safety	22
Joe Chagolla	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	49	Louis Kibby	-	DWP	-
Cathleen Chin	Secretary	LAFD	32	Peter Lakatos	-	DWP	-
Domingo Chinchilla	Custodian	Airports	6	Walter Lauderdale	Sr. Building Inspector	Building and Maint.	29
Peter Christie	Boat Captain	Public Works	30	Corinne Leinen	Secretary	LAPD	33
Beverly Clark	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	LAPD	31	Thomas Ligon	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	34
Patricia Colby	Personnel Analyst	LAPD	8	Po Chiu Lin	Mat. Test. Engr. Assoc.	General Services	32
Kenneth Collier	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	34	Azura Longacre	Mgmt. Analyst	LAPD	21
Alfredo Cristobal	-	DWP	-	Charles Lucero	Delivery Driver	Harbor	17
Stephen Darrow	Park Maint. Supv.	Rec and Parks	38	Cyril Lumley	Hvy. Dty. Equip. Mech.	Airports	31
Michael Davidson	Sr. Rec. Director	Rec and Parks	23	Serafin Malabanan	Wastewater Tmt. Opr.	Public Works	20
Araceli Dayao	Sr. Clerk Typist	Finance	20	Leonardo Malabuyoc	Tax Auditor	Finance	24
Zenaida De Jesus	Ch. Tax Permit	Finance	19	Jean Maloney	-	DWP	-
Fernando Diaz	Cement Finisher	Public Works	38	Doris Managan	Clerk Typist	Library	5
Henry Dominguez	Sr. Spec. Ofcr.	General Services	39	Jacqueline McCullough	Sr. Clerk Typist	Rec and Parks	33
Jo Ann Dominguez	Benefits Specialist	Personnel	36	Albert Murguia	Auditor	LAFD	18
Timothy Dorsey	-	DWP	-	Louis Murillo	Parking Manager	General Services	39
Michael Fea	Const. Maint. Supv.	Rec and Parks	37	Richard Myles	Solid Resources Mgr.	Public Works	31

Military



Does someone in your extended family serve their country as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard? Send us a photo – either formal or on duty, along with your name, City department and relationship to the subject. Send photos to *Alive!* in the Military, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 S. Spring St. Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013. Send digital photos to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Quinceañera

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

Births

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

Graduations

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

Weddings

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

Special Achievements

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Protect Your Family With Club Insurance. Today!

Insurance Products From the Club

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



Term Life (from \$10K to \$300K)
Safeguard your loved ones! Life insurance is a great way to protect them. Purchasing term life insurance also makes you eligible for the Club's famous refund check...whatever we don't spend in claims and overhead, we return to the policyholders. Smart...well managed...and service-oriented.



Spouse Life Insurance
Include your spouse with Club Term Life Insurance.



Long Term Disability Insurance
Protect yourself from career-ending traumas.



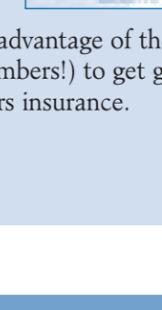
Long Term Care Insurance
Manage your future health-care costs with this Club package.



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



Group Rated Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance
Use the power of the Club to protect yourself against the financial downfall of accidental death or dismemberment.



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

Your Counselor Can Help



Arlene Herrero



Irene Small



Angel Gomez

Your Club Counselor will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Club's insurance packages.

Look on page 4 to find out which Counselor represents your department ... or call (800) 464-0452.

Retirements, continued

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Takeshi Nomi	Construction Inspector	Building and Safety	45	Michael Trevathan	Mech. Repairer	LAFD	22
Val Osher	-	DWP	-	Cheryl True	Secretary	Public Works	31
Corazon Pablo	Accountant	Transportation	34	Barbara Vaccariello	Sr. Clerk Typist	Rec and Parks	28
Loretta Payan	Sr. Systems Analyst	LAPD	35	Ricardo Valencia	-	Public Works	30
Vida Pedram	Library Cler. Asst.	Library	1	Hilda Vargas	Sr. Clerk Typist	Rec and Parks	28
David Peifer	Truck Operator	Public Works	24	Odis Walker	Equip. Operator	Public Works	39
Jerald Pfefferman	-	DWP	-	Andrew Wallace	Motor Sweeper Operator	Public Works	19
Sandra Pollard	Sr. Police Serv. Rep.	LAPD	30	Peter Wang	-	DWP	-
Patricia Ramirez	Library Asst.	Library	37	Morris Warner	Improv. Bond Coord.	Public Works	19
Eric Ritter	Assoc. Zoning Admin.	City Planning	36	David Wasson	Parking Meter Tech Sup.	Transportation	29
Javad Sabokpey	Detention Officer	LAPD	10	Earl White	-	DWP	-
Delia Sevilla	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	26	Sharon Williams	Exec. Admin. Asst.	Finance	34
Louis Simon	Commun. Electrician	ITA	21	Kenneth Wilson	-	DWP	-
Rodolfo Sinocruz	Civil Eng. Associate	Public Works	38	Kevin Wilson	Automotive Supv.	General Services	32
Larry Smith	Hvy. Dty. Equip. Mech.	LAFD	30	Lynette Wilson	Mgmt. Analyst	Airports	6
Oscar Suquett	Street Tree Supt.	Public Works	38	Molly Wong	Sr. Clerk Typist	City Clerk	42
Ajit Syan	Architectural Assoc.	Public Works	31	Gerry Woodson	Equip. Mechanic	General Services	34
Jesus Tiznado	Equip. Repair Supv.	General Services	36	Daniel Wray	Pr. Inspector	Building and Safety	20
Edward Townsend	Security Officer	Airports	28	Glenda Wright-Howry	Rec. Facility Director	Rec and Parks	27
Juanita Toquero	Sr. Accountant	Finance	21	Andrea Yee	Dep. City Atty.	City Attorney	30
Raymond Toyama	Commun. Electrician	ITA	46				

POLICE

Crime Photos? He Could Write a Book

Jim Hoerricks' book on forensic photography has seen much success.

Every day, hundreds of thousands of images are captured for use in courtrooms and laboratories around the world. The employees of the agencies that must process these images are often placed in these high-pressure positions with inadequate training and a lack of resources. What should they do? In what order should they do it? How do they even begin to process these images?

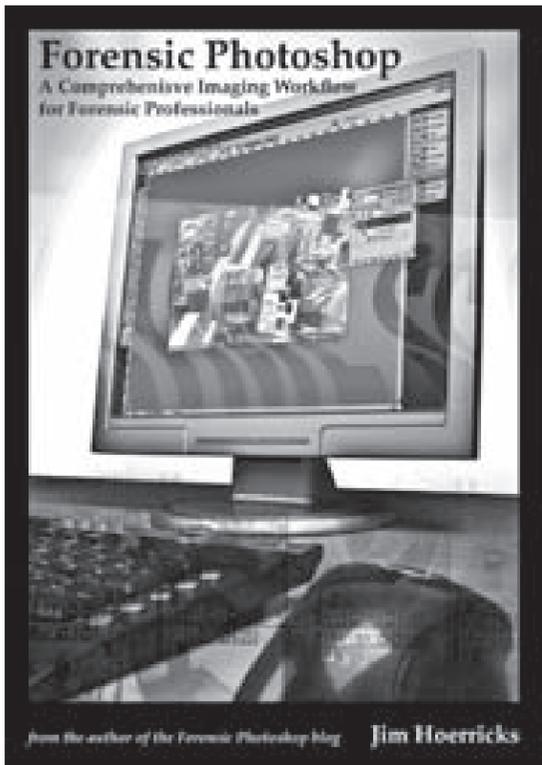
Because lives often depend on each image that we process, it is essential that every person employed in the process have a guide to help them make use of this complex program, a guide that will give them the results they desire in every aspect of image processing – as well as a thorough grounding in the legal/ethical considerations of the process for which they are involved.

That was the thinking of Jim Hoerricks, an artist/designer/photographer and is the Senior Forensic Video Analyst for the Los Angeles Police Department's Scientific Investigation Division.

"*Forensic Photoshop* is for users of all levels," he says. "No matter the starting point or the level of proficiency, readers will join in the journey to mastery. Mastery is knowing what needs to be done, how to best accomplish the task, and why the chosen method is the most appropriate.

"*Forensic Photoshop* is not simply a book of tips and tricks. It offers a comprehensive workflow – a reliably repeatable pattern of activity enabled by a systematic organization of resources that can be documented and learned. It offers the reader the logical progression of steps necessary to the accomplishing of the goal – clarified and balanced images; images that remain true to their original content and context.

Since its first publication, the book has been on the publisher's best-seller list twice and has been picked up by the Dept. of Homeland Security as part of the curriculum for their photography courses. It's in use by the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science services, the



The front cover of Jim Hoerricks' book.

South Australia Police, London's Metropolitan Police, and several smaller constabularies in the United Kingdom, Europe and Canada. The Mexican Federal Police purchased a copy for use in their lab in Mexico City and requested a Spanish translation.

Jim established the LAPD's Forensic Video Lab in 2001, has been the lead analyst on many of the LAPD's high-profile cases, and helped set the standard by which video evidence is handled by the department. He has worked on loan to many local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and has testified as an expert in Forensic Video Analysis.

In addition to his work in law enforcement, Jim is the author of the *Forensic Photoshop* blog (forensicphotoshop.blogspot.com) and a co-author of *Best Practices for the Retrieval of Video Evidence from Digital CCTV Systems*.

Congratulations, Jim!



Jim Hoerricks.

Donate to the Toy Drive!

The Club's gearing up its annual Holiday Toy Drive, held in conjunction with the Central City Police Boosters. Drop off your unwrapped toys to the Club Store between now and early December.



Please Be Generous!



Club Store and Service Center
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(888) 777-1744



100 N. 1ST St., Ste. 301, Burbank, CA 91502
(888) 801-5522 CA License #0252636

Club Members! Save on your Auto Insurance!



Get a
\$50 Arco Gas Card
For Club Members
if they purchase
by December 1.

Come for the great savings.
Stay for the great service.

United Agencies is your Club recommended Insurance Broker.

When it comes to auto insurance, Mercury Insurance is known for their high level of service and some of the lowest rates in California. It's a winning combination from Mercury Insurance that more than 1,000 drivers a day are switching to.

Take a look at how Mercury Insurance stacks up against the competition!

	COMPANY	(90041 Zip Code)
California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey	Farmers	\$2,375
	GEICO	\$1,527
	Allstate	\$1,310
	State Farm	\$1,248
	21st Century	\$1,113
	Mercury Insurance	\$964

These insurance products are brought to you by the Club's Partner, United Agencies, Inc. CA Lic. #0252636. United Agencies represents Mercury Insurance Group, as well as Chubb Insurance, Hartford, Fireman's Fund, Progressive, Civil Service Employees Insurance, Allied, Safeco, Travelers, Unigard and Encompass.

(888) 801-5522
DIRECT LINE FOR CLUB MEMBERS



Home and Auto Insurance
Services provided
for members of the
CITY EMPLOYEE'S CLUB

We also have great rates on Homes, Boats,
Motorcycles, RV's, Rental Properties
and Apartment Buildings.

