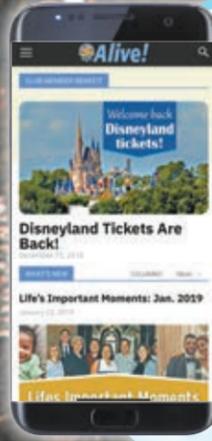




Alive!



Alive! is now its own website, too...

... for more stories, photos and videos!

SEE PAGE 3

Inside the remnants of a recent fire downtown (in which no evidence of crime was found) are, from left: Arson Investigators Bob Price, 13 years of City service; and Angel Alvarez, 17 years.



LAFD

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE

Arson/Counter-Terrorism looks for evidence of crimes after the flames are extinguished.

PAGE 8

Alive! photo by Summy Lam

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JOHN'S BLOG by John Hawkins, President and CEO, The Club

Truth in The Ashes

We know we have Club Members throughout the City workforce, from custodians (who we treat like royalty, by the way, just like General Services does) all the way up to General Managers and beyond. But one of the most important in keeping us safe is **Battalion Chief Michael Castillo**, who's in charge of the LAFD's Arson and Counter-Terrorism Section. Fire potentially is one of the most dangerous occurrences threatening our lives and property, and when those fires are criminally set, it's good to know we have a tenacious crew bringing justice to the perpetrators.

Check out the numbers in this month's feature – there are 9,000 fires in the City each year. Twenty of them cause fatalities, and the Arson squad makes 105 arrests in a typical year. Its conviction rate is well into the 90th percent. Thanks, Arson Squad, for keeping us safe! (Special thanks to **Sr. Arson Investigator Robert McCloud**, also a Club Member, for hosting us.)

This month, we're continuing to build our RLACEI section for Retirees. And that parallels what the retirees association has been doing itself. I was glad to see **Ruth Perry, Beverly Clark** and **Phil Orland** doing a holiday meet-and-greet in various City offices. Awesome!

Since it's February, it's time for our annual Club Valentines section. Some years we've printed more than 100 Valentines from Club Members to their special someone. It's one of our most popular features! We're taking it online to be more accessible. So send them in through our online portal – it's a breeze – at alive.employeesclub.com/valentines – and they'll go live just before Valentine's Day.

A note about this column – it's turned into a blog, which means I get to write more frequently online. When something strikes me, I'll go right to the new Web *Alive!* and share it. I'll still be in print, too, every month as I have since the beginning. But now you get more of me, and more often! There's



Arson Investigators (from left) Bob Price and Angel Alvarez with *Alive!* editor John Burnes.

so much good news about City employees that I want to share it more frequently. So look for me online, too.

As the snow piles up in California, there's never a better time to enjoy the great Club discounts on skiing that **Mariana Guevara** has arranged for us. Take advantage!

Talk to you again here and online!

—JOHN



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Alive! in print and online



LAFD

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE

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ALIVE! NEW THIS MONTH

ONLINE 

alive.employeesclub.com



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ADS \$\$\$
Members Marketplace

People We See

MEET Terry Cole



Watch the Video

alive.employeesclub.com/pws-terry-cole

Correction

The statement attributed to Valerie Lockhart in the December 2018 edition of "Question of the Month" was published in error and is withdrawn by *Alive!*

The Club regrets the error.

The Club: Here to Help

Club 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.

Email us at:

help@cityemployeesclub.com
if you have an event you want an event covered in *Alive!* or if you have questions about insurance.

Or call us at: (800) 464-0452

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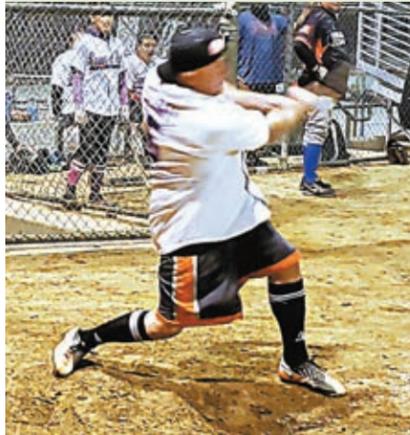
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CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the Employees Club of California • February 2019



SOFTBALL



Championship Game Set for March 6

Club Softball's New Division championship postponed to March 6.

The Club Softball League's North Division has reached its championship game, which is now scheduled for March 6 at El Sereno Park. The reason: rain, rain, more rain, and field conditions.

The final was set for Dec. 19, then Jan. 9, but continued rainouts and field conditions have pushed that again. Check the Club's social media channels for the latest information.

The final is set:
Enforcers vs. Blue Dragons

It's going to be worth the wait!

South Division Still Forming

The Club Softball League's South Division, which plays its games in Inglewood, is forming and accepting new teams and players. Contact the Sports Dude: sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com

The Club Softball League is open to Members from the City, County and state. It is also open to their family members over 18 years old.

f SOFTBALL PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK!

The Club has placed hundreds of great action shots from this season and last on our Facebook page for you to enjoy while waiting for the championship game in safe conditions. Enjoy!



Robert Larios,
The Sports Dude

Club Sports on the Horizon

The Club Sports Office welcomes all individual players to inquire about the Club's sports leagues. Please contact sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com or call the Club at (800) 464-0452 to be placed as a free agent or for more information.

PUBLIC WORKS



Here's a bird's-eye view of some of the 128 bikes and the crew that collected, assembled and donated them to the LAFD's Spark of Love toy drive.

Pedal Power!

Hyperion's Maintenance Section collects, donates 128 bikes for area children.

In a toy drive featured in *Alive!*, Sanitation/Hyperion's Maintenance Section collected, assembled and donated 128 bikes for the area's needy children. The toy drive was coordinated with the LAFD Spark of Love toy drive.

"Our employees were very generous and donated 128 bikes," reported Efrain Gonzalez, Sanitation Wastewater Manager II, 37 years of City service. That's a great total!

Thanks to all who made this drive happen and helped brighten the holidays for a whole bunch of children.



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- More than 25 percent of today's 20-year-olds will become disabled before they retire.

To learn more about your insurance options, schedule a visit with the Club's insurance experts:



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Member Services Counselor
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UCLA

Seniors: Join Study

UCLA study on travel and retirement seeks participants.

Researchers from the Luskin School of Public Affairs at UCLA are studying travel and work by older adults. They invite adults age 65 and older – both those who are still working and those who have retired from a job within the past few years – to participate in focus group discussions. Focus groups will take place at the UCLA campus or at a convenient downtown location and can be scheduled at the convenience of volunteers. Each discussion will last approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Participants will receive a \$25 gift card.

To participate in a focus group, email: mpinski@ucla.edu



UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs.

Be My CLUB Valentine




CLUB MEMBERS: Send your loved one a special Valentine... to be published on web *Alive!* in February.

Here's how it works:
Send us a favorite photo (high-resolution digital preferred) of you and your loved one(s) (could be a romantic partner, a parent or child, etc.) and two or three sentences declaring your special bond.

Deadline: February 7

To send digital photos and your message:
Go to alive.employeesclub.com/valentines






Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

RLACEI

For Retired Club Members

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RLACEI RETIREE HELPLINE:

(800) 678-4145, Ext. 0

For retirement assistance, call the Retiree Hotline and leave a message. A Director of RLACEI will return your call and assist you with your concerns.

RLACEI WEBSITE

Visit the RLACEI website www.RLACEI.org to find the latest retirement news. Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 0 to make suggestions.

EMAIL: Contact@RLACEI.org

MAILING ADDRESS:

Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.
Terminal Annex
P.O. Box 86264
Los Angeles, CA 90086

or

Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.
1100 S. Flower Street, Suite 3300
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Change of Address?

Please notify Ruth B. Perry, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 ext. 717 or Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org for a change of address or to add or change your email address. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, LAPCU, and LAFCU as applicable.

Interesting news contributions!

Contact Beverly J. Clark at (800) 678-4145 ext. 716 or Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org

2019 RETIREE EVENTS

June 6: RLACEI golf tournament and general meeting

Aug. 8: RLACEI annual picnic and general meeting

Dec. 12: RLACEI annual holiday party and general meeting

RESERVATION LINES:

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

Meet Your Board: A look at RLACEI Board Members



Ruth B. Perry RLACEI Board President

Ruth began her term effective Jan. 1 as the first Latina and female RLACEI President. Hailing from Michoacán, Mexico, her family immigrated to the San Fernando Valley in 1967 and has been a resident since. After graduating from St. Genevieve High School in Panorama City, she joined the Army as a Personnel Records Specialist. She began her City career in 1991 and was promoted from Clerk Typist to Sr. Personnel Analyst II, serving as Personnel Officer for LACERS from 2007 through her retirement in March 2018. She looks forward to a promising 2019 for the organization. ■

Passive Vs. Active Investing: Looking for Best Advantage



Michael R.
Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update By Michael R. Wilkinson

Happy New Year! Okay, I'm a month late, but I still needed to pass that on. The New Year is a good time to look at one of the basics in deciding how to invest for the long term -- active versus passive investing.

First: What are active and passive investing? Active investing is using a money manager to buy and sell individual stocks, bonds and other

investments with the hope that the manager will find more superior investments that will do better than buying all of the investments in that investment class. Buying all of the investments is known as passive investing, such as in an index fund like the Standard and Poor's 500 Index.

At first blush, this seems like a trick question. Of course you would want to go with a winning active manager since that manager always promises to beat the pants off the index. Why go with an index fund that promises just a boring "C" when you can get a nice shiny "A"? Why would smart investors like Warren Buffet and John Bogle, known as the father of index funds, encourage investors to join others to become part of the \$13.4 trillion invested in index funds? The answer is that it works, and frequently that "C" for the index fund is an "A" over the long term of investment cycles.

For many asset classes, the power of extremely low investing costs, plus the difficulty of active managers to consistently pick winning investments and avoiding expensive losers, makes passive investing a long-term winner. Just looking at one study of large U.S. companies (represented by the S&P 500), the index beat active managers a whopping 89 percent of the time over a five-year period ending Sept. 30, 2018.

While passive investing works for some asset classes, for some others active management has proven a better choice. LACERS total fund is 39 percent passive investments and 61 percent active. The LACERS U.S. equity investment is 87 percent passive and only 13 percent active. The non-U.S. equity portion is 33 percent passive and 67 percent active.

For some types of investments there are no passive managers, and for others active managers have a track record of consistently topping passive management. For those situations, LACERS has stayed with active management. However, I have pushed our outside investment consultant and our investment staff to be constantly on the lookout for new asset classes to move from active to passive investing. The reason is clear: The burden of higher fees can be an impossible burden on active managers to beat index managers in those asset classes that have successful index funds. ■



Ed Harding
holds his Lifetime
Achievement Award
from the Club.

Thanks Ed!

RLACEI honors Ed Harding,
President for 24 years.



The Club's Robert Larios (right) honors Ed Harding (left) with the Club's Lifetime Achievement Award. Behind them is RLACEI Director Tom Stemmok.

The Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. honored longtime Association President Edward Harding, Club Member, in a private ceremony. Ed, now the association's President Emeritus, led the organization for more than 24 years.

"Thanks, Ed, for all you have done for RLACEI, and for Retired City Employees," said new President Ruth Perry.

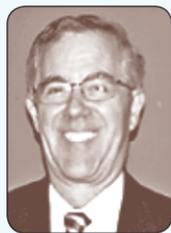


RLACEI Publicity Director Beverly Clark and President Emeritus Ed Harding.

The Club's Chief Operating Officer, Robert Larios, also honored Ed with the Club's Lifetime Achievement Award. "The Club and Ed have been great partners in supporting Retired City Employees," he said. "You were even on the cover of *Alive!* in June 2012. We appreciate all that you have done."

Congratulations, Ed, and thanks for your service.

State Supreme Court Weighs Pensions' 'California Rule'



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

The big news for governmental Retirees remains the focus on the California Supreme Court as it considers several appeals from various local disputes over whether the California Rule in pension matters is ready for changes or not. The California Rule derives from Supreme Court cases going back to the 1950s when the courts generally held that when a person began work for government, he or she had a right to all that was offered to the workers at that time -- a defined benefit contribution plan, healthcare after retirement, sometimes the power to buy "air time" while working to expand your pension, and other benefits that a given jurisdiction might have given their employees. It meant that a government employee was entitled to all of the benefits then available to that work unit, plus whatever newer benefits might be offered.

In the arguments presented at the Court's hearing on Dec. 5, 2018 in *Cal Fire Local 2881 vs. CALPERS*, the union argued that the air time benefit was vested as a promise to give all of the benefits that the law bestowed on those Firefighters. As such, no benefit may be changed for the employee/Retiree -- this is a vested pension right. The State

argues that only a contract can create a vested interest, not a statute. One of the lower courts in this lawsuit argued that such labor agreements can be modified in the future to meet unusual demands by the local jurisdiction. The *Los Angeles Daily Journal* summarized the union's argument in this case as: "Public Employee pensions were unconstitutionally curtailed, attorney argues" (Dec. 6, 2018). That newspaper reported that some of the discussion by the Supreme Court reflected skeptical questions of the air time promoters. This would not mean that the California Rule is rejected, just that this one benefit, the air time, is not considered vested.

In news from other states, the *Deseret News* reported in December that the Utah government pension funds earned \$31.9 billion and ranked eighth in the country with its liabilities for future retirees funded at 86 percent. Kentucky held an emergency legislative session in December to deal with its \$43 billion pension deficit. New Jersey is also grappling with a similar pension debt.

Moody's Investors Service reported on Dec. 20, 2018 that pension liabilities for the 50 largest local governments totaled \$481 billion at the end of fiscal year 2017, up nine percent from the previous year. The highest net pension liabilities as a percentage of operating revenue were Chicago (782 percent), Dallas (562 percent), Los Angeles (424 percent), Phoenix (397 percent), and Houston (367 percent). ■

RLACEI



From left: Edwinda Chism, 18 years of City service; Linda Browne-Ransom, 38 years; Della Lynn Lyde, 29 years; and Linda Perkins, 32 years.



John and Marguerite Shadle. John has 20 years of service with the City.



From left: Terry Piña, 16 years of City service; and Edward Piña, 35 years.



Henry Starks, 40 years of City service, and his wife, Lois.



From left: Julia Crowder, 27 years of City service, and Barbara Adams.



From left: Lydia Hollins, Paulette Grady, Sherrilyn Floyd-Henry, Carolyn Moore, and Granny - guest.



Lorenzo Porter.



From left: Joseph Zamora, 25 years of City service, and John Vargas, 11 years.



From left: Laura Colfer, guest; Marilyn McPherson, 32 years of City service; and Dora Tom, 27 years.