A FREE Benefit to members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles

LIBRARY

These Books Perform

Library continues new season of "Performing Books," a program of storytelling through the arts.

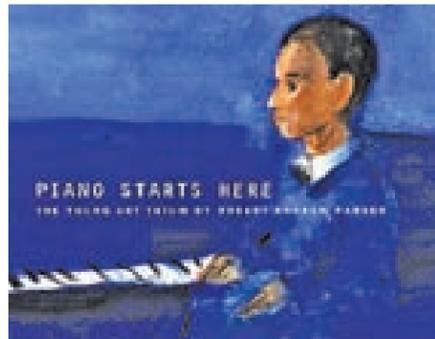
The Los Angeles Public Library's Performing Books program continues its seventh season of storytelling through the performing arts with "Piano Starts Here: The Young Art Tatum" by Robert Andre Parker, at the downtown Central Library's Mark Taper Auditorium, 630 W. Fifth St., on Sat., Nov. 7. Half-hour shows are at 2 and 3 p.m.

The 2009-10 free series runs through Jan. 23. Performing Books is designed to introduce children ages 4 to 10 to the performing arts through books, offering them and their families the unique opportunity to hear stories read by professional storytellers and to see and hear them brought to life by professional artists through song, dance, voice and instruments.

The Los Angeles Public Library presents the Performing Books series in collaboration with the Music Center. The series is sponsored by the Jo Mitchell Foundation. Additional support is provided by the Library Foundation of Los Angeles.

Parking is available in the 524 S. Flower St. Garage for \$1 with library card validation. For more information, call (213) 228-7480 or visit www.lapl.org/kidspath.

Nov. 7:

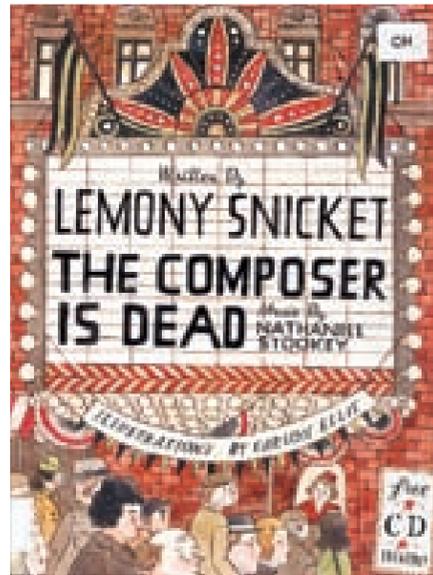


Piano Starts Here: The Young Art Tatum by Robert Andre Parker.

Performing artists: Chris Dawson, jazz pianist; Gerald James, storyteller.

As the young Art Tatum's vision begins to fade, he learns to play the piano by listening to his mother's player piano. Through the power of music, he forgets that he is blind and goes on to become a legendary giant of jazz.

Dec. 5:

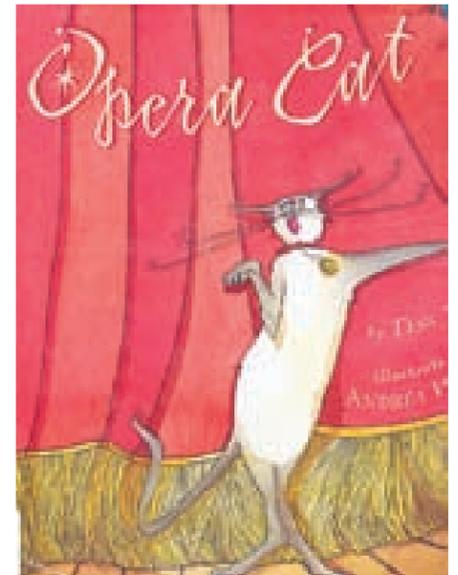


The Composer is Dead by Lemony Snicket, illustrated by Carson Ellis.

Performing artists: Keith Berger, mime; Alan Steinberger, synthesizer; David Prather, storyteller.

The composer is dead and the inspector must investigate all the instruments in the orchestra to find out who is responsible.

Jan. 23:



Opera Cat by Tess Weaver

Performing artists: Heather Calvete, opera singer; Linda Zoolalian, pianist; Peter Kors, storyteller.

Alma the cat loves opera. When opera diva Madame SoSo loses her voice, Alma steps in with her extraordinary singing voice to save the day.

PERFORMING BOOKS: A Program of Storytelling Through the Arts

Where: The downtown Central Library's Mark Taper Auditorium, 630 W. 5th St

Cost: The 2009-10 free series runs through Jan. 23

Parking: Available in the 524 S. Flower St. Garage for \$1 with library card validation

Info: Call (213) 228-7480 or visit www.lapl.org/kidspath

See your favorite movies at a big discount.

AMC Gold Experience™ tickets
Up to a 35% discount off regular ticket price!*

\$7.75 each

AMC Silver Experience™ tickets
Up to a 47% discount off regular ticket price!*

\$6.25 each

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

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

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1 California



"From the deck of the *Queen Mary* on my birthday."
 - Baron "Mr. B" Greenhouse

Don't forget the *Alive!* Around the World Contest!

Win! \$100
 in Gift Cards

How far from Los Angeles can you take your *Alive!*?

In honor of *Alive! Around the World's* fifth anniversary in September, we're creating a contest. How many miles from Los Angeles can you take your issue of *Alive!*? The Club Member who submits the photo with *Alive!* that's the farthest from the City of Los Angeles, will win \$100 in gift cards.

It's not about danger or adventure, so there's no need to go to extremes. It's just about miles and fun. Any Club Member can play. Submit your entry by Dec. 15, 2009, and we'll include the winner in the January 2010 issue of *Alive!* **Have fun!**

Contest Rules:

- The contest is open only to all Club Members in good standing.
- Your location must be clearly discernable in the photo. (We have to be able to determine you really are at that location.)
- You must be holding a copy of *Alive!* in the photo.
- All photos must be submitted by the close of business Dec. 15, 2009.
- Club staff will be the final judges of mileage from Los Angeles.
- One winner will be awarded \$100 in gift cards.
- Send your high-res digital photos to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- We prefer digital photos. But if you must send a paper print photo, make sure you write your name and phone number on the back. Drop it off in person, or send to: *Alive!* Around the World, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 120 W. Second St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

2

Baltics



The Lutheran Cathedral in Helsinki.



St. Petersburg, Russia.



In London.



In Tallinn, Estonia.

"These photos are of my cruise to the Baltics this past June. It was the best trip abroad my husband and I have ever taken. Thank you for considering me for the *Alive! Around the World Contest!*"

- Karen Rohaly, Library

Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

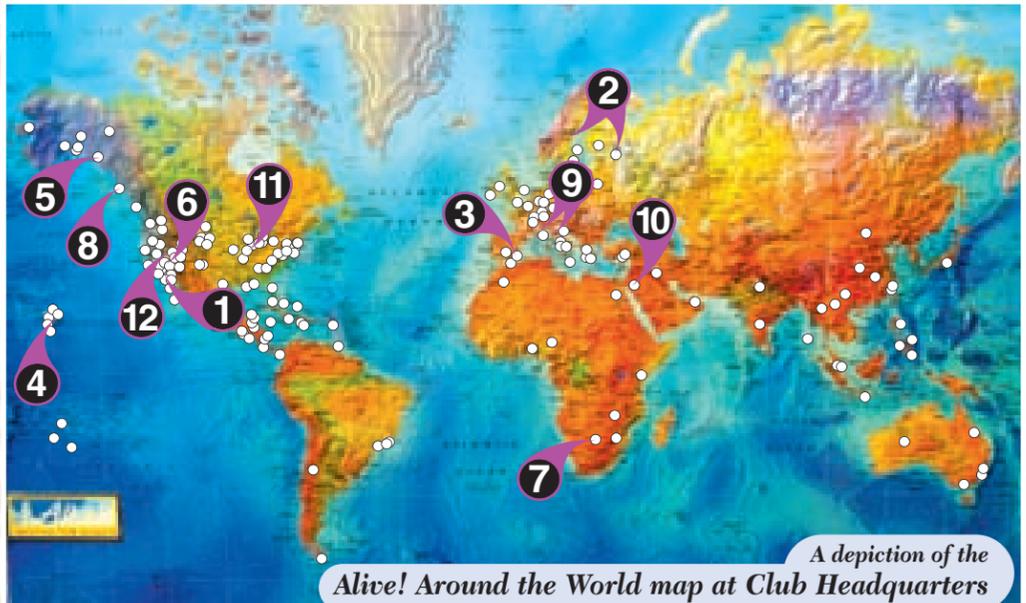


3 Spain



"My wife, Christa, took this photo of me in front of La Bouqueria open-air market in Barcelona, Spain, in early September. After watching *Bizarre Foods* on the Travel Channel, I was intrigued by this place, and so we decided to visit Barcelona. We ate some of the best seafood ever in Barcelona, and I enjoyed some exotic local fare in the open-air market that was outstanding."

- Ralph Morones, Airports



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

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

When you send digital photos through the Internet, please send the full, original digital file yourself, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print. We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!

4 Hawaii



In front of the statues of the Royal Hawaiian Couple at a macadamia nut plantation and store on Oahu.



Robbie and Adriana at the majestic Oahu mountains on the north shore.

"My family travels quite often, but this was the first time we hadn't forgotten to pack *Alive!* with our road stuff. My wife, Adriana, and I spent three wonderful days on Oahu, Hawaii, and we can prove it by our photos! It was the first time for us to go without our fantastic kids."

- Robbie Horvath, Public Works



Robbie "plays" the ukulele at the Dole pineapple plantation store.



5

Alaska



"This picture was taken of me at the Hubbard Glacier in Alaska from our cruise ship in September. This is approximately 2,555 miles from L.A."

- Ronald Kraus, Retired

Thanks for counting the miles, Richard! And you're still in the running for the Alive! Around the World fifth anniversary contest, although you have some tough competition in this month's selection of photos.

—Ed.

6

California



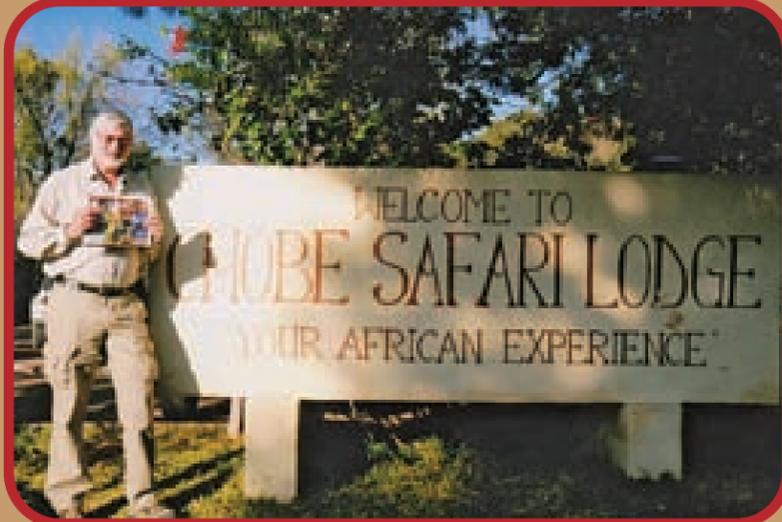
"Here I am at the summit of Mt. Whitney in Lone Pine, Calif., elevation 14,495 feet. It is the highest peak in the contiguous United States."