RLACEI Holiday Party

Story by Beverly Clark, Second Vice President, RLACEI
Photos by RLACEI and Robert Larios, Club COO

The Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) held its annual Christmas luncheon Dec. 6 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge near Dodger Stadium.

Wow! What a turnout. It rained most of the day, and at times it poured. The dedicated members of RLACEI braved the weather and came out to enjoy a festive time with fellow retirees.

We thank you all for attending, and thanks to Dennis Harding, RLACEI Entertainment Chair, and the RLACEI Board of Directors for putting together the event.

Members and guests were treated to a holiday meal of turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and a green bean casserole while listening to holiday music provided by a wonderful guitarist. For dessert, cherry and pumpkin pie was served. Gifts cards and even cash prizes were won by many of the members in attendance.

We bade a fond farewell to our current President, Ed Harding, who has dedicated his time and service to RLACEI for more than 24 years. With heartfelt appreciation, we honored Mr. Harding for his leadership and being the voice of RLACEI. He was presented with the gift of a gavel from his fellow Directors. City Employees Club of Los Angeles President and CEO John Hawkins; Robert Larios, Chief Operating Officer; and Cheryl Martin, Club Counselor, attended and joined in the celebration and provided gifts

for attendees.

Honorable mentions: Ed and his wife, Martha, are celebrating 50 years of marriage. Also in attendance was John Shadle, who celebrated his 95th birthday in December.

Officers for the 2019-20 term were sworn in by LACERS Assistant General Manager Lita Payne. Officers installed were Ruth B. Perry, President; Tom Stemnock, First Vice President; Beverly J. Clark, Second Vice President; and Hal Danowitz, Secretary/Treasurer.

Members received an update by LACERS Health Benefits Division Manager Alex Rabrenovich on LACERS accomplishments and goals for 2019 and talked about "ALEX," the new interactive online tool that will help members review and select the best health benefit plan for their needs.

All in attendance appeared to have had a good time, and we are looking forward to having more Retirees come out and join in the festivities and socialize with fellow retirees as they enjoy "the best years."



Juliet Manglicmot, 29 years of City service; and Randall Manglicmot.



RLACEI Officers were sworn in at the holiday party, from left: Dennis Harding, Beverly Clark and Ruth Perry.

Meet and Greet

RLACEI Board takes tour to say hello to City leadership.

On Dec. 19, new RLACEI board members Ruth Perry, President; Phil Orland; Director; and Beverly Clark, Publicity Director; introduced themselves to the Mayor's Office, Councilmembers, LACERS and the Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Pensions. They gave boxes of See's Candies as a welcome treat, and they were warmly received.



Alex Rabrenovich, LACERS Division Manager.



From left: Tony Ricasa, Assistant Chief of Staff, Council District 1; Beverly Clark; Ruth Perry; and Phil Orland.



At the LACERS office, from left: Alex Rabrenovich, Division Manager; Ruth Perry; Neil Guglielmo, General Manager, Club Member; Beverly Clark; and Phil Orland.



At the Mayor's Office, from left: Phil Orland; Mayor's representative Sally Castro; Ruth Perry; and Beverly Clark.

Alive! photos by Summy Lam and John Burnes.
LAFD photographs by Harry Garvin

LAFD WHERE THERE'S SMOKE

Arson/Counter-Terrorism looks for evidence of crimes after the flames are extinguished.

Continued on web *Alive!*
alive.employeesclub.com



Fires are one of the most serious threats to the City. After they're out, it's important to determine how they started. Arson – the intentional setting of a fire to damage or destroy property, or harm or kill a human being, is a serious crime. The section tasked with determining the criminality of a fire is the LAFD's Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section.

Michael Castillo, 35 years of City service, Club Member, is the Battalion Chief in direct charge of the arson unit.

Overview

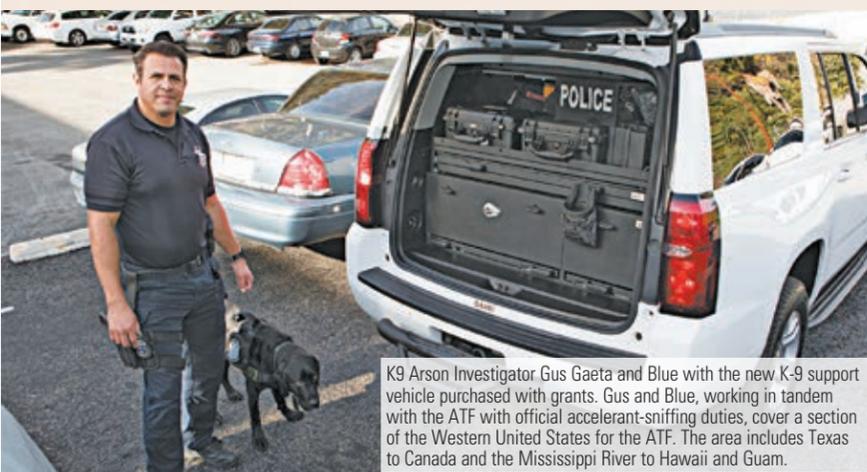
The LAFD's Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section shares the responsibility of fire investigation with line field personnel. This responsibility is granted under authority of the Los Angeles City Charter. The Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section (known as "ACTS") was originally established in 1918 as the Arson Squad. All Investigators are Peace Officers under 830.37 of the California Penal Code. To maintain law enforcement related skills, Arson Investigators train with LAPD and other allied agencies. Fire Investigation training is received online or through attendance at various seminars, classes, and training conferences.



Arson Investigators (from left) Jose Sanchez and Gordon Reilly.

Organization

The Arson Section is comprised of a Battalion Chief, a Captain II, a Captain I, 18 uniformed investigators (two are detailed to JTF assignments), and three civilian clerical staff members. Supervisors and special duty arson investigators share on-call responsibilities after hours and on weekends. The on-call members augment the platoon duty investigators at scenes involving fire fatalities, House of Worship fires, domestic terrorism incidents, and other large-scale fires. A unique "member" assigned to ACTS is "Blue," an accelerant detection K-9 trained by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Blue and his handler (Investigator Gus Gaeta) are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. The team has assisted local and federal agencies throughout the country as members of the ATF National Response Team. The Accelerant Detective K-9 Program has successfully aided in the prosecution of suspects in several significant fires. Blue's keen senses have many times outperformed modern day technical equipment.



K9 Arson Investigator Gus Gaeta and Blue with the new K-9 support vehicle purchased with grants. Gus and Blue, working in tandem with the ATF with official accelerant-sniffing duties, cover a section of the Western United States for the ATF. The area includes Texas to Canada and the Mississippi River to Hawaii and Guam.

Mission

The LAFD considers the crime of arson to be the one of the most egregious crimes committed in the City of Los Angeles. The Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section uses all of its resources to investigate and prosecute the responsible parties.

As part of its mission, ACTS also investigates non-criminal fires. This role translates to improving public safety when trends are identified at fire scenes that effect life safety (lack of smoke alarms, for example), or when there are consumer product issues contributing to causing fires. Public safety announcements have been sent through the Department's social media portals based upon findings by investigators at non-criminal fire scenes.

In 2004, the LAFD Arson Investigation Section expanded to include an active role in Counter-Terrorism. Due to this new role the section was re-named the Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section. The objective of this expanded role is to allow the section to effectively contribute to the LAFD's Homeland Security responsibilities – to reduce the impact of an event on lives, property and on the local economy. ACTS Investigators are recognized as part of a law enforcement agency by the California Department of Justice. All Arson Investigators are covered under the California Peace Officers Bill of Rights or POBR.