"I signed a log book for those who want to commemorate their ascent. There are three generations of Jacintos (my maiden name) ... in those books."

- Emma E. Gonzalez, Retired, Housing

7

Africa



Robert Whitaker, Retired, Rec and Parks, at the Chobe National Park, Botswana.

8

Alaska



"Here's a picture of me, freezing in the rain, in front of John Hopkins Glacier at Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, taken while cruising in Alaska."

- James Howlett, Harbor

9

France & Italy



"This was taken aboard the luxury yacht, *Big Square*, while on vacation with my family, at the Marina of the Port Grimaud in Cote D'Azur, France."

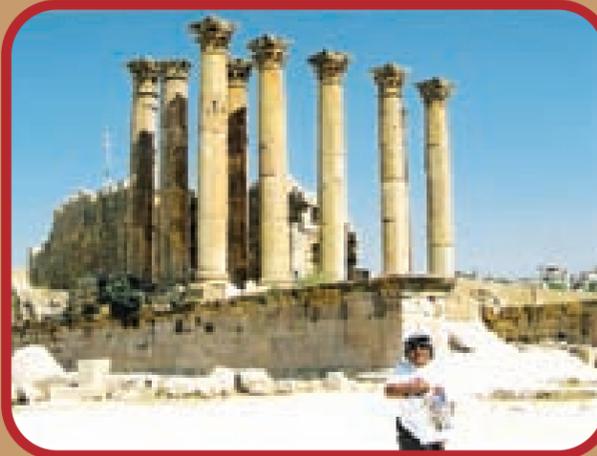


"The first stone of [this cathedral, Santa Maria de Fiore, Florence, Italy] was laid Sept. 8, 1296."

Shirley Gatlin, Club Member and widow of James Gatlin, Building and Safety, visited France and Italy.

10

Israel & Jordan



Pablo Ninofranco, Retired, Harbor, and wife, Josie, went on a trip to Israel and Jordan in August. They visited Mt. Zion in Israel with the Old Jerusalem (Dome of the Rock) in the background, and Amman, Jordan, with Jerash ruins as the background.



Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



11

Indiana



April Richmond, Retired LAPD, relocated to Shelbyville, Ind. on her 7.5-acre farm. "I am still enjoying my *Alive!* and learning how to be a Hoosier."

12

California



"This is a photo of the **Los Angeles Rec and Parks Roof crew**, on assignment at Camp High Sierra, Mammoth Lakes, Calif. Crew Members are, from left: Caryl Warner; George Alvarado; Edward Payton; David A. Fossett, Club Member; David Shinn; and, above, Matthew Manestar. Our weeklong assignment was hard physical work, but the fresh air, and scenic surroundings made the experience more than worthwhile."

- **David Fossett, Rec and Parks**

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3. Loose crowns are typically treated with recementation if exam shows that it's cavity-free. (Call during office hour 7am-4pm)
4. Loose tooth from trauma (something hit you in the face) may be saved with splinting the tooth with orthodontic wire.
5. Lost crown, especially front tooth, is typically treated cosmetically with a new temporary crown on an emergency basis.

You will experience NO pain during the dental procedure with full anesthesia. Afterwards, doctor may prescribe pain medicine and antibiotics.

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DEPT. ON DISABILITY

It's About Abilities

Annual art show at City Hall showcases the talents of the disabled.



El Nino by Mario Recinos.



Untitled by Milton Davis.



Untitled by Tiffany Boyd.

Story and photos courtesy Sheridan Keyser, Dept. on Disability

A unique art show ran in City Hall Sept. 23 through Oct. 23. The purpose of the show was to display the talents of artists of have disabilities.

This is the second year for this show. "I thought of the idea about two years ago after reading some newspaper articles about persons with disabilities who were doing art works," said Sheridan Keyser, Management Analyst, Department on Disability. "I started making some contacts with nonprofit groups who dealt with people with disabilities, including physical therapy and rehab. I managed to collect about 20 to 25 paintings last year, and we received favorable comments."

This year, Keyser and Richard Ray obtained loans of more than 60 works of art by 19 different artists, all of whom have disabilities. One side of the gallery was predominantly by deaf artists, and the other side from artists with other disabilities. Regina Houston-Swain, Executive Director of Department on Disability, was also active in arranging this exhibit and had several of her paintings on display.

The goal was to show that persons living with disabilities have abilities and talents just like anyone else, and secondly, to serve as inspiration and encouragement for others with disabilities to "stretch" themselves and go beyond their disability to their real abilities and talents, Keyser says. "Art was just the genre for displaying talents and abilities but a graphic one that people could easily see and recognize."

Along with Keyser and Houston-Swain, the other artists participating in the show were: Tiffany Boyd; Morris Broderson; Laksmi Camp;

Jonathan Coscollueia; Milton Davis; Orhan Guven; Leroy Hamilton; Brigid LaBonge; Victoria Lim; Christine Olson; Alnoe Tabanura Paler; Mary Rappazzo; Mario Recinos; Daniel Vargas; and Judy Wachner.

The Department on Disability ensures that all Los Angeles City programs and services are accessible to people with disabilities, enhancing the quality of life and promoting self-sufficiency of the disability community.

The department was created by the mayor and City Council in 1998 and is recognized as the first and only City department of its kind in the nation. It was named by the United Nations as an international model for a major innovation by a municipal government

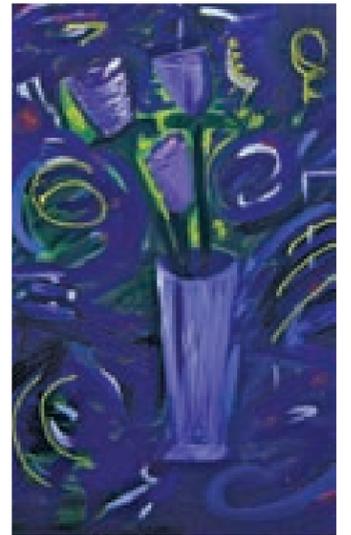
The department is thankful for the support from Councilman Tony Cardenas and his staff for co-sponsorship for this show, and CALIF (Communities Actively Living Independent & Free) and the Exceptional Children's Foundation for their support.



Untitled by Orhan Guven.



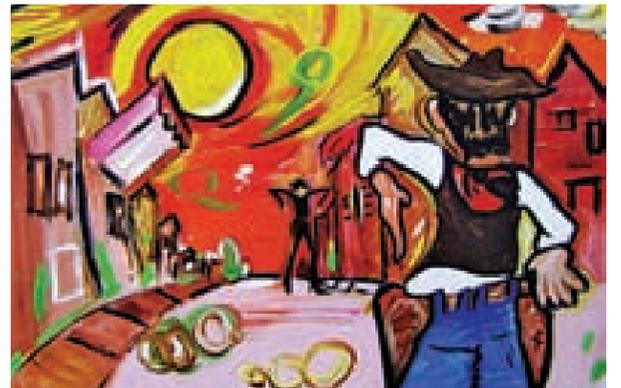
Untitled by Christina Yoo.



Blues and Jazz by Mario Recinos.



The art show brightened the City Hall bridge.



Draw by Mario Recinos.

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CLASSIFIED ADS *Alive!* Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!

XBOX elite 120gb all accessories, Microsoft warranty seal intact \$225. Call or text (818) 399-7189, email for pic: miglan09@att.net. 1109

Beautiful **two-story condo**, centrally located in the city of Upland, quiet community, accessible freeway/public transportation. PLUS new paint & flooring, 2bd/2ba including den w/fireplace, private patio, dishwasher, microwave, w/d connection, attached garage, private patio, community swimming pool & jacuzzi - \$1450 mo. Ask about Move-In special. Contact (626) 367-8892 or (626) 392-4554. 1109

Doberman pups: purebred, tails & dew-claws, 1st shots, available on 10-27, 1 red male \$400, 1 male & 2 females \$375, no papers. (626) 915-7806. 1109

For Sale: New Toyota rims 15x7 for \$350 and new tires 205-60 R15 for \$220 or both for \$530. Victor at (626) 919-3471. 1109

Room For Rent - Large bedroom/closet. Own 3/4 bath. Laundry & parking. Close to Metro train, parks, mall. NO Pets/Smokers/Drugs. \$600/mo - Females only. Contact (562) 650-5078. 1109

Escondido Timeshare for sale. Studio suite 1 Bdrm; sleeps 4 w/ full kitchen; overlooks 18 hole golf course. \$3,000. Brad @ (626) 297-2924. 1109

1997 Honda CR250 Great beginners bike, includes green sticker through Jun 2010. \$1,500. Call (661) 212-4425 or email colercarr@yahoo.com. 1109

For Rent: 3 bd/1 ba, remodeled kitchen, living room, dining room & bathroom, 1-car secured garage. Security gate, new carpet, tile, paint & fixtures. Back porch with w/d hookup. Very quiet. W. 108th street. Close to public transportation. Details @ (323) 606-2983. 1109

Monterey Bay Timeshare for rent - \$850 for 6 nights, from July 25 - July 31, 2010. 2 Bd: king in master, twins in 2nd bdr, queen murphy bed in living area & 2 baths. Max occupancy of 6. Cable tv, dvd, cd, gas fp, gas bbq, w&d, pools, plus more. Call Terry at (818) 769-3382; plz leave message. 1109

2003 Kawasaki KX 100. Original owner, low hours, never raced. \$2,800. Call (661) 212-4425 or email colercarr@yahoo.com. 1109

1990 Ford Magnum 28 ft. RV. Good condition, \$10,000. Art @ (818) 472-0473. 1109

1994 Dodge Viper RT/10. Convertible, V-10, 450 hp, 460 torque, very fast, always garaged, 29,600 mls, Viper factory rebuilt engine at 8,982 miles, w/ all factory updates performed. New custom black paint w/ silver metallic stripes, new Michelin Pilot Sports tires. Original rims chromed & center-piece painted by artist. Cat-back exhaust. A/C, power steering, tilt & alarm, hard-top, soft-top & side windows, D.C. performance maintained, perfect condition. Matt @ (818)448-9501. \$39,900 obo. 1109

factory rebuilt engine at 8,982 miles, w/ all factory updates performed. New custom black paint w/ silver metallic stripes, new Michelin Pilot Sports tires. Original rims chromed & center-piece painted by artist. Cat-back exhaust. A/C, power steering, tilt & alarm, hard-top, soft-top & side windows, D.C. performance maintained, perfect condition. Matt @ (818)448-9501. \$39,900 obo. 1109

Electronics/Computers

37" Sharp Analog TV with converter box. Excellent condition, \$350. Call (323) 227-8067 after 6:30 pm, Monday - Friday and after 9:00 am Saturday and Sunday. 809

Furniture

Dining room set: Travertine marble and seats 6: OBO or if anyone can use it email godfth32@sbcglobal.net or Gaylynn Thomas at gaylynnt@msn.com 909

Handmade oak Loft Bed with Desk and Bookcase: 43" wide x 81" long. Birch drawers are dovetailed with sliders. Must see to appreciate. \$1200 OBO. Contact Nancy or Jim @ (818) 340-8059. 909