In most cases, the first responders or Incident Commander will have the responsibility in determining the origin and cause at fire scenes. If unable to determine the cause, and assistance is needed, an Arson unit response will be requested.

Arson Programs

Terrorism Liaison Officer Program

Arson Investigators have taken on an additional role of the Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO). The TLO Program develops and maintains efficient channels of communication between local health, fire, law enforcement and the Joint Regional Intelligence Center relative to terrorist threats and vulnerabilities.

House of Worship Arson Task Force

The Los Angeles House of Worship Arson Task Force was formed in June 1996, by then Battalion Chief Terrance Manning. This Task Force is comprised of members

ABOUT THE ARSON UNIT

Typically, Arson Units respond to:

- Major emergencies (automatic dispatch)
- Domestic terrorism fire
- Serious burns
- Fire fatalities
- Large dollar loss
- High-profile incidents
- Suspects on scene or in custody
- Eyewitness to arson
- Fires involving church properties

The Los Angeles Fire Dept. covers approximately **465** square miles. On average there are **9,000** fires in the City per year. The annual average statistics include (approximately):

- 1,500** incendiary fires
- 5,000** accidental fires
- 3,000** undetermined fires
- 105** arson arrests
- 20** fatality fires

from the LAFD Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section, LAPD Criminal Conspiracy Section, ATF, and FBI. The Task Force investigates all arson and hate-related fires that occur to a House of Worship within the City of Los Angeles.

Los Angeles Arson Terrorism Work Group

The Los Angeles Arson Terrorism Work Group is another Task Force the Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section has been participating in along with the LAPD Anti-Terrorism Division, ATF and FBI. The Task Force was developed following the tragic Sept. 11, 2001 attacks and investigates all arson incidents related to homeland security, domestic terrorism, and eco-terrorism.

Continued on web *Alive!*
alive.employeesclub.com

Alive! Feature



LAFD Arson Investigation
Status: Case Closed.

Watch the video!

alive.employeesclub.com/training-together

Arson Investigators (from left) Bob Price and Angel Alvarez. This building downtown was engulfed in flames in late 2018 (above). The Arson section determined that the fire's origins were inconclusive.



Battalion Chief Mike Castillo, Club Member, explains how the Arson Section works to *Alive!* editor John Burnes.

Very good. And Mike, same question.

MIKE: I was hired as a probationary Firefighter at the ripe old age of 19. I rose up through the ranks, became an entry-level Officer – Captain I, then to Captain II, then Battalion Chief. I've been an officer for 28 years, a Battalion Chief for approximately 5 years. This position is considered a two-year assignment. I serve at the pleasure of the Fire Chief and the Deputy Chief in charge of Emergency Operations. I requested to be assigned to the Arson section.

Can you give us a brief overview of what Arson/Counter-Terrorism is tasked to do?

MIKE: In a nutshell, it's to investigate all fires in the City of Los Angeles, and if there is a criminal aspect or component, determine the party or parties responsible for causing that crime; and putting together a case for the district attorney to prosecute and ultimately put criminals in jail who cause harm through fire.

You work with the DA directly?

MIKE: Sure. When my investigators file a case, they will present it to the DA for filing consideration. Usually 95 percent of the time the case is so rock-solid that the DA will file felony charges. The crime of arson is a felony, not a misdemeanor. We have three DAs who we work exclusively with that are arson/explosive DAs. For fatalities, large-scale incidents, we'll consult with them, and we meet with them on a weekly basis. They come out to our scenes quite a bit when we have a significant fire scene or fatality. So that's something that we started about a year ago, having the DA come out to our scene. We are investigating

our case from the ground level and building that case for that prosecutor to prosecute, and we have the prosecutor's input as to how that case should look. It's kind of unique that we've started doing this. We've never done it before, and it's worked out really well.

Arson cases are potentially felonies? There are no misdemeanors here, right?

MIKE: Correct, up to the death penalty, life without parole, five-ten-year penalties, things like that.

■ Training

Robert, how does the training differ? What additional training does an arson investigator get from a forensic or a legal standpoint?

ROBERT: Most of it is on-the-job training, as far as the legal aspects. We try to throw a bunch of cases at new investigators just to get them used to the caseload. In addition to that, as soon as they get something where it's an arrest where they're going to have to testify in court, we prep them prior to testifying in court, give them maybe a mock interview or mock trial or something, just to prep them for the questioning and get them ready for the defense attorney's questions. The first couple of times it's pretty nerve-racking. It might be a simple case, but just being in front of some individuals, knowing there's a judge there and there's someone right in front of you typing every word that you say, it's a little intimidating the first time.

Continued on web *Alive!*
alive.employeesclub.com

The *Alive!* Interview

Solving the Fire

On Jan. 8, *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewed Battalion Chief Mike Castillo, 35 years of City service, Club Member, and Sr. Arson Investigator Robert McCloud, 23 years, Club Member. Later, Capt. II Scott LaRue joined the conversation.

The interview took place in the Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section's headquarters in the Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center near Dodger Stadium.

***Alive!*: Thanks for welcoming us! Now Chief, how long have you been assigned to Arson?**



Mike Castillo

MIKE CASTILLO: I've been assigned to this section as the Section Commander for a year and a half.

Great. Robert, talk about how you got to Arson.



Robert McCloud

ROBERT McCLOUD: Sure. I started off as a probationary Firefighter with the Fire Dept. I then became a certified Paramedic. Also I was a Dispatcher. I was interested in arson approximately ten years onto the job and started testing and attending a few classes to prepare for the Arson section. I became an arson investigator in 2007, and became the Senior Investigator in 2016.



From left: Sr. Arson Investigator Robert McCloud, Club Member, and Arson Investigator Peter Hsaio.

Robert's Question of the Month



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

Fellow City Employees answer the Question of the Month

What are you looking forward to most this year?



"Enjoying life with Martha, family and friends."
— Ed Harding, Retired, Public Works



"Spending more time working with nonprofits and the community groups I love."
— Genevieve Santiesteban, Retired, Airports



"My oldest son is getting married in May and we are headed to Georgia!"
— Crista Binder, Airports



"Travelling!"
— Howard Gardner, Retired, DWP



"The family reunion we have once every other year in Houston."
— Shannone Gauff, Airports



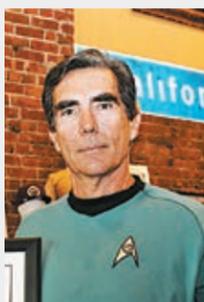
"Promoting to the next best position!"
— Mary Wall, Airports



"Watching my daughter grow and grow!"
— Vickie Remington, Airports



"Traveling to see my family in the Midwest and working on the hobbies I had little time for before retiring."
— Stefanie J. Van Reyn, Retired, Airports



"Traveling! I just got back from skiing in Park City, Utah. Next is my 20th wedding anniversary in Fiji, then a grand tour of Europe later this year."
— Karl Guder, Retired, General Services

2019 LAFD AND LAPD St. Baldrick's FOUNDATION
Shaving Our Heads to Conquer Childhood Cancer!

SATURDAY, MARCH 30 LAFD FIRE STATION 89
7:30am TO 1:30pm 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd. North Hollywood, 91605

WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET, WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE. - SIR W. CHURCHILL

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Fire and Police Vehicles on Display to Explore | Silent Auctions, Prizes, Music, VIPs and Much, Much, More...