2 Leather Chairs: Brown, like new, asking \$450 for both, OBO. Call Carlos @ (310) 672-9026. 709

Thomasville Sofas, 2 matching, 7ft. each, clean, soft fabric, off-white, as new, \$600 for both. ggandaj@cox.net 509

Homes/Rentals/Land

Quaint cottage-style **house for rent** outside of Chinatown, Civic Center/Academy. Avail 10-1-09. 2 bd/1 ba. Hrdwd floors, granite tile, skylights, etc. Fruit tree/patio area for outdoor dining. Min from Pas, Glen, 5/110/101 freeways. 3 units total. Inc w&d, and 1 gated parking space. 1-year lease. No animals. Credit check mandatory. \$1200 a month. (323) 919-1163. 1009

House for sale: St. George, Utah, 55+, 3bdr/2ba. w/ family rm., over 1700 sq.ft. & large enclosed garden rm., 2 car carport, tool shed, covered patio & window awnings. Close to shopping, restaurants, health care facilities & new hospital. Price includes land ownership. Low assoc. fees include club house, pool, spa, RV & Boat parking. \$125,000. OBO! Call - Linda / Jim (951) 505-9755 or Karen (435) 215-4813, cell - (435) 680-1129. 1009

Rosarito Beach Condo: 2 bdr/ 2 bath w/ private balcony overlooking beach & city. \$50 - 75, nightly rate. Very clean, safe and beautiful. Call John @ (626) 233-5509. 1009

Twentynine Palms Cabin. On 5 acres, Desert Getaway, great view of mountain & desert, 5 miles from nearest town: Only \$150/weekend. Call Rocky @ (626) 506-3799. 1009

House in Highland Park: near Occidental College, 2 BR/ 1 BA/ 2 car parking, \$1250 per month. Jerry (323) 428-7719 cell 909

For Rent: Nice 1 bed room/1 bath/1 parking apartment is available at 1832 S. Curson Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90019. Immediate occupancy available. \$1050 month. Contact: Jafar @ (213) 255-6371. 909

Room for Rent: 1 Bedroom with own bathroom. Access to kitchen and laundry. Dish Network provided in bedroom. \$550 and shared utilities. Located in Oxnard - Off 101 Freeway. Homeowner commutes 5 days a week to Los Angeles area. Call for more details (805) 231-1869. 809

For Rent: Nice apartment near Eagle Rock/Highland Park area. 4 units- 2 bed 1 bath, kitchen, dining room, living room, 1 car garage. Upstairs unit has new paint, carpet, Very quiet laundry facility. Call for more information (626) 643-9770 or (626) 641-5654. 809

House for Rent. Los Angeles. About 3 miles South of Southwest Police Division. 3 Bedrooms, 1 bathroom. Ceramic Floors in Kitchen and Dining room. New Paint Inside and Out. Call Edwards @ (323) 759-9106. 809

House with a nice view of Eagle Rock / Occidental College; 2 BR/ 1 BA/ 2 Car Parking; \$1300 per month; Call Jerry (323) 428-7719 or (323) 820-8880 809

For Sale - Two buildable lots in Lake Elizabeth. Build your dream/vacation home. Lake & golf, 25 minutes from Valencia. Beautiful country living. \$35,000 and \$59,000. Terms available. Call Frances @ (805) 583-5321. 809

Room for rent, Sunland, \$600. Utilities included. Kitchen/laundry privileges. Private bath. Street parking. Non-smoker, quiet, and clean. No other pets. Move-in \$1000. Call (818) 400-7235. 709

Sgl. Family House for Rent: Burbank - 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom, detached garage. Close to Media Area, private yard, \$2100 monthly. For appt call: Alex (818) 640-6212. 709

House for Rent: City of Ontario, 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bth, attached garage w/ small enclosed yard. A place to call home. Very clean and quaint. \$1,600/mo. Info @ (562) 322-6972. 609

House for Rent: Van Nuys, 3 bdrm, 2 bth, 2 car garage; 1500 sq. ft., washer/dryer, ref/stove, dishwasher, fenced in back yard, near all schools. \$2,200. (818) 780-0647. 609

For Rent: Lovely apartment in Los Angeles (4-units). 2 bed/1 bath, kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage. Upstairs unit. New paint, carpet, newly remodeled kitchen and bath, new windows and fixtures. Very quiet. Leimert Park. Close to public transportation. Call for more details (310) 365-1868. 509

Palm Springs Condo for Rent. Close to shops, entertainment, restaurants and Spa & Casino Resort. 1 Bdrm 1 Bath, Beautiful gated community, 6 swimming pools, tennis court, green belt, park-like bbq areas. Call Martha (562) 301-2940. 509

Condo Rental: 2 bdrm, 2ba, enclosed garage, security gate, Avail. 4/1/09, 114 E. Hillcrest, Inglewood, CA. Great Location, \$1450, 323-294-0539 after 6pm. 409

Gardena Townhome for Lease, 3bd, 3ba, lvrw w/fpl; new stve & dshwr; atch gae; 5 min to mjr fwys & shops - \$2,200; Donna 323-755-2399 409

Las Vegas Condo: 1 bdrm, 1 bath, 780 sq feet, A/C, heat, new fans in dining area and bedroom; other upgrades. Nice and cozy, quiet, across the street from Texas Casino and 1/4 mile from Fiesta Casino; gated community. 10 min from LV Strip. Sell for \$125,000. Info (310) 801-3164. 309

Household Items

Stove & Refrigerator: white, 3 years old, Frigidaire brand, \$450.00. Call Curtis @ (323) 293-9320. 1009

Nordic Track AudioStrider 800 elliptical \$500. 18"-stride length. Interactive Audio CrossTrainer w/ iFit Workout Card technology. Entertainment port with MP3 input & built-in speakers. Includes clear equipment mat. Marisela @ (626) 358-5237 909

New Refrigerator, Kenmore, black, \$175. Great for travel or home usage. 2 ft high, 1 ft 7 inches wide and deep. 2.7 cu. Ft. interior w/ freezer. Norma at (818) 994-6695. 509

Cross-stitched Arts - Beautiful home décor, no frame, prices are negotiable. Call Nida & leave a message (909) 800-3207. 709

Miscellaneous

4 Cemetery plots for sale: Rose Hills, Asking \$18,000 or best offer. (323) 382-2405. 1009

Inglewood Park Cemetery - Double Capacity Crypt D-1092. Sanctuary of Sunset S.M.M. Tier-1. Retail price of \$10,095, I will sell for \$5,000. Call Edgar at (951) 243-7492 909

Cemetery Plot for sale: Inglewood Park, Lot 1 Single Grave C. Montcrest Vista Plot, appraised @ \$5200, asking \$4600. Please contact Valerie @ (323) 893-4061. 909

Melaleuca oil. Call Gilberto Barrera at (323) 695-3072. 809

Zippo lighter with Rams logo: like new in box. \$25 or best offer. Call Carlos (310) 672-9026. 709

2009 Oakland Raiders Turn Around Bus Trip. Come join other city employees at our annual trip to Oakland to see the Raiders take on the Philadelphia Eagles on October 18, 2009. Call Joe @ 909-519-8683 or email: raiderjo@roadrunner.com for more info. 609

2 Cemetery Plots for sale: Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, Lot 713, Internment Spaces 1 & 2, Eternal Love, Recently Appraised @ \$5,400 each, asking \$4,500 each or better. Contact Alex at limobug@aol.com 609

Balloon Wrap Machine w/video instructions and equipment. For sale \$150. Call Nyra @ (310) 634-6768. 609

Horseback riding lessons, for kids 8-16 yrs. In Lake View Terrace & Agua Dulce areas. No exp. required. Very affordable. Sponsored by Blue Shadows Mounted Drill Team. Call Janet @ 818-731-3096. 209

Travel / Timeshare

For Sale - Las Vegas Diamond Resort timeshare. 12,000 points to be used in any of the outstanding Diamond Resorts. Must Sell. Asking \$5,900 but price negotiable. Call Frances @ (805) 583-5321. 809

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MEMBERS: to place your free classified ad

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WorldMark by Wyndham Timeshare in Las Vegas for sale. You will receive 12,000 points once the property is sold. Call Danella (323) 434-1715. 709

Las Vegas time share condo for sale. 2 bedroom and studio, once every year. Contact Dannie (310) 532-0976. 709

Cabo San Lucas timeshare for sale. Studio suite 1 BA; sleeps 4 w/ full kitchen; private balcony overlooks ocean. \$3,000. Please call Gil @ (323) 661-7947. 609

Cancun time-share for rent. Only \$500 a week (Saturday to Saturday) anytime. Sleeps 4 with full kitchen, W/D, A/C CATV, VCR/DVD. Ice gallery member. Call Gina @ 818-265-5940 & leave msg. 609

Collectibles

Bobblehead Dolls: Dodgers Manny Ramirez or Matt Kemp bobbleheads. Brand new in box. \$30 - 35 each. Call John @ (626) 233-5509. 1009

Giant Star Trek Collection. 1,000's of items. Must sell as a whole. \$5,000 o.b.o. (310) 487-4557 or wrich1223@gmail.com for more info. 809

Silkstone Barbie Dolls: 2003 limited edition "A Model's Life" giftset. 2002 limited edition Maria "Therese." 2000 limited edition "Givenchy." Never out of box. Prices vary. Karen (213) 399-2182. 709

Various Beanie Babies from McDonald's \$2.00 - \$5.00 each. Call Greg (951) 235-3815. 809

Sports Memorabilia - All Sports and Non-Sports Cards. 25 Cents and Up, OBO. Greg (951) 235-3815. 809

NFL Ceramic Mugs/Tankards - 28 Teams, LA Rams, LA Raiders, Cowboys, Dolphins, etc. Past/Present NFL Teams, 5 3/8" Tall. (805) 338-1990. 709

ESTATE SERVICES - Appraisal or Liquidation of Fine Art, Collectibles and Coin & Stamp Collections. Call Michael (626) 592-2929. 709

I BUY SILVER & GOLD U.S. coin collections, large or small. Please call Michael (626) 592-2929. 709

Wanted

Vintage stereo/Radio equipment, Receivers. Marantz, Yamaha, etc. 1975 and older. Call (805) 300-2147 709

Wanted: Donation of sewing machines desperately needed for teen sewing class at Rancho Cienega Sports Complex. Call Lisa Jenkins (323) 290-3142. 309

Wanted: Your Childhood Barbie Dolls and Clothes. I collect dolls from 1959 - 1966 and pay top dollar! I will buy 1 - 1,000 dolls. Clothing, structures, cases. Anything vintage Barbie! Call Cheryl (818) 771-4835. 709

Wanted: YOUR TOY TRAINS, any age, any size. Call Mike (818)-831-0846. 709

Autos / Motorcycles / Boats

1935 Ford 5 Window Coupe: All original, flathead motor and transmission, original dash gauges. Doesn't run. Needs full restoration. \$4000. Call Everett @ (818) 339-2092. Also have a 302 Ford and transmission that can be sold with the car. 1009

Black 2007 Road King: 4,500 miles, six speed, Quadzilla fairing, Air ride adjustable suspension, 518 Chubby bars, Magnum braided cables, passenger back rest. \$17,000. Call Gilbert @ (909) 714 4071. 1009

For sale: Set of 4 tires/rims for 2006-7 Dodge Charger. 10 spoke 19" 6000 miles, great shape. Rick @ (951) 217-2878. 909

1996 White Toyota, Avalon XLS- great condition - \$2450 (Diamond Bar). Call Robert (909) 348-7000. 909

2003 Polaris Predator 90, 2-stroke, upgrades include exhaust/pipe, Keihin carburetor/w/ K&N filter and lights, excellent condition. Reliable quad - great for kids. \$1550 OBO. Ralph Herrera (213)367-4182 909

Super Beetle 1971, 2 Dr, yellow, convertible. Disk brakes, McPherson Struts, does not have to be smogged, runs good. \$2495 or make offer. (818) 361-3444 or familyforbes@mac.com (Attn: Abe) 809

1994 Black Ford Probe; 52,000 miles; good condition; leather interior; moon roof; A/C; radio and single CD player; five speed; power steering, cruise control; new engine, transmission, clutch, tires and wheels! \$3,000 OBO. Contact: Valerie McCain (323) 757-0386 809

2002 Smoke Grey Ford Taurus; 109,000 miles; new paint, tires/wheels; moon roof; tinted windows; power steering and brakes, power adjustable brakes; A/C; radio and single CD player; power windows and seats; \$3,200 OBO. Contact: Valerie McCain (323) 757-0386 809

1974 Karmann Ghia completely restored, 10 miles on newly 1600 rebuilt engine. \$8500 OBO. E-mail me: msbabydi@yahoo.com for more information. 809

1972 Chevy Chevelle 2 dr. coupe fully restored, 10K miles, new 350 H.O. engine, 350 trans., blue, SS Cragers. Great investment \$16,000. Contact John (626) 331-0728. Have questions? Call (626) 241-3825. 709

Wilderness 27ft. Tow Trailer w/ 1 slide out, new upgrades & carpet, great condition, full kitchen, 2 door entry, must sell \$6000 obo. Call (661) 305-0483. 709

Classic pick-up Chevrolet 1978, 6 cylinders stander Trs. Heavy duty, 76,000 original miles, runs great. Asking 2,800 O.B.O. (213) 220-1738 serious buyers pls. 709

1989 Cadillac El Dorado Biarritz: for sale \$2100/obo. Blue exterior, white leather interior, 72,000 miles, good condition. Call Nyra @ (310) 634-6768. 609

2001 Toyota Celica GT: Silver, charcoal interior, fully loaded. Good condition. 76,300 miles. \$7,200 OBO. (213)249-4590 409

2001 Monaco Diplomat motor home, approx. 39,500 miles 38' diesel pusher with 6 speed Allison transmission, 2 slides, with 4-door deluxe refrigerator, washer & dryer, generator, satellite dish w/ 2 TV's, VCR & DVD players. Well equipped and in good condition. Asking \$70,000 or make an offer. Call 909-229-6540. 409

1987 Jaguar XJS V12 Cabriolet Hardtop Convertible: This is a rare and unique Jaguar - hard to find. Only 1,000 of this model were brought into this country. Top is cloth covered and removes in three sections. Very good condition. Asking \$6,800 OBO. Call (626) 305-0920. 309

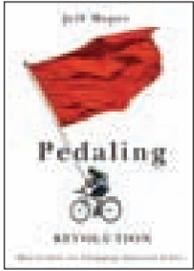
1991 Honda CRX \$1650 obo. Engine has many extras. Tags are current. Clean title. 102,000 miles. Also have new racing seats \$850 obo. Moving must sell. Make offer. Contact Sylvia (323) 363 0748 eves. 309

Classic 1927 Ford T-Bucket Roadster, yellow with tan interior, chrome trim/brass radiator, 350 Chevy engine. Runs, looks great/will e-mail picture. \$14,000. Call (562) 989-4664 209

REVIEWS BY FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS

ENTERTAINMENT

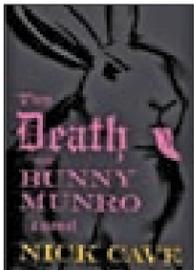
Book Reviews



Pedaling Revolution
 Jeff Mapes
 Nonfiction, 288 pages
 Oregon State University
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This nonfiction book about the evolution of bicycling was written by a journalist and filled with interviews, anecdotes, quotes, and historical footnotes. While a book about the history of bicycling may not sound interesting, this is an exciting and fun read that brings together and clarifies some disparate views among advocates and politicians. For example, one common view among cycling activists and politicians alike is how short-changed cycling has been with a lack of public funding when compared to other transportation projects. This book explores the history and ramifications of the funding issue, with the intention of raising awareness in both the cycling and non-cycling communities.

– Erin Knight, Public Works



The Death of Bunny Munro
 Nick Cave
 Adult fiction,
 288 pages
 Faber and Faber
My Score: (not scored)

Hedonistic salesman Bunny Munro, who has recently experienced a great personal tragedy, presses on with his daily routine of boozing, womanizing and making sales calls in this slice-of-life book. The tragedy causes unusual fits of crying at inopportune moments that Bunny chooses not to acknowledge. He takes his nine-year-old son around on sales calls, and leaves him in the car for hours at a time. His friends don't care much about anything other than partying. Through all the abuse and neglect, Bunny is written as a sympathetic character whom I could relate to and care about on some levels.

– Erin Knight, Public Works



New Moon
 Stephenie Meyer
 Teen Fiction-Romance,
 608 pages
 Little Brown
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

The continuing saga of Bella and Edward's love for one another is in jeopardy when Edward leaves her because he doesn't want to physically hurt her anymore. In

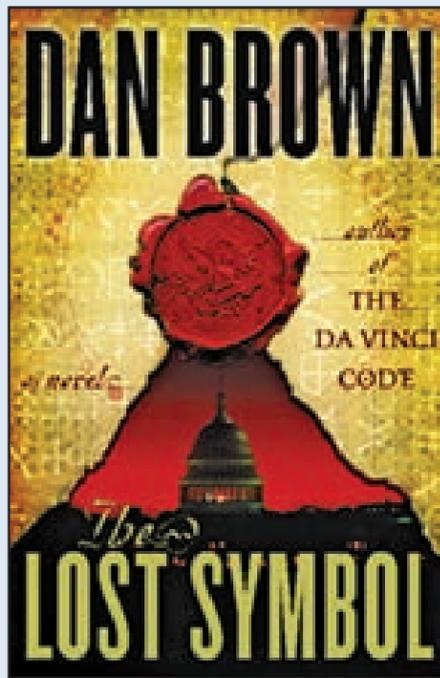
the meantime, Bella confides with her friend, Jacob Black, who has problems of his own. Bella finds out Jacob's secret, and they start hanging out together while protecting her from rogue vampires.

Meanwhile, Edward is in Italy and believes Bella has died and wants to confront the ancient vampires, the Volturi, to die with his beloved Bella. It's kind of a Romeo and Juliet story with a vampire/wolf storyline.

You will truly enjoy this second novel from Stephenie Meyer while learning more about Jacob Black. Go Team Jacob!

– Vicky Rorex,
 daughter of Linda Rorex, Personnel

The Lost Symbol



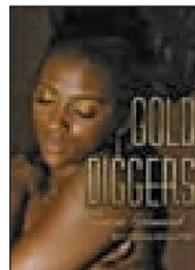
Dan Brown
 Fiction Thriller, 528 pages
 Knopf Doubleday
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

In this continuing followup to the *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown, main character Robert Langdon discovers an object in the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., where Robert is giving a lecture and recognizes the object as an ancient invitation once meant to usher its recipient into a long-lost world of esoteric wisdom.

Langdon's mentor, Peter Solomon, a Mason and philanthropist, is kidnapped, and Langdon realizes the only way to save Peter is to accept this mystical invitation and follow wherever it leads him. Langdon finds Masonic secrets, hidden history and hidden chambers, tunnels and temples, all of which seem to be dragging him toward a single, inconceivable truth.

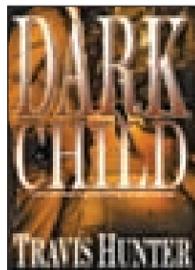
This thrilling novel by Dan Brown with arcane symbols and enigmatic codes offers surprises at every turn. It's one of Dan Brown's best novels yet.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel



Gold Diggers
 Tracie Howard
 Romance, 278 pages
 Harlem Moon
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Tracie Howard is a master at weaving stories about blacks in high society, and those who so desperately want to be in that group. *Gold Diggers* give us a glimpse into the lives of four women whose attachments to their men are

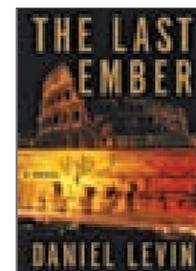


Dark Child
 Travis Hunter
 Crime Fiction,
 240 pages
 Strebtor
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Urban Brown, a white man with an ethnic name and raised by a black woman, is plunged into a baby trafficking ring when his drug-addicted sister tries to sell him an infant. He accepts his nephew but closes

the door on his sibling, who is only a shell of her former self. Urban is grounded in his identity, and readers are reminded that he is white only because the other characters mention it. Hunter artfully crafts Urban's story of grappling with old loss, new parental love, sustaining a relationship and fending off the ever-present narcotics influence, while using humor and a couple characters from his previous novels to do it.

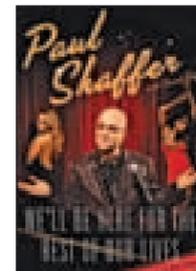
– Carmen Steward, Fire and Police Pensions



The Last Ember
 Daniel Levin
 Action Adventure,
 432 pages
 Riverhead
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

As action-adventure novels go, *The Last Ember* ranks alongside the best. First-time novelist Daniel Levin has created a hero, former archeologist Jonathan Marcus, who can swash a buckle as fine as Indiana Jones, and is as brainy as *Da Vinci Code* hero Robert Langdon. This page-turner takes you from the ruins of Rome to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem and back, with plenty of wit, a healthy respect for history and a story line that is believable, timely and oh-so entertaining.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



We'll Be Here for the Rest of Our Lives
 Paul Shaffer with David Ritz
 Memoir, 322 pages
 Doubleday
My Score: 3 (out of 5)

So you're the band-leader or musician in some famous projects, namely two David Letterman series, *Saturday Night Live* (for a time), *The Blues Brothers*, the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame* ceremonies, and others, and you know Letterman won't last forever. So it's time to take advantage and tell your stories to a writer before your fame has faded.

Except that you still have some professional life left and you don't want to make anyone mad at you, so you tread very carefully.

That's the dilemma facing Paul Shaffer, Letterman's kooky but very talented sidekick. And the book reflects the torn agenda – sort of entertaining if you're into Letterman or *Spinal Tap*, but never fascinating, revelatory or all that compelling. I found out only a couple of things – some of the people who dated Gilda Radner, and Shaffer's puny feud with John Belushi. But that's about it. This book is very skippable.

– John Burnes, editor, *Alive!*

Your Reviews



100 Words or Fewer

Here's how to submit your review. *Alive!* accepts entertainment reviews of 100 words or fewer. We might not print them all, especially if we receive multiple reviews for the same movie or DVD.