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For more information please contact LAFD Captain Danny Wu 626-590-6240 or LAPD Lieutenant Greg Doyle 818-634-6127

Story, photos and video courtesy Armando Navarrete, Animal Control Officer, Animal Services



ANIMAL SERVICES/LAFD

Training Together

Animal Services, LAFD hold first-ever joint rescue training.

In October, Animal Services' Specialized Mobile Animal Rescue Team (SMART) held a one of a kind, specialized training regarding large animal rescues with the LAFD. It marked the first time the two departments held animal rescue training sessions jointly.

With a recent spate of rescue emergencies, Animal Services felt it was necessary to reach out to the LAFD and learn each other's capabilities.

The two-day training focused on large animal lifts. For the first time in LAFD history, all three elite LAFD special teams – Urban Search and Rescue (USAR 88), Heavy Rescue, and Air Ops – joined SMART in running drills involving extracting a large animal (in these scenarios, Animal Services' fake rubber horse) from one location to another.

Animal Services and the LAFD have performed joint rescues in the past years, but now their procedures are formalized.

Animal Services and the LAFD plan to make their joint training an annual event.

Well done, Animal Services and LAFD!



At the joint Animal Services/LAFD training sessions, where the departments developed techniques of rescuing large animals by using helicopters, rescue equipment and Animal Services' fake rubber weight-equivalent horse.



Watch the video!
alive.employeesclub.com/training-together

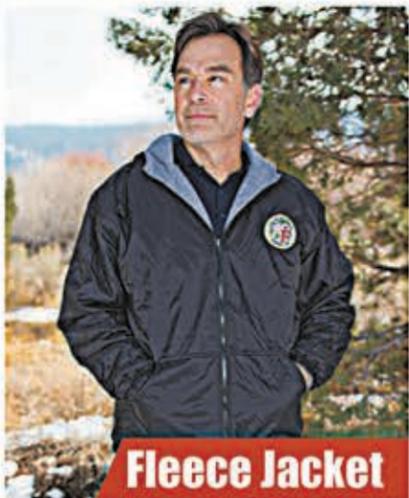


★★★ **AUTHENTIC** ★★★
Los Angeles City Merchandise

MEMBER EXCLUSIVE



Hats



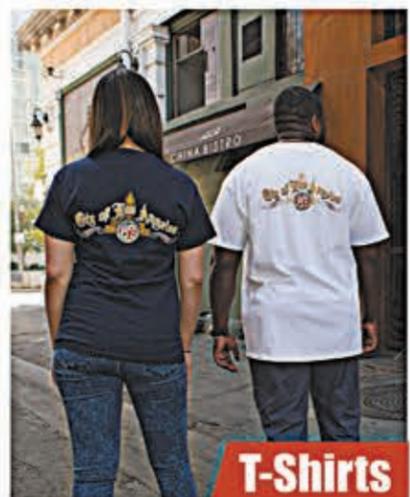
Fleece Jacket



Beanies



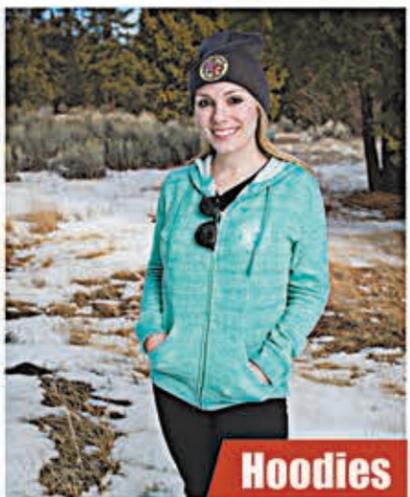
Sweat Shirt & Pants



T-Shirts



Jackets & Outwear



Hoodies



Custom Dept Polos



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Are you taking full advantage of your Club Membership by getting amazing Club deals? Start saving today!

Alive! editor John Burnes took advantage of the Club discount at the Center Theatre Group's Mark Taper Forum to save big! He paid \$39 for a \$78 ticket. Awesome!

Get those deals, and send in your Club Deal Selfies at alive.employeesclub.com/clubdealselves

*Story courtesy Officer Robert Pedregon, Airport Police
 Photos by CSI Officer Shawn Smith, Airport Police*

AIRPORTS

Welcome, Officers

Airport Police welcomes two new Officers.

In a graduations ceremony held Jan. 18 at the LAPD Academy near Dodger Stadium, two new Airport Police Officers were sworn into service by Chief David L. Maggard Jr., Chief of Airport Police.

New Airport Police Officer Sergio Fernandez, a Cal State Dominguez Hills graduate with a degree in business management and human resources, and Edgar Limbaring Jr., a former license vocational nurse, bring their training and experience to the Airport Police Division.

Before swearing in his new officers, Chief Maggard spoke to the graduates and their family and friends who gathered to celebrate the momentous occasion. Chief Maggard thanked everyone for their support of his new Officers and said, "Today is a great accomplishment for these Officers, but it is just one plateau in what we hope will be a long career in the rewarding field of law enforcement."

The two new Airport Police Officers will now begin a six-month field training program specific to aviation law enforcement under the guidance of a Field Training Officer. Upon completion, they will be assigned to the Patrol Services Section.

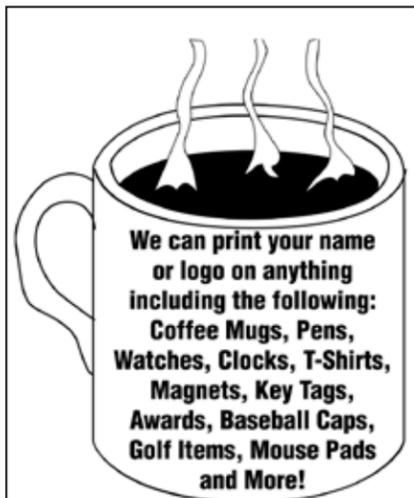
Congratulations to the new Airport Police Officers!



Chief Dave Maggard (right) swears in new Officers Sergio Fernandez (left) and Edgar Limbaring.



From left: Airport Police Capt. Mario Patrick, Officer Sergio Fernandez, Chief of Airport Police David L. Maggard Jr., Officer Edgar Limbaring Jr., and Airport Police Assistant Chief John Wallace.



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Larios In the City

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



Genevieve Santiesteban
 Retired, Airports, with 32 years of City service.



Howard Gardner
 Retired, DWP with 33 years of City service.



Karl Guder
 Retired, General Services, with 32 years of City service.



Stefanie J. Van Reyn
 Retired, Airports, with 38 years of City service.

Congratulations!

Robert Larios, the Club's Chief Operating Officer, honors Club members with the coveted Club Retirement Plaque.



Valerie E. Lockhart
 Retired, LAPD, with 26 years of City service.

See photos and fun from Valerie's retirement party — on the Web Alive!
alive.employeesclub.com/valerie-lockhart-retires



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When it comes to their auto insurance, United Agencies has been serving hundreds of Club Members for years. We provide a high level of personal service, with some of the lowest rates in California. Come experience the difference in service you get when you say, "I'm with the Club!"

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COMPANY	(91105 Zip Code)
California Automobile Insurance Survey	
Farmers	\$1,482
State Farm	\$1,339
Allstate	\$1,329
Geico	\$1,311
Auto Club	\$929
United Agencies	\$876

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 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.

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\$50

Target Gift Card

Deadline
For submission:

March 11, 2019

Look for winners on
Web Alive! in April.

alive.employeesclub.com

It's a Coloring Contest!

for Adults!



GROWN-UPS, GET YOUR CRAYONS OUT!