Follow these rules:

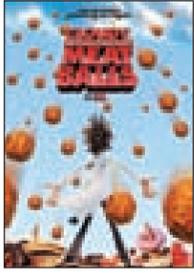
You can be a reviewer! Have you just seen a great movie or DVD? Read a great book? Been to a great play or musical? Write a brief review. It's easy! See the instruction box.

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For DVDs and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.

- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: *My Score: X (out of 5)*.
- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).

- Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.
- Have fun!

MOVIE REVIEWS



Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs

Rated PG
My Score: 3 (out of 5)

This animated movie was about a scientist who wanted to solve the world from hunger. While doing so, food started falling from the sky; eventually it went on overload, and the food took over. What made the movie was that it was animated and in 3-D. I haven't seen a picture in 3-D in a long time. It sure has come a long way. The kids seemed to really enjoy it.

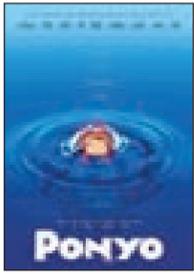
— Pat Saucier, Retired, DWP

Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

A driven young scientist tries to solve his town's problems by inventing a machine that will rain food. At first, he is hailed as a hero, then, as the machine spins out of control, he is blamed for all the town's problems. A running commentary is provided by a weather girl, who sparks a romantic interest in the young scientist. The characters are unique and memorable. There are some excellent comments here on fast food, computer-illiterate parents, aggressive police, and the barriers parents face when talking to their children.

— Erin Knight, Public Works



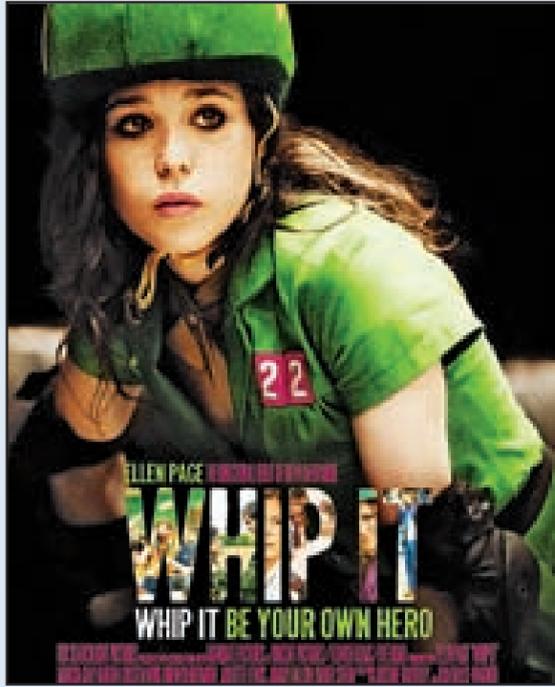
Ponyo

Rated G
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Ponyo is an animated film that tells the story of a five-year-old boy, Sosuke, who falls in love with a fish he finds in a bottle, after she magically transforms herself into a girl. In doing so, Ponyo endangers the world, and Sosuke must set things right. This is a modern fairytale that is nuanced and contains many relevant comments on contemporary culture. The ocean really seems alive here. Overall, the animation is much better than the average Disney movie, and the story is more in depth.

— Erin Knight, Public Works

Whip It



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

Drew Barrymore both directs and stars in *Whip It*, which features Ellen Page as Bliss Cavender, an indie-minded, small Texas town teenager who discovers she has the talent to be a star in women's roller derby. The skating scenes provide wonderful entertainment, as do the skaters themselves, especially with skater/stage names like Smashley Simpson, Rosa Sparks, Bloody Holly, and Malice in Wonderland.

It doesn't have a deep plot or complex characters, but *Whip It* is junk food for an afternoon: entertaining, fun, predictable and thoroughly enjoyable.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



Surrogates

Rated PG-13
My Score: 2 (out of 5)

In this movie, set in the future, humans interact through surrogate robots. FBI agent Tom Greer (Bruce Willis) is forced to leave his home for the first time in years to investigate the murders of others' surrogates.

What a great concept for sci-fi: Bruce Willis and surrogate robots! What could be so bad? But after the first half-hour, and some pretty interesting computer-generated imagery, the whole thing falls apart, and no characters worth caring for. I wish I had a surrogate see this film instead of me.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Surrogates

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Bruce Willis stars in this futuristic movie about humans staying home and being plugged into a machine that allows them to live through a robot/surrogate (younger looking and faster).

When Bruce's robot is shot up, human Bruce comes out and tries to solve the crime he was trying to solve as the robot. Although I would have preferred another *Die Hard* movie, I liked that this was something new and different. Bruce still has what it takes to entertain and be the main star.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP



Couples Retreat

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

The movie was about four couples that go on vacation to a paradise island. One couple goes to work on their marriage, and the others go just to have fun and enjoy all the pleasures the island had to offer. The movie had its funny parts and it was entertaining. They find out that their marriages are not so normal, and that you have to work at a marriage if you really want it to work.

— Pat Saucier, Retired DWP

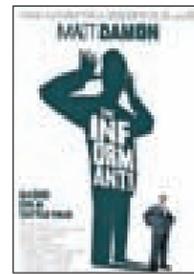
Couples Retreat

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

If you saw the trailer for this movie, you don't really need to go and spend any money on seeing it. Pretty much all the great stuff the movie has to offer you will have seen. I will say that the location was absolutely beautiful.

I did really enjoy Faizon Love, as he is quite the scene-stealer. Maybe if he were in the movie a lot more, I would have given it a higher rating. Vince Vaughn is enjoyable, but the movie really did not tap into his acting abilities at all.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP



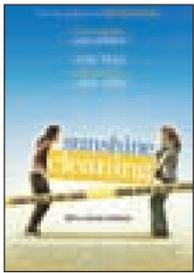
The Informant!

Rated R
My Score: 1 (out of 5)

The Informant! (with exclamation point!) is supposed to be a comedy about an agri-business executive (Matt Damon) who is asked by the FBI to spy on his company over a price-fixing issue! Director Steven Soderbergh has wasted a wonderful cast (Scott Bakula is the FBI Special Agent, Melanie Lynskey is Damon's wife) for an unfunny, uninteresting and mostly unentertaining dud of a film! One bright spot: Marvin Hamlisch wrote the film's original music. Listen to the music, but skip the movie!

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

DVD Reviews



Sunshine Cleaning (2008)

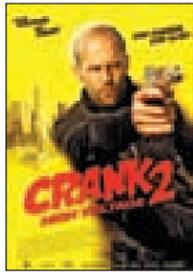
Rated R
My Score: 3 (out of 5)

What happens to the bloody mess after a crime scene? This film is about two sisters who start a company that cleans it up. It's also a melodrama, set amidst many violently graphic, uncomfortable scenes. However, the film's tone is light-hearted and funny. While the film does get bogged down with some poor dialogue and lack of action by the supporting actors, Alan Arkin is amazing as the father of the protagonists.

— Erin Knight, Public Works

Lemontov and the Ballet Company, and Julian, whom she loves. The dichotomy between work and family, one's commitment to talent and spending time with loved ones, are central to this film's tragedy. The extended ballet sequences are visually stunning. I recommend this film to anyone with even a passing interest in dance.

— Erin Knight, Public Works

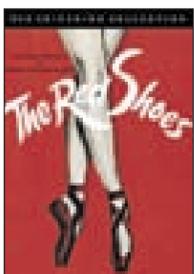


Crank 2: High Voltage (2009)

Rated R
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Crank 2 is part thriller, part send-up of the thriller/grindhouse genre. Chelio is the protagonist, whose real heart has been replaced by one with a short life. He must charge his temporary heart with whatever is available to keep it beating. His quest is to track down a Chinese gangster and bring him to a quack doctor who will, he hopes, transplant his heart back into him. In his quest, Chelio encounters gangsters, girlfriends, strippers, and a lot of electrical appliances. The plot makes little sense, but it's impossible to stop watching. Many of the gags here are hilarious, and then you realize you're laughing at something that you really shouldn't be laughing at.

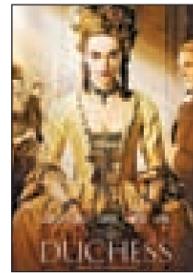
— Erin Knight, Public Works



The Red Shoes (1948)

Unrated
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

The Red Shoes is a story about a ballet company headed by obsessive, controlling authoritarian figure Boris Lemontov. He discovers and hires a young composer, Julian, who falls in love with a young dancer, named Vicky. Both become famous under Lemontov's guidance. They stage a play based on a Hans Christian Andersen fairytale called "The Red Shoes," in which Vicky stars. However, this play tears at Vicky's allegiances to



The Duchess (2008)

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

The Duchess is a "costume drama," the story of British aristocrat Georgiana (Keira Knightly), Duchess of Devonshire, who was

both praised and reviled for her political and personal life. Ralph Fiennes is the Duke. A surprisingly well-done and interesting story, *The Duchess* reveals how far we've come since the 18th century, with issues like personal and political freedom, feminism, and the worth of the common person. Though the film won only one Academy Award (costume design), after viewing it, I believe it was woefully undervalued by the movie academy. Don't miss this beauty.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Sin Nombre



Rated: R
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Sin Nombre is a dense, Spanish-language thriller about the grip and power of the Mara Salvatrucha gang, and one member's escape. The makeup in this film is stellar. The antihero's performance is so believable that at times I thought I was watching a documentary. I never realized how countries south of the U.S. border have their own border-crossing issues, involving national identity, criminal activity and deportation. The journey of *Sin Nombre's* protagonist is so intriguing that I couldn't wait to see what happened next.

— Erin Knight, Public Works

Cooking with the Club

by Chef Robert Larios



Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0398 or e-mail us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com.

Too-Much-Turkey Salad

DIRECTIONS:



1 Gather all your ingredients so that they're ready to place in a large mixing bowl.

So you cook that turkey for your Thanksgiving feast. All goes well, but then you realize a wonderful scenario – you have lots of leftover turkey meat. You can make turkey sandwiches, pot pies, tacos and enchiladas. Here's another: turkey salad!

The steps and ingredients are similar to that of chicken salad in case you were thinking this was too bizarre for your taste buds. I'm here to tell you that it's just as delicious if not more so, and it's very quick and easy to make.

Let's go over the ingredients. Raspberries are seasonal and should be available at most supermarkets, but if you are unable to find any, try another berry, or even grapes. As for the turkey, well, you know where to get slices of those. It's up to you to use more or less than the cup I suggested. Cranberries seem to be everywhere during this time of year but remember to grab a bag of dried cranberries for this recipe. Candied walnuts are a great addition to any salad, but if you can't find them, feel free to use another variety. Bleu cheese is going to give this salad the bold flavor that is necessary for it to jump out of your mouth, so don't do without it.

Lastly, feel free to use any leafy green, instead of the baby romaine, as your salad lettuce. The same goes with the vinaigrette. I like the flavor combination that the raspberry version has, but you are welcome to try any others!



2 Add lettuce, shredded turkey, cranberries, candied walnuts and crumbled bleu cheese. Toss and add vinaigrette. Add pepper.



3 Once the mixture is tossed, add the raspberries and avocado slices when plating individual salad plates.

Too-Much-Turkey Salad

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup shredded or sliced turkey
- 1/2 cup raspberries
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup candied walnuts
- 1/4 cup crumbled bleu cheese
- 1/2 avocado, sliced
- 1 large bag greens (I used baby romaine)
- 1/4 cup raspberry vinaigrette
- Freshly cracked pepper, to taste

SERVES FOUR

Cooking TIDBIT: *If you are looking for an alternative cheese to use in this recipe, goat cheese works well.*

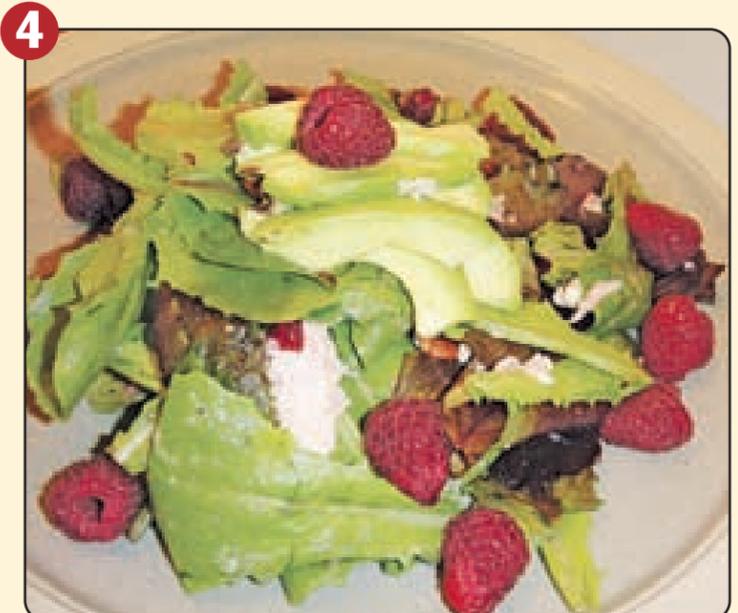


[A Cook's Dictionary]

Raspberry:

Considered by many the most intensely flavored member of the berry family, the raspberry is composed of many connecting drupelets (individual sections of fruit, each with its own seed), surrounding a central core. There are three main varieties – black, golden and red, the latter being the most widely available. Depending on the region, raspberries are available from May through November.

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



4 Plate and serve!

Great Holiday Gifts!

IMPORTANT ORDERING INFORMATION:

Holiday Schedule:

The Club Store will be closed:
 Thursday, Dec. 24
 Friday, Dec. 25
 Friday, Jan. 1
 We will be open on Monday, Jan. 4



Club Store

For easy ordering, go to www.cityemployeesclub.com

Men's Watches with City Seal

These watches have been meticulously crafted using only high-quality quartz movements. These new diver watches are made from solid stainless steel and genuine leather. *Plus tax and shipping



Men's Silver "AG" Watch
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 PRICE: \$29.99*



Men's Silver Dial Watch w/ Two-tone Gold and Silver
 ITEM: #MWCTYGLD2000
 PRICE: \$29.99*



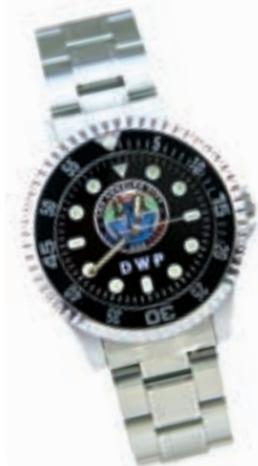
Men's Silver "RL" Watch,
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Men's Watch, Silver
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Men's Large Seal, Stainless Steel Band
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Men's Small DWP Seal, Leather Band
 ITEM: #DWPWS3050
 PRICE: \$45.00* **Now \$35**



Men's Watch, Leather Band
 ITEM: #SF1000
 PRICE: \$25.00*



Men's Watch, Leather Band
 ITEM: #SF2000
 PRICE: \$25.00*



Men's Large Seal, Leather Band
 ITEM: #VWL2600
 PRICE: \$45.00*

Women's Watches

Women's Professional Watch
 ITEM: #WTCH6550
 PRICE: \$34.99*



Ladies' Watch, Leather Band
 ITEM: #LVWBLK5000
 PRICE: \$29.99*



Poster

Club Exclusive, Limited-edition: City Hall Poster!



- Produced by the Los Angeles City Historical Society, this poster – featuring a collection of historic Los Angeles City Halls, along with their histories – is now available to Club Members.
- Drawn by artist Herb McNeely, suitable for framing.

Small **\$10***

Large **\$15***

*per poster

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Club Store

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City Button Down Shirts

City Woman's Long Sleeve Button Down Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$25
per shirt*

Available Colors:

Sky Blue	Khaki
Navy Blue	Pink
Yellow	White
Black	



ITEM: #WMNLSSTCTY4000

City Men's Long Sleeve Button Down Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL 3XL**

Size: **3XL** **\$28**

Member Price:
\$25
per shirt*

Available Colors:

Black	Navy Blue
White	Khaki



ITEM: #LSB1000

City Men's Short Sleeve Button Down Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:

Black
Navy Blue
Oxford
White



ITEM: #CTYSLST1000

Member Price:
\$22.99
per shirt*

Size: **3XL**

\$23.99

City Girl "Classic" T-shirt

City Girl "Classic" T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL**



ITEM: #T-W1000

Available Colors:
Crew Neck Style:

Heather Gray	Hot Pink
Cherry	

Member Price:
\$10
per shirt*

City Girl "Retro" T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL**

Available Colors:
V-Neck Style:

Black	Caribbean Blue
Violet	White
Key Lime	



ITEM: #T-W2000

Women's Classic Seal T-Shirt

Women's Classic Seal T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:

Black	Azalea	Carolina Blue	Royal
Red	Hot Pink	White	

Member Price:
\$10
per shirt*



ITEM: #WMNCLSC4000

Size: **3XL**

\$11

Available Colors:

Black
White

Polo Shirts

LA City Seal Herringbone Polo

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$19.99
per shirt*

Available Colors:

Maroon
Navy Blue
Tan
White
Black
Heather Gray



ITEM: #HRBPOLO3000

Size: **3XL**

Available Colors:

Navy Blue
White

City Seal Polo Shirt with Stripes

Sizes: **M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$19.99
per shirt*



ITEM: #CTYPOLO2000

Available Colors:

Black
Navy Blue
White

LA City Polo Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$12
per shirt*



ITEM: #PS1000

Available Colors:

Black
Navy Blue
Pink
White

Close-up of Embroidery



Women's T-shirts

City Women's - LA Hall One Color Seal T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL**

Member Price:
\$8
per shirt*

Available Colors:
V-Neck Style:

Black	Heather Gray
Red	Pink
Violet	Caribbean Blue
Key Lime	White

On white shirt, emblem is pink



ITEM: #JS1000

City Women's - LA Hall Full Color Seal T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL**

ITEM: #WFCS1000

Available Colors:
Crew Neck Style:

Navy Blue

Available Colors:
V-Neck Style:

Black

Size: **2XL**

Available Colors:
Crew Neck Style:

Navy Blue

Member Price:
\$11
per shirt*



Women's LA City Polo

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$19.99
per shirt*

Available Colors:

Black
Navy Blue
Pink
White



ITEM: #WCTY1000

*Plus tax and shipping

Club Store

For easy ordering, go to www.cityemployeesclub.com

City Department Shirts

City "Bold" Department Shirts

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Size: **3XL** **\$13**
Size: **4XL** **\$14**

Member Price: **\$12** per shirt*

Back

Front

ITEM: #RECPSLAC6000

ITEM: #D.P.W.LAC1000

ITEM: #LADBSTSHT1000

ITEM: #D.O.TLAC3000

ITEM: #L.A.W.A.LAC5000

ITEM: #G.S.DLAC4000

ITEM: #ASDTSHT1000

ITEM: #ITATSHT1000

ITEM: #LAHDTSH1000

ITEM: #BOSSTSHT1000

City "Harbor" Short Sleeve Shirt

ITEM: #HARBORLAC2000

Available Colors: Navy Blue, Sky Blue

City "Harbor" Long Sleeve Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL**

Size: **2XL** **\$15**
Size: **3XL** **\$16**
Size: **4XL** **\$17**

Available Color: Navy Blue

ITEM: #CHRLS3000

L.A. City T-shirts

New City LA-Hall Long Sleeve T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors: Black, Royal Blue, Navy Blue, White

Member Price: **\$12** per shirt*

Size: **3XL** **\$13**
Size: **4XL** **\$14**

Back

Front

ITEM: #NCI1000

LA City "B-Label" T-Shirt (with Depts.)

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Size: **3XL** **\$11**

Member Price: **\$10** per shirt*

Available Colors: Black, Gray, Navy Blue, Maroon, Green, Carolina Blue, Cedar, White

Back

ITEM: #LAC-5000

LA City "B-Label" Sweatshirt (with Depts.)

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price: **\$22** per shirt*

Available Colors: Black, Navy Blue

Size: **3XL** **\$23**

Back

ITEM: #LAC-6000

Short Sleeve "Classic" T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL (all colors)**

Member Price: **\$12** per shirt*

Non-Member Price: \$25 per shirt

Available Colors: Blue Dusk, Charcoal, Chestnut, Forest Green, Indigo Blue, Leaf Green, Light Pink, Maroon, Olive, Orange, Royal Blue, Sport Gray, Texas Orange, White, Black, Navy Blue

White available with front pocket.

Front

Back

ITEM: #T1000

Navy & Black LIMITED

Sizes: **3XL** **\$13**
Size: **4XL** **\$14**

Available Colors: Blue Dusk, Charcoal, Forest Green, Indigo Blue, Royal Blue, Sport Gray, White, Black, Navy Blue

Available Colors: Indigo Blue, Sport Gray, Black, Navy Blue

*Plus tax and shipping

White available with front pocket.

New City LA-Hall Short Sleeve T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors: Black, Blue Dusk, Navy Blue, Sport Gray, Tan, White, Forest Green, Charcoal, Red

Member Price: **\$8.50** per shirt*

Sizes: **3XL** **\$9.50**
Size: **4XL** **\$10.50**

Available Colors: Black, Navy Blue, Sport Gray

Back

Front

ITEM: #CNI1000

Retired Employee T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL 3XL**

Sizes: **3XL** **\$12.99**

Member Price: **\$11.99** per shirt*

Available Colors: Black, Navy Blue, White

Back

Front

ITEM: #RCE3000

LA City Seal T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price: **\$10** per shirt*

Available Colors: Cedar, Dark Heather, Metro Blue, Military Green, Sand, Sky Blue, Black, Navy Blue

Back

Front

ITEM: #MOC51000

"Your City" T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL 3XL**

Available Colors: Black, Navy Blue, Royal, White

Sizes: **3XL** **\$10.99**

Member Price: **\$9.99** per shirt*

ITEM: #YCYR11000

Long Sleeve "Classic" T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors: Charcoal, Dark Chocolate, Forest Green, Indigo Blue, Sport Gray, White

Member Price: **\$15** per shirt*

*Plus tax and shipping

Size: **3XL** **\$16**
Size: **4XL** **\$17**

Available Colors: Dark Chocolate, Forest Green, Indigo Blue, Sport Gray, Black, Navy Blue, White

Navy & Black LIMITED

Back

ITEM: #T1500

Club Store

For easy ordering, go to www.cityemployeesclub.com

DWP T-shirts

DWP "Water" T-Shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*



Available Colors:
 White Navy Blue



ITEM: #WTRSDE3000

DWP "Classic" Long Sleeve T-Shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Available Colors:
 Gray Maroon
 Charcoal Carolina Blue
 Sand Navy Blue
 Black

Member Price:
\$15
 per shirt*

Size: **3XL**
 \$16
 Available Color:
 Gray

Navy & Black LIMITED

ITEM: #T2500VP

DWP "Bold" T-Shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$8.50
 per shirt*

Available Colors:
 Black Navy Blue White



ITEM: #T3000VP

Water & Power T-shirt
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:
 Black Navy Blue Orange White

Member Price:
\$10
 per shirt*



Available Colors:
 Black Navy Blue Orange White

White available with front pocket.