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

PLEASE COMPLETE:

Name: _____

Job title and department with the City: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE →

Club Membership Number:

Send Entries to:

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

Rules of the Club's Adult Coloring Contest:

- Winning contestants must be Club Members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club Membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
- All responses must be completed by the person indicated: no ringers (including your children!).
- Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

Download Coloring Art From the Web

You can download and print art from *Alive!* on the web:
alive.employeesclub.com/coloring-contest-for-adults





Life's Important Moments



Retirements

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

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Abraham, Mark S.	Maint./Constr. Helper	Gen. Services	9	Hayes, Preston	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	Romo, Maria Olivia	Recreation Assistant	Rec and Parks	4
Ahumada, Benito	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D	Helfrich, William	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Saadati-Sohi, Aleida	Customer Services	DWP	N/D
Anderson, Leticia A.	Customer Service Spec.	Finance	17	Hodge, Clement	Energy Distribution	DWP	N/D	Sallie, Douglas Emil	Window Cleaner	Airports	28
Barlak, William	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Hooper, Juan	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Salter, Merrit	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D
Barreto-Mendoza, Maria	Administrative Clerk	LAPD	20	Hough, Victoria	Human Resources	DWP	N/D	Sanchez, Luz M.	Special Programs Asst.	Rec and Parks	4
Batista, Jesse	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	Jabido, Mabel A.	Sr. Accountant	Econ/Wrkfrce Dev.	30	Sedlak, Lillian G.	Sr. Manage. Analyst	Controller	31
Beard, George	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Johnson, Darryl A.	Storekeeper	Transportation	24	Selem, Elisa	Metering Services	DWP	N/D
Bonilla, Sue C.	Administrative Clerk	LAPD	33	Jones, Gary	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Sepulveda, Jorge	Special Programs Assist.	Rec and Parks	6
Boyce, Jonathan	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Kashefi, Ifa	Deputy Supt. of Bldgs.	Bldg. & Safety	33	Schumann, Kent	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D
Bruse, Timothy M.	Dup. Machine Op.	Gen. Services	12	Kelly, Russell A.	Pr. Inspector	Bldg. & Safety	16	Scorza, Daniel	Power Planning	DWP	N/D
Byas, Angela	Billing	DWP	N/D	Kenney, Erin Jane	Dept. Audit Manager	Fire/Police Pen.	27	Shen, Darryl	ITS	DWP	N/D
Calderon, Alfonso	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Kerr, Robert	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Simpson, Eric	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D
Chen, Chen-Hui	ITS	DWP	N/D	Koch, Brian	Utility Coordinator	DWP	N/D	Simpson, Reginald J.	Str. Services Worker	Public Works	31
Cheng, Violet	City Attorney	DWP	N/D	Krebbers, Henry	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Sims, De M	Labor Relations	DWP	N/D
Chew, Dennis	City Planning Assoc.	Planning	33	Landeros, Felipe	Facilities Management	DWP	N/D	Smith, Yveta	Human Resources	DWP	N/D
Chung, Edward	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D	Lee, Douglas	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D	Snearl, Derrick	ITS	DWP	N/D
Comoda, Belinda	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D	Lindsey, Jimmy Kail	Systems Programmer	Fire/Police Pen.	32	Stell, Jeff	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D
Creer, Willie	Facilities Management	DWP	N/D	Lu, Annie W.	Airport Guide	Airports	1	Stowers, Deborah R.	Sr. Police Service Rep.	LAPD	31
Cruz, Jess J.	Financial Analyst	Harbor	31	Martin, Shawn A.	Transport. Invest.	Transportation	17	Suarez, Jesus M.	Golf Starter	Rec and Parks	18
Danialian, Aziz	Bulk Power	DWP	N/D	Martinez, Fredrick	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Sue, Daniel L.	Civil Eng. Assoc.	Public Works	29
Davis, Ronald	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	Martinez, Jorge	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Sutanto, Albert	Comm. Electrician	Airports	15
Dawidowicz, Christopher	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Martinez, Mitchell	Metering Services	DWP	N/D	Taylor-Ragler, Valerie	Retirement Office	DWP	N/D
Deleon, Anthony	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	McCoy, Steve Jack	Custodian	Airports	16	Thornburg, Jeffrey	Utility Coordinator	DWP	N/D
Diaz, Dale	New Business Dev.	DWP	N/D	Minor, Yvette	Metering Services	DWP	N/D	Tonokawa, Kyle B.	Structural Eng. Assoc.	Bldg. & Safety	13
Elman, Cecilia	ITS	DWP	N/D	Mori, Robert	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	Trunzo, Ricci	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D
Escobedo, Marcial	Special Programs Asst.	Rec and Parks	2	Muhammad, Alfred H.	Architectural Assoc.	Housing	18	Tucker, Charles	Accounting	DWP	N/D
Ewing, Emmett L.	Garage Attendant	Gen. Services	16	Muro, Jeanne Y.	Animal Keeper	Zoo	39	Vasquez, Gregory	Metering Services	DWP	N/D
Fitzgerald, Dennis	Construction Insp.	Public Works	10	Nassraway, Donald	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Velarde, Alma Luz	Secretary	LAPD	43
Fitzgerald, Don J.	Construction Insp.	Airports	28	Nelson, Scott	Tree Surgeon	Public Works	13	Villero, Eduardo	Power Supply	DWP	N/D
Florendo, Necitas G.	Accountant	Controller's Off.	17	Nguyen, Minh	ITS	DWP	N/D	Viola, Jocelyn	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D
Flores, Ashton	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Noija, Flip J.	Airport Guide	Airports	13	Walkman, Sid	Power Supply	DWP	N/D
Fram, Stephanie	Metering Services	DWP	N/D	Nussbaum, Robert A.	Civil Eng. Assoc.	Public Works	28	Wang, Winnie	Water Engineering	DWP	N/D
Frazier, Lisa	Human Resources	DWP	N/D	Obregon, Mike	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Ward, Mary	Metering Services	DWP	N/D
Fregoso, Marianne	Sr. Admin.Clerk	Zoo	34	Paxton, Curtis D.	Sanitary Engr. Assoc.	Public Works	7	Wayman, Rosalind	Council Aide	City Council	14
Fu, Wendy	ITS	DWP	N/D	Pena, Francisco J.	Electrician	Public Works	28	Williams Jr., Phillip	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D
Glinn, David William	Maintenance Super.	Rec and Parks	27	Peters, Maryann Z.	Administrative Clerk	Library	17	Yanez, Tony	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	30
Gobert, Arlene	Executive Offices	DWP	N/D	Pitt, Gordon	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Yannotta, James	Water Operations	DWP	N/D
Goodman, Ingrid S.	Administrative Clerk	Library	30	Puckett, Kevan	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Ybarbo, Rogelio	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D
Green, Michael	Energy Generation	DWP	N/D	Pyle, James	Power Supply Op.	DWP	N/D	Ybarra, Rogelio	Business Sup. Services	DWP	N/D
Griner, Lori Wendy	Traffic Officer	Transportation	16	Rayas-Glen, Yvonne	Water Resources	DWP	N/D	Yonamine, Miki	Customer Service	DWP	N/D
Gurrola, Jorge L.	Street Services	Public Works	30	Reza, Gregory J.	Equipment Operator	Airports	29	Zambory, Dean E.	Mech. Repairer	Transportation	30
Hain, Richard	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Rodriguez, Guillermina	Messenger Clerk	Library	5				
Hatton, Thomas	Energy Generation	DWP	N/D	Rodriguez, Henry	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D				

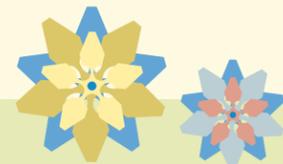
N/D = not disclosed



In Memoriam

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

DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Active		Keyser, John	Building and Safety 33
Blizzard, Joshua	DWP 1	Kleban, Daniel	City Attorney 23
Carrasco, Maria	Transportation 19	Liberty, Ivory	General Services 25
Downey, Cheryl	Public Works 13	Lyles, James	DWP 45
Jones, Marlo	LAPD 14	Mabrie, Edwina	DWP 35
Ledesma, Myrna	Controller 22	Mamaril, Efren	City Council 16
McElhone, Rodney	Airports 26	Marks Jr., Aaron	DWP 31
Ross Jr., Jerry	DWP 12	Martin, Georgeann	City Attorney 14
Samonte, Ronald	Public Works 28	McDonald, Irby	General Services 27
Smith, Scott	DWP 1	Merrick, Barbara	DWP 30
Ultras, Cindy	DWP 3	Mitchell, Patricia	LAPD 33
Valles, Gary	DWP 11	Moten, Gwendolyn	LAPD 34
Retired		Murphy, James	DWP 17
Aldover, Ernesto	Transportation 30	Noel, Jimmy	Public Works 30
Alexander, Cornelius	DWP 11	Orozco, William	DWP 29
Alvarez, Frank	Transportation 34	Padiangan, Beatriz	General Services 31
Asberry, Charlotte	Library 41	Panetta, Angelo	DWP 13
Badgley, Helen	Airports 18	Parrish, George	General Services 31
Barroso, Eden	DWP 38	Penney, Son	City Attorney 12
Becerra, Porfirio	Transportation 8	Plauche Jr., E.O.	DWP 30
Beckwith, George	DWP 28	Rash, Lillie	General Services 26
Boullion, Arnold	DWP 13	Ross, Evelyn	Library 30
Castilla, Marco	Housing 29	Rudy, James	Airports 37
Cohen, Ronnee	Library 41	Santos, Pearl	DWP 27
Cole, Carolyn	Library 26	Sehlmeyer, George	Finance 22
Dominguez, Richard	City Attorney 12	Sheets, Gary	DWP 33
Dunn, Richard	Public Works 28	Singleton, S.T.	DWP 35
Foulks, Margaret	Public Works 29	Smith, Donna	Animal Services 15
Frechman, Robert	Econ./Workforce Dev. 31	Solomon, Adinah	City Council 14
Freethy, Glenn	DWP 39	Stevenson, Michael	Public Works 36
Garney, Arthur	DWP 18	Stockl, Frank	DWP 37
Gordon, Willie	LAPD 30	Suto, Frank	DWP 31
Gulla, Timothy	Airports 29	Taylor, Robert	Public Works 33
Hanami, Jiro	DWP 31	Telles, Orlando	DWP 33
Harris, Richard	Housing 28	Terpenning, Dayton	Transportation 31
Harshberger, Kenneth	DWP 29	Thompson, Keith	Harbor 25
Hutchinson, Miriam	Aging 11	Tyler Smith, D.J.	LAPD 29
Hutchison, Vernon	DWP 27	Volpe, Silvio	General Services 32
Kelly Tobin, Karen	Neighborhood Empowerment 14	White, Priscilla	Public Works 26
		Yarab, Leon	General Services 30
		Young, Gloria	Transportation 7



Share Your Life's Important Moments



Everyone reads Life's Important Moments in Alive!

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Send digital photos and text to:

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aliveemployeesclub.com/life-important-moments

OR send paper photos to:

Life's Moments - Alive!

City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Please don't send the only one you have!



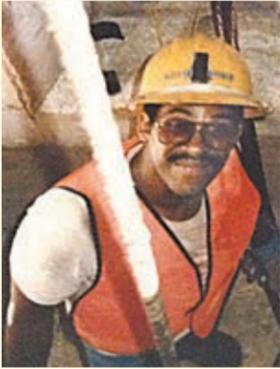
Tell Us Their Story

Gerald Davis

Library/DWP

Died Oct. 25, 2018

Remembrance by Cecilia Davis, daughter



Gerald Davis started his career at the City of Los Angeles 37 years ago as a bookbinder in the Library. He later joined the DWP and moved up the ranks as a Journeyman, Lineman and finally a Supervisor. The path was not easy and he had to take numerous courses, tests and interviews throughout his time at the City. He enjoyed every minute of it. Most of all, he considered his workmates as part of his extended family. He took my brother, my sister and me to his job during the "bring your child to work day" for us to see how hard he had to work on a daily basis to provide for us.

The City of LA and the DWP are prestigious employers, and my father was proud to work for the City he was born in.

Wallace S. Yagi

Public Works/Engineering

1930-2018

Remembrance by Glenda Nuzzi, friend



Wally was born on a sugar plantation in Ocala on the Big Island of Hawaii. His dad was a plantation foreman and his mom raised eight kids, growing and making everything the family ate as there were no grocery stores except in the big city of Hilo. Their family home sits on a bluff facing east overlooking the Pacific Ocean. I thought it was the most beautiful place to grow up. Wally and his siblings took a bus to school in Lapahouhou.

There were many happy times growing up on the Big Island. However, when Wally was 16, he, his teacher and several of his classmates were standing on the shore before school, when a wave took all the water out, leaving fish flapping on the wet sand. Some of the boys ran out to pick up fish. This happened three times, and Wally saw the next huge wave coming toward the group. Everyone ran. Wally got

behind a building waiting for the wave to pass. The wave crashed down on a house, destroying it and pinning Wally between a tree, a boulder and the timber of the house. That day, April 1, 1946, Wally lost his teacher and many friends to the tidal wave. Had the wave landed 15 minutes later, everyone would have been inside the classrooms and safe. But it didn't. Wally was in the Ocala hospital with a broken collarbone.

As a kid when he wasn't playing with friends or working in the sugar cane, he read. The visit of the bookmobile was a great event for this young boy. He had been valedictorian at his high school and his teacher wrote to the University of Hawaii about the new student coming.

While at the university, Wally worked for room and board for the vice president of Hawaiian Airlines. During school breaks he had a job at the airlines as a baggage handler. Wally played poker with his workmates. Wally taught the wives to play the ukulele and they became very good, but they always gave credit to Wally teaching them.

After Wally graduated from college and his father had died, Wally and his family moved to Los Angeles. There he worked in a gas station at night while attending graduate school. One evening, a car drove up and asked Wally if he could park there for a couple of hours as he was playing at one of the clubs. Wally said yes and asked him his name. Wally and Mel Tormé became friends. Wally always let him park for free.

Wally would tell stories how the Army played a cruel joke on him when he was drafted. They sent him to Alaska for two years, where he was assigned to be the company clerk, probably much like the TV character, Radar, in MASH. After the Army, Wally went to work for the City of Los Angeles for the next 30 years. Wally was a very modest man and told lots of jokes to feel comfortable and make people laugh. He had so many jokes in his head, that no matter what folks were talking about, he always had a funny story.

Wally had six nieces who would visit City Hall on occasion. They would tell whoever asked they were there to visit Uncle Wally. Soon everyone at City Hall was calling him Uncle Wally. He was so very proud of his six nieces and three nephews and spoke of them often.