ITEM: #T2002VP

ITEM: #T2003VP

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**
 Available Colors:
 Blue Dusk Charcoal Orange Black Navy Blue White

Member Price:
\$12
 per shirt*

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**
 Available Colors:
 Navy Blue Orange White Black



Size: **3XL**
 Available Colors:
 Blue Dusk Charcoal Black Navy Blue

Size: **4XL**
 Available Colors:
 Black Navy Blue



ITEM: #T2001VP

Navy & Black LIMITED

Fleece Jackets

Men's Full Zip Polar Fleece with Embroidered City Seal
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$34.99
 per jacket*

Available Colors:
 Black Charcoal Khaki Navy Blue



ITEM: #CTY3000

Hooded Sweatshirt

City of LA Full-Zip Hooded Lightweight Sweatshirt
 Sizes: **XS S M L XL XXL**



Member Price:
\$19.99
 per jacket*

Women's Full Zip Polar Fleece with Embroidered City Seal
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$30
 per jacket*

Available Colors:
 Black Stone Sky Blue



ITEM: #WVNFJKT1000

Size: **3XL**
\$20.99

Available Color:
 Black



ITEM: #4613

City Jackets

LA City Seal Hooded Weather Resistant Jacket
 Sizes: **L XL 2XL**

ITEM: #CITHOODJKT5000

Member Price:
\$39.99
 per jacket*

Available Colors:
 Black Navy Blue



ITEM: #SUDJKT1000

City Executive Sueded Microfiber Jacket
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:
 Brown Indigo Blue Charcoal

Member Price:
\$45
 per jacket*

*Plus tax and shipping

Club Store

For easy ordering, go to www.cityemployeesclub.com

Hats Hats Hats! High quality embroidered ball caps!

LA Hall Hat



#LHALLHT2000

Member Price:
\$8
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

Available Colors:

- Navy Blue
- Olive
- Royal Blue
- Black

LA Hall Sun Hat

Sizes: L XL
Available Colors:
Olive Khaki



#BKTHLLHT1000

Member Price:
\$15
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

LA B-Label Hat



#BLHT1000

Available Colors:
Light Gray Navy Black

Member Price:
\$8
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

City Seal Ball Cap with Department Name



Transportation
NAVY: #H2003
BLACK: #H2004

Member Price:
\$10
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

Hats available for these departments:

Bureau of Sanitation
FOREST GREEN: #H1996
NAVY: #H1995
BLACK: #H1998

General Services
NAVY: #H1999
BLACK: #H2000

Harbor
NAVY: #H2005
BLACK: #H2006

Public Works
NAVY: #H2001
BLACK: #H2002

Recreation & Parks
NAVY: #H1993
BLACK: #H1992

Transportation
NAVY: #H2003
BLACK: #H2004

Water & Power
NAVY: #H1997
BLACK: #H1998

Retiree
BLACK: #H2007

Available Colors:

- Forest Green
- Navy
- Black



Bureau of Sanitation
FOREST GREEN: #H1996
NAVY: #H1995
BLACK: #H1998

DWP Ball Cap



DWP Hat
BLACK: #DPWH3000

Member Price:
\$8
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping



DWP Hat
NAVY: #DPWH2000

City of LA Bucket Cap

Member Price:
\$15
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

Available Colors:

- Black
- Navy
- White



ITEM: #4569

City Brushed Twill Visor



ITEM: #4567

Available Colors:

- Black
- Sky Blue
- Pink
- Hot Pink

Member Price:
\$9.99
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

City Seal Ball Cap with Script

ORANGE: #H1990
KHAKI: #H1991
BLACK: #H1613



Seal w/Script
NAVY: #H1989

Member Price:
\$8
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

Available Colors:

- Navy Blue
- Orange
- Khaki
- Black

City Seal Ball Cap

ORANGE: #H1661
KHAKI: #H1988
BLACK: #H1987



City Seal
NAVY: #H1628

Kid's T-shirts

"Official City Kid" Kid's T-shirt
Sizes: XS S M L XL

Available Colors:

- Green
- Black
- Royal Blue
- Red
- Pink

"Future City Employee" Kid's T-shirt

Sizes: XS S M L XL



ITEM: #KIDFUT1000

Member Price:
\$8.99
per shirt*



ITEM: #KIDOFF2000

*Plus tax and shipping

For Baby

LA City Baby Onesies

Sizes: 6, 12, 18, 24 months

Available Colors:

- Light Pink
- Sky Blue
- Light Yellow
- Green
- White

Member Price:
\$19.99
each*



ITEM: #BABY1000

City Wall Clocks



ITEM: #C8003

10" Diameter
Battery Operated (AA)

Member Price:
\$12
per clock*



*Plus tax and shipping

ITEM: #WCWSPT3000

Club Store

For easy ordering, go to www.cityemployeesclub.com

City Umbrellas

Large City Umbrella

ITEM: #CTYUMB1000

Member Price:
\$19⁹⁹
each*

*Plus tax and shipping



Small Umbrella

ITEM: #SMUMB3000

Member Price:
\$14⁹⁹
each*

*Plus tax and shipping

Identification Holders

LA City Clear Badge Holder with City Seal



Member Price:
\$1³⁷
per badge*

ITEM: #CLRBGHLDR

Retractable Badge Holder



Comes with clear ID holder sleeve.

Member Price:
\$2⁴⁹
per badge*

ITEM: #RBH1000

City of LA Lanyard

Comes with clear ID holder sleeve.



Member Price:
\$4⁹⁹
per badge*

ITEM: #CTYLDR1000

City Seal Key Chains

City Seal Key Chain - Silver

ITEM: #LAKC2000

Member Price:
\$5
per chain*

Club Discount Price!
(\$10 Retail)

City Seal Key Chain

ITEM: #LAKC001



City Seal Mugs

City of LA Travel Mug



Club Discount (\$10 Retail)

Member Price:
\$12⁹⁹
per mug*

ITEM: #CLAMG3000

Hot Beverage Mug



Member Price:
\$9⁹⁹
per mug*

ITEM: #MGS1000

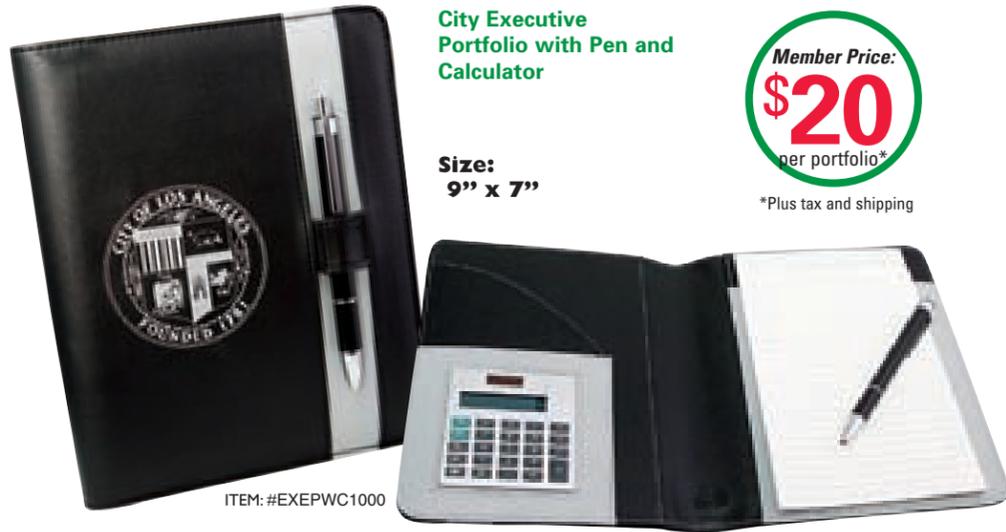
City Seal Office

City Executive Portfolio with Pen and Calculator

Size:
9" x 7"

Member Price:
\$20
per portfolio*

*Plus tax and shipping



ITEM: #EXEPWC1000

City of LA-Letter Size Portfolio w/ Calculator

Size:
13" x 10"



ITEM: #4680

Member Price:
\$24⁹⁹
per portfolio*

City Engraved Pen & Case

- Elegant electro-plated two-tone 24k gold plated and chrome silver pen with solid brass construction.
- "City of Los Angeles" is engraved on the pen.

Member Price:
\$19⁹⁹
per pen*



ITEM: #CLPEN3000

City Professional Bag

Available Colors:

- Forest Green
- Black

Member Price:
\$25
per bag*



ITEM: #BAG1000

City of LA Expandable Computer Bag

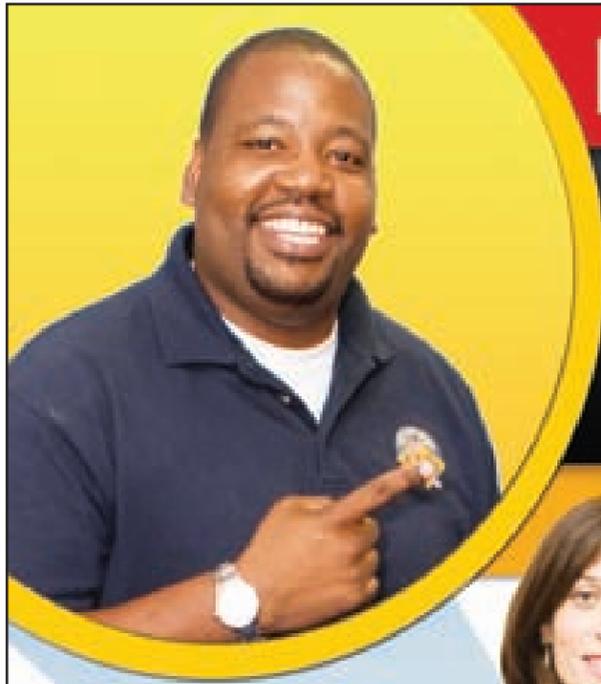
Available Color:

- Black

Member Price:
\$34⁹⁹
per bag*



ITEM: #PBCTYFCMP1000



In The Spirit of Giving

The Club wants to thank all the hard working City Employees by giving 10% back!



10% Off

All Merchandise and Apparel



OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE ✓



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