He spent his free time with a group of lunch friends playing fantasy football, enjoyed betting pools of all sorts and outside activities with his work family. He bowled in a City league. Wally was active in March of Dimes and enjoyed organizing office picnics on Saturdays at the beach or a city park.

Everyone I talk to about Wally Yagi who knew him and worked for him has said he was the best boss they ever had. Wally had a strong ethical standard for himself and others. He operated as "do as I do" and led others to do their best. He spent his entire City career with Public Works/Engineering, retiring in 1986.

Although he was retired, he continued his friendship with many people he worked with and kept in touch by meeting occasionally with them.

He loved the Angels baseball team and the Lakers. He followed football and horse racing. When he retired he moved his family to Oceanside and fished the local lakes once or twice a week for the next 30 years. He caught trout, cleaned and boned it and gave it to a group of lady friends who would cook it for their dinner.

Wally heard that the Oceanside Library Reading Program was looking for volunteers. He immediately went to the library to sign up. He would take them under his wing and guide them all through school. He truly enjoyed mentoring his students.

Wally spent three to five days a week playing cards with his friends. He had a scorebook that kept track of the wins and losses. He liked playing Sequence best, boys against the girls. We played Phase 10. Wally amended the rules on occasion to make it more challenging. Pinochle was a game we could play when there were only two of us; we would play single-deck pinochle with another couple and sometimes double pinochle. After cards we would do large print easy crosswords. It was like dessert.

Wally and I were best friends. We traveled to Japan and Lake Tahoe, spent time at time-shares throughout California with friends, drove to Arizona for a weekend trip, took a cruise and played with friends throughout the year, celebrating life and good times.

Wally will forever be in our memories.

LAFUCU

Credit Union Election Slate Announced

2019 Board election and annual meeting to be held.

The Los Angeles Federal Credit Union will host its annual meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, at its LA Mall branch at 201 N. Los Angeles Street in downtown Los Angeles. Annual status reports to members will be presented by the Board Chairman, Board Treasurer, Supervisory and Credit Committee Chairpersons and the President/CEO. The results of the annual Board election will also be announced, and copies of the 2018 annual report will be distributed. Members can access and download the annual report from our website after the meeting.

For the year 2019, Board of Directors offices 1, 2 and 3 are up for election with terms of three (3) years each. The candidates are:

- Office 1: Joe Quan (incumbent, running unopposed)
- Office 2: Sheldon H. Miller (challenger), and Rito Cisneros (incumbent)
- Office 3: Roslyn Carter-Phillips (incumbent, running unopposed)

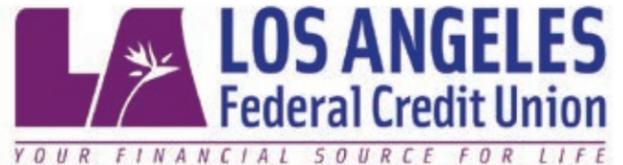
The election paper ballots were to be mailed to all eligible LAFUCU members Jan. 11, and the voting deadline is Feb. 8 by mail or from a secure Website.

Nominations for Board vacancies were made by a Nominating Committee, or by petition. This year, the three incumbents were nominated by the Nominating Committee, and the one challenger submitted enough

signatures on a petition. The nominations were accompanied by a signed statement from each nominee stating that he/she was agreeable to the nomination and would serve if elected.

Would you like to be considered for appointment to one of the Board's committees in 2019?

There are committees appointed by the LAFUCU Board, including the Supervisory



Committee and the Credit Committee. The Supervisory Committee is responsible for the credit union's internal auditing, and the Credit Committee regularly evaluates member loan requests. To serve on a committee, mail a letter application with your qualifications to LAFUCU c/o President/CEO, PO Box 53032, Los Angeles, CA 90053 so that it's received by March 1. Applications not selected will remain on file for two years in the event of a vacancy. At the first Board meeting after the annual meeting, appointments will be made by the Board to the committees for the terms scheduled to expire.

An important qualification for Board and Committee positions is the willingness to volunteer time to serve LAFUCU and its members.

Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

Middle East



Larry Campita, Retired, Controller's Office, and his wife, Fina, traveled to Egypt, Jordan and Israel ... and then the U.S. Desert Southwest.

"At Giza, Egypt. In the background is the Great Pyramid of Giza. It is the oldest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World."

Cuba



William Flowers, Retired, Airports, 33 years of City service vacationed in Cuba. The photo with the vintage car was in Cienfuegos, and the other photo was taken at Revelation plaza in Havana."

MORE PICTURES ON THE WEB! alive.employeesclub.com

Arizona



"This picture is of myself was taken at the Biosphere II in Tucson, Ariz. My son and I took a trip out there during his winter break."

— **Sophia Ponce de Leon, LAPD**

Rhode Island



Ed Krupp, Director of the world-famous Griffith Observatory and Club Member, visited Rhode Island last year. Here's his report...

Dr. Krupp CONTINUED AT alive.employeesclub.com

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Patty Pulido
Personal Insurance Agent

Feb. 28: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Rosa Calderon
Personal Insurance Agent

Feb. 21: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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THE CLUB

The annual meeting, held in December, carried a holiday theme.

90 Years and Plenty to Come

Club's annual meeting notes 90th anniversary, looks to a California future.

Taking place during the holiday season for the second time, the Club held its 90th annual meeting Dec. 5 in the Tom Bradley Room high atop City Hall.

The meeting featured holiday décor, festive wishes, a video highlighting the Club's expansion into serving all of California, the swearing-in of the Club Board, and annual awards.

Club CEO John Hawkins and Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios handled the hosting duties.

After the singing of the National Anthem, once again performed excellently by internationally acclaimed singer and Club Counselor Gedina Bergstrom, and then lunch, Robert Larios asked Andrew Virzi Jr., DWP, and Club Board Member, to present the new board, which was accepted unanimously and then sworn in by Brian Trent, the Club's CFO.

Here's to another great 90 years of service to municipal employees!

2019 Club Board

- Robyn Wilder, Fire and Police Pensions
- Andrew Virzi Jr., DWP
- Andrew Virzi III, DWP
- Neil Guglielmo, LACERS
- Terry Carter, LAPD
- Capt. Danny Wu, LAFD



Hosting the Club's 90th annual meeting were (from left) CEO John Hawkins and COO Robert Larios.



The Club Board takes its oath for the coming year, from left: Capt. Danny Wu, LAFD; Neil Guglielmo, LACERS; Terry Carer, LAPD; Andrew Virzi III, DWP; Andrew Virzi Jr., DWP; and Robyn Wilder, Fire and Police Pensions.

LIBRARY

Uke Can Do It!

Library is now loaning ukuleles.

Always wanted to play a musical instrument? The Library is now loaning ukuleles and chord books, plus offering lessons at select branches.

With your regular library card, you borrow a kit that includes a ukulele, case, chord book and tuner. You must return them to the circulation desk - no overnight drop-offs. The checkout period is three weeks. One kit allowed per library card.

The program is made possible

by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles, and the California State Library.

For more information:

<https://www.lapl.org/ukulele>



Los Angeles Public Library is now loaning ukuleles and chord books. Get in on the fun!

Ukulele Kit Loaning libraries are:

- Arroyo Seco
- Chatsworth
- Cypress Park
- Fairfax
- Hyde Park
- Jefferson
- Junipero Serra
- Lake View Terrace
- Memorial
- Platt
- Playa Vista
- San Pedro
- Sherman Oaks
- Venice
- Wilmington
- Woodland Hills

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